

Joseph F. Smith as second counselor in the First Presidency.

As members of the council of the Twelve Apostles: Brigham Young, Francis M. Lyman, John Henry Smith, George Teasdale, Heber J. Grant, John W. Taylor, Marriner W. Merrill, Anthon H. Lund, Matthias F. Cowley, Abraham O. Woodruff and Rudger Clawson.

At this point President Cannon stated that owing to the death of Franklin D. Richards a vacancy had been created in the council of the Twelve Apostles, and that the conference would be given an opportunity to vote for some one to fill the position. He then, in this connection, presented the name of Reed Smoot, and the vote was taken.

The counselors in the First Presidency and the Twelve Apostles as Prophets, Seers and Revelators.

Patriarch of the Church—John Smith.

First seven presidents of Seventies—Seymour B. Young, Christian D. Fjeldsted, Brigham Henry Roberts, George Reynolds, Jonathan G. Kimball, Rulon S. Wells and Joseph W. McMurrin.

William B. Preston as presiding Bishop, with Robert T. Burton and John R. Winder as his first and second counselors.

Assistant Church historians: John Jaques and Andrew Jenson.

General Church board of education: Lorenzo Snow, George Q. Cannon, Karl G. Maeser, Willard Young, Anthon H. Lund, James Sharp, Joseph F. Smith, John Nicholson and George H. Brimhall.

General superintendency of religion classes: Anthon H. Lund, Karl G. Maeser and Rudger Clawson.

Lorenzo Snow, trustee-in-trust for the body of religious worshippers known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

John Nicholson, clerk of the general conference.

The voting in every instance was unanimous.

President Cannon announced that, in accordance with a legal requirement, the names of the members of the board of directors of the Brigham Young Academy, Provo, would be presented for the vote of the conference. They

are: George Q. Cannon, Wilson H. Dusenberry, Brigham Young, David John, Karl G. Maeser, Edward Partidge, Reed Smoot, Susa Y. Gates, Thomas R. Cutler, Joseph Don Carlos Young, William H. Seegmiller and Stephen L. Chipman.

The vote was unanimous.

ELDER REED SMOOT,

of the Council of the Twelve, said:

"My dear brethren and sisters, I feel exceedingly weak in standing before this vast audience this afternoon. No doubt many of you are surprised at my being called to this position, but I can assure you that no one in this audience was more astonished than I. Five years ago I was called by the mouthpiece of God to occupy a position in the presidency of the Utah Stake. That was a surprise to me at that time and I thought then that the Lord moves in a mysterious way. This afternoon when the mouthpiece of the Lord told me it was the will of the Lord that I should occupy a position as one of the Twelve Apostles, I certainly felt a more humble and more weak instrument in his hands for doing good than ever I did in my life. I beg of the brethren of the Twelve to bear with me in my mistakes. I beseech of you, my brethren and sisters, to give me your faith and prayers for I need them, and to fulfill this position that I am called to, I must have them. If I can be humble and have the confidence of the people and of the Priesthood, as God has called me so will I receive it in the same spirit; and as He gives me wisdom and light and revelation, just so far can I do His will and serve Him in this calling. If I did not know that Jesus was the Christ and that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was His Church I can assure you that this calling that has been placed upon me would be the farthest from me to accept of any position that I could think of.

My life in the past has been in a business direction more than in any other way, and now that this change has come and this call from God has been placed upon me, I hope and trust that I will do nothing—aye, I would rather lose my right arm than to betray the

confidence you have placed in me this day by voting for me in this position. My only desire is that God will give me power to perform the duties that shall devolve upon me acceptably in His sight, and acceptable to you, to the Apostles and to the mouthpiece of God upon this earth. To this end I beseech of you an interest in your faith and prayers that from now on I may be clothed with the Priesthood that will be some good to the children of men.

I ask God's choicest blessings upon His Church and upon every member thereof, that unity, peace and strength may be with us continually until we become a light unto the whole world, as has been predicted. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask it. Amen.

PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON.

Future exaltation dependent upon obedience to law—Having kept our first estate, our present aim should be to keep well our second—Heavens filled with higher truths, which, as we progress, will be revealed.

I arise, trusting that the remarks which I may be led to make may be inspired by the Spirit of God. To this end I beseech you, my brethren and sisters, to give me the assistance of your faith and prayers, for I would like the time I occupy to be of profit to those who listen. Time is precious, and this is a vast congregation, and they should not be kept here listening to something that is not of worth. I do not profess myself to be able to impart anything that is worthy of being listened to only as God shall give it through His Holy Spirit.

I will read a few paragraphs of the 88th section of the book of Doctrine and Covenants.

"And again, verily I say unto you, the earth abideth the law of a celestial kingdom, for it filleth the measure of its creation, and transgresseth not the law.

"Wherefore it shall be sanctified; yea, notwithstanding it shall die, it shall be quickened again, and shall abide the power by which it is quickened, and the righteous shall inherit it;

"For notwithstanding they die, they also shall rise again a spiritual body;

"They who are of a celestial spirit shall receive the same body which was a natural body, even ye shall receive your bodies, and your glory shall be that glory by which your bodies are quickened.

"Ye who are quickened by a portion of the celestial glory shall then receive of the same, even a fulness;

"And they who are quickened by a portion of the terrestrial glory, shall then receive of the same, even a fullness;

"And also they who are quickened by a portion of the telestial glory shall then receive of the same, even a fullness;

"And they who remain shall also be quickened; nevertheless they shall return again to their own place, to enjoy that which they are willing to receive, because they were not willing to enjoy that which they might have received.

"For what doth it profit a man if a gift is bestowed upon him, and he receiveth not the gift? Behold he rejoices not in that which is given unto him, neither rejoices in Him who is the giver of the gift."

I would like this next paragraph to be noticed by my hearers:

"And again, verily, I say unto you, that which is governed by law is also preserved by law, and perfected and sanctified by the same.

"That which breaketh a law, and abideth not by law, but seeketh to become a law unto itself, and willeth to abide in sin, and altogether abideth in sin, cannot be sanctified by law, neither by mercy, justice nor judgment. Therefore they must remain filthy still."

There is to my mind a great amount of importance in these words that I have read in your hearing, and they should be understood by us, because they pertain to our future exaltation. We have been taught by the Lord that this is a preparatory state, that we are here to be tested, to see whether we shall prove worthy of the promises that he has made unto his children. He has given unto all of us our free agency, and that agency is differently exercised. We see mankind divided into classes. Some exercise their agency in one direction and some in another, and there is a great diversity of views and aims among the children of earth. But the Latter-day Saints have had revelation given to them, which places them, it may be said, in a position different to the rest of the world. We are not ignorant of the purposes of God. We have been informed why we are here and what we should do to obtain the glory that God promises unto his faithful children. We have had pointed out to us the path to pursue to continue progression.