

Benediction by Bishop Wm. B. Preston.

At the afternoon session the choir sang the hymn

O God, our help in ages past.

Prayer by Elder Wm. C. Dunbar. Choir sang the hymn

How great the wisdom and the love.

Sacrament was administered, the Priesthood of the Second ward, Salt Lake City, officiating.

The statistical report of the Stake for the year ending December 31st, 1895, was read showing as follows: First Presidency of the Church, 3; Apostles, 4; Patriarchs, 13; Seventies, 1,309; High Priests, 487; Elders, 2,485; Priests, 488; Teachers, 539; Deacons, 1,766; members, 19,763; total officers and members, 26,877; children under 8 years, 8,545; total of souls, 35,422; families, 6,958.

Reports of the High Priests' quorum and also the Elders' quorum were read.

The general authorities of the Church were presented and sustained as at the last general conference of the Church.

The Stake authorities were unanimously sustained as follows:

Stake presidency—Angus M. Cannon, president; Joseph E. Taylor and Charles W. Penrose, counselors.

High Councilors—William Edington, Theodore McKean, George J. Taylor, Henry Dinwoodey, Anders W. Winberg, John T. Caine, James P. Freeze, Milando Pratt, Henry P. Richards, Elias A. Smith, Joseph D. C. Youn, John Nicholson.

Alternate High Councilors—John Clark, David L. Davis, Orson A. Woolley, William W. Riter, Edward Snodgrass, John Kirkman and Spencer Clawson.

Presidency of High Priests' Quorum—Elias Morris, president; George B. Wallace and William C. Dunbar, counselors.

Patriarchs—Joseph J. Smith, William Draper, Joseph C. Kingsbury, Alonzo H. Raleigh, Washington Lemon, Joseph Horre, Joseph Harker, Archibald N. Hill, Samuel Friday, William H. Walker, Ezekiel Holman and Jacob Weller.

Clerk of the Stake and of the High Council—James D. Stirling.

Reporter—Willard Dene.

Assistant Reporter—Frank Chamberlin.

Home missionaries for the Stake were sustained as follows, after an explanation that many names had been omitted because of a desire to limit the number, and some of those who had been long in the service, and had many calls upon their time in other directions were released for the present:

HOME MISSIONARIES.

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Anderson, James H   | McMurrin, Joseph     |
| Aveson, Robert      | Moyle, Oscar W       |
| Barber, Horace D    | Morris, Robert W     |
| Bennion, Milton     | Margetta, Charles P  |
| Brinton, Samuel     | Morris, Nephi L      |
| Bennion, Ira        | Miller, Chilion L    |
| Beale, Frank L      | Nicholson, John      |
| Bart, George        | Nasbitt, Henry W     |
| Bennion, Edwin      | Nelson, Joseph       |
| Caine, John T       | Newton, Samuel       |
| Cann, George M      | Nielsen, Charles M   |
| Carlson, August W   | Noah, Matthew        |
| Cannon, Lewis M     | Phillips, William G  |
| Christenson, Joseph | Patrick, William G   |
| Cannon, Angus J     | Riter, William W     |
| Callister, Wm D     | Richards, Franklin S |
| Davis, David L      | Sloman, Edward L     |
| Dene, Willard       | Sharp, Joseph C      |
| Dougall, Wm B Jr    | Spencer, Claudius V  |
| Dinwoodey, Henry M  | Savage, Ralph G      |

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|---------------------|--------------------|
| Emory, Charles F    | Stewart, Samuel W  |
| Flashman, James T   | Smith, George A    |
| Goddard, Benjamin   | Shipp, Richard A   |
| Groesbeck, Joseph B | Sloman, Thomas W   |
| Hintze, Ferdinand F | Seare, Albert J    |
| Hanson, Wm L        | Smith, Hyrum J     |
| Hull, Thomas        | Schoenfeld, Albert |
| Hillam, Rodney Jr   | Taylor, Moses W    |
| Harker, Henry       | Timpon, John H     |
| Hodgeon, Oliver     | Tanner, Joseph M   |
| Hoag and, Lewis     | Woolley, Orson A   |
| Iverson, Heber O    | Wells, Joseph B    |
| Jones, Nathaniel V  | Wright, Elias S    |
| Kimball, Solomon F  | Winder, William C  |
| Keddington, John    | Wright, Abraham R  |
| Kelsch, Louis A     | Walker, John W     |
| King, Wm H          | Wallace, George H  |
| Kenler, Alonzo P    | Wallace, Arthur N  |
| Lambert, George C   | Young, Willard     |
| Lyman, Francis M Jr | Young, Richard W   |
| Lambert, James C    | Young, Harry A     |
| Lawrence, John      | Young, Levi E      |
| McKenzie, David     |                    |

Board of Education—Angus M. Cannon, Joseph E. Taylor, Charles W. Penrose, David McKenz'e, J. M. Sjodahl, William W. Riter, Richard K. Thomas.

