

CORRESPONDENCE.

NORTH ILLINOIS CONFERENCE

Chicago, Oct. 12, 1897.

The North Illinois conference was held in Wicker Park hall, North ave. 501, Chicago, the 25th and 26th of September last. Besides President L. A. Kelsch of the Northern States mission, there were present Elder E. M. Boyer, president of the conference, and the following brethren laboring in Chicago and the conference: J. F. F. Dorius, Charles A. Haacke, Edw. G. Midgley, Jas. A. Hulme, C. C. Steffensen, Charles Jensen, Lewis McCarry, O. O. Richey and Daniel Bodily. As several Elders had just arrived from Utah destined for different parts in the states as missionaries, they swelled the number to about twenty in all, including our mission clerk, Elder Christopher Burton. Three meetings were held on Saturday, and then reports from the Elders laboring in the conference were given, as also instructive remarks treating upon the principles of faith and works, and other parts of the Gospel. The hall was not so well filled with visitors, but, considering it was Saturday, it was very satisfactory. In listening to the reports of the brethren it was gratifying to learn that they had been very successful in most instances in their labors, and Elder Burton reported that through the mission there had been several thousand tracts distributed the last few months, and there were about 111 Elders in the field, and 220 persons had been baptized. The North Illinois conference embraces quite a tract of country; still Chicago is not only the largest branch but almost constitutes the conference entirely.

Sunday, the 26th, we held only two meetings, one in the forenoon and one in the evening. These meetings were well attended, and most of the brethren had an opportunity to speak and bear their testimony to the work of God. They had met friends who had administered to their wants as they had been preaching the Gospel without purse or scrip. They said that the feeling among the people toward the Elders was quite favorable, and that a Mormon Elder was better understood now than before. We had in our meetings several reporters representing different newspapers, and after the usual interrogations regarding our mission and work here, and also about the Church generally, as well as to our intentions in the future, and the prospects of success, they left us very politely, and the next day we found articles about our conference as well as allusions to some of us personally, and even the photos of President L. A. Kelsch, E. M. Boyer, Midgley Burton and your correspondent. There was nothing stated in said articles which was calculated to misrepresent the cause in which we are engaged.

The missionaries in this conference, Chicago especially, are in a healthy condition, the Elders here with our beloved presidents, both mission and conference, are working in perfect harmony and love.

President Kelsch is now making his rounds in the mission visiting the various conferences and may not be back again before the latter part of next month. Elder C. L. Monch, who came to Chicago the 25th of May, 1896, left us for his home in Salt Lake City the 23rd of September, having been honorably released from his mission.

We have held regular meetings every Sunday through the last year of our commodious hired hall, and our young Elders Boyers, Hulme, Haack, Midg-

ley and Steffensen have held open air meetings by a park called "Walton Place," sometimes every evening through the week and the most part of the summer. Hundreds of people have been present to listen to the discourses. We also held open air meetings by Humboldt's Park every Sunday afternoon through the summer until, through circumstances, we had to stop.

We are often favored with visits from friends in Utah, and lately we have had a pleasant visit with Elder M. B. Shipp from Salt Lake City, who last Sunday delivered a lecture upon the coming forth of the Book of Mormon and restoration of the Gospel through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Before closing I wish to mention our Relief Society which was organized eight months ago; that they have been a great help to the poor, and are growing in strength, they are fully organized and have as president, Sister Rose Smith from Utah, and with her experience can be a great help to this young society; everything is in order for work in establishing a Stake in due time.

Yours truly,
JOHN F. F. DORIUS,
Clerk of N. Ill. Conference.

INTERESTING CONFERENCE IN SAMOA

Salelavalu, Savali, Samoa,
Saturday, Sept. 18, 1897.

