

Last Day's Session of Eightieth Conference

Report Submitted by Auditing Committee of the Church Shows Books and Accounts in Splendid Shape—Elder W. W. Riter Amplifies Report in Short Address—Need of More Missionaries in the Field is Expressed.

Those in attendance at the morning session of the last day of the eightieth annual conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, had the pleasure and satisfaction of listening to a report of the condition of the Church, revealed by the examination of the books and records of the Church, maintained in the office of the presiding bishop, by an auditing committee appointed for the purpose. The committee consisted of Elder Joseph F. Smith, August W. Carlson and Henry H. Rolapp, and for several weeks the members of the committee have been busy going through the records, gathering the information which was made public in the conference meeting this morning.

The report, which is signed by all the members of the committee, was read by Elder Heber J. Grant. An amplification of the written report, giving the items in vital statistics not

President Winder was on his sick bed, and there was no chance of seeing him. The committee was entirely free from outside influence, and carried on its work in a straightforward, business-like manner. All the members of the committee are business men, and all of them have at some time been bookkeepers, and I wish to say that what they found they were able to judge of from a standpoint of knowledge and experience.

"And I wish to say that the books and records of the Presiding Bishop's office are the most perfectly organized and kept of any time in the history of the Church, as far as I know. Every book required by the committee was furnished us with alacrity, and there was no evidence of the least thing being withheld.

"I desire to mention a few of the things we found in regard to the financial operations of the Church. They are so extensive and widespread in their ramifications that few of the Latter-day Saints realize the magnitude of them. The amount of funds handled by the department of the trustee-in-trust of the Church is ship-



JOHN HENRY SMITH. Unanimously sustained as a member of the First Presidency this afternoon.

Included in that document, was made by W. W. Riter, a member of the committee.

Upon the conclusion of the remarks of Elder Riter, President Joseph F. Smith called for disposition of the report of the committee by the saints assembled, and numerous motions were made from different portions of the house that the report be accepted and filed. President Smith put the motion and it was carried without a dissenting vote.

When the meeting was about half rounded, Elder Heber J. Grant arose and read the report of the auditing committee, which is as follows:

Salt Lake City, Utah, April 1, 1910.

President Joseph F. Smith and Counselors:

Dear Brethren:

The undersigned, the auditing committee of the Church, beg leave to report that we have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Church as fully and thoroughly as the extent of our disposition would permit in the time at our disposal to perform this important labor.

It gives us pleasure to report that we have found everything in a very satisfactory condition, both as to the method of keeping the accounts, and as to the volume of receipts and expenditures of the Church in all its varied activities, and while perhaps it may not be within our purview either to criticize or commend the expenditures of the Church, yet we cannot refrain from expressing our gratification with the way these expenditures have been made on account of the various needs of the Church.

We are pleased to say, as heretofore, that the accounting department is in such condition, and that the method of keeping the accounts improves from year to year, so that now there seems but very little more to be desired. Nothing is done in an intelligent, systematic and business-like way, and according to methods that save time and expense.

Very respectfully submitted, Your brethren,

RUDGER CLAWSON,
W. W. RITER,
AUGUST W. CARLSON,
HENRY H. ROLAPP.

General auditing committee of the Church.

ELDER W. W. RITER.

Elder W. W. Riter, one of the members of the committee, responded to the call made upon him by President Joseph F. Smith to explain the work done by the committee, and any matters connected with the report, which he brought up to speak of. Elder Riter said:

"I want just read in your hearing a general way covers the ground covered by the committee; but there are many details which I am inclined to think will be of interest to the saints at large, not mentioned in the brief written report. In the first place I wish to disburse any idea that may be entertained in the mind of anyone that the auditing committee, or any member of it, was dominated by anyone in formulating the records or in the selection of the members of the committee. I saw President Joseph F. Smith when the time they were engaged in the work, until after they concluded their work, and had signed the report. Elder Land passed through the office where the committee was engaged, and only once passed the same day on that occasion. As you know,

Authorities of the Church As Sustained at the Closing Session of the General Conference.

Joseph F. Smith, as Prophet, Seer and Revelator and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
 Anthony H. Lund, as First Counselor in the First Presidency.
 John Henry Smith, as Second Counselor in the First Presidency.

