MILLENNIAL STAR

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About the Cover

"RAVENSLEA"—Home of British Mission Headquarters

THE front cover for this issue is that of "Ravenslea"—the home of British Mission Headquarters, the South London Branch, the British Mission Genealogical Society, and the **Millennial Star**, located on the corner of Nightingale Lane and Ravenslea Road, in Balham, London. This photograph was taken by Elder Melvin M. Owens, Secretary of the British Mission.

"Ravenslea" was purchased by the Church in 1935. It was built just before the turn of the century and was formerly the residence of a London architect.

In 1939, "Ravenslea" became Headquarters for the British Mission. Throughout the war years, it was a "veritable fortress of faith in a wilderness of war." Bombs dropped all around "Ravenslea." Rows of houses were destroyed no less than 150 yards away. One buzz bomb exploded just a half a block from "Ravenslea," bursting its windows and shaking its foundation.

With the war over, peace has again returned to "Ravenslea." Recently, painters, decorators, and repairmen have been busily engaged in remodelling the building inside and out. The chapel has been redecorated and new lighting installed; the halls and rooms, as well as the outside of the building, have been re-painted; and the front grounds have been beautified.

Numerous visitors and investigators attend their first Latter-day Saint services in "Ravenslea." In its new dress, "Ravenslea" proudly stands as the Headquarters of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Great Britain, and beckons to the world to enter its portals and examine the teachings and doctrines of the Restored Gospel.

★ THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' ★

MILLENNIAL STAR

108th Year JANUARY 1948 Vol. 110 No. 1

EDITOR
Selvoy J. Boyer

Associate Editor
William R. Callister

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ON SHARING THE GOSPEL

By Vivian Meik

"THE MILLS OF GOD GRIND SLOWLY
BUT THEY GRIND EXCEEDING SMALL . . ."

TODAY those immortal lines are coming back to me with deep emotion.

A year ago I would have thought it impossible that such a contrast as I have experienced since then was within the bounds of reason or logic.

Last year my life and being belonged to a world of the black despair bequeathed to the survivors of a decade of continental insanity—a desert of despond in which there seemed to be no oasis. Yes, it was a black Christmastide indeed.

And then, when life seemed at its spiritual blackest, a ray of light shone on the oasis which was there all the time. Some of you may remember the record I put down on these pages . . .

I am thinking of those days as I write—then I was on the outside looking in. Today I am on the inside looking out.

Here I am, on the eve of a Christmastide already charged with a sense of peace and happiness—and security—greater than I, and millions like me, had deemed possible after the horrors of those war scarred years.

Here I am, I repeat, in this oasis of peace, a gentler, kinder, deeper, warmer peace than any since my boyhood.

Just because I found this oasis—from the outside looking in—the oasis made possible only by the sublime faith and unquenchable spirit of honest work of our Pioneer fathers . . .

I can speak, as it were, from two platforms at the same time. I can tell you what our Faith, our Cause, looks like from the almost illimitable black shadows beyond the pale. I can tell you of the highlights they can see from the distances—but I can tell you also that they have not failed to note the dark patches in the oasis itself.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Author, Vivian Meik, is a former Diplomatic Correspondent for "The People," and a former member of the South London Branch. At present Vivian Meik writes a front page column for the "Deseret News." He extends "Season's Greetings" to the British Saints.

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From here I can tell you of what they cry for so desperately in their black, aching void. I can tell you how the inner significance of our great centennial has not passed unnoticed—far from it—how the fact has been remarked that today, after a century of cruel persecution and misrepresentation, our Faith stands four square to the four quarters of the compass. It is stronger than it has ever been.

Out there beyond the oasis, they would give years of their lives for just such faith, such strength, such progress—material linked with spiritual—such confidence in the future.

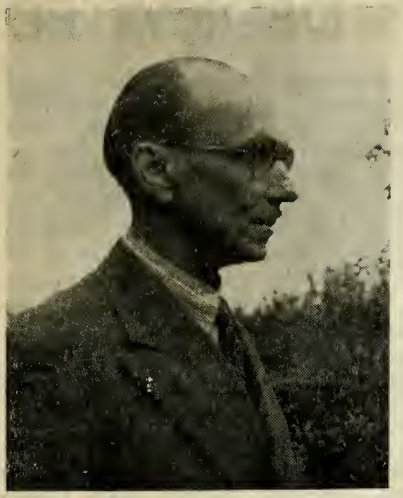
Don't tell me the answer is the easy reply, "Why don't they come in? It's open to all . . ."

That reply is too slick, too offhand. The reality is that they CAN'T come in unless WE open the gate, marked (in the symbolism of the Pilgrim's Progress) UNDERSTANDING.

Above all people in the world, we of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, should know the difficulty of passing through the gate.

It is not enough to say we send our missionaries—there is quite another side to the question.

To appreciate it we must keep in balance—keep in balance all the time



Vivian Meik

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—the two points of view. From the outside looking in and from the inside looking out.

We are inside, as we honestly believe. Our oasis, we believe, we KNOW is Zion. But Zion is only what it is today not only because of our faith, but because of our work. The outside world freely admit that. Of late years they admit, too, that they admit it with respect, even admiration. But what of the future years?

They can't UNDERSTAND our faith because it is not adequately explained to them. They in their shadows speak a different spiritual language to us in our oasis—and before we can get them to realise what we mean or are, we must, as it were, learn their language and then superimpose ours . . .

It is or is it not our sacred duty to do this? That is the question from the inside looking out. How can we do our duty?

In the last century we have been busily engaged in building up Zion and consolidating our position.

Now we must expand according to the duty to our Faith which has been imposed on us. We must give those who look on the light of the true Gospel the opportunity of absorbing that light. They must never call it a will-o'-the-wisp.

The fact that we have 5,000 missionaries out beyond the oasis is not nearly enough. There are more than two billion—yes, two billion people—whom they cannot reach.

As matters stand we cannot reach them either in one lifetime or two or three lifetimes.

But we can do our duty in sending that light as far as possible. We would be guilty of a grave sin against our concepts if we shirked this duty.

There is one way—one way only—to do this effectively.

We must radiate the Gospel that God has blessed us with by our example, just as our father's example has brought the world to our door.

They banded together as one faith, one way of life, one Church. But, in the final analysis, the strongest band is a combination of individuals.

Today, individual action is no less important than in the last century. It may well take another century to have the million strong band that now makes up the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints work as a single entity to spread the true Gospel.

It can, of course, be done long before this if each one of us does his or her part. That is the simple logic of elementary arithmetic.

Look at it this way. Suppose that every one of us had the courage—developed the courage, if you prefer—to face ourselves in the secrecy of our own hearts.

Let us be brutally honest with ourselves. Let us cut out all the trimmings, all the excuses, and honestly ask ourselves just one question:

"Why am I not LIVING my faith as I know I should and could?"

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NEW PROPERTY DEDICATED

DEDICATORY SERVICES for Church property recently purchased at Denton, near Manchester, were held on December 7th, 1947. The new property will serve as the District Headquarters for the Manchester District and as a chapel for the Denton Branch. This is the nineteenth chapel that the Church owns and has dedicated in Great Britain.

President Alma Sonne of the European Mission presided and Manchester District President George W. Bruerton conducted the dedicatory services. There were sixty-five in attendance, including several members from Hyde, Stockport, and visitors.

Speakers were President Sonne, Presidents Selvoy J. Boyer, Wallace R. Reid and George F. Poole of the British Mission Presidency, President Bruerton and Elder Wallace G. Bennett.

A summary of President Sonne's dedicatory prayer follows:

"We thank Thee for Thy Church. We thank Thee for the mighty work done by Joseph Smith and his successors in the presidency of Thy Church. We thank Thee for Thy goodness to the Latter-day Saints. We sustain before Thee the First Presidency, even President George Albert Smith, President J. Reuben Clark, and President David O. McKay. We ask Thee to bless them above all men. We sustain the general authorities of those who preside in the stakes, wards, missions, and quorums of Thy Church. Prosper the cause of truth in the earth. Bless the missionaries who are spreading Thy gospel. Bless President Boyer, the President of the British Mission, bless his associates, and bless his companion. Bless President Bruerton, the president of this, the Manchester District in the British Mission. Remember them that they may lack in no qualification.

"We present before Thee this building as a monument to the faith of the Latter-day Saints. We pray that it may be a refuge of strength against the storms which may rage.

"Thy servant, who has been sent here by the First Presidency of the Church dedicates this building unto Thee—every part and portion of it from the roof to the basement, furniture, fixtures, drapes, and the ground on which it stands. Preserve and protect it against the destructive forces. Inspire Thy people to continue the beautification programme which they have undertaken. Accept our devotion, thanks, and prayers."

In his sermon, President Sonne emphasised that the Church is growing in Europe and in the earth. He told of the recent conference he attended in Berlin at which 2,000 were present. He bore testimony that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God and discussed some of the Prophets' contributions to the world.

The chapel has been beautifully decorated, largely by Samuel Mills. It is now being used by the Denton Branch, which was opened in mid-December.

BRITISH MISSION PHOTOS REQUESTED

BEGINNING with this issue, the front cover of the **Millennial Star** will contain views of Mission chapels and halls, spots of British Mission historical interest, and missionary activities. All readers of the **Star** are urged to submit to the **Star** Offices any photos that are believed to be suitable for this purpose. Acknowledgement will be given for all pictures used. Negatives of photos are not necessary if prints are clear.

"SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES"

By Alma Sonne

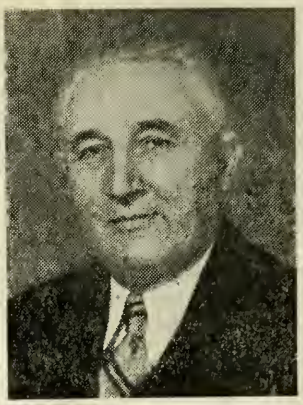
THE BIBLE should be read. It contains most precious truths which are vital to man's development. Its religious significance is recognised in all Christian countries. The Holy Bible is a powerful testimony of the existence of God and the divine mission of Jesus Christ. It has been a source of comfort and strength to thousands in times of sorrow and disappointment. Its pages are filled with quotable passages concerning the conduct of man and his spiritual and moral well-being. It sparkles with apt and striking comments on human behaviour and on man's relationships with man in his daily life.

The influence of the Bible reaches into the laws and governments of nations and into the art, literature and folklore of races and communities. No book is so widely read. There is a peculiar sanctity and force about its words. In it are the messages of mighty prophets who "spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (II Peter 1: 21) There, too, are the words of Jesus spoken as He walked and talked among men, His masterful Sermon on the Mount and His admonitions to neighbours and friends.