Allow me to offer a few introductory lines on the arrival of Elders and Saints preparatory to conference: Wednesday, Sept. 15, at noon, Brother David Kenison with his boat, arrived from Upolu, having in company Pres. E. J. Wood, Elder Foster Cluff, Fanene, a native Saint and also one of the leading chiefs of Taleata, and Tasi, one of our Saleaula young men, besides the crew. Elder Wood and Bro. Kenison left Fagali Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 14th, by boat; called in at Mullinu and added Tasi to their number; next at Valusu, where Elder Cluff and Fanene came aboard; then at Faleula where they took on six native boys, part of the boat crew. After a few hours pleasant sailing they arrived at Tifitifi and remained during the night. Early this morning, Sept. 14th, they were again a sail, but because of a rough sea and a heavy load they called in at Mullifanua and left four of the crew, started across the straits and arrived here, Salelavalu, all O. K., at noon. These brethren spent their time till conference visiting among the Saints.

Friday, Sept. 17th, Elder Moody, in company with Opapo arrived from Fagatuli. They left that branch last Monday, spending the first night at Saleaula, Tuesday night at Faga, Wednesday night at Sili, and Thursday night at Palauli. They reported that the Saints would come later by boat, providing the weather was favorable. The brethren were kindly entertained on the way.

Elder Leonard arrived several days previous and has spent the time in visiting the Saints.

Elder Hendricks arrived Friday, Sept. 17, from Tuasivi. The Saints will be here this evening.

The Saleaula Saints have arrived and are among the people here. Elder Geo. S. Burnham arrived later in the evening.

As an introduction to our conference the Elders, with some of the leading chiefs and Saints, sat down to a feast prepared by Brother Fred Kenison. After an abundant repast a well attended meeting was held in the meet-

ing house. Elders Wood and Cluff addressed the same.

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE.

Conference convened in the meeting house Saturday, with a goodly number in attendance. Called to order at 8 a. m. by Elder William Jeppson, presiding Elder of this island, presiding. Opened by singing. Prayer by Elder Salausa, a native Saint. Continued by singing. Viall, a native Elder, was the first speaker. He spoke on the keeping of the commandments of God and remaining firm to the end. He was followed by Brother David Kenison, who dwelt on the necessity of honoring the Priesthood and obeying those in authority over us. Elder William A. Moody then addressed the Saints on the principle of repentance. Elder Foster Cluff presented the Presidency and the Apostles of the Church in connection with the Elders laboring on Savali, with Elder Jeppson presiding Elder over the same, and Elder E. J. Wood president of the Samoan mission. All were unanimously sustained. Elder Wood closed by giving some very encouraging remarks to the Saints.

During the noon hours the Elders held their testimony meeting, also transacted such business as was necessary for the good and advancement of this branch. They agreed to work unitedly together towards building and establishing a central school at Tuasivi. President Wood instructed the Elders to seek diligently for the Spirit of God, that they might have His guiding influence at all times. Then their actions and labors would always be in accordance with the mind and will of the Lord.

Meeting commenced in the afternoon at 3 o'clock with a good attendance. Salausa, a native Elder, was the first speaker. He spoke upon the gifts and blessings obtained by the Saints when faithful to the Gospel of Christ. Elder Geo. S. Burnham followed, speaking on the principle of baptism, after which Elder Foster Cluff dwelt for some time on the progress of the work of Christ in Samoa.

During the evening Elder Wood exhibited his magic lantern views to a large crowd of eager observers; also three baptisms were made this evening.

On Sunday, Sept. 19, a great number of people were present, among them some strangers. One of the native Elders, Opopo, spoke for some time on the use of the Bible. Elder Leonard followed, speaking of the necessity of keeping the Lord's commandments in order that we might receive His blessings. The remainder of the time was occupied by Elder Cluff, his subject being the Holy Ghost and fit subjects for the same.

The Sunday school exercises began at 11:30 a. m. A program was rendered by members of the different schools, consisting of singing by all the schools; reciting of the Articles of Faith in concert, an address of welcome by Brother Fred Kenison with response by Viall of Tuasivi; ten questions and answers on the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, by representatives of the Salelavalu school; reports of the different schools; ten questions and answers on the life of Joseph, who was sold into Egypt, by the Tuasivi school; hographical sketch of President Woodruff by Brother David Kenison of Tuasivi; concert recitation by the Salelavalu school, and a brief history of the Samoan mission, by representatives of the Saleaula school.

The Priesthood meeting was called to order at 1:30 p. m. A good representation of the Priesthood was present. All felt to praise God for the many blessings received from time to time and above all for the light of the