Francis M. Lyman, as President of the Twelve Apostles.
 As members of the Council of Twelve Apostles: Francis M. Lyman, Heber J. Grant, Rudger Clawson, Reed Smoot, Hyrum M. Smith, George Albert Smith, Charles W. Penrose, George F. Richards, Orson F. Whitney, David O. McKay, Anthony W. Ivins and Jos. F. Smith, Jr.

John Smith, as Presiding Patriarch of the Church.
 The Counselors in the First Presidency and the Twelve Apostles and the Presiding Patriarch, as Prophets, Seers and Revelators.

First Seven Presidents of Seventies: Seymour B. Young, Brigham H. Roberts, Jonathan G. Kimball, Rulon S. Wells, Joseph W. McMurrin, Charles H. Hart and Levi Edgar Young.

Charles W. Nibley, as Presiding Bishop, with Orrin P. Miller and David A. Smith as his first and second counselors.

Joseph F. Smith, as Trustee-in-Trust for the body of religious worshippers known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Anthony H. Lund, as Church Historian and General Church Recorder.

Andrew Jensen, Brigham H. Roberts and Joseph F. Smith, Jr., Assistant Historians.

As members of the General Church Board of Education: Joseph F. Smith, Willard Young, Anthony H. Lund, George H. Brimhall, Rudger Clawson, Charles W. Penrose, Horace H. Cummings, and Orson F. Whitney.

Arthur Winter, Secretary and Treasurer to the General Church Board of Education.

Horace H. Cummings, General Superintendent of Church Schools.

Board of Examiners for Church Schools: Horace H. Cummings, Chairman; George H. Brimhall, James H. Linford and Willard Young.

Auditing Committee: William W. Riter, August W. Carlson, Henry H. Rolapp, John C. Cutler, and Heber Sewcroft.

Tabernacle Choir: Evan Stephens, Conductor; Horace S. Ensign, Assistant Conductor; John J. McClellan, Organist; Edward P. Kimball and Tracy Y. Cannon, Assistant Organists; George C. Smith, Secretary and Treasurer; Noel S. Pratt, Librarian; and all the members.

Duncan M. McAllister, as Clerk of the Conference.

are sufficient to maintain the expenses of the Church, so that it is not necessary to trench upon the tithing funds for this purpose, and therefore the tithing funds are devoted entirely to the legitimate purposes for which they are collected. The people have implicit confidence in the men at the head, and this is shown by their increased offerings.

"There are many departments which are under the purview of the presiding bishop's office which I have not time to mention, but I will give a few of the vital statistics of the Church which are recorded and preserved in that office.

"The birth rate in the stakes of the Church, not including the missions, or any civil organization, just simply among the members of the Church, is 29 per 1,000, as against 22 for the United States. The death rate is 9.3 among the people of the Church, as against 17 for the United States. The lowest death rate experienced by life insurance companies, who only accept physically perfect men, as risks, is a little less than 10 per cent. The Latter-day Saints' average rate is 5.9, or a little less than 10 per cent.

"The marriage rate last year among the Latter-day Saints was 104 per 1,000. There are 21 widows and widowers for every 1,000 members; there are 50 persons over 21 years of age in each 1,000 who are unmarried; the remainder are in the Eastern States, unable to be brought forth, and where the Church was organized. And the people by the thousands are hungry to hear the gospel, and we need missionaries in the field. I know the men at the head of the Church are now, as they always have been, the men God wants to be at the head. Let us not be ashamed of the gospel, and let us assist in spreading the glad tidings far and wide every day of our lives.

Miss Esther Davis sang a soprano solo, "Christ is Risen."

President Joseph F. Smith read a message of condolence on the death of President John R. Winder from John W. Young, dated in New York.

ELDER GERMAN E. ELLSWORTH.

Elder German E. Ellsworth, president of the Young Ladies' association, addressed the congregation. He read from the Book of Revelations of the necessity for trusting in the sickle for the harvest of souls, for the time of the harvest is ripe.

"I marvel when I think of the work accomplished by the boy prophet during the last century. Two weeks ago I stood upon the last spot where the bodies of the prophet and patriarch were known to rest, and two old men stood with me, and told me the story of the place. I know the story, how such a mighty and marvelous work as that which has followed his humble beginning could have been wrought in the last 80 years. Many believed Mormonism only transitory, and that upon the martyrdom of the prophet the work would go down. But the old prophets had foretold that the kingdom would be set up in the latter days, and that the work continued to grow and flourish.

