

tunity to sustain or disapprove of the officers selected by the proper authorities to minister unto them.

The speaker was thankful that he was a member of the Church of God. He knew it would fill the destiny spoken of by inspired men; that its principles would be triumphant. Every man could find ample opportunity in his sphere in the Priesthood to magnify his calling and talents. He was gratified at the reports of the Bishops of wards. They showed that the people had been generally doing their duty.

ELDER JOSEPH E. TAYLOR

stated that there were many interests that commanded the attention of the officers of wards. These were being looked after in a satisfactory manner. He noticed an increased zeal and faith among the people. Of course there were exceptions, but they were not many.

He expressed himself as greatly gratified at the magnificent work of redemption that was going on in the Temple. The Gospel comprehended every principle of spiritual being and advancement that would assure salvation in the world to come.

ELDER ANGUS H. CANNON,

President of the Salt Lake Stake, said he was pleased and satisfied with the unceasing and untiring efforts of the Bishops of the wards. These brethren were the servants of the people and were sorely tried men. Their labors were not appreciated as they should be. There were complaints in regard to the stringency of the times. He had, however, noticed that the offerings of the people compared very favorably with the gifts bestowed in times of greater plenty. The Latter-day Saints had been called to these mountains to be nourished and strengthened. They should obey the commandments of the Lord. If they did so they would be blessed.

The speaker here took occasion to refer in strong terms of condemnation of certain society fairs, customs and conditions now prevalent among the people of this city. He especially discountenanced some of the games played at so-called socials at the homes of prominent Elders of the Church, such as progressive euchre, high five, etc. Masked balls and round dancing should be abolished and avoided as things of evil, for evil often came from such indulgence. He did not wish to discourage social gatherings providing they were of the proper kind. These could be made intellectual, pleasant, elevating and moral in their character. He cautioned the people to be careful of themselves and their families to live their religion and receive the blessings of the Lord.

The choir sang the anthem:

Daughter of Zion.

Benediction was pronounced by Bishop W. B. Preston.

EVENING SESSION.

The choir sang:

From afar, gracious Lord.

Prayer was offered by Elder James T. Flashman.

Singing:

Hard times come again no more.

Elder Abraham H. Cannon was the speaker at the evening meeting. He referred to the reports of the Bishops

which invariably indicated that there are a large number of poor people in the various wards of this Stake, but was pleased to know that the necessities of the distressed had been met through donations received from the people and from the Bishop's general storehouse. He hoped that no discrimination had been made in the dispensing of charity, but that all people who were in need, whether they were Latter-day Saints or people of other denominations, had received proper aid. A hope was expressed that the charitable feeling would continue to exist among the people, but that greater efforts should be made to furnish employment so that those who are in distress may earn that which they desire, rather than that they should be pauperized by the bestowal of free gifts.

The speaker also referred to the labors of our Church school teachers, who, as the reports indicated, are doing missionary service, and are really obtaining for their labors a less amount than they could earn by working at day's labor upon the street or farm. Some indeed are working without any remuneration whatever. He felt to encourage the people to at least pay these noble men a remuneration equal to that which we pay those who have the care of our bodies, when we entrust to these teachers the care of the souls of our children, which are much more precious than the tabernacle in which the spirit dwells.

Encouragement was also given to the youth to employ their time and talents in the acquisition of knowledge and of skilled industry. Too much indifference is manifested by young people concerning matters of education, and they are too negligent about the use of the time allotted them here upon the earth. Only those who steadily pursue the course which God would have them follow, making some little progress each day of their lives, will succeed, and such will stand at the front in the great day of Zion's future glory.

The choir sang:

Jerusalem, my glorious home.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Heber J. Grant, and the conference adjourned.

THE LEGISLATURE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

The Republican members of the Assembly are holding frequent caucuses. One subject that has occupied their attention when so assembled on several occasions is the general appropriation bill. A prominent Republican member of the Assembly has informed a NEWS representative that his party is trying to agree on the items of the bill, and perfect it so as to avoid all night sittings near the close of the session. The state of the Territory's finances makes it unusually difficult to agree upon the amounts which are to be given to public institutions, and there is a prevailing opinion that there will be a cutting down of the amounts proposed to be given them, and which they have asked for. If this is not done there must be an increase of taxation, or of the bonded indebtedness of the Territory, or both, and the people are averse to either.

The proposition submitted yesterday

by a delegation of the citizens of Ogden, to turn over the Military academy of that city to the Territory for the purpose of a reform school, and to transfer the deaf mutes, and the blind should the Territory make provision for the latter, to what is now the reform school, is meeting with pronounced favor among members of the Assembly. It is declared to be the most feasible plan yet suggested to accomplish several desirable objects, among which are a reduction of the expense of the reform school, better provision for the deaf mutes and blind and great and much needed relief to the University, which is now so cramped for lack of room. The deaf mute institute, which is one of the University buildings, when vacated by its present inmates, can be used as class rooms, etc. The deaf mutes have petitioned the Legislature to remove them to Ogden.

The usual biennial exhibition of ignorance in regard to natural history was held in the House yesterday, when the fish and game bill was under consideration. For many years each succeeding legislature has thought it knew more about birds, fishes and animals than its predecessor, and hence has remodeled the fish and game law. Utah never had a law on this subject that was more than two years old, it is believed. Varian thought snakes ought to be protected, and Allen thought such protection unnecessary, alleging that snakes are migratory birds and do not breed in Utah. Varian insisted that they did breed here, and that he himself had followed up brood after brood of snipe until he had killed them all.

The knowledge of "snipeology" which the two Republican leaders of the House possess is distrusted on the Democratic side, though Powers was shrewd enough not to disclose the extent of his, as he took no part in the debate on snipes.

A prolonged debate occurred while the fish and game bill was under consideration, and the minimum fine for using explosives for taking fish. The bill made the minimum \$200, and several of the members thought such punishment too severe, but others cited the fact that vast damage was being done to the fish interests of this Territory by the use of explosives, and that severe measures should be adopted to stop it. The House finally agreed on \$40 as the minimum fine for this offense, the maximum being any sum under \$300.

THURSDAY.

Yesterday afternoon the House considered at length the militia bill and made numerous amendments to it. One of the most important of these was the striking out of the section which authorized the Governor to call out the militia to resist invasion, suppress riot, aid the civil officers, etc., and the one which provided per diem for officers and men while so called out and while engaged in the annual training. An amendment offered by Ivins to limit the annual cost to the Territory of maintaining the militia to \$3,500 was adopted, and the bill passed by a vote of 19 to 4.

A heavy day's work was done in the Council yesterday. Final action was taken on a large number of bills. Several bills relating to the vexed sub-