History proves that the Holy Bible has irrevocably altered the lives of men and nations. It has touched deeply the very heart of humanity. Public men who have attained eminence have been equipped with a knowledge of this sacred volume. It is a converter of souls to a better life, to a belief in God and to a wholesome respect for His laws and commandments.

It was the Bible that led the Prophet Joseph Smith into the presence of the Father and the Son and opened the door to a new gospel dispensation. Thousands of people have been brought into the Church because of their familiarity with Bible teachings.

Biblical research and intensive study of the sacred writings have contributed much to the intelligent and sane use of the Bible. Scholarship and honest investigation will eventually remove all doubt respecting its divine authenticity and its trustworthiness and reliability as a guide to human progress.



Alma Sonne
European Mission President and Assistant to the Council of the Twelve

It is natural for most men to turn to the past for proved wisdom. The Bible contains the wisdom of the ages and the demonstrations of God's power to uplift the human family. From its pages come a transcendent comfort and a deeper sense of life's purposes.

Joseph Smith, the Prophet, excelled as a student of the scriptures and sought to eliminate the confusion and difficulty arising from diverse interpretations. He contended that the Bible must be studied and analysed. The Book of Mormon, brought forth by him, confirms and validates its prophetic teachings as the word of God.

Brigham Young, the pioneer prophet and leader, urged the Latter-day Saints to read the scriptures as though they

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THE RESTORATION OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of six articles by President James L. Barker of the French Mission. Professor Barker is the author of "Protestors of Christendom," a recent publication telling of the apostacy of the early Christian Church.

■

"IF ye are not one, ye are not mine," said Jesus—one in acceptance of and obedience to divine truth, one in brotherhood and love.

The truth, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, has been given to the world more than once. It was given to the first man. Each time it was given it was lost through disobedience. Jesus brought the Gospel again that man, through acceptance and obedience, might have another chance for happiness and peace.

Before and after the time of Jesus, the Pharisees and the Saducees were divided even on such important doctrine as the resurrection. The Pharisees believed in the resurrection, the Saducees did not.

Why did they not unite? The only way they could unite was for one of them to accept the belief of the other.

Would they unite in truth or in error? If they could have founded their teachings on the revelation of God, they could have united in truth. But they had had no prophets for a long time, and they did not accept Jesus.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, religious beliefs were again the result of a long evolution of human reasoning and discussion; no doctrine of the primitive church had escaped change and all of the changes had taken place since revelation to the church and the world had ceased.

By James L. Barker
President of the French Mission

■

How could all men and all churches become united?

Force had been tried and, at times, had achieved a certain outward unity. However, it was as likely to unite men in error as in truth. Moreover, the use of force to compel the consciences of men is not of God, and was first used after revelation ceased.

But during the first quarter of the nineteenth century, could not men of good will unite on what the Saviour had taught? No. Except in a fragmentary and general way, no one knew what He had taught. Even today, few historians of the same church, relying only on the known facts of the history of early christianity, agree completely on important facts of organisation, government and doctrine of the early church.

How then can men and the churches be united? Men of good will can be united if they can learn the commandments and will of God and are willing to accept and obey them. But a knowledge of these once lost, can be obtained again in one way only—in the way the commandments and teachings were first received—by revelation from God.

What is it that gives us joy in reading the scriptures? Is it not the solicitude of God the Father for His children, His nearness to them, His watchcare over them, His guidance of them by heavenly messengers and by the Holy Ghost? God directed Abraham, He came to Moses on the Mount, He sent the Angel Gabriel to the mother of John and to the mother of Jesus; Jesus appeared unto Paul on the way to Damascus and afterwards.

While living He chose and guided His servants. Without the story of these things there would be no scripture.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, revelation had ceased; there was little religious tolerance in the world. Yet interpretations of scripture were ever more and more divergent, and sects were multiplying. Inconsistencies and contradictions were many and the world was in a chaotic religious state.

In this time of need, of disputation, uncertainty, would our Heavenly Father again reveal His truth, His gospel—the good news—His plan for man's happiness?

In 1820, a boy, untrained in the philosophies and theologies of men, desiring to do the will of God, and feeling that he himself could not know which church was right, read in James, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him." (James 1: 5)

In simple faith the boy, Joseph Smith, went into the quiet of the woods and prayed. (Ref.: Joseph Smith's Own Story)

In answer to his prayer, two glorified personages appeared to him, and one, speaking of the other, said, "This is my beloved Son. Hear Him."

For the first time since the loss of the testimony of the Holy Ghost there was a witness who could testify—God lives; He is a personal being; Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

The Saviour told Joseph to join none of the churches, that none were acceptable to God, "They teach for doctrines the commandments of men."

After this first vision followed a period of waiting—of testing. Would the boy, only fourteen years of age, subjected to ridicule and persecution,

James L. Barker

be strong enough and courageous enough to stand by this testimony?

There were eight years of testing of the boy prophet, of instructions by heavenly messengers, revelation of doctrine, and the restoration of the priesthood—the authority to act in the name of the Lord. Then followed the organisation of the church, bitter persecution, and finally the sealing of his testimony with his blood.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ in its purity was restored — restored by the Father and the Son and divine messengers sent by Them. It has been said that this is laying claim to a great deal. It is. But anything else would not have been sufficient. Once lost, divine truth and authority could be restored only as they were originally given— by revelation from God.

In the scriptures, heavenly appearances are for the accomplishment of divine purposes, sufficiently important to justify the sending of messengers. Was the restoration of the priesthood and of the government of the church, together with the doctrines restored, of sufficient importance to account for the sending of heavenly messengers again to the earth?

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London Association Visits MISSION HEADQUARTERS

THE RESTORED GOSPEL, in its nearly 120 years of existence, has been preached under many varying circumstances and situations. Just recently a rather unusual opportunity was presented the missionaries of the London District.

One afternoon a gentleman telephoned the Mission Headquarters at 149 Nightingale Lane, in London, and stated that he was a representative of a group of people known as the London Appreciation Society and would like to know if arrangements could be made whereby his association could visit the Headquarters and learn something concerning the Mormon people.

He went on to explain that his society made weekly Saturday afternoon excursions to various points of interest in and about London. Included on the weekly tours were St. Paul's Cathedral, Bruce Castle Museum, College of Physical Education, and trips to near-by towns and villages. He said that his group was composed of Londoners of both sexes and mixed ages who were interested in seeing and learning all about Greater London. He said that they were desirous to learn something about the Mormons in London.

Arrangements were made, and at the appointed time, members of the London Appreciation Society gathered at a designated corner adjacent to Mission Headquarters. Then the group, consisting of from thirty-five to forty persons, proceeded in a body to 149 Nightingale Lane, where they were met by London District President Richard W. Clayton. President Clayton welcomed the group and explained that he would act as guide on the tour of the Mission Headquarters.

First of all the group was taken to the South London Branch Chapel. Here, Elder James L. Mortensen instructed them on the nature of the Sunday services and the significance of the sacrament. The group was then led to the front office, where Elder Melvin M. Owens, Mission Secretary, explained the physical organisation of the Mission, districts and branches, and told of his particular duties as Mission Secretary.

Next, they were led to the office of the British Mission President, Selvoy J. Boyer. Here, Sister Agnes Beecher, Correspondence Secretary, briefly explained the missionary system and told of the manner in which missionaries received their calls and assignments.

The Mission Bookstore was next on the tour. Here, Sister Edith Mullinger showed to the group the various lesson manuals used in auxiliary work and the Church reference books that are on sale there. Sister Blanche J. Houchen then explained the Welfare Programme of the Church and exhibited some of the goods to be distributed within the Mission.

The London Appreciation Society was then taken upstairs to the office of the **Millennial Star**, where Elder William R. Callister, Associate Editor, briefly told of the history of that periodical and presented each member of the group with a recent issue of the **Star**. The European Mission Library, located in the **Millennial Star** office, was also explained.

The group was then led across the hall to the offices of the Genealogical Department of the British Mission. Here, James R. Cunningham, Chairman of the Genealogical Board of the Mission, explained the function of that department and of the nature of the vicarious work done in the temples.

The Recreation Hall was next on the tour. Here, Elder Bruce E. Peterson told of the M.I.A. programme of the

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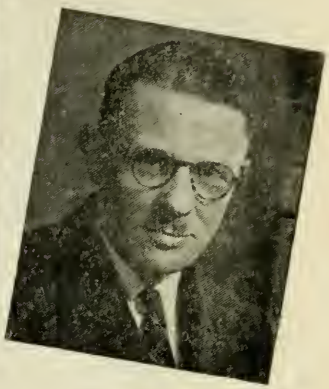
MESSAGE from the MISSION PRESIDENCY



"SURELY the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." (Amos 3: 7)

We are a people who believe in continuing revelation and inspired direction from God unto His people through His servants the Prophets.

When the inspiration came for the organising of the Mutual Improvement Associations it was real, and destined to bring forth a glorious fruit to the Latter-day Saints.

The years have come and gone and with them a steady and definite progress among us toward a fuller understanding of our relations with our fellow beings. The refining influence of love, mutual helpfulness and appreciation of achievement have become a part of our every-day lives. They have contributed much toward the development of our individual and collective talents and abilities.

Real Latter-day Saints are known for their vitality and resourcefulness. In no activity has this been more marked than in the cultural and recreational fields.

What parent, worthy the name, will not hasten to grasp the opportunitiy to have his child benefit from the splendid character-building programme of the M.I.A? What parent will not afford his child every encouragement to attend and participate in the glorious fields of Bee-hive, Scouting, Junior Girls, Senior Scouts, Gleaners, and M Men? What Latter-day Saint will permit himself to be left out of the Special Interest Programme?

Your Mission Presidency encourages you to partake of the full, bounteous fruits of the Gospel. Enrich your life and those of your loved ones by making the M.I.A. a vital, continuous influence for good every week, all the year through. We wish every Latter-day Saint a Happy New Year, secure in the knowledge that those who do lend their strength and talents to the things inspired from God will indeed enjoy happiness and contentment.