When I walked the streets of old Nauvoo, I saw evidences of the permanent character of the work of the old Latter-day Saints in their buildings; and the spirit of permanency has thrived in this spirit which brought them through so many vicissitudes, which carried them across the plains, which cleared the desert valleys to blossom, and speaks volumes for the integrity of the Latter-day Saints in those days, and in the present day. It is the duty of the saints to stand up for each other, and for the gospel, and not to be ashamed of God and salvation. All the good growth is slow growth and even the slow growth of spelling must have its slow growth.

When the morning session was called to order by President Joseph F. Smith, he announced the singing by the choir and congregation of the hymn, "O thou great Jehovah." Invocation was offered by President L. W. Shurtliff of the Weber stake. The choir and congregation sang, "O what is that?"

ELDER BEN E. RICH.

Elder Ben E. Rich, president of the Eastern States mission, was the first speaker. He bore a strong testimony that the angel which John the Revelator saw, while banished upon the Isle of Patmos, having the everlasting gospel to preach to all men, had down carrying the gospel message; and that the same was being preached to all nations, kindreds, tongues and people by the elders of the Latter-day Saints. Do we appreciate the fact that we are living in the day spoken of by John the Revelator, when the gospel in all its fulness, was to be preached on earth? Where much is given much is required; those who have been warned must warn their neighbors, for only by applying the principles of reciprocity, to do unto others as we would be done by, can the gospel's joyful sound be spread abroad.

"Many people shun missionary work;

but I tell you it should be your prayer that your way might be opened so that you, too, may help spread the gospel. For this purpose, and will be hereafter when you are here and will be hereafter in their hearts, thank God for the testimony of that elder, who brought the gospel to my parents, to my father and to my mother. I have spent many years in the mission field; and have performed missions under Presidents John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow and Joseph F. Smith. I spent 10 1/2 years in the mission field in the southland, and I desire to pay tribute to the people of the south-land, who are the most God-fearing people on earth.

"I look forward to the time when the people among whom I am now laboring will have a record even greater than the people of the south, for the people of New England are the sons and daughters of God; there it was that the Prophet Joseph was raised up; and this he is doing now. The work of the gospel, and let us assist in spreading the glad tidings far and wide every day of our lives.

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TAFT CUTS OUT INDIANAPOLIS REPUBLICAN PARTY

Cancelation of Engagement Believed to be Due to Events in Indiana Convention.

WILL GIVE STATE WIDE BERTH

Anxious for Party Success and Does Not Want to be Put in Any False Attitude.

Washington, April 6.—President Taft has canceled his engagement to visit Indianapolis on May 5. While no statement has been issued in regard to this decision, it is believed to be the direct result of the events in the Indiana state Republican convention yesterday.

It is not admitted at the White House that the president had a definite engagement to visit Indianapolis, although dispatches from that city several days ago announced that the president would arrive there from 2:15 p.m. until midnight of May 5.

In view of the circumstances surrounding yesterday's Indiana Republican convention, it was said by friends of the president that if the president spoke at Indianapolis at all, he would more than likely express again his well known views regarding the Payne-Adams tariff bill.

It was argued by the president's friends that it might be interpreted adversely to Senator Beveridge and rather than put in that attitude, the president will give Indiana a wide berth in his forthcoming visit to the middle west.

No matter what Senator Beveridge's attitude towards the administration may be, and the president's opinion of his callers today, it is said, that the had no doubt in his own mind on that subject—he did not care to be drawn into the political fight in any way. The president is anxious for Republican success in Indiana and hopes the Republicans under whatever leadership they choose may be able to turn the tide against the Democrats of that state.

It was said at the White House today that the president's trip west, which begins April 25, will probably be curtailed several days, and it was intimated that this was probably responsible for the failure to visit Indianapolis. The president had planned to stop there on his way to Cincinnati, but it is now likely that he will be there only on May 2. He will be in St. Louis on May 4, according to the revised plan, and he back in Washington the morning of May 6.

HEYBURN WARNS REPUBLICAN PARTY AGAINST ADOPTING RAILWAY BILL

That Will Not Meet With People's Approval

Washington, April 5.—For more than three hours today Senator Heyburn held the floor of the senate. He began his address shortly after the senate convened, with the object of preventing a vote on Senator Warren's bill authorizing the sale of the surplus waters of government irrigation, but he gave much attention during his speech to the proposed amendment to the railroad bill providing for a public lands court.

The line of discussion was continued when, at 2 o'clock, the subject was taken up, so the change of subject was only technical. Speaking of the power exercised by the forest rangers, he declared:

"It is a shame upon the country."

