

SALT LAKE STAKE
HOODS CONFERENCE

Elders Heber J. Grant and Francis M. Lyman Address Gathering.

THREE SESSIONS ARE HELD

Elder F. S. Fernstrom Calls Attention To Unfortunate Conditions Responsible for Much Evil.

The quarterly conference of the Salt Lake stake convened yesterday, three sessions being held, the first and third in the Assembly Hall and the second in the tabernacle. The speakers at the afternoon meeting were Elders Heber J. Grant and Francis M. Lyman, of the council of apostles. The first named spoke at length of the prohibition campaign and incidents connected with it. He deplored the blunder and false stories that were being told around wherein it was sought to widen the differences existing between persons who are working for prohibition and those who are opposed to it. He took occasion to rebuke many of the sayings and actions attributed to him. The remarks of President Lyman were replete with advice and counsel to the Latter-day Saints and breathed a spirit of charity and good will towards all men. A brief synopsis of the remarks of each follows:

ELDER HEBER J. GRANT.

The old Salt Lake stake has been divided into six stakes, and previously sessions were not as largely attended, when six were in one.

The remarks made this morning of the all-absorbing question, the liquor traffic, were particularly noteworthy. The speakers all being for prohibition.

At a recent meeting in Mantel, President Joseph R. Smith, in his address, intimated that the Latter-day Saints were better than the world.

"I have been accused of bulldozing members of the legislature, because of that statement. I am not a bulldozer, but I have spoken to very few members of either body. I hope that the petitions of 75,000 will be listened to, and that before the session closes the right thing will be done, that the efforts in favor of liquor interests will not prevail.

"I desire to resent the accusations that the leaders of the Church have been taking undue action in the prohibition movement. Also that I without the sanction of my brethren, prepared the resolution adopted last October afternoon, bearing false witness and lying to the people. I don't usually do that sort of thing.

"I have been accused also of having so berated the governor that I have denied the privilege of speaking in state educational institutions. Nothing is further from the truth. Neither have I ever said that if the governor vetoed a prohibition bill the distasteful Lord would follow him and do his children after him. I have nothing whatsoever against the governor, and as for his children, one of the best friends I ever had was his grandfather, bearing false witness and lying have been rampant during this campaign.

"There are many kinds of 'ticks' in the world and of them I am the worst. The late T. W. Elderback explained the political parties as follows: 'One has the offices and says we will keep them; the other says, you have got the offices and we will get them. The longer I live the more I believe the estimate is about correct. Politics are much like the measles—if they go in, they turn the possessor yellow, and they can't see straight.

"What I said at Provo was not a reflection on the governor, and I have a letter from the president of the Brigham Young University bearing me out in what I say."

A thing all depends on why it is said. In all political questions, there should be correct punctuation.

"I believe there is no place in the United States where the people would so readily welcome prohibition as in Utah; and if it were given, I believe there is no people anywhere who would enforce it so strictly. The Latter-day Saints have been taught the word of God, and all their days, there was within my memory, not a saloon in this city and in those times we never looked our doors at night. The majority of the people of this state want prohibition, and the members of the stake know they want it. This agitation did not start last January. Last June I addressed a meeting in this building on the very subject of prohibition. A certain federal official has accused me of being a bombastic bulldozer. The same official told a member of the legislature that if he would vote for a certain man for speaker of the house, that he, the member, would be given the chairmanship of an important committee. The member did not vote as directed and did not get the chairmanship.

"I will keep on preaching prohibition, but I will not go to a member and make any such trade as did this federal official. I propose to work and to work in the open on the prohibition question.

"I have as much right as a citizen to go down to the city and county building and work for the enactment of measures that I believe to be right, and just as has any other man.

"The Latter-day Saints have been accused of being inhuman, unparliamentary and treasonable. The history of the people proves abundantly that such statements are not true. You may trace the pages of history in vain for a parallel case of loyalty and love of country as exhibited by the people of Utah."

ELDER F. M. LYMAN.