The theme for this year carries a condition and a glorious promise which we should each keep before us: "If you keep my commandments and endure to the end, you shall have eternal life." (Doc. and Cov. 14: 7)

Selvy J Boyer
Wallace L. Reid
George A Paul

Missionary Activity Through Basketball

IT is not an uncommon experience for a missionary to inquire of a Saint as to how he or she first came in contact with the Church and receive the reply, "My introduction to the Restored Church was through the old Catford Saints' and Rochdale Greys' basketball teams." Yes, in years just prior to the recent war, many sports-minded people throughout Britain were acquainted with the members of the Latter-day Saint basketball teams, and respected their clean living, sportsmanship and their way of life.

Once again, the missionaries of the British Mission are playing basketball. The programme is on a reduced scale in comparison with pre-war basketball activities. There is no one team representing the Mission; but rather, there are four or five teams composed of the missionaries labouring within those particular districts. Then, so that the regular missionary activities will not be interferred with, games or practices have generally been limited to one a week. Nevertheless, the teams are well-known in sports circles and many contacts are being made through this programme.

The London District basketball team has been particularly successful. Several interesting exhibition and demonstration matches have been

London District Basketball Team
Front Row, left to right: Archie J. Haskins, Bruce E. Peterson, Roydon N. Rice, James L. Mortensen. Back Row, left to right: L. Ralph Mecham, Wm. Richard Waite, George T. Choules, and George P. Marchant

arranged, as well as the regular league games. On one occasion last autumn, the London Latter-day Saint team played the United States Navy basketball team before a crowd of 700 officers and cadets at the Army School of Physical Training at Aldershot. An announcement was made previous to the game in which the missionaries were introduced and their purpose in England explained. Another game saw the London missionaries matched against the R.A.F. team at the Halton R.A.F. station before a capacity crowd of 1,200. Still another exhibition game was arranged at the Chelsea Barracks before fifty directors of London Boys' Clubs.

Locker room conversations and literature distributed have attracted players from opposing teams and basketball officials and fans to branch meetings as well as to the London District Conference. Also through basketball contacts, cottage meetings have been arranged. Four illustrated lectures were recently presented at the Eastbury Schools in Barking by the missionaries concerning Mormonism and Utah. These arrangements were also made possible by basketball games. Hosts of friendships have been created in the London District through basketball.

The Newcastle District team has also met with success in basketball activities. In an exhibition game at Murton Colliery, the Newcastle Elders played with the North Shields Y.M.C.A. team before a crowd of approximately 10,000 people. Tournaments have been held in Gateshead and North Shields to which the missionaries were invited to enter a team. Elders George Sonntag and Douglas Loosle assisted in a basketball exhibition in Darlington before a large number of Public Education Officials.

In a letter to the **Millennial Star** from Newcastle District, President Kenneth M. Oswald writes, "The contacts that have been made through basketball cannot be enumerated, but I will point out two specific cases. On

Birmingham District Basketball Team at half time

From left to right: Myron Wm. McIntyre, Richard W. Hendricks, Melvin A. White, Lamar T. Empey, David Wm. Meyer

■

November 10th, Elders Capel and Curtis were invited to give the closing services of the day in the North Shields Y.M.C.A. Of course, this gave them the opportunity of presenting some of our beliefs. I personally feel that our influence in that organisation is having quite an effect on the people there. When we walk into the building, everyone seems to want to talk to us, and we are made to feel very much at home. The friendships that have been won cannot be counted. Five young fellows have recently attended the Gateshead Branch several times. This has been a result of contacts made through basketball in the Gateshead Y.M.C.A. . . . Openings for film shows and other meetings have been made through basketball."

The Birmingham Elders have played several of the outstanding teams in Birmingham, including the Dolobran Athletic Club, who has just won the right to represent Southern England in the Olympic trials, and the Birmingham University. The Birmingham missionaries are making the most of the opportunities which are presented to them and have distributed literature and lent Books of Mormon. Many contacts have been made with players affiliated with the Birmingham University.

Missionaries of the Nottingham District, through their coaching and playing, have also made numerous friends. Cottage meetings have been held as a result of these contacts. Much literature and several Books of Mormon have been distributed through basketball activity.

Although the Glasgow Latter-day Saint basketball team has been organised just a short time, several contacts have been made. In their one game this season, the Scottish Elders played against the University of Glasgow.

Basketball activity in the Sheffield District has been very limited, but some friendships have been made through coaching activities.

Scores of the games played in the various Districts to date are as follows:

London.—L.D.S. 27, U.S. Navy 12; L.D.S. 24, Dartford 20; L.D.S. 42, Halton R.A.F. 18; L.D.S. 39, London Central Y.M.C.A. 34; L.D.S. 52, U.S. Navy 15; L.D.S. 48, Polish Students 27; L.D.S. 58, U.S. Navy 25; L.D.S. 61, Latvians 22; L.D.S. 43, Oxford University 12; L.D.S. 47, London Polytechnic 17; L.D.S. 74, London Central Y.M.C.A. 24.

Newcastle.—L.D.S. 46, Sunderland Y.M.C.A. 8; L.D.S. 17, North Shields Y.M.C.A. 8; L.D.S. 27, Gateshead Y.M.C.A. 11; L.D.S. 19, Sunderland Y.M.C.A. 3; L.D.S. 18, North Shields Y.M.C.A. 8; L.D.S. 23, Gateshead Y.M.C.A. 4.

Birmingham.—L.D.S. 50, Old Nortonians 27; L.D.S. 39, Stretchford 7; L.D.S. 45, Birmingham University 30; L.D.S. 49, Birmingham Y.M.C.A. 14; L.D.S. 64, Birmingham Athletic Institute 10; L.D.S. 37, Dolobran Athletic Club 19.

Newcastle District Basketball Team
Front Row from left to right: Douglas W. Loosle, George T. Sonntag, Kenneth M. Oswald. Back Row from left to right: Bruce R. Curtis, John H. Gray, and Neal C. Capel

Nottingham.—L.D.S. 27, Nottingham Y.M.C.A. 24; L.D.S. 20, Nottingham Y.M.C.A. 12; L.D.S. 28, Nottingham Y.M.C.A. 23.

Scottish.—L.D.S. 48, University of Glasgow 43.

And so we see that basketball is playing a great part in bringing the Gospel before many people. The good sportsmanship and abundant energy of team members is leaving an impression for good wherever they play. Although the winter basketball season is yet young, and the elders' basketball time is limited, great interest has been aroused in the Latter-day Saint teams and a most encouraging future awaits them.

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONFERENCES-Spring Session

February 22nd	Sheffield
February 29th	Birmingham
March 7th	Norwich
March 14th	Bristol
March 21st	Newcastle
March 28th	Irish
April 4th	Leeds
April 11th	Welsh
April 18th	Hull
April 25th	Scottish
May 2nd	Liverpool
May 9th	Manchester
May 16th	London
May 23rd	Nottingham

Welsh District Advancing

This is the thirteenth in a series of of articles concerning the various Districts of the British Mission. Lorry E. Rytting writes the following report concerning the Welsh District:

●

AT a time when the spiritual and religious life of the Welsh people is at an alarmingly low ebb, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is regaining its foothold in several areas of Wales, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ is once more being carried to them.

Wales, which has long been a centre of intense religious activity, and the home of a deeply religious people, is finding its churches in a somewhat dormant state, as far as any effect on the daily lives of the people is concerned. This condition is found to exist in the established, as well as the non-conformist groups. The support and activity of the present few stalwart members compares rather sorrowfully with recent years when the Church was the centre of communal activity, and the very basis of personal standards and ideals.

The Saints and missionaries find the greatest barrier to the preaching of the Gospel to be not intolerance, as has sometimes been the case, but a cold, bland indifference to religious systems of any kind. Yet, in the face of such conditions, there exists in the hearts of these people a yearning for the truth, a longing for a tangible faith in "the immortality and eternal life of man." This mission the Restored Church is here to perform.

The open-air meetings have attracted crowds of young people who have no basic Christian sentiments or knowledge, and therefore feel a lack of the moral and spiritual principles which are so desperately needed in the world today.

Under these conditions the Welsh District is renewing its efforts in "seeking the Kingdom of God and his righteousness." The keynote for the past ten months has been "fully and efficiently organised auxiliaries." Under the able direction of President George Q. Bennett and Sister Elva A. Bennett, the missionaries, local priesthood, and members have laid a foundation on the cornerstones of faith, hope, love, and a desire for good from which the light of the Restored Gospel is shining forth, and the Church programme has taken on much life.

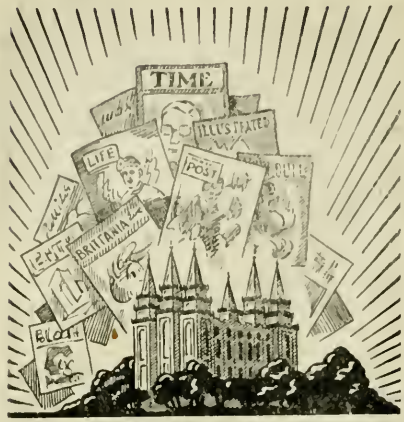
The September conference was an indication of the fruits of this theme. The meetings were well attended by members and friends. A wonderful spirit of love and friendship prevailed, and the words of counsel given by the speakers will long be a source of inspiration to those in attendance.

Three of the four branches in Wales are organised and progressing rapidly. The branches are located at Cardiff, Varteg, Merthyr Tydfil, and Pontllanfraith. All but one are under the supervision of local priesthood. The auxiliary organisations are building up well, and the future looks promising. The Relief Society has made the greatest strides of advancement, with the M.I.A. and Primary also forging ahead.

Goodwill and support from the leaders of various cities are proving a boon to the missionary work in Wales, which is progressing regularly. The missionaries have met with fine receptions in the homes, and the Gospel is being preached in homes, on the street, and through various clubs and organisations. Cottage meetings are on the increase, and the Church is winning friends quickly. Through close follow-up work and well organised branches, much success should come from the labours in Wales.

And so, at the beginning of the New Year, the opening of North Wales to missionary work is an indication of the programme of advancement and expansion now in effect. The future looks bright, and the possibilities are unlimited, so keep your eyes on the Welsh District!

THE CHURCH AND THE PRESS IN BRITAIN



THE following are excerpts from recent publications in Great Britain pertinent to the Church:

Sunday Express (London)

"SALT LAKE CITY HAS ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY—BORN OUT OF ONE OF THE GREAT DRAMAS OF HISTORY."

By George Edinger

FOUR thousand feet above the sea, rimmed by mountains three times that height, laid out in ten-acre blocks of granite houses sparkling in the crisp air, and parted by streets 132 feet wide, Salt Lake City last week celebrated the hundredth year of its existence.

It is the largest city between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific; the cleanest, the clearest town in the United States.

