

should strive to become worthy to perform these labors in God's holy temples and those in authority most earnestly desired that the brethren and sisters should not neglect this important work, which had to be carried out before the Son of Man came to claim His kingdom.

It was also pointed out that baptism for the remission of sins, the laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost, and other holy ordinances were absolutely necessary for man's salvation. Everything had been prepared for us, and in this life we should seek constantly to deserve those blessings which God had promised unto the faithful; and no man or woman should be satisfied until he or she had secured the perfect assurance that they were on the path to exaltation and glory.

Elder Snow spoke of the encouragement which was before the Latter-day Saints, and counseled them to continue to walk in the paths of truth and righteousness which lead to eternal life.

Mrs. Agnes Olsen-Thomas here sang the solo "Calvary."

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON

arose and said that a great effort was being made just now to urge upon the public the importance of using a certain kind of tobacco; therefore it had been suggested that those present would like to hear from Prof. Talmage what he had to say on the tobacco habit and its effects upon the physical and moral nature of men.

ELDER TALMAGE

said he did not believe we should shun the tobacco habit merely because of the penalty which followed its use, but for the higher purpose that we knew it to be unmanly and opposed to the will and law of God. The speaker dwelt upon the very injurious effects of tobacco upon the human system. He said our bodies were the temples of God, and for that reason ought not to be defiled. The vital organs were affected so seriously by the use of tobacco as to become permanently impaired and that injury was transmitted from generation to generation until we realized at length the truth of the great declaration that the sins of the fathers should be visited upon the children even to the third and fourth generations. He himself, as a teacher, could testify to the fact that those who came to him for instruction having been born with the tendency towards the use of tobacco, "this stimulant appetite," came with a burden on their backs that it would cost them the greatest effort of their lives to escape from.

The speaker deprecated the present system of advertising the leading brands of tobaccos both by posters and through the medium of newspapers, and which told the people "where they could get drunk for the least money." He gave a word of warning to parents, upon whose heads, he declared, these sins would fall if they persisted by means, direct or indirect, in leading their children on in this manner, by themselves adopting those enervating, soul-destroying habits which so battled against men in the fierce competition of life. The boy who began with a cigarette would perhaps end in the opium joint, ruined in body, mind and soul by that for the first use of

which there was no excuse. These physical weaknesses which we brought upon ourselves were steps towards inanity. The boy who became addicted to these destructive habits was, as a rule, a profane boy, and more likely to become a criminal than he would be if he did not yield to its use. The day was speedily coming when the children of the present generation would be beyond parental control. Those vessels would have become hardened and taken the form that they would hold through life, stamped either with honor or shame. Elder Talmage continued to speak in this strain, and gave various illustrations in support of his assertions.

The choir sang the anthem:

God be merciful unto us and bless us.

Benediction by Elder John Nicholson.

Conference adjourned till 10 o'clock tomorrow (Sunday) morning.

THIRD DAY.

Morning Session, April 7, 10 a. m.

The choir and congregation sang:

The time is far spent, there is little remaining
To publish glad tidings by sea and by land.

Prayer was offered by Elder John Henry Smith.

The choir sang:

O my Father, Thou that dwellest
In the high and glorious place
When shall I regain Thy presence,
And again behold Thy face?

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF

delivered a discourse upon the existence and operation of the powers of good and from the beginning of the world to the present time. The closing portion of it was devoted to showing how Satan had exercised his power to destroy the work of God from the earth by drawing away many men who had labored to establish and maintain it. He asserted, however, that no such critical times as it had passed through would recur, as it was too near the time of the coming of Christ for such events to be repeated. He believed as a rule that the leading brethren would be true to the death. He predicted a triumphant and glorious future for the Church.

At the conclusion of President Woodruff's remarks Mrs. Lizzie Thomas Edwards sang "Consider the lilies."

PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH

addressed the Conference upon the importance of sustaining by vote the authorities of the Church, and gave a lucid explanation of the purport and meaning of that action. He then turned his attention to the importance of the Saints living in accord with every law that God had revealed for their guidance, as no one who sought to be a law unto himself could be justified or sanctified by law. He made direct reference to the Word of Wisdom, which was a direct divine commandment to the people of the Church.

The choir sang the anthem,

The angels sweep their harps of gold.

Benediction by Elder Charles O. Card.

OVERFLOW MEETING.

An overflow meeting was held in the Assembly Hall, opening at 2 p. m.

Elder Brigham Young, of the council of the Twelve Apostles, presided. The choir and congregation sang:

Redeemer of Israel.

Prayer was offered by Elder E. D. Woolley, of Kanab.

The choir sang the hymn:

Great God, attend while Zion sings
The joy that from Thy presence springs.

ELDER GEORGE TEASDALE

was the first speaker. He said that darkness covered the earth and gross darkness the people. The question might be asked, what was the great distinguishing difference between the Church of Christ, or Mormonism, and the so-called "Christian denominations of the world. It was continuous revelation, the rock upon which the Church of Christ was built. A testimony to that effect could be obtained by the children of men, no matter how humble or lowly they might be, if they would but do His will. In carrying out His purposes He chose the weak things of the earth. The man or woman who wanted to come forth in the first resurrection, who desired eternal life, would show it by their works. Those who were anxious to obtain these great blessings were not mere theorists or idlers. They were workers in every sense of the word. We could show our inclinations to righteousness by turning away from and avoiding evil. The speaker cautioned his hearers against being too sure that they had made their calling and election certain. Boasting and useless declarations to this end were dangerous. He remembered many years ago, in Great Britain, hearing an aged Elder take a solemn oath that he would never leave the Church. A young Elder who followed him, as a speaker, said that he could not—dared not say so much. The sequel showed that the young man was the wiser as he remained faithful while the other apostatized. As a people we should be natural and honest and not spend too much time and means in attempting to keep up appearances. There should be union in our midst, union in all the quorums of the Priesthood. He had been engaged in work among the settlements of the Saints in Mexico. The government of that country had been very good to the Saints there and God had blessed and would continue to bless that nation for its kindness to them. Many of its people were descendants of Lehi and Joseph—the Joseph who was sold into Egypt. They were a peculiar people and minded their own business. After a time they would accept the Gospel, and when they did so it would be a case of a nation being born in a day, for they would embrace the truth in response to a great universal impulse, born of the Spirit of God.

ELDER EDWARD STEVENSON

was the next speaker. His remarks were devoted principally to early Church reminiscences, his acquaintance with the Prophet Joseph Smith, a personal visit to the Hill Cumorah and the translation of the Book of Mormon. He first heard the Prophet speak in Michigan in 1834. But that was not the first time he knew him to be a servant of the Lord, because prior to that time he had received a testimony to that effect. He had frequently heard him speak and it was his privilege to hear him deliver his last