Elder Francis M. Lyman, who then addressed the congregation, expressed pleasure at being back from a vacation of 30 days in the east, but assured those present that he would rather be at home in the ministry than taking a vacation. He spoke of the large number present and referred to the small gathering in the morning of the members of the Salt Lake stake. Reference was also made to the fact that the sacrament was administered at the morning session, and that no meetings were to be held in the wards of the stake in the evening. Because of this, those who were not at the meeting in the morning would not receive the sacrament unless they had gone to Sunday school. He said he desired to impress upon the Latter-day Saints the importance of partaking of the sacrament often, which is required by the Lord. Reference was made to the instructions of the Savior on the matter, and the necessity of thus renewing the covenants and witnessing to God

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our love for Him and desire to keep His commandments, was dwelt upon by the speaker. Those present were exhorted to look over their lives that they might improve and better please the Lord, so that He would be pleased to pour out His blessings upon them more abundantly. The opinion was expressed that the members of the Church are more prompt in the payment of their tithes and offerings, and in their prayers, than they are in partaking of the sacrament. If we love one another we ought to meet together and by doing so, said the speaker, and partaking of the sacrament we manifest our brotherly affection and love for each other and the Lord, and show that we don't allow bitterness to enter our hearts.

The speaker expressed his conviction that the Latter-day Saints are a good people, but that there was plenty of room for further improvement. Referring to prohibition, he said that the total abstainer would not find anything to commend in the movement for the abolition of the saloon were successful. On the other hand those who had indulged in liquor would find it quite a trial. Some people find it difficult to resist the temptation of drinking tea and coffee, and yet nothing of liquor, he was not surprised, therefore, that some people were not prepared to give up liquor. Some people also find it hard to be honest in the strict sense of the word.

He assumed that most of the Latter-day Saints had accepted the gospel in order to better serve the Lord. For this reason the gospel is fascinating to them. They believe in it and are struggling to carry it out in their lives. Those who labor in it are making an effort to save the people. They believe it to be divine, and Jesus said to a prophet of God: They have partially proved it. Their prayers have been answered and they have been preserved from evil. The Latter-day Saints must be all agreed as to business and temporal things, but they all believe in temperance. No Latter-day Saint believes in the use of intoxicants. They are not to drink wine and not profane. If they are the opposite of these things they are not Latter-day Saints. A man may have weaknesses and may be forgiven and tolerated if he is honest in his life, but he is not to be tolerated and do not enjoy the spirit.

The Lord will be patient with us if we are in line of our duty. The Latter-day Saints should not allow themselves to be carried away by the passions of business or politics, but they should cultivate brotherly love not only for the saints, and those of our own home, but for all the world. All men are God's children, and He loves them and desires their salvation. The gospel is for them as well as for the Latter-day Saints. People have been deceived by denominations who are filled with love and integrity and are as honorable as they can be. Yet they do not see the truth, nor enjoy the light as we do. They are referred to the great endowments of men in the world, in business and other pursuits, as evidencing God's goodness to his children. He compared the Latter-day Saints with those of ancient times, when, through revelation, the apostles knew that God lived and were able to teach the world. Light came from the Father into the world, but if men will not receive it, they must be condemned. He spoke of the message of God to the world through Joseph Smith, which they will never be compelled to do so. Reference was also made to the necessity, for a new witness being raised up that men might know the truth and the image of God and that He has asked them to repent.

The speaker very impressively called upon those who are not walking right to repent and turn to God, and in conclusion bore a strong testimony regarding the work.

FORENOON SESSION.

The main floor of the Assembly hall was well filled, when President Joseph R. Smith called the conference to order at 10 o'clock. These representatives of the general authorities were present: Presidents John R. Winder and Francis M. Lyman, Elders John Henry Smith and Heber J. Grant.

The Twenty-eighth ward choir had charge of the musical exercises, the leader being Horace D. Barber.

The first hymn was entitled "All Hail The Glorious Day." Prayer was offered by Bishop Isaac Barton of the Nineteenth ward.

"Ye Children of Our God" was the second hymn.

The administration of the Sacrament was conducted under the direction of the bishopric of the Sixteenth ward. The blessing upon the bread was asked by Elder Thomas Morris, and that upon the water by Elder Jonathan B. Orinshaw.

President Morris presented for the vote of the meeting the list of the names of the general and stake authorities. All of these officers were sustained without any dissenting votes.

Reporting the present condition of the stake, President Morris announced that, notwithstanding the encroachment of the railroad into the residence district, there had been an increase of the population. The statistical report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1908, showed a recorded membership of 8,942. Although the year 1908 had been marked by adverse financial conditions, there had been a very good increase in the amount of tithing paid by members of the Salt Lake stake over what had been during the preceding year.

In each of the wards of the stake priesthood meetings were being held on Monday nights, and these gatherings were characterized by the most earnest and diligence in the study and presentation of the lessons. Upon the boys, as soon as they had attained a sufficient age, the responsibility of the priesthood should be placed so that they might, in early life, be trained in God's service.

