

## SALT LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE

The quarterly conference and monthly Priesthood meeting of the Salt Lake Stake convened in the Assembly Hall March 13 at 10 a. m. Elder Angus M. Cannon, President of the Stake, presiding; Counselor C. W. Penrose, present.

The choir and congregation sang:

Now let us rejoice in the day of salvation.

Prayer was offered by Elder George B. Wallace.

Singing, choir and congregation:

How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord.

The Stake roll was called and responded to by four High Councilors, three Patriarchs, Elder George B. Wallace, of the presidency of the High Priests' quorum, seventy presidents of Seventy and eleven home missionaries.

All the wards of the Stake were properly represented, excepting the Fifteenth and Sixteenth city wards, Mountain Dell, Big Cottonwood, North Jordan, Brighton, Hunter and Pleasant Green of the country. The First, Second, Fifth, Tenth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-fifth quorums of Elders were represented by their presiding officers. The Stake presidency of the Relief societies, also the superintendency of the Sabbath schools, the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement associations, the Primary associations and the Kindergarten schools, responded to the roll call.

On the recommendation of their respective Bishops, thirteen brethren received certificates authorizing their ordination to the office of Elder, first giving their promise to magnify the calling if ordained.

The statement of fast offerings and charity account was read, showing such offerings to be still inadequate for the support of the poor. The report was accepted and filed. The reports of the Relief society, Y. M. M. I. A. Primary association and High Priest's quorum were read and ordered filed. The Kindergarten association was verbally reported as in fair condition by Sister Georgiana Fox Young. Elder Thos. C. Griggs represented the Sunday schools of the Stake, presenting statistics for 1896, which showed a favorable condition.

Elder Willard Dore, president of the Latter-day Saints' College, reported that institution. He gave the total membership as 300, representing all parts of Utah and some of the surrounding states and territories, and classified in the high school, commercial, music and kindergarten departments. Notwithstanding financial difficulty and lack of proper building facilities, the institution was shown to be prospering and to have a bright future.

Elder Angus M. Cannon addressed the conference. He referred to the responsibilities resting upon holders of the Priesthood in feeding the flock of Christ. Notwithstanding all the care that could be taken of the people, it was evident that many would be unprepared for the ultimate responsibilities to be required of them. Every man who had received a family, a quorum, a ward, or a Stake to

preside over, was expected to perform his duties with due faithfulness, according to the covenants he had made. Brother Cannon regretted the tendency toward negligence on the part of many in conforming to the rules of the Church, with reference to membership to quorums, etc. Infidelity, schism, etc., were honeycombing society, and called for prompt preventive measures on the part of the Saints. Neglect of duty was one of the serious tendencies of the times, and if left unchecked, would result in the loss of the spirit of one's calling. Direct and pointed instructions were given with reference to the proper way of dealing with delinquent members and officers. He rejoiced in the organizations which had been formed for the training of the young, and uttered words of encouragement for their perpetuation.

The choir sang the anthem,

Jerusalem, my glorious home.

Benediction by Elder David L. Davis.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

Singing by the choir and congregation:

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

Prayer by Elder A. W. Winberg.

Singing by the choir:

Praise ye the Lord, my heart shall join.

The report of the Y. L. M. I. A. of the Stake for the year 1896, and the totals of the Stake statistical report for the same year, were read and ordered filed. It was announced that President Angus M. Cannon would be absent from Sunday's meetings, with President Woodruff's approval, to attend a funeral in Morgan Stake.

Elder C. W. Penrose addressed the conference. He offered suggestions to the officers with reference to securing a more general attendance at Stake conference meetings. Referring to the cause of education, the speaker advised careful, conservative, determined efforts in these and other matters, that those cultivating such regular habits of duty, might receive benefit. Proper means of retaining in memory the instructions given in the conference meetings and elsewhere, were suggested that those hearing them might be able to impart some of the exhortation there given to others. The growth and progress of the work was spoken of, and the people exhorted to increased faithfulness in attending meetings, and in other duties, in order to keep pace with this progress.

The habit of prompt obedience was commended, no matter what apparent sacrifice should be involved. When called to any office a man should perform his duties in the best possible way, commensurate with his ability, and trust to the Lord to make up deficiencies. Proper respect for men holding authority was urged, and the people exhorted to care and order in households, wards and associations. The laborers in the duties of the lesser Priesthood were instructed in their duties and exhorted to greater diligence in the performance of them. For this purpose, the entire talent in the ward should be utilized by the Bishop. The speaker laid special stress on the visiting Priests and Teachers performing their duties with the greatest possible faithfulness, that the instruction of the people

might not be neglected. He also referred to the proper habit of paying the tenth of one's income to the Lord, and sufficient fast offerings for the poor. The people were told to free themselves from all bondage to debt, improper habits and evil tendencies, placing themselves in such a position as to be in constant communication with God through His Spirit. Outside this line of communication danger would be encountered; hence the necessity of care in remaining to the strict path of duty.

President Lorenzo Snow was the next speaker. He compared the instructions given to the people, to the teaching of a child by a skillful teacher, patience and persistence being the chief requisites. Faithfulness and cheerfulness in public and in the home were commended as the fruits of the Gospel of Christ. A safe rule to follow would be to think how much worse circumstances might be, and to be thankful for such favorable conditions. The speaker referred to the magnificent promises made to the Latter-day Saints made in the temple, and commended them to the attention of the people. The sentiment "all is well" should be uppermost in the minds of the Saints when contemplating the works and promises of God. As compared with the brightest of human prospects, the destiny of the Saints was shown to be vastly superior.

President Snow spoke of the labors performed in the Salt Lake Temple, stating that the spirit of such work seemed to be growing among the people. He referred to the importance of such work, and held out an invitation to all, to partake freely of the blessings there bestowed. He gave instructions to the Bishops regarding the issuance or recommendation for temple privileges, advising a kind, fatherly care and watchfulness, that no injustice might be done. Dissatisfaction with the people and the work of God was depreciated, and the Saints were urged to faithfulness and vigor in their labors.

Adjourned to meet in the Tabernacle on Sunday at 10 a. m., the last meeting of the conference to be held there at 2 p. m.

Singing by the choir:

From afar, gracious Lord, Thou hast gathered Thy flock.

Benediction by Patriarch Alonzo H. Raleigh.

## SUNDAY MORNING.

The choir sang the hymn:

Our God we raise to Thee  
Thanks for Thy blessings free,  
We here enjoy.

Prayer was offered by Elder Adolph Madison.

Singing by the choir and congregation:

The time is far spent, there is little remaining

Bishop Heber Bennion represented the North Jordan ward; Bishop Robert Morris, the Eleventh ward; Bish Nelson A. Empey, the Thirteenth ward; Bishop M. S. Woolley, the Twenty-first ward, and Bishop Warburton, the First ward.

In general the reports were satisfactory, showing the several wards to be in good condition, with the various auxiliary organizations progressing favorably. Difficulty had been met