



THE SOCIETY ISLANDS MISSION.

Modern Church and Mission Headquarters Erected by the Elders.

Elder Edward S. Hall of this city, who recently returned from a six-year mission in the Society Islands, gives the "News" the following notes describing conditions and progress of the gospel work in Tahiti.

Elder Hall presided over the mission during the last five years. Until two years ago, the mission had no headquarters worthy the name, and the Latter-day Saints had no meeting-house at Papeete, the capital city of the islands, and the trade center of the group. The need of a church building was greatly felt by every Latter-day Saint in the islands. In 1903, narrated Elder Hall, this matter was brought to the attention of the first presidency of the Church at Salt Lake, with the result that the Church gave \$12,000 with instructions to buy a good building lot in Papeete.

A nice bare corner lot was bought in the best residence part of the town,



DEATH OF WILLIAM BENTLEY.

Chattahoochee, Ga., Sept. 12.—The many elders who have labored in Georgia and have been welcomed at the home of William Bentley, will be grieved to learn of his

They and the high council are strictly observing the Word of Wisdom, as also the bishops of the various wards and those in charge of the auxiliary organizations of the stakes, and it was the purpose to have this principle lived by all the people just as far as it was possible. With the exception of one, conference have been held in every ward in the state during 1907. President Albert Heath said that a movement had begun to have every person holding a position in the stake or the ward observe the Word of Wisdom and there would be no stopping until it was accomplished. He was gratified with the willingness of the people to respond to any call that was made of them by those presiding.

Remarks were also made by President Mark Austin, Principal Ezra C. Daly of the Ricks academy, Bishops Marion J. Kerr, Hyrum Ricks and James M. Cook and Elder John Donaldson.

An overflow meeting was held in the academy building presided over by President Albert Heath. The number in attendance Sunday afternoon was 1,304. W. E. GEE, Stake Clerk.



MEETINGHOUSE AND HEADQUARTERS OF THE SOCIETY ISLANDS MISSION, PAPEETE, TAHITI.

which is no more than a Salt Lake City block from the beach, and is just a short distance southeast from King Pomare's palace. After buying the land the first thing Elder Hall did was to build a house for himself and his family. He arrived here the latter part of July, 1903, and remained here two months, during which time plans were made for a nine-roomed modern frame house, for the headquarters of the mission, and plans for a meeting-house to seat 200 people were also made. The first presidency approved of the plans, and gave me \$7,000 with instructions to return to the islands and build these structures. I left on Oct. 5, and having just got married, my wife accompanied me to the islands.

We spent 10 days in San Francisco, where I bought and shipped to Papeete nearly all the material to build the two houses. Elder James S. Noall, a carpenter, joined us at San Francisco, and went to the islands with us. We arrived in Papeete the first of November, and work was begun at once.

Most of the elders were called in from their fields of labor and assisted with the building. The elders did nearly all the work themselves, with Elder James S. Noall at the head of the working force. All worked with a will, and by June, 1906, the dwelling house was finished and painted, and from then until October the time was spent in building the meetinghouse, which was finished and dedicated Oct. 5, 1906. There were a large number of saints present from all parts of the mission. We then held three days of conference, which the saints said was the best gathering they had ever had. The buildings are a credit to the Church, and a credit to all who helped to build them. After the conference was over the elders returned to their missionary labors in the various islands, and have labored diligently until the present time, and they are meeting with success. The mission is growing and we are gaining many friends.

Plans are under way to start church schools, and money is being raised to buy lands to gather and colonize the saints in our place. The mission is a good one and is growing. The elders who labor there love their work, and the mission, and we look to see it become one of the best missions in the Pacific ocean.