With its population of 180,000; its university of 2,600 students and its 132 churches, this capital of the State of Utah has become a junction of three railways, four airlines and four main roads.

THE TEMPLE

But the monument which makes it unlike any other city is the temple, which, like the mosques of North Africa, is barred to all but the faithful.

It is of grey granite. The walls are six feet thick. The tallest of its six spires rises 220 feet high, crowned by a copper statue of the Angel Moroni.

The temple took just forty years (1853-93) to build, and it is the mother church of a million men and women scattered throughout the world, nine-tenths of them congregated in Utah.

There are no startling differences between the Mormons and other Christian communities now.

The most sensational Mormon tenet, polygamy, remained part of the faith for only forty years (roughly the years that covered the building of the temple). It was never practised by more than three Mormons in 100.

BEGAN IN 1827

The astonishing feature of the Mormon faith is not its doctrine, but its history. There is no history like it in the world.

In 1827, Britain, triumphantly past the ordeal of Napoleon's wars, was, in the seventh year of the fourth King George, settling confidently to a new prosperity.

But in 1827 the United States, hemmed between the Atlantic and the Indian hunting grounds, was a land where men dreamed dreams and saw visions.

One such visionary — there were many—was a twenty-two year old, tall, wavy-headed ploughboy in New York State.

His name was Joseph Smith, and to Joseph Smith the Angel Moroni, whose statue crowns the Utah Temple, revealed, in 1827, the sacred books of an ancient race that had, he said, peopled America when the Tower of Babel was built . . .

STATE OUTRAGED

But the people of his State were first amused, then incredulous, then outraged. New York State became too hot to hold him.

He moved over to what was then the western borderland of Ohio, where he founded the Church of Latter-day Saints at Far West (now Kerr), in Jackson Country, in 1837.

Life was not easy. Armed bands tried to stop Mormons voting at elections. There was bloodshed on both sides—the Government interferred.

Far West was occupied by the State Militia and the leaders of Mormonism arrested.

They contrived to escape, and their congregations were still swelling. But life in Ohio was intolerable for them now.

In the middle of the Winter of 1838, 15,000 Mormons trekked over to Illinois, where they founded the city of Nauvoo.

At first they were tolerated, even welcomed by rival politicians contending for the Mormon vote . . .

But in his city of Nauvoo, Smith was absolute. He could not be dislodged short of civil war.

PRISON STORMED

Thomas Ford, Governor of Illinois, tried to mediate. He summoned Joseph, his brother Hyrum, and two other leaders to the State capital at Carthage, to answer the charges made against them, pledging his honour that they should be unharmed.

There they waited in the June of 1844 in jail till they should be heard.

On the night of the 27th, a mob of 200, with blackened faces, stormed the prison. Joseph was shot trying to climb through a window. Hyrum also was killed.

So the prophet was slain. But a new prophet arose; a second Moses to lead his people to the promised land.

His name was Brigham Young. He was a big, broad-shouldered carpenter from Vermont. His followers called him "The Lion of the Lord."

CROSSED MISSISSIPPI

Twenty thousand men, women and children crossed over the ice-strewn Mississippi. It was their Red Sea . . .

They dragged their 1,800 over-loaded wagons across snow-covered, rain-soaked Iowa, leaving little settlements as they went, sowing corn for those to follow.

In June, 1846 the vanguard passed over the Mississippi, the boundary of the United States, and into the unknown lands of the Red Indians, where the elk and the buffalo roamed over many miles that no white man had seen.

Brigham Young went ahead with 143 men, three women and two children.

Advance parties followed to build forts and man them, to plant crops along the trail, to ring the grazing ground with wagons.

At night they sang hymns to Captain Pitt's brass band, converted en masse in England.

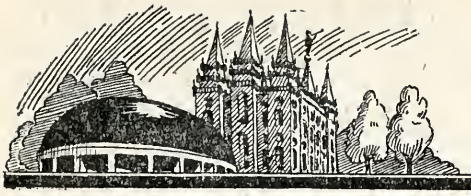
In their covered wagons, drawn by mules and oxen, they carried seeds, implements, a year's supply of food, a precious hoard of gunpowder and nutmeg to trade with the Red Man.

They journeyed over a thousand miles, often hungry, always tired, leaving their martyrs as they went, martyrs to weariness and weather and the Indians' arrows.

And they got through.

They got through because they trusted blindly in their prophet, Brigham Young, in the Gospel graven on the golden tablets, in the word of the Lord directly made manifest to those who guided them.

—continued on page 31



Edito

1947—A YEAR OF PROGRESS

PERHAPS no other mission in the Church has a more colourful and more soul-inspiring history than that of the British Mission. In its 110 years of existence, the Mission has undergone periods of prosperity. There are cases on record of preachers and their entire congregations being converted to the teachings of the Restored Gospel. Then there have been times when it appeared that because of bitter persecutions and of the emigrations of many of the stalwarts of the British Mission, that the very life blood of the Mission had been sapped; that its continued existence was somewhat doubtful. Through it all, the British Mission has carried on and has produced many outstanding members of the Church.

As we begin the year, 1948, let us pause and look back over the past year, 1947, and determine its significance in the annals of the British Mission.

At the beginning of 1947, there were but forty-eight active branches in the Mission. Several of these had just previously been opened. The auxiliary programmes of several of the branches were not in operation and others had been organised only a short time. 1947 marked the opening of fourteen new branches, making a total of sixty-two branches in the British Mission. The number of auxiliary organisations created during the year, 1947, is sixty-two.

1947 has witnessed a sharp growth in the Mission Sunday Schools. An average of over 1,100 persons now attend British Mission Sunday Schools each week. Successful Sunday School Conventions have been held for all districts in the mission, resulting in continued increasing activity. The Relief Society of the British Mission has also made rapid progress during the past year. Several new organisations have been created in 1947.

The M.I.A. and Primary organisations have also progressed greatly during the past year. Successful conventions are now being held throughout the districts. New organisations have been created in both departments. The Scouting programme for boys has expanded rapidly during 1947.

Missionary activity for the past year has been most successful. Missionaries from all districts have reported good results in their labours. Many valuable contacts have been made. The Gospel has been preached to thousands of people during the past year through open-air meetings, tracting, cottage and investigator meetings, slide lectures, and in many other ways. Two elders have presented a

combined motion-picture and lecture, nightly, to groups of college students, businessmen, Toc-H and Y.M.C.A. organisations, and other groups throughout Great Britain, with most encouraging results.

The number of baptisms for the year, 1947, recorded at the time of this printing is 208. According to Mission statistics, this is the highest number of persons baptised in a single year in the past fifteen years.

In spite of nearly 200 emigrations of members during the year, attendance at all meetings throughout the Mission has increased sharply. A large number of friends and investigators are in attendance at the meetings as well as many previously inactive members. Records of several branches show that the average attendance at Sacrament Meetings has doubled over the average of the previous year.

Attendances at district conferences have also increased greatly. Several conferences during the year have had more than 200 persons in attendance and one conference had more than 300 persons present. The Mission-wide conference held at Bradford was an outstanding success and more than 1,150 persons were in attendance, almost doubling the figure of those in attendance at the previous Mission-wide conference.

During the year, 1947, the Church has purchased four new pieces of property for use as chapels and district headquarters. These purchases include properties at Barnsley, Manchester, Dewsbury, and Belfast. These new chapels, along with several buildings which have been remodelled and redecorated, have helped greatly in the present campaign to secure more desirable meeting places for the Saints of Britain.

The Mission, this year, has received some of the most favourable publicity in its history. Several nationally read publications have printed interesting and accurate articles concerning the Mormon Church and its people. Local newspapers in some cities have published accounts of the district conferences, and still others have printed the activities of the missionaries in their vicinity.

And so from this summary, we see that 1947 has, indeed, been a banner year. The Church in Britain is in a healthy condition. The prospects for the future are exceedingly bright. There are still many honest-in-heart in Great Britain who are in search of the truth. May we as Saints and missionaries of the British Mission avail ourselves of the opportunities which confront us and put forth our best efforts in the work of the Lord here in Great Britain throughout 1948.—WILLIAM R. CALLISTER

World Church News

"FAMILY HOUR" ENCOURAGED IN WARDS OF ZION. — The First Presidency, the Council of the Twelve and the Presiding Bishopric are encouraging "family hours" to to be held in the homes of all Latter-day Saints in all the wards of the Church. The purpose of the "family hour" is to "unify the family and enhance ennobling family relationships; to stimulate the teaching of the Gospel, thereby strengthening testimonies of individual members; and to strengthen the moral and cultural influence in the home, and give the children an opportunity for self-expression."

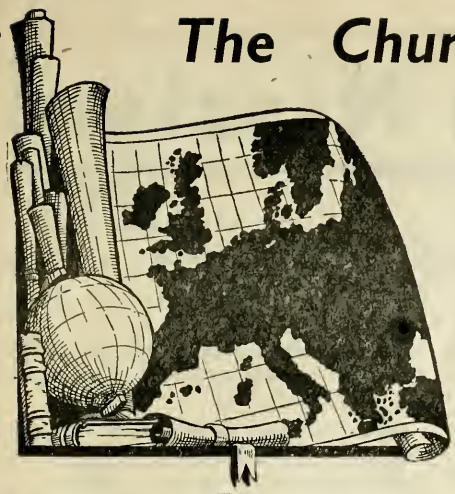
NORTHWESTERN STATES MISSION PRESIDENT NAMED. — A new mission president of the Northwestern States Mission has just been appointed by the First Presidency to succeed President Samuel E. Bringhurst. The new mission head is President Joel Richards, a former bishop of the Twenty-seventh Ward and high councilman of the Ensign and Emigration Stakes. President Richards served as a missionary to Great Britain from 1910 to 1913, during which time he presided over the Liverpool Conference. He will leave shortly for Portland, Oregon, Northwestern States Mission Headquarters. President Richards will be accompanied by his wife, Sister Georgina Felt Richards.

PRESIDENT SMITH'S PORTRAIT COMPLETED.—A portrait of President George Albert Smith, begun shortly after he became president of the Church, is now completed. The artist, Lee Greene Richards of Salt Lake City, is one of the outstanding portrait painters in the United States. The portrait is the property of the Zion's Savings Bank and Trust Company. It will hang with the portraits of the later Presidents, Heber J. Grant and Joseph F. Smith.

