

Stakes in the interest of the religion classes.

The choir sang the anthem, From afar, gracious Lord, Thou hast gathered Thy flock.

Benediction by Elder Brigham Young.

Afternoon Session.

Singing by the choir and congregation of the hymn which commences:

Come, come ye Saints, no toil nor labor fear,

But with joy wend your way;

Though hard to you this journey may appear,

Grace will will be as your day.

Prayer by Elder Elias H. Blackburn.

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?

ELDER SEYMOUR B. YOUNG

of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies, was the first speaker this afternoon. He made allusion to his recent visit to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he attended an irrigation congress, lately held there. While there he was much interested in visiting old camping places of the Saints as they wended their way from the Missouri river to Utah, long before the railroad was built across the then great American desert. He likewise told of the hearty welcome and courteous treatment he and his associate delegates from Utah received at the hands of the people of Lincoln. Joy was expressed at the possession of a testimony concerning the work of God, with which the Saints were connected, and the fact that the people of Utah were becoming better known because of the greater diffusion of information concerning them, was referred to with satisfaction. The speaker had, while absent, found people who were greatly interested in learning of the character and scope of the missionary system of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He concluded by bearing testimony that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God.

ELDER C. W. PENROSE

was the next speaker. He was thankful for the manifestation of the Spirit throughout the Conference, and felt to bear a strong testimony to the divinity of the work, and to its eternal increase. This testimony he had received when a boy, and it had been greatly strengthened by manifestations throughout his active ministry. All blessings promised to the Saints would be fulfilled unto them, if they would hear and follow the counsels of the servants of God, and place themselves in harmony with the Priesthood, all temporal labors being consecrated to the Lord. The great mission of the Latter-day Saints in redeeming the earth and its people, was detailed; all work to that end would bear full fruit. All acts leading to this great result, would receive due reward. The proper order of the Priesthood should be observed, to the unification of the people, and their guidance by the Spirit.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON addressed the Conference. The opening portion of his discourse consisted of an enumeration of the prominent anticipations of the Latter-day Saints. They involved great changes on earth and among the hosts of men, and included the establishment of the Millennial era. He then showed how these grand conditions would be brought about—by man laboring under the direction of God. The speaker took the ground that those who would not actively engage in this work would finally be removed from the midst of

the people of God. He cited incidents of history associated with the dealings of God with man as exemplifications of the correctness of this position. In this connection approaching calamities, terrible in their character, were alluded to, and reference was made to the dreadful causes of those visitations and destructions. The people were warned against the horrible and blighting crimes of the world.

President Cannon treated upon a number of other vital and important subjects.

PREST. WILFORD WOODRUFF made a few closing remarks.

The choir sang the anthem, The nations bow to Satan's thrall.

Benediction by Patriarch John Smith.

Conference adjourned for six months.

Note.—It will be observed that the foregoing minutes are unusually brief. This is because the First Presidency have decided that the proceedings of general conferences should be published in full, in the form of a pamphlet, which will be issued by the "Deseret News" establishment. The one containing the proceedings of the present Conference—including the discourses verbatim—will be placed on sale sometime in the early part of next week. It is desirable that it should have an extensive circulation. The price of this valuable pamphlet will be nominal, having been placed at ten cents each.

PRIESTHOOD MEETING.

The Priesthood meeting of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion convened in the Assembly Hall, Salt Lake City, on Saturday, October 2nd, at 11 a.m. Elder Angus M. Cannon, president of the Stake, and his counselors, Elders Jos. E. Taylor and Charles W. Penrose, presiding. Singing. Prayer by Elder Nymphus Murdock. Singing. Roll called and responded to by one High Councilor, three Patriarchs, Elder Wm. C. Dunbar, of the presidency of the High Priests quorum, twelve presidents of Seventies, and nine home missionaries. All the wards of the Stake were properly represented excepting the Second, Ninth, Thirteenth, Twenty-second and Twenty-third city wards, and Sugar House, Forest Dale, Cannon, Mountain Dell, Bluff Dale and Brighton of the country.

The presidency of the Second, Third, Fifth, Ninth, Tenth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth quorums of Elders responded to the call, as also members of the Lesser Priesthood from the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Nineteenth and Twenty-first wards of the city and Mill Creek, Sandy and East Jordan of the country.

The Sabbath schools of the Stake were represented by Thomas C. Griggs. Upon the recommendation of their respective Bishops, nineteen young brethren received certificates authorizing their ordination to the office of Elders, each of whom promised to faithfully honor the calling.

Elder George Spillsbury (of Toquerville), John Ryder, Samuel H. Hill, James E. Talmage, George Romney and Robert Morris addressed the meeting briefly but in a very spirited manner, the burden of their remarks being the great necessity there is for all the Saints pressing steadily forward in the works of righteousness.

Elders Talmage and Romney having recently returned from extended visits to Europe, and Elder Morris having visited the Eastern States, all three brethren testified to the faithful labors that are being performed by the Elders whom they met; of their

earnestness in proclaiming the truths of the everlasting Gospel under the most trying circumstances in very many cases; of the rapidity in which the Elders acquired foreign languages and the speaking of same fluently; and the great work that was being accomplished in searching out the honest in heart. Many fields, the speakers said, were opening up for additions to the Church, though the great majority of people met were indifferent to the Gospel of life and salvation as taught by the Elders. Very many who had embraced the truth were longing for the day to come when they could gather to Zion and partake of the blessings enjoyed by the faithful Saints. The blessings of the Lord attending His people at home was referred to in the spirit of thanksgiving.

Elder Angus M. Cannon announced that the Sabbath schools would be held as usual on Sunday morning throughout the Stake; that the Scandinavian and German Saints would meet in their respective houses of worship at the regular hour; that the Fast day meetings would convene in the afternoon and partake of the Sacrament. The speaker urged a full attendance at these meetings, and that the Saints observe the fast in the spirit thereof, and remember the poor by giving their offerings to the Bishops. Elder Cannon also announced that there would not be any meetings held in the ward assembly rooms on Sunday night, and that the Sunday School Union Conference would be held in the Tabernacle in the evening, commencing at 7 o'clock; and that the General Conference of the Church would meet on Monday, October 4th, at 10 a.m. in the Tabernacle, and that it was desired that all the Priesthood and the Saints be present at all the meetings of the Conference.

Adjourned to Saturday, November 6th, 1897, at 11 a.m.

Benediction by Elder Harrison Sperry.

SALT LAKE COUNTY T. X

The State Supreme Court has handed down an opinion, in which it is held that the State board of equalization has authority to raise or lower the valuation, but that in its recent action in raising the valuation of Salt Lake county property the board did not adopt the right method to make the raise and therefore its action is void.

The opinion was in the case of the State of Utah, ex rel. J. A. Cunningham et al., vs the State board of equalization. The opinion discusses the provisions of the Constitution and also the statutory enactments relating to the question and concludes:

We think the provisions of section 83, respecting the classification of taxable property, mandatory. Such being the case, it was the duty of the board, when it found that the property of Salt Lake county was assessed too low, before making any order, to determine how much the valuation on the real estate ought to be raised, how much that of the improvements thereon, and how much that of the personal property, respectively, so as to make all the valuations conform to the constitutional standard, and then to make an order accordingly. The statute not having been pursued, the order was defective. It was also defective because it included money in its operation. It clearly can not be held operative as to money, for as appears from the record each dollar of the relators, on the assessment roll, is valued at a dollar, and when money is so valued, no board or officer can add five per centum or any per centum to it. This is so under the Con-