

shun the very appearance of evil, as becometh the sons of the servants and Saints of God.

The conference closed with benediction by President Wm. Budge.

In conclusion we feel very thankful for the eminent success attending this conference. The attendance was remarkably good. God's Spirit permeated the proceedings throughout; the choral exercises, led by Elder Joseph Robinson, lent a charm to the services, and the people all feel that it has truly been a "feast of fat things;" that God has been with us and added signal blessings to the efforts of His servants to teach us in the way of life. The brethren left us for the north immediately after the close of the conference; and when President Budge said, in leaving, "God bless you," we felt like re-echoing it a thousandfold in behalf of him and his esteemed and beloved co-workers.

Your brother in the Gospel,
JOSEPH IRWIN.

PRESIDENT A. O. SMOOT'S FUNERAL.

The funeral services over the remains of President A. O. Smoot held in Provo Sunday, March 10, were largely attended by the people of Provo and other parts of the county and many were present from Salt Lake City and various parts of the Territory. From early in the morning till the time for the services to commence, 11 o'clock, carriages filled with people from adjoining towns were constantly arriving and the trails from north and south thought in many people who were desirous of paying the last tribute of respect to the departed. At 8:30 o'clock the remains were taken from the family residence to the tabernacle, followed by the High Council, Bishops of the various wards, the faculty of the B. Y. Academy, and many friends. Gilman's band led the procession. The following members of the High Council and of the faculty of the B. Y. Academy acted as pall bearers: William H. King, Abraham Holladay, John D. Dixon, Charles D. Glazier, M. L. Pratt, J. F. Gates, B. Cluff Jr., L. E. Eggersten, W. M. Woolf, B. S. Hinkley, Joseph Jensen, and A. W. Audsith.

At the tabernacle the remains were viewed by over 5,000 people before the services commenced at 11 o'clock. The casket was made from native locust, covered with white broadcloth. The Tabernacle was draped in white, and in the west end, back of the choir, a large photograph of President Smoot was suspended. The speaker's stand was decorated with beautiful flowers and plants, and many floral offerings were placed upon the casket. The house was filled to overflowing and many were unable to gain admittance.

There were present of the First Presidency, Wilford Woodruff, George Q. Cannon and Joseph F. Smith; of the quorum of Apostles, Lorenzo Snow, John Henry Smith and John W. Taylor; Elders Angus M. Cannon and Joseph E. Taylor of the presidency of the Salt Lake Stake, Bishop W. B. Preston, Elders E. F. Sheets, John T. Oatne, K. G. Maeser, George Bywater, Ira N. Hinkley, Leila Farr and members of the Priesthood of the Utah Stake.

President Cannon presided.

The choir sang "Death gathers up thick clouds of gloom."

Prayer was offered by Elder Lorenzo Snow of the Quorum of Apostles.

The choir sang, "Hark to the far the eternal knell."

Elder Joseph E. Taylor was the first speaker. He had known President Smoot for many years and close association had endeared the soul of the departed to him so even as the souls of David and Jonathan were united with love. The characteristics of Brother Smoot's life as exhibited since his connection with the Latter-day Saints were a strong will and unswerving integrity. He was a devoted friend and any person who once obtained his friendship could depend upon that friendship through all the adverse circumstances of life. In 1851, President Smoot had been called on a mission to England, and shortly after he was appointed to take charge of the first company that emigrated after the perpetual emigration fund was established. On that trip across the plains the company was afflicted with cholera and President Smoot also suffered from the disease. But he knew that a great responsibility rested upon him and through his great faith and strength of character he was enabled to carry out the duties which had been imposed upon him. The speaker next referred to the many years Elder Smoot had served as Mayor of Salt Lake City during a time when it required a man of good judgment at the head of the municipal affairs. He had worked for the city often from 6 o'clock in the morning till 8, 10 and 11 o'clock at night, and without a dollar's compensation. He was a public-spirited man in the true meaning of the term, always planning for the good of the people financially and spiritually. Above all he loved the Gospel and revered the holy Priesthood, and exhibited the spirit of humility that characterizes a true Latter-day Saint.

Three weeks ago his children were gathered around him and he gave them many valuable counsels. His son-in-law, O. F. Whitney, asked him, if this were the last gathering of the family and the last time he would counsel them, what his advice would be, and what had been the guiding star which had enabled him to so successfully conduct his life. He had replied that his last words of counsel would be to serve God and keep His commandments; listen to the teachings of the Priesthood. He had attributed his success in life to following the counsels of the Priesthood, and had often done so even when he did not understand it, and had always found that course to be right. President Smoot had loved God and his brethren, helped the needy and extended mercy to his fellowmen; conquered evil and would come forth in the first resurrection and enter into a fulness of glory.

President Joseph F. Smith said he had not expected to be called upon to speak as so many were present who were older than he and who it would seem should be entitled to preference in addressing this congregation.

There was no cause for mourning or lamentation for our departed brother, yet the loss was an irreparable one. Brother Smoot had been a public

benefactor to all the years the speaker had known him. He had looked upon Brother Smoot as a father, and his life had in all probability been shaped to some extent by the teachings he had received from the departed. Brother Smoot was at all times a guardian of the people over whom he presided. His great prevailing characteristic, which the speaker had always regarded worthy of imitation, was his unshaken fidelity to the truth as revealed through Joseph Smith. He was as firm and unwavering in his integrity as it was possible for mortal man to be—a man whose word was good anywhere and everywhere. The speaker had often, from his boyhood, held President Smoot up to himself as an example, and felt that if he could be as firm and full of integrity as President Smoot it was all he could expect.

It would be too much to say that he had no faults, because no man lived who had not some human weaknesses; there was not a perfect soul in the world; but the noble characteristics of his nature, the power of his spirit for good, so overshadowed his weaknesses that they sank into insignificance. He was a power for good, a natural born leader, one of those noble spirits called to come forward in this age of the world to great work, and he maintained this position with honor. He had gone to receive a crown of exaltation sealed upon him by the Holy Spirit of promise, because he had been faithful to the end. There were great reflections behind the veil when Brother Smoot met the thousands of faithful friends who have gone before.

President Smith closed by admonishing the family and all the Saints to so live that they would meet with a welcome from their father and friend when they passed from this sphere of action, and prayed God to bless the memory of Brother Smoot and that his noble deeds might live as an example to the people to the end of days.

"It is well with my soul," was rendered by Miss Emma John, Mrs. May Young, Wm. Buckley and George Choules.

Elder David John, President Smoot's first counselor, bore a strong testimony to the truth of the remarks made by the previous speakers, and called attention to the great progress made to spiritual affairs in the Utah Stake under Brother Smoot's presidency. He had been true to his God, to his religion and his priesthood and had gone to his reward and would stand among the just forever. A short time before his death he was in close communion with the heavenly power and had heard the sweet music of welcoming voices beyond the veil.

Elder Edward Partridge, President Smoot's second counselor, spoke briefly of his acquaintance with President Smoot and of the many good qualities he had exhibited, especially his readiness to bend his own will to those who had superior positions in the Priesthood, and hoped and prayed that we might all be prepared to meet Brother Smoot, and all who had gone before, in friendship and love, when we are called from this world.

President George Q. Cannon said he felt incapable of saying anything that would be adequate to the occasion, but it was an honored custom to say something of the life and character and for