NEW CHURCH LITERATURE. — Another new book concerning the Restored Gospel has just recently been released for sale. This new work is entitled, "The Gospel Plan," by Milton Jenkins Jones. It is a pocket size handbook of the Gospel and includes a collection of scriptures in proper relation to each other. Treated in their order are such subjects as The Gospel Plan, the Pre-Spirit World, Spirit World, The Creation, Mortality, Temporal Death, Paradise and Prison, First Resurrection, the Millennium, War, Second Resurrection and Final Judgment, Second Death, Telestial Kingdom, Terrestial Kingdom, Celestial Kingdom, and Forever and Ever.

"INSTRUCTORS" BOUND BY SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD. — The general board of the Deseret Sunday School Union has offered to bind without charge one volume of 1947 "Instructors" and one volume of teacher's supplements for any ward or branch submitting a complete number of either or both to the Library Department of the Deseret Sunday School Union, 59 North Main Street, Salt Lake City, 1 Utah, U.S.A. "Instructors" should be properly arranged with the January issue on the top and December issue on the bottom. Supplements should begin with the first intermediate supplement on top and the Gospel Doctrine booklet on the bottom. Each bound volume will contain an index and the name of the organisation engraved on the cover. These must be sent in before July 1st, 1948.

The Church in Europe



BERLIN CONFERENCE ATTRACTS 2,000.—A conference of the Berlin District of the East German Mission attracted 2,000 people November 23rd. Meetings were held in the "Deutsche Staatsoper," which was built by Hitler. Presidents Alma Sonne, Walter Stover, and Jean Wunderlich, and German and Russian officers were in attendance. President Sonne reports: "A choir of 120 voices, accompanied by a fine orchestra, furnished the music. The vast audience was held spellbound by the rendition."

PRESIDENT SONNE VISITS GERMAN, SWISS, & FRENCH MISSIONS.—While in Berlin, President Sonne met with local missionaries of the East German Mission. He also stopped at Frankfort am Main, the headquarters of the West German Mission, and Karlsruhe, where a mid-afternoon meeting was attended by 362 people. Thanksgiving, an old American custom, was enjoyed at the Swiss Mission home in Basel, with President and Sister Scott Taggart. Following conferences in Basel on Church Welfare matters, President Sonne left with Sister Sonne and Elder Bennett, who had come from London, and President Stover, for Geneva, the new headquarters of the French Mission. While in Geneva, conferences were held with officials of the Centre d'Entraide Internationale, and with President and Sister James L. Barker of the French Mission. Meetings were attended in Geneva, and in Lausanne. The French mission now has the largest number of missionaries in its history, 75, and President Barker is optimistic about current and future prospects.

MISSIONARIES NOW IN ANTWERP, BELGIUM.—Activities of the Netherlands Mission have been carried to Antwerp, Belgium. Four missionaries have recently been assigned there. Others from the Netherlands Mission will later be assigned to additional areas in Flemish Belgium.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA CONFERENCE SUCCESSFUL.—Under the direction of President Wallace F. Toronto of the Czechoslovakian Mission, a conference was held in Brno recently. President Toronto presented a Book of Mormon to the mayor of Brno, who assured Church members of their welcome in that city. The event was the first postwar conference the Church has held in Czechoslovakia. Jovial and industrious, President Toronto also has more missionaries than his mission has had before. He is doing an excellent job of publicising the Church "in the heart of Europe."

OSLO CONFERENCE FEATURES CONCERT. — The Oslo Choir, one of the finest in the Church, was featured at the recent conference of the Oslo District in the Norwegian Mission. On the Saturday before the conference sessions, the Choir presented a concert at which several of Norway's outstanding musicians performed. Conference sessions attracted capacity crowds.

WELFARE SUPPLIES GO THROUGHOUT EUROPE. — During 1947 the Church sent food and clothing to Germany, Austria, Belgium, France, Holland, Poland, Syria, Lebanon, and Finland. Clothing was also sent to Britain and Norway. Each ward, stake and mission in the United States and the Canadian Mission contributed to the programme.

British Mission

ARRIVALS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The following missionaries arrived in Great Britain on December 5th aboard the "Queen Mary":

Elder NOBLE VOLNEY KING of Gilbert, Arizona, was assigned to labour in the Nottingham District.

Elder LESTER ROSS WHITTAKER of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Birmingham District.

Elder JOHNATHAN BENNETT of Holden, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Birmingham District.

Elder VERNON COLE YOUNG of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Scottish District.

Elder WILLIS ARIEL ROBINSON of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Scottish District.

Elder GEORGE THOMAS CHOULES of Driggs, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the London District.

The following missionaries arrived in Great Britain on December 15th aboard the "America":

Elder VERNAL L. BOWDEN of Dayton, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the Manchester District.

Elder JAMES H. GILBERT of Bancroft, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the London District.

Elder ROBERT D. PARRY of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Welsh District.

Elder ERNEST M. W. JONES of Los Angeles, California, was assigned to labour in the Welsh District.

Elder MICHAEL BARCLAY of Blackfoot, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the London District.

The following missionary arrived in Great Britain from the Swiss-Austrian Mission on December 16th:

Elder ROYAL R. MESERVY of St. Anthony, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the Liverpool District.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

Elder ROYDEN N. RICE was transferred from the London District to the Manchester District on December 17th.

Sister MARION ALLEN was transferred from the Welsh District to the London Mission Office on December 29th.

Sister NANCY TENNEY was transferred on December 29th from the Welsh District to the Birmingham District.

Elder CLARENCE R. CAMPBELL was transferred from the Birmingham District to the Welsh District on December 1st.

Elder VAUGHAN TERRY was transferred from the Nottingham District to the Welsh District on December 1st.

RELEASES

Elder **WILLIAM C. STONE** was released as a missionary to the British Mission on December 4th. He has served in the Bristol, London, Manchester, and Welsh Districts. Elder Stone served as District President in the Manchester District.

Elder **ARTHUR V. NETTLESHIP** and Sister **GLADYS NETTLESHIP** were released as missionaries to the British Mission on December 9th. They have served in the London and Hull Districts. Elder Nettleship served as District President in the Hull District.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT

Reported by E. John S. Jones

A concert was held in the Birmingham Branch Chapel on Saturday, November 29th, in honour of the thirty members who are leaving for America in the near future. Sketches were presented by members of the Birmingham and Kidderminster Branches and piano renderings by Joy and Raymond Horner. The Birmingham Latter-day Saint Scout Troop made a presentation to Scoutmaster Arthur Fisher, who is one of the emigrants. Frederick Webb gave a few remarks of appreciation for the fine work done by District President Charles L. Norton. A very pleasant surprise was the presence of President and Sister Selvoy J. Boyer. President Boyer offered words of advice to those who were about to leave. There were 110 persons present.

President and Sister Boyer were the speakers at Birmingham Branch the following Sunday at Sacrament Meeting, which was attended by 102 persons.

Due to the large number of Saints in the Birmingham Branch scheduled to emigrate to America in the near future, the following reorganisation was effected: Frederick Webb, E. John S. Jones and Walter Green were sustained as First and Second Counsellors and Branch Clerk, respectively, in the Birmingham Branch Presidency, and William L. Buchanan, Frederick Webb, and E. John S. Jones were released as First and Second Counsellors and Branch Clerk, respectively; Mary Joseph, Eugenie St. John Yates and Olive Millward were sustained as President and First and Second Counsellors, respectively, in the Y.W.M.I.A., and Gwendoline Maguire, Mary Joseph, and Megan Forward were released as President and First and Second Counsellors, respectively; George A. Dyson was sustained as Scoutmaster and Arthur Fisher was released from that office; Philip Craig and Hannah Jevons were sustained as Assistants to the Branch Genealogical Director.

On Saturday, December 6th, Kathleen Grundy of the Birmingham Branch was baptised by George R. Grundy and confirmed by Elder David Meyer.

BRISTOL DISTRICT

Reported by Frances B. Herman

On Friday, November 21st, members of the Primary gave a farewell party to Muriel and Audrey Beams. Both sisters have always taken a great interest in the children's activities. Many favourite songs were sung. The evening was concluded with the presentation of gifts.

On Saturday, November 29th, a Thanksgiving Dinner was organised by the Relief Society sisters. This excellent meal of chicken (with appropriate trimmings) was enjoyed by the thirty people present. The dinner was followed by community singing and a very amusing quiz. The entire evening proved to be very successful and enjoyable.

LEEDS DISTRICT

Reported by Ralph Jack

The Relief Society bazaar of the Leeds District held on November 22nd in the Bradford Chapel recreation hall included the display and sale of nearly a thousand articles. Among the items sold were blankets and quilts, children's and adults' clothing, household items, tea and dinner sets, serviettes, scarves and doilies, bath and tea towels, sewing sets, and refreshments. The accompanying programme was conducted by Mary G. Walker, Leeds District Relief Society Supervisor. The entire District was represented with readings, musical numbers, and quizzes. Nearly 200 persons were in attendance during the course of the day. The bazaar was most successful in meeting the objectives set by the Relief Society.

Gordon F. Kendall was sustained as President of the Leeds Branch, November 9th, upon the reorganisation of the branch. Sustained as counsellors were Samuel Mitchell and Elder Connel M. Whitehead. Frank Hopwood was sustained as Branch Clerk.

Impetus was given the M.I.A. and Primary organisations of the District by the convention conducted December 3rd at the District headquarters. Representing the Mission and auxiliary presidencies were President and Sister Wallace R. Reid, and Sisters Blanche Houchen and Edith Mullinger. Over forty District and branch officers and teachers attended the convention. Instruction and aids in carrying out the two programmes were well received and are being acted upon throughout the branches of the District.

A "sociability night" is the Dewsbury Branch chapel was held on November 26th to promote social activity and interest in the joint M.I.A. programmes during the winter season. Entertainment consisted of games, campfire songs and a musical programme, followed by refreshments.

Bradford Branch M.I.A. has completed its organisation with the Special Interest classes now being held. This is in addition to the M Men, Gleaner, Bee-hive, and Scouting departments that have been functioning since autumn.

Cottage meetings for investigators of the Church are conducted weekly by Elders Hal K. Campbell and Oliver J. Bennett, who are labouring in the Dewsbury Branch. Interest in the doctrine and teachings of the Church is high, and the number regularly attending is increasing. The number of investigators who are becoming active in various branch meetings is accordingly increasing.

Fireside meetings of the Dewsbury Branch are now being held each Sunday evening in various homes. Regular study courses include the Book of Mormon and special programmes are held monthly.

The teacher-training programme of the Mission is being followed in the Leeds District under the direction of William C. McCormick.