Asserting there should not be a vote in the senate against the land court, he nevertheless was in evident despair of success, for he declared it was impossible to get attention to any subject that was not "scrappy." He wanted to understand the states of the west were as much entitled to consideration as were those of the Atlantic seaboard. He asserted without the precious metal supply of the states west of the Rocky mountains a country would be on a greenback basis.

"What are you going to do with that great country out there?" he asked. "Laugh at it because it has not grown large enough to wreak vengeance on you?"

He hoped that when the west does come into power, as it surely will, it will not retaliate on the east. Referring to the scant attendance of senators, he said he would not be deterred by that fact from doing his duty to the people of the west.

"I vote with you in voting the hundreds of millions necessary to make your navy yards hum, but when I ask you for one little measure of justice my requests are received with a smile. If my land court measure should come up now I would be sure of one vote."

At this point Mr. Briggs of New Jersey raised his hand.

"Two," ejaculated Mr. Heyburn. "We are growing, thank you."

Discussing the failure to enforce the long and short haul provision of the interstate commerce law, he declared the \$500,000,000 the Panama canal cost would be expended for the benefit of the railroads. They were to be permitted to strangle water traffic and make cheap rates to the seaboard at the expense of the interior. He warned the Republicans not to adopt the measure in the railroad bill a measure that would not meet the approval of the people. It might prove a shroud.

"There is danger and death if the self-constituted leaders are permitted to have their way," he said. "When I hear it said the bill is to go through merely because it suits three or four men, I feel you are treading on dangerous ground. Don't make a law because some self-selected caterers tell you to do it. You had better consult the people of the west."

At the conclusion of Mr. Heyburn's speech the railroad bill was laid aside for other business.

CHURCH WHERE GARFIELD TAUGHT DESTROYED BY FIRE

North Rowal Vt. April 6.—Fire today destroyed three buildings here, causing a loss of about \$5,000. Among the buildings destroyed was the Congregational church, which former President James A. Garfield once taught while a student at Williams' college.

SPENCER CONFESSES TO KILLING MISS BLACKSTONE

Springfield, Mass., April 6.—Bertram Spencer confessed today to the murder of Miss Martha Blackstone at the home of Mrs. Sarah J. Dow on Route 11, this city, last Thursday night. Spencer also confessed to the commission of a series of burglaries.

Miss Blackstone and Miss Harriet P. Dow, school teachers, were shot by a bullet brought who entered the house on the evening of March 31. Miss Dow is recovering.

In his confession Spencer said he did not intend to kill Miss Blackstone or wound Miss Dow. He said that when he saw the women in the house he became frightened and that he fired his revolver on impulse rather than with any intention of injuring any one.

When asked why it was that he entered a house with a criminal purpose, Spencer said that after his first burglary he was fascinated by the notoriety attached to the crime.

Spencer was brought into the police court this afternoon to answer for the murder of Miss Blackstone. He waived the reading of the complaint and was held without bail for a continued hearing April 15.

CHICAGO WILL NOT ADD "GREATER" TO NAME

Chicago, April 6.—Chicago is not to add "greater" to her name through annexation this year. The late senator, upon which she had been casting long glances—Oak Park, Morgan Park and Edison Park—yesterday rejected her suit in such definite and determined manner as to settle that question for some time to come.

MAYOR GAYNOR FOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

New York, April 6.—Mayor Gaynor has registered himself as a supporter of simplified spelling. In a letter to the Simplified Spelling Board, made public here today, he qualified his approval of the aims of the simplifiers by saying that he thinks Providence is opposed to sudden changes.

Mayor Gaynor's letter is as follows:

"I assure you that you do not have to assume that I am a radical. I am in sympathy with your ideas of simplifying spelling. My spelling has been changed generally, and I will continue to change. It will not change suddenly, however. It seems to be contrary to the spirit of the times to even good things should be done suddenly. How long has it been patiently brooding over this earth before it was fit. How slowly our bodies mature and everything about us in the material world. The same holds good in the intellectual world. All the good growth is slow growth and even the slow growth of spelling must have its slow growth."

TURKISH TROOPS ORDERED TO ALBANIA

Constantinople, April 6.—Fourteen battalions of Turkish troops here have been ordered to North Albania, where a revolt has broken out. The trouble is attributed to resentment against the new taxes imposed and is causing the government much anxiety.

