

and saw the truth of the saying of the Savior, that "a man's enemies should be those of his own household." Obedience to the Gospel left him isolated, even among his friends. He had to leave his native land, kind friends and dear associations, to wander in an unknown land among strangers; but these strangers became friends as enduring and tried as any upon the face of the earth. The Gospel bound them together and made them one. In many instances the seed that was sown fell upon stony ground. There are comparatively few of the human family who are willing to listen to the glad tidings of great joy, and to take upon them the trials that accompany the Gospel of salvation. But those who have hearkened and have lived faithful, have grown and gained strength through the multiplied attacks that have fast crowded upon them.

Today every manner of device is sought, every plan conceivable concocted and all the powers of evil that can be brought to bear, are thrust upon this people to weaken them in their faith and turn the weakminded to wicked and evil ways.

A few have turned from righteousness and this is lamentable. But the masses of the Saints have shown to their God their untiring and unswerving devotion for His work. Where young men have turned from the faith of their fathers I have found it to be, as a rule, through ignorance of the tenets of our faith. But where the parents have thrown around their children the protecting shield of knowledge and information, when the hour of trial comes, the son or daughter strays not in the forbidden path.

The necessity among the Latter-day Saints for the establishment of schools wherein our children may be taught the principles of eternal life, certainly was never more apparent than now, where they may be well grounded in eternal truths, that they may indeed become the corner stone of the foundation upon which they shall build in the future and the keystone of the arch that they shall erect. It is a matter of vital importance to this people and the Church of God. Fathers and mothers should encourage the establishment of such institutions of learning in our midst by financial aid and by their faith and prayers and patronage.

We already have to pay the taxes that sustain the public schools. In addition to that the property that has been donated to sustain the poor, to assist in carrying the Gospel to the nations of the earth, has been taken from us. And having to furnish our own schoolhouses, and seat them, and prepare ways and means so that our schools may be maintained, in the face of those circumstances; it is a trial to the Latter-day Saints; but God will be pleased with our efforts in this direction and we shall see our abundant harvest in the fruits of our labors in the years to come in the God-fearing men and women that will be raised up through such teachings and such training.

The inroads that are sought to be made upon the Latter-day Saints are not to be met by the weapons of carnal warfare, but the Saints are called upon to endure and to prove themselves true to the covenants they have made in holy places.

There is one fact apparent in all history, and that is, that numbers and the extent of territory do not make a nation strong and great. The four hundred millions of Chinese exercise but very little influence in the world. The untold millions of square miles of Russia, with its millions of inhabitants, exercise a small influence as compared with nations with a smaller area of country. England, situated upon an island, and of limited magnitude, has exercised an influence in the past over the nations of the earth, beside which the influence of such nations as China sink into insignificance. It was a true saying of President Brigham Young that "God and one honest man was a large majority." So it is today as regards the position the Latter-day Saints occupy, with regard to the nations of the earth. And if we shall prove true and faithful to the principles that God has revealed, our light and influence will grow and increase until it shall fill the whole earth, which may God grant. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER SEYMOR B. YOUNG

delivered an impressive discourse on the moral law of God and the necessity of obedience thereto, touching on the Word of Wisdom and the various things therein forbidden. He exhorted parents to instill these principles into the minds of their children.

APOSTLE JOHN HENRY SMITH

spoke of the excellent instructions of a varied character that had been given during this conference and in a powerful manner upon the vices of the age, the great sin of preventing family increase and indulging in fleshly lusts and the need to refrain from such things if we want healthy bodies for ourselves and our offspring. He warned the Saints against indulgence in anything unchaste or improper and closed by invoking the blessings of God upon His people.

Conference was adjourned until the 1st of March, 1891.

Choir sang the anthem:

Praise ye the Father,

preceded by a solo by Mrs. Silverwood.

Benediction by Apostle A. H. Cannon.

SEVENTIES' CONFERENCE.

Minutes of special Seventies' conference of Salt Lake Stake of Zion, held in the Assembly Hall, Salt Lake City, Sept. 7th, 1890, at 7:30 p.m. There were present: Apostles John Henry Smith, John W. Taylor and Abram H. Cannon; of the First Council of Seventies, Seymour B. Young, B. H. Roberts and George Reynolds; Counselor Joseph E. Taylor, of the Stake Presidency, and

presidents and members of the various quorums in this Stake.

Singing. Prayer by Apostle John W. Taylor. Singing.

President Roberts stated his pleasure at the opportunity of meeting such a large number of the Seventies.

There are nineteen quorums in this Stake of Zion, and the calling of the roll showed every quorum was represented.

Brother Roberts said one of the most important objects relates to the genealogical reports of the various quorums throughout the Church. In consequence of so many changes, transfers, removals, etc., the records are unsatisfactory, and now we desire to commence and get the genealogy of every Seventy in the Church, and a complete record of every quorum as it stands today. On October 4th, 1889, blanks were furnished to each quorum to fill out, and many have responded, while in Salt Lake Stake but seven out of nineteen quorums have reported. We now desire to complete our records as each quorum stands today, and trust that all the quorums will immediately send in their reports to the general secretary, so they may be entered up correctly; and when any changes hereafter occur of whatever nature, the quorums should be prompt in reporting the same to the general secretary, for if the records are not correct there is but little use of keeping them.

Another item is in regard to the blanks sent out not long since asking for various kinds of information, among which was, "How many Seventies over 45 years of age?" We asked this question, that we might know how to call for missionaries from the various quorums understandingly. Some quorums might be able to furnish three, while others might furnish four and five, according to the number of available men. It is thought wise, as a rule, not to call brethren over 45 years of age, as younger men are more able to endure hardships that accompany the preaching of the Gospel in the nations at the present time.

For this purpose, we want to see the quorums of Seventies completely organized, that when a call is made any desired number of missionaries may be furnished in a short time. We want to see this body of Priesthood upon whom devolves the responsibility, under the direction of the Twelve Apostles, of preaching the Gospel in all the nations of the earth, fully prepared for the important labor. Not only should they be completely organized but prepared in all respects. The Seventies are special witnesses for Christ to the nations of the earth. The preaching of the Gospel is yet in its infancy and not drawing to a close. Some have had a mania for asserting that the Gospel was soon to be taken from the nations of the earth. I do not believe the Lord is going to withdraw His Elders from the nations of the earth entirely until He is compelled to do so. So long as there is hope He will have His faithful servants bearing His message to those in darkness.