

ing them to appreciate the great blessings within their reach. President Woodruff expressed himself earnestly upon the necessity of the Latter-day Saints attending to the work necessary to be done in the Temple for the redemption of their kindred dead. A portion of the discourse was devoted to an explanation of the importance of the missionary department of the Church, to which the Gospel is to be extended to all nations. In conclusion the President spoke of the prerogative of the heads of the Church to counsel the Saints for their good and for the benefit and advancement of the work of God, and stated that if they were to attempt to direct the people in a pathway that was wrong, God would remove them.

The remarks of the speaker were interesting and comprehensive. An adequate idea of them could not be conveyed in a brief reference.

ELDER FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS, of the Council of the Apostles, next addressed the Conference. Following is a brief outline of his remarks: No one who had the spirit of Zion could, under the existing favorable conditions, feel otherwise than happy. It had been remarked by a wise man that there was a time for all things. The work of the Lord had its times of apparent adversity alternating with periods of refreshing. The speaker here referred to the distressing circumstances which surrounded the Saints in Missouri, followed by the pleasant situation that ensued when the migration to Illinois was completed, where many advantages were enjoyed. Nauvoo became a glorious city, and many people came from distant parts of the nation to see and hear the Prophet Joseph. Then came the martyrdom of the Prophet and his brother Hyrum, precipitating another season of gloom, and the people suffered as wanderers in the wilderness for a season. The settling of this western region brought a cessation of disturbance, and again peace reigned. Soon Apostles were sent out to the different nations, where the door of the Gospel was opened up to their people.

The speaker continued in this strain, giving a graphic, condensed delineation of the history and experience of the Saints, in consecutive order, leading up to the present status of affairs. Now, he said, came another appearance of springtime in the affairs of the Saints. Among the symptoms were calls from various parts of the earth for Elders, and for information concerning the belief and doctrines of the Church, and the cause of our being distinctive in many of our peculiarities from other peoples of the earth.

Some of the speaker's remarks were directed to Elders whose duty it was to respond to calls to go forth to the nations with the message which God had given us to proclaim. They should be willing to undertake this great labor for the salvation of mankind, as did the earlier Elders, in the rise of the Church. The new and enlarged political status would enable the brethren to go abroad under more favorable circumstances than heretofore. The Lord had opened up the way, that the Gospel banner might be carried to every people under heaven by the Heralds of the Lord. The Elders abroad should see that good and ac-

curate records were kept in the branches of the Church that had been and might be established.

Speaking of the children of the Saints, he said that if parents could not induce their sons and daughters to walk in the path of the Gospel of Christ, they could at least do the best they could, and the Lord would do the rest, and all would come right at last.

Many of the children of the best men on earth in all ages had gone astray, and their recovery, or redemption, provided a wide and important field for their parents in eternity as well as in time.

God was going to turn the favor of the best and most influential men on the earth toward this community, because they were learning something concerning the virtues of the people here. The confidence of intelligent people abroad was being increased by the spread of correct information concerning us.

ELDER FRANCIS M. LYMAN, of the Council of the Apostles, addressed the conference. It was a precious privilege to gather together without molestation. When the prophecies which had been given from the Lord through His servants and their fulfillment were alluded to we were reminded of some of early date in the history of the Church. Notably the prophecy concerning the war of the Revolution on this nation, given through Joseph the Prophet in 1832. This prediction was, as was now a matter of history, literally fulfilled. It had also been declared by the Prophet that great changes would occur at a later time, growing out of the labor performed by Zion's Camp. He made certain declarations at a meeting of the members of that historic band of men, concerning a period more than fifty years in advance of the time they were uttered. The speaker then dwelt upon a series of circumstances which he regarded as a fulfillment of the prophecy to which he had reference. As evidence in support of this statement, Elder Lyman directed attention to prominent events which had occurred in recent years. He held that the changes they involved were in fulfillment of what the Prophet had predicted in February, 1835, when the members of Zion's Camp were designated as messengers of the Lord to go forth and prune His vineyard for the last time, previous to the coming of the Son of Man.

The usual time for the closing of the morning session of the Conference having nearly arrived when Elder Lyman began his discourse, his remarks were necessarily brief.

The choir sang the anthem:

Hark! Hark! my soul.

Benediction by Elder Charles W. Penrose.

Afternoon Session.

We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet,
To guide us in these latter days,
was sung by the choir and congregation.

Prayer by Elder George G. Edard.
The anthem, *Reverence*, was sung by the choir.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON delivered an elaborate discourse on

the subject of the guidance of the Church by revelation from God. He showed, with great clearness, that the Saints had been led by that power from the beginning of the latter-day dispensation to the present hour, and that the heads of the Church had been divinely selected on account of their adaptability to perform the special work necessary to be accomplished in the development of the purposes of the Almighty.

ELDER ABRAHAM H. CANNON, of the Council of the Apostles, was the next speaker. It appeared to him that the burden of the teachings of the Conference had been in relation to the carrying of the Gospel to the nations, owing to the favorable existing conditions for prosecuting that labor. There was also a missionary work needed at home, as it was expected that the Elders sent abroad would be fortified with the strongest kind of recommendations. He had been pleased to note that those being selected were, as a rule, men who had been doing their duty at home. The demand for Elders was being favorably met by those who were requested to engage in missionary work. They generally responded with expressions of willingness.

Of late the gathering of the Saints from abroad had not been preached as strongly as in earlier times. Perhaps this had occurred in the Providence of God, that the few scattered Saints might remain for a time in the countries of their nativity to preserve the world from destruction. It was probable that when the "salt of the earth" should be withdrawn, that there would come such a clash of nations as had never occurred in history. God would gather his people to these mountain fastnesses in his own time. But it had struck the speaker that we did not pay as much attention as we should to those who did gather here. Many of them were left to wander whithersoever they would, without anyone to direct them or aid them in obtaining employment. Bishops who merely attended to their strictly local and routine duties were contracted in their operations. Notwithstanding the conditions there existed some disposition to criticize recent endeavors of the First Presidency to find employment for those who needed it. Yet when we looked around we could witness everywhere the beneficent results of the efforts of the leaders of the Church in the direction of temporal affairs. God was just as able to give financial wisdom to the authorities as to bestow gifts upon them in the domain of spiritual affairs. He had done this heretofore and would continue to do so. The Almighty could give to His servants every kind of ability to further the cause of truth and progress on the earth. The day would come when men who now thought they had great practical talent would seek advice in temporal affairs from the servants of God.

Statehood had come to us, but with it came greater responsibility. Would we act as patriots, or would we act selfishly? All laws enacted should be such only as would conduce to the public weal. In selecting men for office, only the good, the noble and the virtuous should be chosen. Otherwise we would fail to use aright the powers