Children's Christmas parties have been held throughout the District in connection with the Relief Societies and Sunday Schools. For Christmas the District Headquarters is being decorated and caroling parties are planned for Christmas Eve.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT

Reported by Howard C. Macfarlane

On Sunday, November 16th, a baptismal service was held in the Burnley Branch Chapel. Four persons were baptised by Elder John N. Cannon. They were Florence Beatrice Webster, Jean Beresford Brodie, Margaret Mary Nutter and Enid Margaret Corless. They were confirmed members of the Church by Elder Clifton R. McBride, District President Roy Wood, Elder Blair Maxfield, and Elder Lysle G. Munns, respectively. All four are from the Preston Branch.

A similar service took place on Monday, November 24th, in Liverpool, at the Dovecot Baths. The following persons were baptised by Elder Howard C. Macfarlane: Gerald Devereaux, Brian Middleton, John James, Stanley

Challis and Raymond Hill. They were confirmed by Elders Weston N. Christensen, Charles A. Edwards, Lysle G. Munns, C. Norman Gardner and Clifton R. McBride.

On Saturday, December 6th, Wigan Branch Relief Society conducted a very successful sale of works. This terminated several months' preparation on the part of the sisters of that branch, The results were most satisfactory.

The monthly District Union Meeting was held in the Preston Meeting Hall. Seventy people were present at this fine gathering and a beautiful spirit was felt by all present. Included in the programme of these meetings is a social and a teacher training class.

A special meeting was called for workers in the Primary and M.I.A. of the Liverpool District. Present from the London Office was President and Sister Wallace R. Reid, and Sister Blanche Houchen. Much useful instruction was received for the betterment of these auxiliaries.

From all indications, the holiday season will be full of activities on all sides. We of the Liverpool District extend a joyous Season's Greeting to friends and Saints in Britain and the world.

LONDON DISTRICT
Reported by Ruth Millard

On November 25th, an M.I.A. social and bazaar was held in aid of the funds for the Branch Sunday School and Primary Christmas party of the Gravesend Branch. The sum of £5 was raised from the sale of toys and refreshments which were made and prepared by members and friends of the Branch. The M.I.A. is especially grateful for the help of Mr. A. Wells.

The Gravesend M.I.A. members visited the Methodist Chapel on November 28th to compete in indoor games. Although the results of the games were not in their favour, several Gospel conversations were held and an enjoyable evening was had.

The St. Albans Relief Society held a special women's meeting at the Central Hall on November 20th. Sisters Leona B. Sonne and Gladys S. Boyer, Presidents of the European and British Mission Relief Societies, respectively, and the members of the British Mission Relief Society Board were all present. The meeting was conducted by Constance L. Chipping, St. Albans Branch Relief Society President. Total attendance was twenty-seven, including ten visitors who were extremely interested in the work.

St. Albans Branch has now organised a "teacher-training" class. Teachers in the Luton and North London Branches are invited to attend. The first meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. on January 5th, and on every other Monday thereafter. Elder Robert E. Riggs will conduct the lesson period.

A Relief Society bazaar was held on November 29th at the South London Branch. Sister Blanche Houchen gave a short address and announced the opening of the bazaar. Maude Hawkes, of the Relief Society Board, presented Albert Willmott with a book as a token of gratitude for the work he has done in the Branch. Flowers were presented to Sisters Houchen, Maud Hawkes, and Gladys A. Millard by Ann Mead. The articles on sale were made by Relief Society sisters and members of the priesthood. More than 100 people attended.

A Boy Scout Troop is being formed in the South London Branch with Robert Millard as scoutmaster. The troop will officially be known as the 13th Balham and Tooting Troop. Many activities are being planned for the year.

Baptismal services were held on November 29th at the South London Branch chapel. The following persons were baptised by Elder William R. Waite: Mary Cunningham, who was confirmed by Elder Archie J. Haskins,

Stanley G. Milton, confirmed by James R. Cunningham, Lillian B. Golding, confirmed by Fred Beckingham, and Paul G. Dyer, confirmed by Branch President Frank Smith. Victor D. Palmer was baptised by Victor L. Palmer, Gravesend Branch President, and confirmed by Elder William R. Callister.

Frederick George Neal was set apart as Catford Branch President on November 23rd, replacing David W. Willmot, who recently emigrated to Canada.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT

Reported by Norman T. Woodhead

At Denton on November 29th, the first District Union Meeting to be held in the area of Manchester for over six years was convened at the new District Headquarters.

On November 1st, a Halloween party was sponsored by the M.I.A. in the Oldham Chapel. Fancy dress was worn by those in attendance. Dorothy Bowyer and Mr. Robinson won the prizes.

On Sunday, November 16th, Sunday School and Sacrament Meetings were held in the new hall obtained by the Hyde Branch. District President Bruerton presided over the Sacrament Services and Branch President Albert Woodruff conducted. Both services were well attended.

On November 26th, the Stockport Branch held the first M.I.A. meeting of the season. It was under the direction of Elders Charles E. Scott and Frank P. Reese, who had a carefully planned programme arranged which was enjoyed by all in attendance. Twenty people attended, ten of whom were investigators. A fine spirit prevails in Stockport and a successful season of M.I.A. activity is anticipated. Elder Reese has a Primary of eleven young boys organised, and a series of social events are being planned for the future. After only a few months of missionary activities, results are most favourable.

On November 22nd, a box supper was held in Rochdale under the direction of the M.I.A. Herbert Woodhead acted as M.C. and organised the programme.

On December 6th, a Christmas Fair (Sale of Work) was held by the Relief Society, assisted by all the auxiliaries of the Branch. Many beautiful presents were on sale. The Relief Society's and Gleaner Girls' stalls contained articles they had made and acquired during the past twelve months.

The Sunday School's and M Men's stall contained household utensils of a wide variety. The Branch Presidency organised a flower stall. A cafe was run by the Relief Society and James T. Barwick had a hot dog stall. The proceeds are for the Welfare Project.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT

Reported by Joyce H. Tiffen

The Newcastle District M.I.A. Convention was held in West Hartlepool Chapel on December 1st. Twenty-seven Mutual officers and thirteen Primary Mothers enjoyed the meetings and gained much counsel and advice from President and Sister Wallace R. Reid and Sister Edith Mullinger.

On December 10th, West Hartlepool held a "beetle drive," which proved such a success that it was repeated the following evening for the older people.

On October 4th, Eric Wayne Richardson and Thomas Weatherhead of Middlesborough were baptised by Elder Dean U. Ottley. Eric W. Richardson was confirmed by Elder Guy L. Merkley, and Thomas Weatherhead by Elder Ottley. Middlesborough, which was reopened last August, has developed into a fast growing branch, and with lots of young people, M.I.A. is functioning in fine style under the capable leadership of Derek Harland.

On November 8th, preceding the Branch Conference, a concert was presented by the Saints and friends of the Sunderland Branch. Compere of this enjoyable evening was Branch President Frederick W. Oates.

Sunderland Branch Conference was held Sunday, November 9th. William Wright conducted the afternoon session, and Gladys Quayle the children's programme. Speakers in the afternoon

session included Hazel Oates, Marjorie Cuthbertson and W. W. France. The evening session was conducted by Branch President Oates. Elder George Sonntag and District President Kenneth M. Oswald were the principal speakers. A solo was sung by Hazel Oates, and the Branch Choir rendered two numbers.

A baptismal service was held in the Sunderland Branch Chapel on November 29th. Those who were baptised were Alma Thompson and Mary Ingram Anderson, both baptised by Ralph Blakeburn. Alma Thompson was confirmed by Elder Clarence L. Olsen and Mary Ingram Anderson was confirmed by President Oates.

NORWICH DISTRICT

Reported by Alfred F. Woodhouse

A social in the Lowestoft Chapel schoolroom was sponsored by the Sunday School and the M.I.A. of the Lowestoft Branch on November 29th. The sixty members and friends in attendance all enjoyed a pleasant evening. Funds were raised on behalf of the Sunday School Christmas party. On this occasion, the members of the Cornish family, active in the Branch for many years, and who have just recently left for America, were presented with gifts from the Lowestoft members. Elder Thomas Harper was M.C. for the evening.

The Norwich Branch Relief Society held a bazaar and Christmas sale in the Branch schoolroom on November 29th. Good support was given the affair. The proceeds, amounting to over £20, went towards the Branch welfare fund. President Ann Booker and her counsellors devoted much time and labour towards the organising of this event.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT

Reported by G. Doreen Green

At the Union Meeting on November 29th, George W. Winfield and George Bradley were sustained as District Advisors of the Sunday School and M.I.A., respectively.

The Gleaners of the Nottingham District held their Election Comradery on November 22nd. An inspiring tableau was presented and District Gleaner officers were chosen. The programme was under the direction of Joyce Bowler, the District Gleaner leader.

At 2 p.m. on November 27th, President and Sister Wallace R. Reid and President K. G. McKay and the missionaries of the District, sat down to their Thanksgiving dinner. Everyone contributed to the meal from parcels from home. All enjoyed this little bit of America in good old England.

A box supper was sponsored by the Derby Branch M.I.A. on November 26th. All present had a very delightful time.

Under the direction of the Derby M.I.A., the Sunday evening firesides have commenced and are meeting with great enthusiasm and success.

A bazaar, under the direction of the Derby Primary, was held on November 22nd. Sister Agnes Fraser opened the affair. After the sale, which raised £5:10:0, the children entertained over one hundred people with songs, tap dances, acrobatics, and a tableau.

Sixty-four people attended a successful social sponsored by the Eastwood Branch Sunday School on November 20th. Monologues, dances, an amusing skit, items from the Derby Saints, and games, made a very pleasing evening.

The Primary of Eastwood held a "sausage and mash" supper on November 26th. Forty people enjoyed the meal. Games completed a most enjoyable evening.

In the Leicester Branch, regular priesthood meetings are being held and a Genealogical Committee has been formed, with Ada L. Lenton as chairman.

On November 11th, Elder Don C. Wood presented two films to about forty members and friends of the Church.

A baptismal service was held in Nottingham under the direction of District President McKay on November 15th. Mrs. Florena Miller was baptised by President McKay and confirmed the following day by Elder Vaughn L. Terry.

A supper was held at the home of Minnie Wilson, Mansfield, recently. The hot four course dinner was enjoyed by all. The proceeds are being used for the children's Christmas prizes.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT

Reported by Reed M. Izatt

Scotland has been the scene of much activity during the past month on the part of local members and travelling missionaries.