Temple work is increasing among the people of this and adjoining stakes to such an extent that it is almost impossible to offer a full and complete list of the work of the Latter-day Saints. It was essential in labor for the salvation of the dead, but it was necessary to arrive for the spiritual growth of the living.

The Salt Lake stake, organized on March 5, 1847, would soon witness the fifth anniversary of its creation as one of the divisions of the Church. Under the direction of the stake Sunday school board a reunion of the members of the

stake would be held on March 26, 1909, in the Olden hall.

President Morris condemned the Sunday theater and advised the parents to keep their children away from its irreligious influence. He suggested that every member of the stake must a prohibition law to apply to himself, so that each might keep from himself the pernicious influence of the liquor traffic. In this country, laws, in order to be sound, must be constitutional, or in accord with the fundamental principles of the government. An individual prohibitory law may be called constitutional, because it is in harmony with revelation from God.

ELDER F. S. FERNSTROM.

Elder Francis S. Fernstrom, a member of the high council, spoke of some of the lax moral conditions in this city, due to the presence of the saloon and the cheap Sunday theater. He declared that the Latter-day Saints, as a community, will unite and make their influence felt in public and in private, these evils can be eradicated. We are living in a Christian nation, and we have a right to ask that one day out of seven be kept as a day of rest. Some think that we should be so liberal that we ought to allow men to do what they please on Sunday, that we ought not to interfere with their so-called personal rights. If this were a correct attitude, why have any laws at all? Every law is more or less an infringement upon the liberty of the individual. A good law may be inconvenient, but it is a benefit to the many. From very early time one day out of seven has been set apart as a day of rest, so that men's minds and bodies might be relieved of the pressure of their usual vocations. Those who stand behind the liquor traffic and other unwholesome kinds of business are ever vigilant in defending their interests. They seldom sleep. They work in the day time and at night. If, therefore, believes all lovers of decency to make their influence felt to the fullest extent in behalf of civic righteousness.

ELDER B. F. GRANT.

Elder Brigham F. Grant, of the high council, said that he had been working for 15 years to keep boys out of saloons and thus save them from a life of sin and disgrace. The most effective prohibitory law is the determination of each individual to let no saloon exist in his community. One's conviction that liquor is an evil is a far stronger influence for good than any legislative enactment. When a man is master of himself, he can keep his hands off himself and do for himself. The best way to bring up a family to live honorable lives is for the father to teach righteousness and live accordingly to his own principles. If they ought to be thrust aside, it is useless to pretend to be a good Latter-day Saint, when you serve him at your daughter's wedding or your son's birthday party. Let the parents make laws prohibiting the liquor traffic in their own homes, let them observe those laws themselves, and then see that their children do not disobey them.

PRESIDENT LYMAN.

Elder Francis M. Lyman, of the quorum of apostles, addressed the conference. He said that on the temperance map of the United States, Utah was black, because she had neither state-wide prohibition nor local option. The present map of the Latter-day Saints, who constituted so large a part of the population of this state, were told abstainers from the use of intoxicating liquors. Perhaps in no other part of the world could so temperate a people as the saints be found, because with their temperance was a cardinal part of their religion. The people of the Church were making progress in works of righteousness.

There is an admirable law, given by God to the Church, called the Word of Wisdom. It not only places the ban upon intoxicating drinks, but upon tea and coffee, which are harmful beverages. It also declares that meat should be eaten sparingly. The observance of this doctrine will bring health and strength and happiness. The Lord would be pleased if we would all live nearer to this requirement.

Not one of us is too good. Between absolute perfection and our present attainments there is a wide gulf. We should all strive to make that gulf narrower and narrower. Throughout the world, men, as a rule, are honest and are striving for better conditions of life. We must remember that all men are our brothers. We are all descended from a common Father. If this fact is kept in mind, it will prevent us from becoming narrow in our views regarding those who do not see and think as we do.

Singing, "Onward, Christian soldiers." Benediction by Elder George R. Emery.

The third session of the quarterly conference of the Salt Lake stake, which commenced in the Assembly Hall, at 7 o'clock in the evening, was held under the direction of the Mutual Improvement association of the stake.

The Twenty-eighth ward choir sang "Hark! Listen to the trumpeters."

Prayer was offered by Elder Rodney C. Badger.

Singing, "O'er the gloomy hills of darkness."

