

# CHURCH MISSIONARY NEWS

## THE GRIMSBY CONFERENCE.

Interesting Meetings Held at Hull, England—Fifteen Baptisms.

Elder Rufus D. Johnson writes the "News" from Hull, England, under date of Oct. 14. The Grimsby semi-annual conference, held at Hull, Sunday, Oct. 9, 1904, was pronounced the most successful ever held in this district. It was well advertised by posters, handbills distributed at street meetings and by an announcement in one of the daily papers. As a result, many strangers were present, and the expressions of interest made by a number of them indicate that there is a good work yet to be done in this city. The morning meeting convened at 10:30 and the sacrament was administered to the Saints, and the names of the Church authorities were presented and sustained unanimously. The statistical and labor report was submitted by the clerk, and showed the following averages for the past year: tracts distributed 879, books 17; conversations on the Gospel, 47. Number of persons baptized since March conference, 28.

The first speakers were Elders James W. Cottam, and Albert J. Jones who referred to the divided condition of the Christian world, and the apostasy from the primitive Gospel. President Heber J. Grant occupied the remainder of the time, and gave much good counsel to the Saints. He emphasized the fact that the world judges a religion by the lives of its professors, and urged every member to live in such a way that no reproach could be cast upon the Church through his or her conduct. He also referred to the sacrifices which the Elders make in order to preach the Gospel, and showed object lesson of sincerity, and showed that every one of them was actuated by love for his fellow men—that no motives of personal gain impelled them to take up the work.

Elder Malcolm McAllister, of the Liverpool office, was the first speaker from the scriptures and it was within the power of every man or woman to gain a personal testimony of the truth of the Gospel. Elder Brigham E. Griffiths effected obedience for his theme, and showed that it was through disobedience to the requirements of the Gospel that Christianity is in its present chaotic state. Elder Orson L. Thompson spoke upon the blessings which are bestowed upon those who receive the Holy Ghost through obedience to the commands of God. President Grant took up the Articles of Faith one by one, and commented upon them. He dwelt particularly upon revelation, and related many instances where promises made in patriarchal blessings had been literally fulfilled.

The first speaker at the evening session was Elder George S. Smith, of the Manchester conference, who pointed out the characteristics of the Primitive Church, and showed how closely they correspond with those of the true Church today. Elder Cornelius T. Hauka stated that salvation "only comes" through obedience, and spoke upon the necessity of observing every requirement of the Gospel if eternal life is to be obtained. President Edwin A. Bingham compared the teachings of the Bible with those of the Christian world, and proved that the Gospel taught by the same is only a marred and distorted imitation of the one taught by Christ and promulgated by the Apostles. President Grant continued his remarks upon the Articles of Faith, and devoted considerable time to proving the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon, and concluded by bearing a strong testimony of his knowledge of the divinity of Joseph Smith's mission. The choir sang an anthem, "I Will Give Thanks," and after the benediction, many remained behind to converse with the Elders.

In addition to the names mentioned above the Elders laboring in this conference are the following: Joseph B. Roden, Arthur C. Chadwick, William Preston, Albert F. Dixon, Lewis B. Gardiner, Frank C. Taylor and Thomas R. Sunper.

On Saturday, Oct. 8, at 12:30 baptisms were performed in the Turkish Baths. Fifteen persons being baptized, and of that number, only three were children of members.

At 3 p. m. President Grant met the Elders in council meeting, and a profitable time was spent by all. On Monday night, at the regular hall, an entertainment was given which was a very pleasant affair. The program consisted of solos, quartet recitations etc., and a talking machine loaned by one of our friends made it more interesting. The house was crowded with strangers, and the good spirit present had the effect of strengthening the friendship of those who are beginning to investigate our teachings. The outlook is very encouraging throughout the conference, and all have been encouraged by this week's meetings to continue a zealous work for the spread of the Gospel.

