

Elder O. W. Penrose gave a verbal report of the Stake, stating that the presidency of the Stake in their visits to the wards had found them in good condition. The people were united and in the sustaining of officers and the declaration of principles, the votes, as a rule, had been unanimous, the exceptions being mostly the result of misunderstanding. Reports of opposition to the officers and principles had been exaggerated and unfair; no such extreme opposition as had been reported being manifested.

The officers of the Stake and wards were working for the interests of the people, as befitted servants of God. If the people would continue to give them active support, they also would be benefited and blessed. The visiting teachers were spoken of as in the main energetic and faithful, though an improvement in this direction would be possible. More positive, active instruction might be given by the teachers with excellent results in checking the manifest tendency toward neglect of duty among the people. This would lead to prosperity, good feeling and diligence. The High Council was reported in good constitution, its meetings being characterized by union and an excellent spirit. Matters of business presented to the people were ordinarily submitted to the presiding officers of the Stake and the ward first, that all might be united in their comprehension of the subject.

The Sunday schools were commended for their good work and the interest the pupils took in the instructions given there. Elder Penrose urged a better attendance at these schools. He regretted that the Mutual Improvement association meetings were suspended during the summer, but during the winter sessions much interest was manifested. The loss to the Primary association in the death of Sister Clawson was referred to, and her works while living commended. The Relief Society was reported in good condition and doing an excellent work.

New wards had been organized wherever it had been found necessary, resulting in great good. The home missionaries were commended for their diligent, careful work, and their habits of study. Some slight changes would be made in this corps at this conference, as a matter of convenience for them and the Stake. It was the intention to keep these men in active labor for the benefit and blessing of the people.

The people of the Stake were spoken of as faithful in most matters, a great part of the neglect of duty being due to carelessness rather than evil-mindedness. All were urged to faithfulness in the performance of their daily duties, and the statement made that the presidency of the Stake would continue to do as much as possible to advance the interests of the members of the Stake.

Elder Joseph E. Taylor was the next speaker. He said in part: The presidency of the Stake were united in sentiment, feeling and action, and in their councils always came to a unanimous conclusion upon every point of importance presented to them. He exhorted the people to put away their ill feelings and disputations, and

not harbor evil one against another. He referred to the Temple work and said that all persons should collect as far as possible a genealogy of their relatives who have passed away that they might receive the ordinances in this holy building. People should not delay this duty, because they do not have what they call a proper donation to make. They would be welcomed if they did not have any money to give. People should, however, be free with their offerings in this respect, as the Temple is kept up at a great expense. The young people when uniting in marriage should go to this building and be united for all time and eternity, and not be satisfied in merely being united for this life. They should not marry outside of the faith and thus shut themselves off from these blessings.

Elder Adolph Madsen, assistant president of the Salt Lake Temple, was the next speaker. He continued the subject of temple work. From various causes, not all were equally interested in the work for the dead, a lack of appreciation of this labor being manifested altogether too much. The sacrifices made by the Saints to build the temples were mentioned and highly commended. These labors having been blessed of the Lord it would be indeed a matter of regret to allow these houses of the Lord to remain only partially used. Elder Madsen urged all to take advantage of the opportunities to labor for the blessing of the living and the dead. This work had been instituted through the personal ministrations of the Prophets Moses and Elijah, for the purpose of impressing its importance upon the people; the speaker felt that it was destined to a magnificent growth, for the honor and glory of God. There would be taught and impressed the proper relationship between husband and wife, parents and children, the servants and the people of God, and an understanding of the laws which He had introduced for their observance. All these excellent results would necessarily follow a proper appreciation and use of temple privileges.

The speaker had noticed that, in the main, the poor people were the most faithful visitors to the Temple. He hoped for a greater attendance on the part of others. If any had not their own family records in good order they could find in the Temple lists of names of deceased persons for whom work might be done. He urged all to come whether able to pay offerings to the Temple or not, for every one would be judged by his intent, as well as by his giving. He thought it would be a good rule for every man and woman in Zion to spend at least one week each year in the Temple, where a sanctification of labors and covenants could be accomplished.

The choir sang the hymn commencing:

Sons of Michael, He approaches.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Wm. C. Dunbar.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened by the choir singing the hymn commencing:

Mortals, awake! with angels join,  
And chant the solemn lay.

Prayer was offered by Elder John Tingley.

Singing by the choir:

Arise, my soul arise,  
Shake off thy guilty fears;  
The bleeding sacrifice  
In my behalf appears.

The Sacrament was administered by the Priesthood of the Sixth ward.

Elder Jonathan G. Kimball was the first speaker. He desired to speak under the influence of the Spirit, as he felt that he would be led by this influence to become a blessing and assistance to the Saints. He felt that men should not depend upon the popular approval of their words, so long as they have the approval of God. The strength to meet and overcome temptations would not come through popular applause.

He referred to some of the evils now being introduced among the Latter-day Saints, calling special attention to sexual impurity. He characterized this sin, on the authority of Alma, as next to the shedding of innocent blood, and spoke of the time when popular opinion of it was to this effect. He warned all to keep away from the evils so prevalent in the world, lest they be overcome by temptation, in the absence of their guardian angels and the Spirit of God. The parents were urged to greater diligence in looking after their sons and daughters, to protect them from such evils. Man's body, the temple of the Holy Ghost, must be kept free from defilement. Every unrepentant sinner in this direction would apostatize from the Church; this fact was a living testimony to all. Wisdom will require the control of the feelings, thoughts and imaginations, lest they be evil and drive away the Spirit of God from the heart, and make an inroad for the work of Satan.

Elder Kimball made a prediction with reference to local conditions, to the effect that in spite of difficulty and the intrusion of the stranger, the Saints would retain their integrity and meet their obligations, redeeming Zion and succoring the needy stranger within their gates.

The authorities were presented as follows: The general authorities of the Church as presented at the last general conference; also the Stake authorities.

The vote to sustain the officers was unanimous in each case.

The choir sang the hymn,

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come.

Elder Geo. Teasdale then addressed the congregation briefly.

Singing by the choir, the anthem:

O come, let us sing unto the Lord.

Benediction by Elder William Taylor.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The choir sang the hymn,

Come we that love the Lord,  
And let our joys be known;  
Join in a song with sweet accord,  
And worship at His throne.

Prayer was offered by Elder George Goddard.

Singing by the choir:

Behold, the mountain of the Lord,  
In latter days shall rise,  
On mountain tops, above the hills,  
And draw the wond'ring eyes.

In view of the death of Sister Ellen C. Clawson, Superintendent of the Stake Primary Associations, Sister Camilla C. Cobb was appointed and sustained