At times, unthinking friends of the mission have spread false reports of conditions there. A report has been recently spread that there was trouble in the mission, which I wish all who are interested in the mission to know is not true. While we were building some misunderstanding arose among

choosing and untimely death, which occurred at his home here Sunday afternoon, Sept. 1. He and a young man named Cutler Cunningham were sitting on the front porch and Cutler was reading a paper. He suddenly fell off the porch and killed Mr. Bentley. His wife, Mrs. G. A. Bentley, is prostrated with grief and would like to hear from the elders acquainted with the family. Mr. Bentley was 77 years of age.

ST. JOSEPH STAKE.

The quarterly conference of the St. Joseph stake was held in the Thatcher meetinghouse Aug. 21, and Sept. 1. There was a good attendance and timely instructions were given by the stake presidency and other speakers. A two days' convention of the Primary associations preceded the conference and the first day of the conference was devoted to primary work. Miss Rowarth and Miss Peart of Salt Lake City were in attendance at all the meetings and their instructions and stories for the young were greatly appreciated. The river was high so that only a few were able to attend from the north side of the river and they crossed the river in a boat. The trains also were not running because of washouts, all of which reduced the attendance at the meetings. J. H. LARSON, Stake Clerk.

SOUTHERN STATES REUNION.

The Southern States' Missionary society will hold its annual reunion on Friday evening, Oct. 4, 1907. The place of meeting will be announced later. The annual election of officers will occur at the reunion.

FREEMONT STAKE.

The quarterly conference of the Freemont stake of Zion was held in Rexburg Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 14 and 15. President Thomas E. Bassett presided at all of the meetings. The singing was furnished by the ward choir of Burton, Paines and Salem. Elder Orson P. Whitney was present, and his eloquent gospel discourses were much appreciated and enjoyed. President Bassett greeted the people assembled and was gratified to see so many present notwithstanding the very busy time. He said that he and his household were thoroughly united and

RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

The following missionaries returned from foreign missions during the last few weeks and have reported at the historian office presided by or by letter. All report an enjoyable time, and state that the gospel work is making excellent progress in the various sections represented.

Aug. 3.—Henry M. Figgins of Brigham City, from the Australian mission; date set apart April 2, 1906.

Aug. 25.—August Carlson of Ogden, Utah, from the Scandinavian mission; set apart June 12, 1906. Presided over the Stockholm conference during the past six months.

Aug. 25.—George Roy Rees of Benson, Cache, Utah, from the British mission; set apart June 12, 1906. A letter from the Christian L. Gregerson of Elmore, Idaho, returned from the Scandinavian mission; set apart July 12, 1906.

Aug. 25.—Lucian V. Hinckley of Provo, Utah, from the Central States mission; set apart June 27, 1906. He was president of the St. John, Kan., conference.

Sept. 1.—Alvin F. Smith of Salt Lake City, from the British mission; set apart in April, 1906.

Sept. 2.—John Ransom of Lehi, Utah, from the Northern States mission; set apart March 2, 1906. Presided over the Wisconsin conference. Writing of the gospel work there Elder Ransom says: "The Lord's work in Wisconsin was never more encouraging. We tried a new plan by organizing our elders into companies of 16, and each company held a district conference in a different city or town each Saturday and Sunday, after all arrangements had been made previously by elders who went ahead as advance agents. This method brings the elders together once a week and a spiritual feast results by participating in the sacrament and participating in priesthood meeting, etc. We have always had success in holding these district conferences. We have held them in the different places where we have held forth. These have added greatly to bringing the people together to hear the Mormon message. It is an avenue of our work that I feel is being neglected by our elders in the different conferences. As long as the elders of papers are willing to do what they are doing for us in Wisconsin I believe we are neglecting the work somewhat by not giving them material that will be read by so many people, and result in much good for the whole cause. We are called to repent. During the months of June, July and August the 21 elders in Wisconsin disposed of over 5,000 books to the people."

Sept. 4.—Charles D. Lambert of Granger, Utah, from the Australian mission; set apart March 13, 1906. Elder John R. Barker of Utah, returned from the Western States mission; set apart Sept. 25, 1906.