The Elders labouring in Edinburgh, Elder L. Glade Greenhalgh and Elder George K. Hardy, have been successful in presenting film lectures to universities, clubs and other groups. They have been well received by the education circles of Edinburgh. The films depicting the story of Mormonism have been presented to the John Knox Youth Club, the Student Representative Council, the Cosmopolitan Club at the University of Edinburgh, the Kirk O'Field College, and the Scottish Educational Film Societies. Following the film lecture to the Cosmopolitan Club, an invitation was extended to the Elders to lunch with the club at a leading restaurant. This club represents peoples and religions from every corner of the world—from China to Norway, and Australia to Tanganyika. On November 14th, the Elders attended a reception at the home of Mr. Day, the American Consulate, and made many fine acquaintances. On Thanksgiving Day they renewed friendships with about 150 Americans whom Mr. Day brought together for Thanksgiving Dinner at the Caledonia Hotel. Many Americans are in Edinburgh attending New College, a ministerial school.

A farewell party was held for Katherine Horner on November 26th at Ruskin House, Edinburgh. It was under the direction of President William Stout. Refreshments were served by the Relief Society. A programme was presented, after which Elder Reed M. Izatt showed slides he has taken in Scotland. Novel games were played and a good time was had by all. Hilda Woodford is taking the place of Katherine Horner in the Genealogical research there.

Neighbourhood Primaries in the Scottish District are increasing their activities and their rolls. Catherine MacDonald is now assisting Marjorie Foote in one of the Glasgow Primaries.

In Edinburgh, the Primary, presided over by the Elders, now has twenty-one non-member children enrolled.

A Boy Scout troop has been started in Aberdeen and is under the capable leadership of Graham Comrie as Scoutmaster. The boys and parents evidence much enthusiasm, and the outlook for this troop is a very promising one.

Coloured film lectures on Mormonism have been presented at various organisations in Aberdeen, and more recently at the University of Aberdeen, where Elders R. Eyre Turner and Arthur B. Chase presented the story and programme of the Church to a group of very interested students.

On November 25th and 27th, the M.I.A. and Relief Society of the Glasgow Branch enjoyed a lantern lecture in the Christian Institute, Glasgow, by Elders Reed M. Izatt, Verl J. Iverson, Paul C. Fletcher, and District President William Harper Stoneman, depicting scenes of Scotland and a film on the State of Utah, entitled, "In the Tops of the Mountains."

On November 15th, Raymond Ramsden was baptised by Elder George K. Hardy at the North Woodside Baths, Glasgow. He was confirmed by Elder Hardy.

An executive meeting of officers and teachers of the Scottish District was held on November 29th in the Christian Institute, Glasgow. There were thirty-three in attendance, representing all branches of the District. Instructions in the various departments were given by President Wallace R. Reid of the Mission Presidency and by Sister Nora Reid and Sister Edith Mullinger.

The first services held in Dundee, Scotland, for many years, took place on November 30th. Elder Junior E. Call is serving as Branch President of the new branch and Elder Paul H. Maeser is serving as Branch Clerk.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT
Reported by Arvilla Smith

The Sheffield Branch M.I.A. officers sponsored a Halloween party in the Latter-day Saint recreation hall on November 15th. A good time was enjoyed by all members and friends. Refreshments were served and games were played. Musical items were rendered under the direction of Olive Snow.

Sheffield Branch M.I.A. officers held a Thursday evening dance in place of the usual meeting on November 20th. A good time was enjoyed by all. Music for the dancing was supplied by friends and members of the Church.

A baptism service was held in the Sheffield Branch chapel on December 5th, under the direction of Branch President George A. Stubbs. Maurine Charlotte Hartley, Dorothy Bailey and David Edward Mann were baptised by Elder Clay S. Tanner and confirmed by George H. Bailey, Jnr., District President David W. Egbert and Joseph Hampstead, respectively.

Under the direction of the Sheffield Branch Sunday School Superintendency, seventy-six members and friends attended a Sunday evening service held in the Latter-day Saint Chapel. A fine programme of speech and music was enjoyed by all. The theme was, "Create in me a clean heart."

WELSH DISTRICT
Reported by Gladys Mason

Fireside chats are being held regularly with good attendances at Merthyr Tydfil Branch, under the direction of Maureen Davies, Ralph Pulman, and Joan Pulman.

A bazaar and social was held at Varteg Branch on December 2nd. Its purpose was two-fold: to say "good-bye" to Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Forward and family and to Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Roberts, who are leaving for Canada, and also to raise funds from the sale of Relief Society work. The bazaar and social was well attended by Branch members and investigators. The entire evening was a great success.

A Primary class was organised at the Cardiff Branch with Ilene Barret as Primary Mother. The first meeting was held on December 4th, with nine in attendance.

PERSONALS

BIRTHS

McGILL. — Lloyd Robert Thomas McGill, infant son of Duncan and Hazel McGill of the Lowestoft Branch, born on September 21st, was blessed on November 2nd by S. W. Coleby.

BATTLE.—The infant daughter of Harry and Doreen Battle of Middlesborough Branch was blessed on December 7th by Elder Dean U. Ottley and given the name of Doreen.

SCARGILL. — Ian Scargill, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scargill of the Barnsley Branch, was named and blessed by Elder J. Blythe Moyes on November 27th.

LEECE.—Sandra Patricia Leece and Joseph Leece, infant children of Joseph Leece and Louis McKensie Leece of Dundee, Scotland, were blessed by Elder L. Glade Greenhalgh on September 22nd.

PARKER. — Brian Parker, son of Herbert and Mabel Parker of the Lowestoft Branch, born June 12th, 1945, was blessed on November 2nd by President L. H. Coleby.

DEATHS

WORBY.—Albert Worby, a member of the Luton Branch, died on November 17th. His grave was dedicated by Elder Robert E. Riggs at Luton Cemetery on November 20th.

CONNELLY. — Agnes Connelly, age 87, a member of the South London Branch, died on December 10th. Funeral services were conducted by Branch President Frank Smith on December 15th. Short remarks were delivered by Elder William R. Waite. The grave was dedicated by Elder George T. Choules.

EMIGRATIONS

FORWARD. — Hayden and Hilda Forward and their family, all of the Varteg Branch, left the shores of England on December 10th enroute to Canada, where they will reside. Mr. Forward was formerly the branch president at Varteg.

ROBERTS. — Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Roberts, also of the Varteg Branch, left England on December 10th enroute to Canada, where they, too, will reside.

WILLMOTT—David W. and Cecelia Willmott and their children, Ann, Francis, David and Colin, of the Catford Branch, emigrated to Cardston, Alberta, Canada, by air, on November 24th.

BOWEN : BEAMS. — On November 26th, Mrs. E. E. Bowen, with her son, Wesley, and daughters, Muriel and Audrey Beams, left Bristol enroute for Salt Lake City. All members of the family have been very active in the Bristol Branch.

BUCKLEY.—Joan Buckley of Rochdale sailed on the "Queen Mary" on November 21st to join her sister in Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.

WILLMOTT. — Alfred J. Willmott, Jnr., of the North London Branch left England for Canada on November 15th. He was formerly the North London Branch President.

WILLMOTT. — Joseph F. Willmott left England for Canada on November 14th. He had served as First Counsellor in the North London Branch Presidency.

TAYLOR. — Harry Taylor of the North London Branch left for Canada on November 14th. He has served as an instructor in the Branch Sunday School.

WRIGHT. — Scott Wright left England for Canada on November 15th. He was formerly the Sunday School Superintendent of the North London Branch.

BIRKHEAD.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred K. Birkhead and family left for Ogden, Utah, U.S.A., aboard the "Marine Jumper" on November 16th. The Birkheads have long been active members of the Barnsley and Sheffield Branches.

SCARGILL. — Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scargill and family of the Barnsley Branch, sailed for Canada on November 27th. The Scargills will make their home in Alberta, Canada.

FISHER. — Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fisher and family of the Birmingham Branch left for Vernal, Utah, U.S.A., on December 9th.

MAUD.—Mr. and Mrs. Maud of the Bradford Branch left England for Salt Lake City on December 10th.

BARON.—Graham and Marion Baron of the Hyde Branch left England for Seattle, Washington, on December 16th.

MARRIAGES

McALLISTER - MARTIN. — Isabella McAllister of Blackridge, West Lothian, Scotland, and John Martin of the Airdrie Branch, were married on November 21st by District President William H. Stoneman.

MacDONALD-TACEY.—Marion MacDonald of the Glasgow Branch was married to Martin Tacey on September 16th, in Glasgow.

THE RESTORATION OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

—continued from page 7

TRUTHS RESTORED

God lives.

Jesus is the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

God is the Father of the spirits of men.

The intelligence of man was not created, but was clothed with a spiritual body. The brotherhood of man is a real brotherhood.

Man is eternal. He lived before this life. He will live after this life.

In the pre-mortal life, our spirits developed in varying degrees according to our obedience.

Life has a great purpose: the progress and happiness of man.

THE PLAN

A plan was proposed by Jesus, our Elder Brother, for the attainment of the purpose of man's existence. We had in the spirit world, as now, our free agency, and we accepted the plan.

The world was organised out of pre-existing element as the home of man, for the realisation of the purpose of his existence.

Jesus offered to be the captain of the plan, asking no reward nor glory, though He should suffer death in the performance of His mission.

The disobedience of our first parents and resulting death were foreseen. To redeem the world from sin and death, Jesus was to be born on earth. As death would come through Adam, so would resurrection come through Jesus Christ. In the one we have no blame; in the other we have no merit. We shall all die and we shall all be resurrected.

The resurrection is a personal resurrection of the body.

After the resurrection, we shall be judged by our works according to the gospel.

Did we desire the truth and did we seek the truth. Did we love light rather than darkness?

Did we conform our lives to the truth we found?

Did we accept Jesus as our leader and our Saviour?

Did we make a covenant with Him by baptism, administered by His authorised servants, that we would live righteously and serve under His leadership and the leadership of His servants to make a better and a happier world?

Did we so honour the covenant that we obtained the testimony and the gift of the Holy Ghost to guide us in our efforts to gain further truth and to live in harmony with it?

This is the way to salvation.

Universal Salvation.—The gospel was given to the first man and lost by disobedience; given again and lost again more than once. Not all men will have the opportunity to hear the gospel in this life. But the plan provides that all will have this opportunity, either in this life or in the life to come; all will have the opportunity to accept or reject the Messiah and His leadership.