LAST OF THE MOHEGAN.

Sydney, N. S. W., April 6.—Johnny Summers of England knocked out H. Mohegan today in the nineteenth round in their fight for the lightweight championship of Australia.

COL. ROOSEVELT HERE IN AUGUST

Announcement Made by Secretary Joseph E. Caine of the Commercial Club Today.

BIG CELEBRATION PLANNED

Real Estate Association, Commercial Club, Western Pacific and Citizens To Combine in Gigantic Jubilee.

Col. Theodore Roosevelt will be in this city during the month of August, according to assurances received by Secy. Joseph E. Caine of the Commercial club today. That his coming here will be made the occasion of a celebration larger than anything ever before attempted here is the statement of Capt. Caine this afternoon. Plans are to be shaped at once and the event will take on a three-fold importance from the fact that three great jubilees will be combined into one. The coming here of Col. Roosevelt, the opening of the Western Pacific to passenger traffic between this city and San Francisco, and the first annual banquet of the Commercial club in its own new home in the skyscraper district.

The date upon which these three events will be merged into the one big celebration is dependent upon the date of the arrival here of Col. Roosevelt. The former president has assured the Cheyenne Frontier day committee that he will be in the Wyoming capital on the occasion of the annual celebration and from Cheyenne and Denver sources come the assurances, which Capt. Caine declares are accurate in their information and capable of entering into a binding agreement on behalf of Col. Roosevelt, that the rough-rider-president-hunter will be here either before or after the Cheyenne celebration.

The Salt Lake Real Estate association is meeting at the Commercial club at luncheon this afternoon and is making further preparations for the celebration of the opening of the Western Pacific. The association has been planning for this event for some time and upon receipt of the information from Secy. Caine that Col. Roosevelt may be expected at the time the celebration was being planned to occur, efforts were at once doubled to make the event one of the greatest celebrations ever held here. Appropriate committees are to be named for carrying out the plans already under way.

The Commercial club's board of governors will be called together at an early date to discuss the matter of the big celebration to be given when the new home in Exchange place is opened formally. This dinner has been under contemplation for some time and already tentative plans are being formed. These are to give way, however, to the wider scheme of making the jubilee over the three great events on a broader plan than those in view. The Real Estate association, the officials of the Western Pacific company, the Commercial club and the citizens generally, through appropriate committees are expected to join hands and provide for the closing of the summer season a jubilee on a bigger scale than has ever before been attempted.

PENNSYLVANIA SCORES IN CAPITOL GRAFT CASE

Harrisburg, Pa., April 6.—The commonwealth today won the first big contested point in the trial of Architect Joseph M. Huston on the charge of conspiracy to defraud the state by certifying to an alleged addition for desks, when it succeeded in getting four of the desks mentioned in the indictment placed before the jury as evidence.

G. L. Holton of St. Louis, former superintendent of the company which furnished the desks, testified.

The evidence which will now be before the jury was 3 1/2 feet long and had been billed at 20 feet. He said the desks in evidence were designed by employees of the company and not by Architect Huston.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS CARRY MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee, April 6.—The result of yesterday's election in Milwaukee gives the Social Democrats practically complete power in civic matters for the next two years.

Many reforms are advocated by the Social Democrats which will now be brought to put into effect. In addition to home rule for the city, initiative and referendum, for which all three parties stood, the Socialists advocated municipal ownership, the sprinkling of streets by the railway company over its various lines; a seat for every passenger in street cars; one cent street car fares; eight-hour day for labor; cheaper gas; municipal ice plants; municipal light plants; and a law against corporations.

cheaper bread, and work for the unemployed at union wages at an eight-hour day.

CASH GRAIN HOUSE OF MERRITT & CO. SUSPENDED

Chicago, April 6.—Suspension of a cash grain house of W. H. Merritt & Co. was announced on the board of trade today. Customers were notified to close out their trades.

W. H. Merritt & Company has for many years been one of the most important firms in the cash grain trade and the failure caused great surprise. The reasons for the suspension are not closely analogous to those which on Monday forced another cash grain house—the Burns Hanna Grain company—to suspend, namely, the decline in corn prices recently. Eastern customers of the Merritt company, having bought at the high price for later delivery are said to have repudiated their contracts when the market declined.

"This forced the brokers to seek other outlet for their grain and while holding it much of it 'went hot' or in other words, rotted. A member of the firm declared that creditors would be paid in full.