

to house to house visitation and yet has stated that he could not possibly attend to it in the time.

That after arranging and agreeing to register voters who came to him in the manner agreed upon he utterly refused to fulfil his promise and would not register them.

That he has refused to register a number of the members of the People's Party until after December 23.

That he has not only refused to register voters at his office or house, but to inform them when he would be on his "beat" or when he would call at their houses.

From the general course pursued by the registration officers in this city we have good and ample reasons to believe that they are ready and willing to register members of the Liberal party but unwilling to register members of the People's Party. Also that by the exclusion of a large number of legal voters from registration until the week commencing December 23rd many of them will be prevented from registering and thus a fair election will be prevented.

We respectfully ask your honorable body to inform the registration officers that the law in regard to visiting the houses of citizens is not so much for the convenience of the officers as that of the voters, and is intended to facilitate, not prevent a full and fair registration.

And it is their duty to register qualified voters at any convenient place within their precincts and at reasonable business hours.

That they have no judicial powers and cannot legally refuse to register persons ready to answer proper questions and take the oath prescribed by law.

That they must not discriminate between members of different political parties.

And that on failure or neglect to perform their duties they be promptly removed and other officers appointed in their stead.

We also ask further, that your honorable body appoint a sufficient number of deputy registration officers to be at designated places during the week commencing on December 23d to register all qualified voters who have not then been registered. And that additional registration officers to at least the number of one for each precinct be appointed from among members of the People's Party. All the registration officers now appointed are known to be members of the Liberal Party, strong and avowed partisans, ready to serve their political associates to the utmost of their power. We therefore urge that the party to which we are attached be accorded this representation in order that justice may be done and that the approaching municipal election may be conducted fairly and express the choice of the majority of the voters of this city.

Very respectfully,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the People's Party of Salt Lake City,

HEBER M. WELLS,

Vice-Chairman.

RICHARD W. YOUNG,

Secretary.

Today's session of the Commission was spent in considering the charges and determining upon the course of procedure in an investigation. Colonel Godfrey, chairman of the Commission, stated that an order was being formulated, and the registrars would have an opportunity to answer. Until this was done, he said, the order of the Commission would not be made public.

There will be nothing done during the remainder of this week, as it is the last of the house to house canvass, and the People's Central Committee are desirous of placing no obstacle whatever in the way of the registrars doing their work. Further steps will be taken, and evidence be introduced to sustain the charge, after the Commission designates a time, which will not interfere with or impede registration.

SNOWFLAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Snowflake Stake was held at Taylor on Sunday and Monday, Dec. 1st and 2nd. There were present on the stand, of the local authorities, President J. N. Smith, most of the High Council and Bishops, and President D. K. Udall, of the St. Johns Stake. The attendance was large and the instructions and teachings were of an excellent character. The subjects of tithing and the education of the young were well treated upon, also many other matters of interest to the Saints.

The regular Priesthood meeting was held on Sunday evening.

The Bishops' reports showed the wards to be in very fair condition.

The general and local authorities were sustained by vote of the conference. JOSEPH FISH, Clerk.

NOTES FROM PANGUITCH.

On the first day of December, at 8 p.m., occurred the death of the twin daughter of Bishop R. A. Allen, of Junction Ward, Piute County. At 11:30 the same night, Sister Mary Bell departed this life, and at 5 o'clock next morning Sister Sarah Adeline Sery died, making three deaths in one night. Bishop Allen was at this place attending the Stake quarterly conference, and at 7 p.m. went to the Priesthood meeting, leaving his family at Brother Cameron's house. In a short time he received a call from his wife telling of the sickness of his child. He hastened home, but the little one expired in a short time after his arrival. Sister Bell, the widow of Brother Archibald Bell (who died about eight months ago), leaves nine children, the youngest only eight days old. She was a firm and faithful Latter-day Saint, and loved and respected by all.

Sister Sery was in her eighteenth year, and it is stated, was to have been married next Christmas. She was the daughter of Bishop George W. and Phoebe Butler Sery. The father is now an exile in Mexico.

We are somewhat elated at the prospect of having a railroad in our valley. A surveying party has already staked off a route from Paragona, Iron County, across the Buckskin Pass, into Bear Valley, thence down Bear Canyon and the South Fork of the Sevier.

There has been a pleasant rain in the valley, with some snow in the mountains. Stockmen are driving their cattle to a winter range for safety. S. O. CROSBY.

PANGUITCH, Garfield Co., Dec. 4, 1889.

THE IDAHO TEST OATH.

The argument of Judge Jere Wilson, in the Idaho test oath case, was made yesterday, and was very clear and logical. He said that the law-making department had no right to go into the domain of conscience and make a man an offender because of his religious belief. This was precisely what the Idaho oath did, by disfranchising a citizen because of his membership in a religious association, and its action was violative of the Constitution of the United States. Judge Wilson cited from numerous authorities, and from decisions of the Supreme Court, in line with his position. During the argument he was listened to attentively by the Court, and numerous questions were asked by the judge.

H. W. Smith, better known as "Kentucky" Smith, followed. He is now a resident of Ogden, but formerly lived in Idaho, and is understood to be the framer of the test oath that is being discussed. He claimed that the oath was not violative of the Constitution; that it went no farther into the domain of religious belief than did the Edmunds-Tucker oath, passed by Congress in 1887. He insisted that membership in a church or association could be made a disqualification for citizenship, as being a member of any organization was not an action, and was a rightful subject of legislation.

The court adjourned last evening before Mr. Smith had concluded his argument. This afternoon he proceeded in the same vein as yesterday.

When he finished, Hon. F. S. Richards began the closing argument and made a telling speech. "Kentucky" Smith's points were completely met.

It is believed here that the court cannot decide against membership in the "Mormon" Church and in favor of the law, on constitutional grounds. The authorities cited were numerous and pointed. Dubois was present during the proceedings.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 10.

MANTI SHAKEN.

There was a heavy shock of earthquake felt about 4 o'clock last Saturday morning. Some of the residents of the north-west part of town were considerably alarmed, but no damage was done.—*Manti Sentinel*.