In baptism a covenant is made to do the will of the Saviour, and His death and resurrection are recognised. However, baptism is an ordinance of this world. How then can the repentant dead make this sacred covenant and thus receive remission of their sins and be enlisted under the leadership of the Saviour? The baptism may be performed by the living for the dead. This vicarious baptism does not save the dead. No ordinance saves either the living or the dead. As it is for the living, the validity of baptism for the dead is dependent on belief and repentance.

Little children who die before they reach the age of reason are innocent

in the eyes of God and need no baptism to come forth in the first resurrection. They inherit no sin or transgression because of the sin of Adam; nor can they contract obligations (by being baptised as infants) of which they cannot have the slightest knowledge.

We begin the next life where we finish this life—with the same character and the same knowledge.

Eternal Progression. — Throughout eternity, man—an indivual—will have opportunity to gain in knowledge and intelligence. He will have opportunity for ever increasing progress and joy. But progress and resulting happiness can only come in the measure that we are willing and prepared to make use of the opportunities the Lord provides.

Punishment.—Man will be punished for his own sins and not for Adam's trangression. "Eternal punishment" is God's punishment, since He is eternal, and therefore it will be just, and for any individual, not everlasting. There can perhaps be no greater punishment than the regret for opportunities neglected or blessings forfeited.

Revelation Has Not Ceased.—When the holy priesthood is on the earth the Lord will direct His Church and, through His prophets, reveal new truth as it is needed.

Man is that he might have joy.

Family relationships may be eternal. —As the family is the unit of society here, so will it be in the kingdom of our Father. Husbands and wives, parents and children will all be united in the resurrection if they have been united for time and eternity here in mortality by one of His servants who holds the "sealing powers" of the priesthood.

CHRIST'S SECOND COMING—

THE MILLENIUM

Jesus will come the second time to earth. This time He will come in power and glory to reign on the earth a thousand years. At His coming the just will be resurrected. During the millennial reign all unfinished work pertaining to this world will be completed and all injustices will be righted. At the end of the millennium will come the general resurrection and final judgment. All will receive the blessings and the opportunities he is willing and prepared to accept.

Is not the Gospel thus restored a message of hope and joy? It gives continuity, purpose and beauty to life. It gives a sense of relative values, courage and hope. It unites mankind under divine leadership as brothers.

Does not the importance of the Gospel justify its restoration by heavenly messengers?

WE THANK THEE

By Miriam Millard

Age 9
South London Branch

We thank Thee, Lord, for everything,
The summer, the autumn, the winter, the spring;
For food and clothes, parents and home
From whom we wish never to roam;

For the humming little bees;
For the flowers and the trees.
We thank Thee, Lord, for all these things
And bring our hearts as offerings.

THE CHURCH AND THE PRESS IN BRITAIN

—continued from page 15

SALTED LAKE

And on July 24th, 1847, the Pioneers, Brigham Young at their head, came to the place the Lord revealed to him.

There was a river there issuing from a lake, heavily salted like the Dead Sea.

They could not but call it the River Jordan.

That very day they began to plough the ground and sow their seed. Next morning they diverted a creek for irrigation.

Painfully, laboriously but infallibly, the rest came up with their 700 covered wagons in the autumn; 1,000 more the next year.

And so they founded Salt Lake City.

(Printed by special permission of the "Sunday Express.")

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Weekly Scotsman

MORMONS' INTEREST IN SCOTS ANCESTRY—An unusual angle on the far-flung ties which link Scotland and Scots abroad was revealed by Mr. Thomas Johnston, chairman of the Scottish Tourist Board, in a speech at a conference which concluded yesterday at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, U.S.A.

"I was interested to find," he told his American audience, "that the Mormon community in Utah maintained a special investigator of our old records digging out pedigrees of families whose ancestors had migrated to the United States and joined the Mormon community."

The special investigator referred to by Mr. Johnston is Miss Catherine Horner, 40-year-old member of Christ's Church of the Latter-day Saints—commonly called the Mormon Church. This week I asked her about her full-time job searching records for the Utah community at New Register House, Edinburgh.

SCOTS IN UTAH — "A great number of Scots have joined our Church,' she told me. "In the past 100 years 85,000 people have gone out to Utah from Great Britain, and while I am not certain of the actual number of Scots who have done so, I believe that, in proportion to population, there are more Scots than English."

Miss Horner answers "hundreds of enquiries each week" from Scots abroad seeking to trace their ancestry so that they can carry out one of the ordinances of the Mormon Church — the baptism of the dead.

She estimates that she has a 50 percent success with the total number of enquiries she receives. Many can be traced as far back as 1700, but before that date few accurate records are in existence.

A KING'S SON — What she describes as her most notable inquiry was carried out for a woman member of the Church, whose ancestry she traced back to the first Earl of Orkney, a natural son of King James IV of Scotland. In another case it was possible to trace back to the year 1592, but such success is unusual.

Miss Horner took up her research work at the request of a leading member of her Church. After a two years period of training, she spent some time on similar work in England, and has now worked in Edinburgh for the past seven and a half years.

The popular misconception that all Mormons believe in and practise polygamy was refuted by Miss Horner. Only 2 perecnt of the Church's membership ever practised it, she says, and since 1890 it has been discontinued.

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Gorton Reporter (Ashton-under-Lyne)

AMERICAN ELDERS VISIT BROOKFIELD

Members of the Church of the Latter-day Saints, from Salt Lake City, Utah, Elders Davies and Lambert, who are

visiting this country, were guests at the Young People's League, Brookfield, Gorton, on Sunday evening, and their talk was illustrated with views and slides.

While Dr. Davies spoke on the work of his Church, Mr. Lambert operated the lantern equipment, showing the development and history of the movement from Vermont, through New York, Missouri, Illinois, and eventually to the arid desert of Utah, where the members eventually built Salt Lake City. Many questions were asked, and Mr. Davies also mentioned the customs that are observed.

Mr. Alan Pearson presided, and a vote of thanks he proposed was seconded by the Rev. Fred Cottier, minister. The visit was in connection with the series of subjects being presented weekly, entitled "I Believe."

LONDON ASSOCIATION VISITS MISSION HEADQUARTERS

—continued from page 8

Church. This was followed by the showing of two slide lectures, presented by Elders George P. Marchant and William R. Waite. After two numbers from a missionary quartette consisting of Elders Robert E. Riggs, Frank M. Carlisle, James L. Mortensen, and William R. Callister, President Clayton and Elder Riggs explained briefly the doctrines and beliefs of the Church, and answered the many questions that followed. Light refreshments were then served.

The spokesman of the London Appreciation Society, Henry T. Phippard, expressed thanks to the missionaries for a most interesting afternoon. Hands were shaken, farewells bidden, and literature distributed, thus ending a most unusual afternoon in Gospel promulgation.

ON SHARING THE GOSPEL

—continued from page 1

And answer ourselves with absolute honesty. . . . I am sure you appreciate perfectly well exactly what I mean.

If we can face the answer, as one inevitable day we shall have to face it —make no mistake, there is NO escape from that answer—we MUST do our best to put ourselves right with ourselves. That too is simple arithmetic.

If we do that we shall have automatically begun the binding together of the greatest spiritually radio-active force in the universe—the true Gospel.

WE MUST DO THAT ! !

It would be this Gospel translated into terms of action. It would be the beginning of the fulfilment of the will of our Heavenly Father, the duty laid on mankind by the Son of God himself in clear and unmistakable directives.

Since that great dispensation mankind drifted astray—the state of the world proves that beyond doubt. But in His Mercy He came again, and today we have the restoration of the Gospel dispensation — complete to the last detail.

We have been given our first centennial to consolidate it—is the century ahead our great chance to save the world according to His will?

It is our duty to do our share . . .

WE MUST NOT FAIL. WE DARE NOT FAIL.

"SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES"

—continued from page 6

"were writing them, a thousand, two thousand, or five thousands years ago. Do you read them as though you stood in the place of the men who wrote them?" he asked. The Bible is the most complete exposition of God's solicitude for man's eternal destiny.

"Search the scriptures;" said Jesus, "for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." (St. John 5: 39)

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"GREATEST OF ALL" Mission-wide Conference at Leicester, May 22nd and 23rd

MANY entertaining features are being planned for the 1948 British Mission-wide Conference to be held at the beautiful De Montfort Hall in Leicester on May 22nd and 23rd.

MISSIONARY CHORUS TO SING

A chorus, composed of 165 male missionaries will furnish numbers at each session of the conference. All missionaries will be trained in the selected songs in their districts. Then the district choruses will be combined a day or so prior to the conference at Leicester.

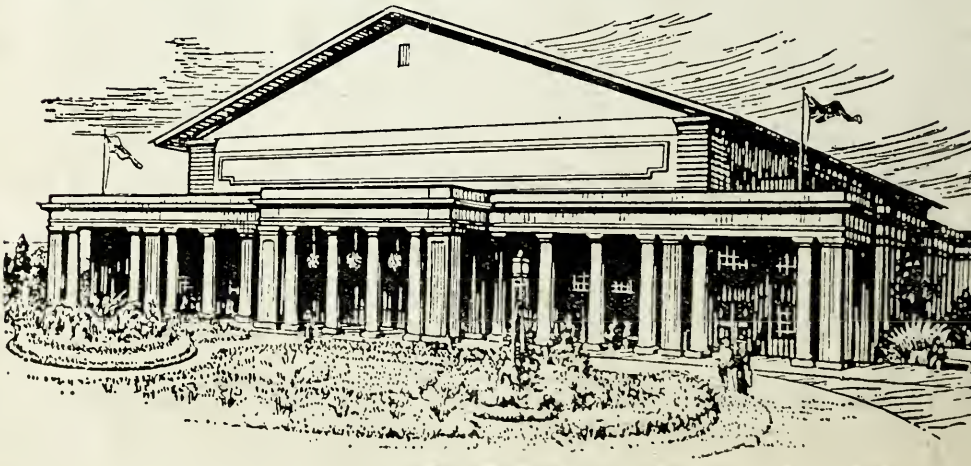
VAST CROWD EXPECTED

Plans are being framed to accommodate large crowds at Leicester. It is expected that the peak conference attendance will far surpass the 1947 attendance at Bradford—1,156 persons. The spacious De Montfort Hall will accommodate over 3,000.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES PLANNED

Many sports activities and competitions are planned for the Leicester Conference. An excellent playing field adjacent to the De Montfort Hall has been hired.

PLAN NOW TO BE AT
—— LEICESTER ——
ON MAY 22ND AND 23RD



The De Montfort Hall, Leicester