

auxiliary organizations present, and members of the Church Board of Education.

Mission Presidents were present as follows: Henry H. Rolapp, Eastern States; John H. Taylor, Northern States; Samuel O. Bennion, Central States; John M. Knight, Western States; Wm. R. Sloan, Northwestern States; Chas. H. Hart, Canada; John G. Allred, Northcentral States; Charles A. Callis, Southern States; Rey L. Pratt, Mexico; Benjamin Goddard, Bureau of Information, Temple Block, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn, "O say, what is truth."

Elder John M. Holt, president of the West Jordan stake, offered the opening prayer.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn, "High on the mountain top."

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

It is a source of satisfaction and pleasure to greet so many of you here this morning at our semi-annual conference.

VISITS TO STAKES, WARDS AND MISSIONS

It has fallen to my lot since our last conference to visit a number of the stakes of Zion, to be present at the dedication of a number of meeting houses in the various wards, and to dedicate four chapels and recreation halls in the missions of the Church.

I have also had the pleasure of being present at a meeting on the Hill Cumorah, which was held in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the delivery to Joseph Smith of the golden plates from which the Book of Mormon was translated by the inspiration of the living God, and also to attend a meeting in the Sacred Grove at Palmyra, where God, our heavenly Father, and Jesus Christ appeared to the boy Joseph Smith—the most remarkable and wonderful vision that we have any record of in the Holy Scriptures.

I rejoice in the growth of the Church and in the general prosperity of the people. There have been quite a number of changes in the various stakes and wards since our last conference.

STAKE PRESIDENTS APPOINTED

East Jordan stake, Heber J. Burgon.

West Jordan stake, Joseph M. Holt.

Los Angeles stake, Leo J. Muir.

San Francisco stake, W. Aird Macdonald.

Hollywood stake, George W. McCune.

The former president of the Los Angeles stake, George W. McCune, is now the president of the new Hollywood stake.

MISSION PRESIDENT RELEASED

Brother Martin Christopherson was released as the president of the

Norwegian mission, and since his return home he has passed to the great beyond. Brother Lorenzo W. Anderson was appointed to succeed Brother Christopherson.

NEW WARDS ORGANIZED

Osgood ward, Idaho Falls stake.
 Soldier Summit ward, Kolob stake.
 Wiltshire ward, Hollywood stake.
 Winslow ward, Snowflake stake.
 Riverton ward, West Jordan stake, divided into Riverton first and Riverton second wards.
 Berkeley ward, San Francisco stake.
 Diamond ward, San Francisco stake.
 Elmhurst ward, San Francisco stake.
 Martinez ward, San Francisco stake.
 Mission ward, San Francisco stake.
 Oakland ward, San Francisco stake.
 San Francisco ward, San Francisco stake.
 Richmond ward, San Francisco stake.
 Sunset ward, San Francisco stake.
 Daly City ward, San Francisco stake.

NEW STAKES ORGANIZED

Los Angeles stake was divided into the Los Angeles and Hollywood stakes.
 Jordan stake was divided into East Jordan and West Jordan stakes.
 San Francisco stake.

BISHOPS WHO HAVE DIED

Sylvester C. Williams of Glenwood ward, Alberta stake.
 Thomas J. McCann of Turner ward, Bannock stake.

NUMBER OF STAKES, NINETY-NINE—INCREASE IN SIX MONTHS, THREE

We now have 930 wards, an increase of 15 in the past six months. We have 75 independent branches, an increase of four in the past six months, making a total of wards and branches from Canada to Mexico of 1,005.

We have 27 missions, covering all parts of the world.

STATEMENT BY THE U. S. ATTORNEY GENERAL

I have decided this morning to make rather brief remarks personally, and to read from the revelations of God to the Latter-day Saints, but before doing so I want to call attention to a very remarkable statement made by the attorney general of the United States. This statement was made at Bedford Springs, Penn., June 22, 1927:

ON OBSERVANCE OF LAW

"When intelligent, educated men hold up to ridicule the rules for its conduct which society has made, intimate and by innuendo and sug-

gestion advise that such rules ought to be violated; ridicule and revile as undesirable members of a community, men sworn to defend and enforce its rules; devote their intelligence, wit and resources to making crime and criminals interesting and attractive, why is it not expected that the thoughtless, the unfortunate, the ignorant, the vicious, will try to get rid of the oppressors of the criminal in any way, by any means, any violence that will be most effective?

"Because someone pays for the doing of it, and because the great body of law-abiding citizens is complaisant and says nothing to show its disapproval, flippant, jeering writers, publishers, soap-box orators, cabaret performers sow the wind; and society reaps it in whirlwinds which blast and destroy."

The attorney general, without mentioning prohibition, asserted that in buying any commodity, traffic in which is forbidden by law, the purchaser is directly sanctioning and rewarding a violation of the law in exactly the same manner as does the receiver of stolen goods, by making the transaction profitable.

"It will not do," he asserted, "to say in the same breath: 'I believe in and demand enforcement of the laws of the country, and I will pay well any man who will violate these laws.'"

I regret that his speech was not published in full in the dispatches, because it is the speech of a statesman, the speech of a man who loves his country and is desirous of maintaining and upholding the laws of that country.