Sept. 4.—Carl Madison, Jr., of Riverton, Utah, from the Northern States mission; set apart June 6, 1906. During the past five months Elder Madison labored in Nauvoo, Ill., the former home of the Latter-day Saints. Of conditions there he says: "We have a progressive branch in Nauvoo with Sunday school and Mutual aid society, and the work is being done in good order. The feelings of the people generally are changing, and they are interested in our work. They also express a desire to see our temple rebuilt and build up the city."

Sept. 4.—Joseph W. Gibbons of Garden City, Utah, from the Eastern States mission; set apart July 12, 1906.

Sept. 4.—George W. Thompson of Iron, Utah, from the Eastern States mission; set apart April 15, 1906. Released on account of ill health.

Sept. 11.—James M. Cook of Rexburg, Fremont Co., Idaho, from the British mission; set apart Nov. 27, 1906.

Sept. 11.—Alfred L. Pace of Thistle, Utah, from the Southern States mission; set apart July 12, 1906.

Sept. 11.—Edward S. Hall of Salt Lake City, from the Society Islands mission; set apart Oct. 4, 1906. Elder Hall presided over the mission since July, 1903. The past two years the Society Islands mission has been the best and building mission headquarters and meetinghouse. The prospect for the mission is very bright.

Sept. 11.—Nelson of Shelby, Brigham Co., Idaho, from the Norwegian mission;



MISSION HEADQUARTERS OF SOCIETY ISLANDS, BUILT IN 1906.

set apart Oct. 10, 1906. He acted as president here but was released on account of sickness in the family.

Sept. 14.—Nils J. Schow of Levan, Utah, from the Society Islands mission; set apart Jan. 19, 1906.

Sept. 14.—Nils J. Schow of Levan, Utah, from the Society Islands mission; set apart Jan. 19, 1906.

Charles A. Shaw of North Ogden, Weber Co., from the British mission; set apart May 15, 1906.

Sept. 15.—Moroni A. Miner of Springville, Utah Co., from the Colorado mission; set apart Sept. 25, 1906.

Sept. 15.—S. S. Russell of Provo, Utah, from the California mission; set apart Oct. 10, 1906.

Sept. 15.—Walter M. Johns of Sugar City, Fremont Co., Idaho, from the California mission; set apart June 6, 1906.

Ideals are formed upon the standards set by nations, creeds, and people; and the Germans love prowess and manly strength, as the old Italians loved music and art. And so, the people slowly pile up the years and reason to augment the suffering and woe which loneliness and pain brought as his only companions. Even children loathed his bent and misshapen body, and the dogs in the street would not make friends with him. Ah, my friend, you may have seen some troubles, but if you have not been withered or misshapen by an incurable providence, you have still only learned the rudiments of sorrow. And so, the boy became a man, although he grew not to the stature of one. And one day, when his heart was bitter and sore within him, he bethought himself to pray; to pray to the God whom he had learned about in his innocent youth, but whose name was little remembered by the strong and prosperous. And he prayed. He asked God to show him if he was forgotten and despaired in heaven as he was upon earth. And at night, an angel visited his pillow, and with one look at the shining Presence, the young man's doubt and misery fled, and he was suddenly enveloped with a peace and glory that smoothed away every care and melted every pain. And the Presence informed him that long before he came to this earth, he had been acquainted with the conditions of his earthly life, and he had accepted his broken and maimed body because of a great work he was to perform, which could not be done without the impediment of his deformity. And although the angel did not tell him what that work was, nor when it should begin, the peace and softness of that Presence never again left the chastened heart. There was suffering, left, oh, yes. And plenty of ridicule and neglect, but in his own heart, the bitterness had been washed away, and only a self pity for cruel thoughtlessness was

GENEALOGY.

Interest in Genealogy Growing—Correspondents Must be Patient—A Pathetic Story With a Happy Ending—Work and Joy in the Gospel for the Blind. The Crippled, and the Indian, as Well as for the Strong and the Prosperous.