## NOTTINGHAM CONFERENCE.

Interesting Meetings Held in People's Hall.

The Nottingham semi-annual conference convened in the People's hall, Heathcote street, Nottingham, Oct. 2, 1904. There were present President Heber J. Grant of the European mission; President Aaron Gill and sixteen Elders of the Nottingham conference.

After the usual opening exercises in the morning, the statistical report from April 1 to Oct. 1 was read, showing that 17,731 strangers' houses had been visited by traveling and 144 houses by invitation; 4,672 Gospel conversations; 88,445 tracts, and 1,088 books distributed; 489 meetings indoors, and 85 outdoors.

President Gill reported the conference in very good condition, and thanked the Saints for their united help and support. Elder Shirley M. Woolley spoke upon the personality of God. Elders Roland J. Truman and Victor V. Phillips rejoiced in their labors and bore their testimonies.

President Grant spoke upon the fallibility of a belief alone doctrine; proved how impossible it is to gain influence for good or acquire a knowledge of science without hard work. The Gospel is continual advancement, and no person can be an honest Latter-day Saint without showing his knowledge by his works.

At the afternoon service Elder Walter C. Watson spoke on the necessity of revelation. Elder Joseph S. Barlow spoke briefly upon the apostasy and restoration of the Gospel. Elder Joseph Hawson bore his testimony.

President Grant referred to the falsehoods issued against the Latter-day Saints. Said that although our reputation may be bad, that does not affect the sincerity of our hearts nor injure our characters.

At the evening meeting Elder Joseph W. Bull spoke on the importance of obeying the Gospel principles in order

that cannot be depended upon, and all communication with the mainland is practically shut off on account of the roughness of the sea. We intend to remain here until the latter part of November, when we shall again return to Reykjavik.

We learn from Elder Frank W. Brainerd that a district meeting of the Wolverhampton branch, Birmingham conference, was held at Walsall, on Sunday, September 25, at 6:30 p. m., in the Exchange Buildings, High Street. The hall and corridor were filled with attentive and interested listeners to the talks of the Elders. A pleasant feature of the evening was the announcement that the meeting would also be the opening of a hall in Walsall. Many expressed their satisfaction with the meeting, and the prospects are bright for well attended gatherings in the future.

From Grange Villa, under date of October 3, 1904, comes the following from President George E. Wilkins: Two very successful district meetings were held in the Pelton branch of the Newcastle conference, October 2, 1904. Considering the fact that this is a country district, we had a fair attendance of strangers, some favorably impressed with the services, and amply repaid for their attendance in this branch the prospects are very bright for an increase in our numbers. We are also pleased to state that just recently six baptisms have taken place at Middlesbrough.

Elder J. Leo Brown sends us the following from Bradford under date of October 3, 1904:

"The labors of the Elders of the Leeds conference are bringing encouraging results. At our meetings the halls are packed with people eager to hear the message of life and salvation which we bear. All throughout the conference there is an interest of love and investigation manifest that has not been felt for many years past. I am pleased to report that we had another baptism at the Wapping Road School Baths, Bradford, Saturday, October 1, Elders W. Melvin Rich and J. George Barrett officiating. At which seventeen more souls were added to the fold of Christ, none of which were children of members. A very peaceful spirit prevailed throughout the services. Nearly two hundred people were present, many of whom were investigators. At the confirmation meeting which followed, the testimonies were strong and fervent testimonies to the truthfulness of the Gospel."

President Hugh J. Cannon reports the work in Germany as doing well, notwithstanding the opposition the Elders have to contend with and the hostility of the government towards them. He reports that considerable traveling has been done without purse or scrip, and those Elders who are willing to put forth the extra effort that this method requires, are amply paid for it by the success they meet. The appeal which we made to the Hungarian government for permission to remain there has at last been decided against us. After investigating our doctrine for fifteen months their answer was that they did not deem it wise to give us permission to promulgate our doctrine about which they knew so little. However, I think this will not affect us much. We will be able to go along about as much as we are doing in Germany. The prospects there, from all reports, are such as to justify us keeping on in spite of the opposition.