Right Alvin A. Hensley of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement association of the Salt Lake stake, reporting the work of that organization, said that the stake's gratifying results had been obtained from the stake's labors. He said that ward priesthood meetings were held on Monday evenings and were characterized by the most earnest and diligence in the study and presentation of the lessons, which occur on Tues-

day nights. In some cases the ward presidents had to conduct the class exercises, because they were unable to secure efficient instructors.

The Mutual Improvement age is the valuable period in the boy's life. It is then that he needs careful guidance to keep him from the pitfalls of evil. Fathers should lend their aid to this organization, so that they might help one another in strengthening the moral phase of the boy's life.

MISS HENRIETTA SPEAKS.

Charles A. Hensley, president of the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement association of the stake, addressed the meeting on what had been accomplished by the workers under her charge. The lessons have been devoted to three subjects—ethics, literature and ethics. The spiritual nature of the girl had received special attention. She was taught to seek a testimony regarding the gospel of Jesus Christ, so that she might become a firm member of the Church. Selections from the works of the masters of prose and poetry had been placed before her, that she might drink in their sublime and ennobling thoughts. The necessity for right conduct under all conditions of life was from time to time impressed upon the young women of the Improvement classes. No one should be discouraged in a work like this. To help one girl to attain a higher standard of spiritual life is worth the best efforts that we can put forth.

A violin solo was rendered by Murray Scott.

For Ashton, a member of one of the Young Ladies' associations of the stake, said that the beautiful lessons which she had studied could not but make a girl wiser and better. That tending to bring one nearer and nearer to the ideal life of the Savior.

A contralto solo, "Rock of Ages," was sung by Alice Webley.

ELDER E. A. MERRILL.

Albert E. Merrill, speaking as a member of the Young Men's association, made some remarks regarding the organization of the stake. The young men had been studying some of the truths announced by the Prophet Joseph Smith. He had early declared that the Latter-day Saints were in a position to do great things. It may change its shape, its place, or its condition, but it can not, as some erroneously believe, be crushed into nothingness. It is eternal and unchangeable.

A solo was sung by Lizzie Thomas Edwards, accompanied by the violin and organ.

ELDER F. M. LYMAN.

Elder Francis M. Lyman said that it is a pleasure for an old man to look back upon his life and review all the good that he has done. While the evil deeds which save themselves here and there in his past years bring sadness to him, the good which he has done in this community have opportunities for improvement which were denied to their parents. The boys and girls of today are enjoying the fruits of the faithful of their fathers and mothers. They ought to grasp the advantages which are placed within their reach and strengthen themselves mentally, morally, and in every other respect.

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THE GOVERNOR'S VIEW.

It is understood the governor is favorable to a regulation measure, and that the committee will agree upon a modification of the budget bill the main provisions of which are as follows:

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H. B. No. 10, by Badger—An act relating to the payment of money payable by all domestic and foreign corporations in this state with certain exceptions, providing for penalties and forfeitures and the enforcement thereof, and for the revocation of the charters of domestic corporations failing to comply with the provisions of this act and repealing sections 456-XI, 456-XII, 456-XIII, 456-XIV and 456-XV, Compiled Laws of Utah, 1907.

H. B. No. 12, by committee on public lands—Relating to degradation necessary to public lands of Utah, and the measures to retain surface and grazing privileges of certain coal lands.

H. B. No. 22, by Archibald—Relating to the classification of cities and the manner of changing the class of a city.

H. B. No. 71, by Badger—Providing for an interlocking and a final decree in divorce actions and prohibiting the marriage of divorced persons within the period allowed for an appeal, and providing changes in decrees and amending sections 1154 and 1157, Compiled Laws of Utah, 1907.

H. B. No. 106, by Badger—Amending sections 1137, Compiled Laws of Utah, 1907, relating to the width of public and private ways.

H. B. No. 154, by Hyde—To prohibit the bringing into this state of certain cattle except they are free from tuberculosis, and requiring all dairy cattle within the state to be subjected to the tuberculin test.

H. B. No. 130, by Badger—Relating to filing of copy of notice of mining location fee and of filing of duplicate notice of mining location fee.

H. B. No. 112, by committee on mines

and smelting—Amending the coal and hydro-carbon mining laws of Utah that all coal and hydro-carbon mines come within this law to regulate the use of explosives, ventilation, lighting, timbering and safety of employees.

H. B. No. 231, by judiciary committee—To punish inmates of the state industrial school escaping therefrom or aiding or abetting other inmates to escape. (Enacting clause stricken out.)

IN THE SENATE SATURDAY.