THE DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS ON THE SUBJECT

In the very first revelation in the Doctrine and Covenants we find the following:

"Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.

"What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself; and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my word shall not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled, whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same."

We read in one of the revelations:

"I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise."

I wish that I had the ability to impress upon the Latter-day Saints the necessity of searching the commandments of God, the revelations from the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth, as contained in the Doctrine and Covenants. If we as a people would live up to those wonderful revelations that have come to us, we would be a bright and shining light to all the wide world.

"Let no man break the laws of the land, for he that keepeth the laws of God hath no need to break the laws of the land.

"Wherefore, be subject to the powers that be, until he reigns whose right it is to reign, and subdues all enemies under his feet."

"According to the laws and constitution of the people, which I have suffered to be established, and should be maintained for the rights and protection of all flesh, according to just and holy principles;

"That every man may act in doctrine and principle pertaining to futurity, according to the moral agency which I have given unto him, that every man may be accountable for his own sins in the day of judgment. * * *

"And for this purpose I have established the Constitution of this land, by the hands of wise men whom I raised up unto this very purpose, and redeemed the land by the shedding of blood."

LOYALTY TO THE CONSTITUTION

All Latter-day Saints believe absolutely that the Constitution of our Country was inspired of God, and that he used wise men, noble men, as instruments in his hands for establishing that Constitution, and when any law is enacted and becomes a constitutional law, no man who spends his money to help men break that law can truthfully say that he is a loyal citizen.

"And now, verily I say unto you concerning the laws of the land, it is my will that my people should observe to do all things whatsoever I command them.

"And that law of the land which is constitutional, supporting that principle of freedom in maintaining rights and privileges, belongs to all mankind, and is justifiable before me.

"Therefore, I, the Lord, justify you, and your brethren of my church in befriending that law which is the constitutional law of the land.

"And as pertaining to law of man, whatsoever is more or less than this cometh of evil.

"I, the Lord God, make you free, therefore you are free indeed; and the law also maketh you free.

"Nevertheless, when the wicked rule the people mourn.

"Wherefore, honest men and wise men should be sought for diligently, and good men and wise men ye should observe to uphold; otherwise whatsoever is less than these cometh of evil.

"And I give unto you a commandment, that ye shall forsake all evil and cleave unto all good, that ye shall live by every word which proceedeth forth out of the mouth of God."

"For behold, it is not meet that I should command in all things; for he that is compelled in all things, the same is a slothful and not a wise servant; wherefore he receiveth no reward.

"Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness;

"For the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves. And inasmuch as men do good they shall in nowise lose their reward.

"But he that doth not anything until he is commanded, and receiveth a commandment with doubtful heart, and keepeth it with slothfulness, the same is damned.

"Who am I that made man, saith the Lord, that will hold him guiltless that obeyeth not my commandments?"

"Who am I, saith the Lord, that have promised and have not fulfilled?"

"I command and men obey not; I revoke and they receive not the blessing.

"Then they say in their hearts: This is not the work of the Lord, for his promises are not fulfilled. But woe unto such for their reward lurketh beneath, and not from above."

Another statement in this book is that "there is a law, irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundations of this world, upon which all blessings are predicated:

"And when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated."

THE WORD OF WISDOM

"A Word of Wisdom for the benefit of the council of high priests, assembled in Kirtland, and the Church, and also the Saints in Zion.

"To be sent greeting; not by commandment or constraint, but by revelation and the word of wisdom, showing forth the order and will of God in the temporal salvation of all Saints in the last days.

"Given for a principle with promise, adapted to the capacity of the weak and the weakest of all Saints, who are or can be called Saints."

And every Latter-day Saint knows that tea, that coffee, that tobacco, that liquor, are the things that this Word of Wisdom says it is not pleasing unto God that we should partake of. There are many Saints who say: "Oh, that is not by way of commandment;" but it is "the order and the will of God." And what does the Lord promise to you and to me and to every Latter-day Saint who observes this Word of Wisdom?

"And all Saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, shall receive health in their navel and marrow to their bones;

"And shall find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures;

"And shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint.

"And I, the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the destroying angel shall pass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them."

A CALL FOR HELP TO DO RIGHT

May God help you and me and every Latter-day Saint to observe the Word of Wisdom, that we may have health and hidden treasures of knowledge, and that God will allow us to live here upon the earth until we have filled out the measure of our creation; and may God help you and me to uphold the laws of our land in every way within our power, is my prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, Amen.

PRESIDENT ANTHONY W. IVINS

I would be very happy, my brethren and sisters, if I were able to impress upon this congregation of Latter-day Saints and upon those who may be present who are not identified with the Church, the vital importance of that part of the remarks just made by the President of the Church which refers to our obligation to magnify, uphold and sustain the civil law by which we are governed in our temporal affairs.

UPHOLD AND SUSTAIN THE CIVIL LAW

I have made, while sitting here upon my seat and listening to the President, some notes which I desire very briefly to call to your attention. To me the establishment of the government of the United States, and the development of this nation of which we are citizens, did not come by chance, but was a thing of destiny, just one of the incidents connected with the development of the purposes of the Lord in the