In a former issue I reported that the police officials of Dresden had forbidden the local brethren to hold any kind of meetings, under penalty of three hundred marks fine or six months imprisonment. The local men protested vigorously against such treatment, and have succeeded in getting permission to hold regular meetings, though they are forbidden to administer the sacrament, or use the Book of Mormon or Doctrine and Covenants in their services."

President J. Wilford Booth, writes from Savas, Turkey, under date of Sept. 3, 1904, of the progress of the work in that land. We take the following extracts from his letter:

"We had the pleasure of baptizing five new members into the Church in Marash. One brother was already there, and we organized a branch with the historic number of six members. Elder Markov was placed to preside; but since my arrival here, a letter from him informs us that he has been sent back to Aintab by the government authorities. Some Christian (?) priests, I suppose, complained against us, and he could not remain, except as he states, he suffers punishment as threatened. Usually, we find the Mohammedans much more liberal-minded and tolerant than the Christians; and only when complaint is made by the latter on some false and bigoted pretense, do the officials interfere with us."

"Our trip thus far has been at times very tedious and rough, so we are now happy to be here and rest a few days."

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again. Some days we would sit on our horses from eleven to thirteen hours. Next week we go to Zara, two days east of here, where I expect to remain about two weeks with the Saints. We have an invitation to carry the Gospel down to a village near the shore of the Black Sea, close to the part of Sam-sau. The letter came to Zara, to the Saints there, and I will learn more about it when I meet them. If I go there, I shall likely visit Constantinople by sea, as there are several places I would like to look at as fields for future work."

Arrivals.—The following missionaries arrived at Liverpool, October 1, 1904, ex. s.s. Celtic: For Great Britain—Nicholas C. Hair, Bingham; John W. Stubbs, William G. Ritchie, Provost George E. James, Union; Judson A. Tolman, Chesterfield, Idaho; James W. R. Hurst, Salt Lake City. For Switzerland and Germany—Eugene C. Follger, Salt Lake City. For Scandinavia—Frederick W. Christensen, Holbrook, Idaho; Olof E. Jorgensen, Jordan; Harvey A. Oakeson, South Jordan; Emil Erickson, Pocatello, Idaho. For the Netherlands—Abraham J. Gold Fred W. Hodgson, Salt Lake City.

Appointments.—The Elders who arrived for Great Britain, October 1, 1904, are appointed to labor as follows: Elders James W. R. Hurst, John W. Stubbs, Nicholas C. Hair, Manchester conference; Elder George E. James, William G. Ritchie, Judson A. Tolman, Jr., Scottish conference.

Releases.—Elder Walter Parry of the Sheffield conference is honorably released to return home at his pleasure. Elders Knible Bascom and Samuel Howard of the Birmingham conference; Elder John B. Fagg of the Bristol conference; Elder Joseph W. Bull of the Nottingham conference; Elder John H. Russell of the Scottish conference, are honorably released to return home October 15, 1904. President John W. Saunders of the Manchester conference, Elder William G. Lambert of the Newcastle conference, are honorably released to return home October 28, 1904.

Transfer.—Elder Walter C. Watson is transferred from the Nottingham to the Birmingham conference.

## RETURNED MISSIONARIES

Elder Henry Teuscher, Jr., of Geneva, Bear Lake Co., Idaho, returned Sept. 18, 1904, from the European mission, for which he was set apart Oct. 23, 1901. He says that on his arrival in England, President Francis M. Lyman chose two Elders to go to Turkey. He and his brother were chosen. He labored in Palestine and the Holy Land among the Arabic people. Learned the language and made many friends. Also visited many of the places where our Lord preached the Gospel. On his way home he was taken down with the typhoid fever at Omaha, where he remained in the Central hospital for nearly a month. While away from home he says he had a good time and enjoyed his mission.