One of the most important measures passed by the senate Saturday afternoon was H. B. 125. This bill was introduced by Representative Morris and, if approved by the governor, will carry an appropriation of \$5,000 for a board of commissioners of Indian war records. The duty of the board will be to prepare records of every person ever having had anything to do with Indian campaigns in Utah. It has long been felt that the men who voluntarily risked their lives in defeating the people of the territory against Indians should be fittingly compensated. It is with such commendation in view that the record of each Indian fighter will be established.

If the provisions of H. B. 194, by Senator Seely, are carried into effect, the state will accept from the general government the property known as the Panguitch school. The measure provides that the lands and buildings shall become the property of the state, and that at schools to be maintained there, Indians be admitted free and entirely on an equal footing with white pupils.

Representative Pope was heard in the Senate Saturday afternoon in explanation of his measure relating to irrigation districts. He was attentively listened to by the senators, after which the bill was passed unanimously. By its terms, farmers of any district are permitted to form irrigation companies for mutual benefit.

Another important measure passed by the senate Saturday afternoon was one affecting the Historical society of Utah. An appropriation of \$1,000 is provided for to enable the society to collect data, compile records, etc., pertaining to the history of Utah, and provision is made that such records and data be placed in the custody of the state, and may be available to the general public.

By the provisions of H. B. 161, passed by the senate Saturday, the board of optometry is to be composed of two regularly graduated physicians, who are oculists, and one optometrist. The last board was composed entirely of optometrists, a condition that was unsatisfactory to the state board of medical examiners, and an endeavor was made to bring the optometrists entirely under control of the board of medical examiners. The measure that finally passed the senate is a compromise between the physicians and oculists on one side and the optometrists on the other.

A portion of the Capitol grounds will be set apart for the use of the National Guard of Utah, according to provisions of a bill passed by the senate Saturday afternoon. The bill was No. 184, introduced by Senator Williams, and it authorizes the state army to be located to construct a state armory and arsenal on the site set apart. The bill passed unanimously.

Senator Hullen called up for reconsideration some bills 26 and 27, providing for the re-establishment of a bureau of statistics. The bills were rejected in the senate last week and failed to better Saturday, failing to pass by a vote of 7 to 7.

CONFERENCE ON
NEW LIQUOR BILL

Committees From Both Houses Will Draw Yet Another Measure.

If the present legislature succeeds in passing any liquor legislation whatever, it will come as about the last thing in the session. Although the matter of regulating the liquor traffic in every conceivable form, from state-wide prohibition to the making of "treating" a misdemeanor, has been before the present session since Jan. 23, and the passing of one bill calling for the state-wide article has been accomplished in one body and a regulation measure has passed the other, the divergence of opinion as to what sort of legislation really will become law at the hands of the solons seems to be as wide as ever even among the members themselves.

The latest effort to get some measure through was when the Badger regulation and local option bill was up as a special order in the house Saturday afternoon, that Speaker Robinson, after a brief conference with the governor, announced that Governor Spry as it were, was the "whole thing" at that juncture, and for the house or senate to attempt to pass any sort of legislation which did not meet the views of the chief executive would be folly, for the reason that there was enough time left in which to pass the measure over a veto, should the houses feel disposed to so act upon the bill the governor might turn down. For that reason he advised that the matter go over, and that a committee of six from each house had been suggested to take up all bills pertaining to proposed liquor legislation after consulting with the governor report back a bill which his excellency might express his approval on without further delay.

COMMITTEE IS NAMED.

This was agreed to and the speaker named Messrs. Davis, Hanson, White, Harvath, Chase and himself as a committee from the house. It was learned that Mr. White could not attend and that Mr. Wootton was named in his place, and owing to a misapprehension having been agreed upon, the name of Representative Pope was substituted for that of Speaker Robinson.

The speaker, President Gardner named Messrs. Marks, Stockley, Bonner, N. Smith, Burton, Hurdley, and Williams to act for that body. The committee will hold a strategy session Saturday night, the hour of breaking up being near midnight. Another session was appointed for yesterday afternoon at the governor's office, and the matter was again gone over.

When Speaker Robinson named the committee to represent the house, Representative Thompson, one of the most valiant fighters in the house in the cause of state-wide prohibition, took exception to the personnel of the committee named, for the reason that a state-wide prohibition score not represented on the committee and he declared it unfair to that particular contingent to be denied representation, and he vigorously stated against such a show of unfairness.

Speaker Robinson in explanation said he had aimed to place upon the committee men who were moderate in either direction. They would, he explained, retain their place on the calendar, subject to the recommendation of the joint committee.

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