Relief Society—Mary Isabella Horne, president; Anule T. Hyde and Clara C. Cannon, counselors.

Young Men's M. I. Association—Joseph H. Fair, superintendent; James W. Eardley and Charles B. Stewart, assistants.

Young Ladies' M. I. Association—Mary A. Freeze, superintendent; Mary Pratt Young and Nellie C. Taylor, assistants.

Sabbath Schools—Thomas C. Griggs, superintendent; Richard S. Horne and Willard C. Burton, assistants.

Primary Associations—Ellen C. Clawson, superintendent; Camilla C. Cobb and Lydia Ann Wells, assistants.

Kindergarten Association—Georgina Fox Young, superintendent.

Tabernacle Choir—Evan Stephens, leader; Joseph J. Daynes, organist; and all the members of the choir.

Scandinavian Meetings of Salt Lake City—Anders W. Winberg, president; S. P. Neve and Martin Christoffersen, counselors.

German Meetings—Arnold H. Schuitness, president; Henry Reiser and Herman Grether, counselors.

Elder George B. Margette, as chief usher, at the Tabernacle, and aids were unanimously sustained to act in that position.

The congregation was addressed by Presidents Wilford Woodruff and George Q. Cannon.

Choir sang the anthem

O come let us sing unto the Lord.

Benediction by Elder George Goddard.

At the Sunday evening session the choir sang the hymn:

Behold, the mountains of the Lord.

Prayer was offered by Elder Joe. H. Felt.

Choir sang the hymn:

Though deep'n'g trials thron'g your way.

Elder Heber J. Grant was the first speaker. He said in substance: It is not the wisdom of man that has established the work of God here upon the earth, but the work of the Lord himself; and it is His Spirit that has attended the missionaries while proclaiming the Gospel that has found lodgment in the hearts of the honest, and that it is the workings of the Spirit upon the people that has caused them to gather to these mountains for the purpose of serving the Lord. Every one of the

Latter-day Saints should seek to have the light and inspiration of the Spirit of God to be our constant guide and companion; for no matter how many manifestations we may have had or how great may have been the testimonies that have come to us, if we shall lose the Spirit that comes from above we cannot expect to grow and increase in the Church and Kingdom of God. When men lose the Spirit of the Lord their minds become darkened and they do not have that perfect clearness of vision to discern between truth and error, that they have when they receive the inspiration of the Spirit. No man will lose this Spirit if he is humble and prayerful and diligent in keeping the commandments of God. If the people will show proper respect to the authority of the Almighty and keep His commandments, He will magnify them and increase their ability and strength to labor for the onward advancement of the Kingdom. If we fail to respect the Lord and those whom He has placed here on the earth to direct the affairs of His Church, our Heavenly Father will fail to respect us.

President Joseph F. Smith then addressed the congregation.

The choir sang:

O, my Father.

After benediction by Patriarch John Smith, the conference adjourned for three months.

OUR CRIPPLE CREEK.

SALT LAKE CITY, March 8.—Having taken a little run to Mercur, I take my pen in hand to tell you about it; not that the movements of the writer thereof are of any special consequence by any means, but some things seen and heard are of as much importance when experienced by him as by a member of the Legislature or other exalted personage.

Most descriptions of a place, when the writer wants to say something graceful about it, begin with "it is pleasantly situated at" and then go on with the description; but candor, of which I have a limited supply left, compels me to say that Mercur is not pleasantly situated anywhere. It is located at the upper end of a long, winding, rocky canyon (all of which was located and staked out long ago) which stretches out toward and finally empties into Rush Valley, which contains as many rushes as the ground surrounding our celebrated "new joint" and no more. No one seems to know where it got its name and an immense majority really don't care; it has got it and couldn't change it now except by act of the Legislature, which body at present is too busily engaged passing resolutions of censure of foreign ministers, defending our Republican Senators from censure, and the like, to even think of so insignificant a matter as the name of anything. Rush Valley produces the regulation crop of sage, of which it can occasionally be said that there is a ben on (or under), some very good roads containing in some places 4,562 pounds of dust to the rod, and three small towns, one of which is the once renowned Stockton, now all but depopulated. It also