All communications to this department should be addressed to the chairman of the Genealogical department of the Daughters of the Pioneers, Mrs. Elizabeth C. McCune, corner Main and First North streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The wide interest that is being taken in this department is manifested more clearly each day; on our desk this week we find letters from Idaho, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New Jersey and Utah. And these inquiries are not all of our faith, but some are merely readers of the "News" and are interested in the fascinating subject of genealogy. Next week we shall answer in this column some of these letters, and would suggest to our inquirers that if they wish private answers they should say so and enclose a stamped envelope for reply.

The touching and soul-moving stories of our saints who have taken on up the temple work are full of faith promoting quality, and we ask again all those who desire to help us

in this work to forward such recitals to this department.

FAMILY OF PRUSSIAN SOLDIERS.

A mother in far-away Germany was the proud possessor of six fine and splendid sons, whose tall perfection made fair to make them ideal soldiers in the German army. To be the mother of such soldiers is a German woman's highest ambition. And to be such a soldier is the pride and delight of every healthy German lad. And so when the youngest boy, a child of 16, stubbed and injured his back, the parents soon lost their hope and after much patient waiting and nursing, they were told that their son was a cripple for life. Can you imagine the growing misery of that child, as he saw the strange love and care of his parents drawn from his own helpless form and centered around the other boys who were all so straight, so sturdy, and so promising? Was not he in far more need of their tenderness and solicitude than were the other strong sons? But alas, our

left. And so the years sped on. And one day, the cripple heard the sound of the everlasting gospel, and right joyfully did he embrace its glorious message. The waters of baptism washed away the last vestige of hatred in his breast, and in good time he came to America's shores, and found a modest home in the valley, shadowed by the peaks of the Wasatch. And then, some one opened to him the great doors of the temple, and into its shining courts he swept upon the wings of loving worship. And can you or I imagine the overflowing joy of that strong soul, confined in that maimed body, when he learned the full lesson of his new life, the privilege of going down into the waters of baptism for hundreds, yes thousands of his dead kindred and friends? There was an law against the cripple at the gate of the temple. His kindred might reject him on earth, but there, behind the veil, others were praying and longing and weeping for him. He was barred his dead kindred, giving to them life everlasting. Ah, he could help the Savior? Think of that! Help Jesus in His spirit prison work! Help Him in the work of salvation! What greater joy could be given a mortal? And so, my friend, there is a mortal in the spotted Prussian soldier only a happy soul confined in a painful body, and both are free from free. Have you ever met this soldier of Christ on his way to the courts of the temple? He comes, and I see him every day. This is a true story, and the name of the crippled brother is Nils P. Larsen Eskild.

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CHURCH MISSION ADDRESSES

For the convenience of travelers, the Deseret News gives here with the addresses of the various missions of the Church where this page will appear be found in file, and where travelers will receive courteous attention.

New York City—22 West One Hundred and Twenty-sixth St., Chicago—19 So. Paulina St., San Francisco—414 Baker St., Los Angeles—23 West Tenth St.

Denver—622 West Sixth Ave., Chattanooga, Tenn.—111 Fairview Ave.

Portland—261 Hancock St., Kansas City—105 Locust St., St. Louis—420 Easton avenue, Mexico—Mexico, 819, W. 10th (in redonda) 10th 1st, P. O. London, England—97 Farleigh Road, Stoke Newington, Liverpool, England—25 Edge Lane.

Bristol—101 Albert Place, Cheltenham, England. Zurich, Switzerland—Hochengasse 10, Marburg.

Copenhagen—Korsgade 11, Stockholm, Sweden—Svevstensgatan 10, Honolulu—Punchbowl St., Tokyo, Japan—No. 14 Kasumi-gakumachi, Yotsuya.

Toronto, Canada—226 Wilton Avenue. Copenhagen, Rotterdam, Holland—Boezemingsel 116.

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