Elder John M. Brown, of Wilson, Weber Co., recently returned from the Northwestern States mission, for which he was set apart Sept. 13, 1902. His field of labor for the first 16 months were in the cities of Spokane, Seattle, Tacoma and Aberdeen, state of Washington, the balance of the time in Butte, Montana, over which conference he presided. He was baptized eight, and was released to return home Sept. 28.

Elder Leo Franklin Thurman of the First ward, Provo, Utah Co., Utah, arrived home Oct. 17, 1904, on his return from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart Sept. 23, 1902. The North Carolina conference was his field of labor, where he reports the work of the Lord making good progress.

Elder Charles F. Martineau, of Logan, Cache Co., returned Oct. 20, 1904, from the Southern States mission, where he has been proselyting in the North Caro-

lina conference since Oct. 8, 1903, the last four months as president of that district. He returns at this time on account of ill health. The Gospel work he says is in a prosperous condition, and many honest in heart are being added to the Church.

Elder David S. Warren of Syracuse, Davis Co., was set apart Aug. 5, 1902, and returned Oct. 24, from missionary labors in the Southern States. The East Tennessee and Mississippi conferences were his fields of work. He reports that there are good prospects in both conferences for a good work to be done in the future. He labored in Knoxville, Tenn., for five months, with very good success and found a good many friends there.

Elder Arthur J. Kirk of Salt Lake City, Utah, arrived home Oct. 26, 1904, from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart July 1, 1902. The conferences of Ohio and Georgia were his fields of labor. As a result of the good work being done by the Elders laboring in Georgia, many are coming into the fold of Christ, and the prospects are very bright for the future. The Elders are treated very well by the people. Elder Kirk spent 22 months in Ohio and the remainder of the time in Georgia.

Elder John H. Russell of Salt Lake City arrived home Oct. 26, 1904, from the British mission, for which he was set apart June 24, 1902. The Scottish conference was his field of labor, where he reports the Gospel work progressing. During the past six months there have been in the neighborhood of 40 baptisms. There are 17 Elders laboring in Scotland, and reports from all fields are good. There are four branches in Scotland at present and a new one is expected to be organized in Fife district, where there has been no branch for a number of years.

Elder John B. Fagg, of East Mill Creek, Salt Lake Co., passed through this city Oct. 27, 1904, on his return from the British mission, for which he was set apart Sept. 30, 1902. The conference of Bristol was where he spent his entire mission. He reports the Gospel work making fair progress, with many investigating the truth.

Elder Niels P. Nielsen, Jr., of Logan, Cache Co., passed through this city Oct. 27, 1904, on his return from the Scandinavian mission, for which he was set apart June 24, 1902. In the Christiania conference, in which he labored, he reports the work for the spread of the truth, progressing very satisfactorily. Many are investigating the Gospel and the Elders are well treated and making many converts.

Elder Joseph S. Sims, of Lincoln, Tooele Co., passed through this city Oct. 28, 1904, on his return from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart Dec. 2, 1903. The conference of South Carolina was his field of labor. Elder Sims was released at this time on account of ill health, but enjoyed his mission in other respects.

Elder Edward L. Jones, of Nephi, Juab Co., passed through this city Oct. 28, 1904, on his return from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart July 8, 1902. The South Carolina conference was his field of labor. He reports that the Gospel work in that state is making good headway, the Elders being well treated by the people of the south.

Elder Joseph H. Hardy, of Vernal, Utah Co., passed through this city Oct. 28, 1904, on his return from the Southern States mission, for which he was set apart Oct. 8, 1902. The conference of Mississippi was his first field of labor, where he spent seven months, part of the time as president. During the last 15 months he spent at Chattanooga in the office as secretary of the mission. The work there, he reports, is making excellent progress in all the conferences of the mission.

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