

BIRTHDAY OF PROPHET

Ninety-Fourth Anniversary Celebrated Yesterday.

ROBERTS CASE REFERRED TO

A Number Present at the Smith Exercises who Had Known the Prophet Personally and Many Interesting Features of His Life were Portrayed—Celebration was Under Auspices of the Relief Society of the Salt Lake Stake—Morning Session Devoted to Society Matters.

[From Sunday's Daily.]

The ninety-fourth anniversary of the birth of Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet, was observed by the Relief Society of the Salt Lake stake at its regular quarterly conference held in the Assembly hall yesterday. There were two sessions, morning and afternoon, the morning session being devoted to matters pertaining to the work of the society; the afternoon session to addresses upon the life of the prophet, his teachings, persecutions and influence.

In the morning Mrs. M. Isabella Horne president of the Relief society, made the opening address, which partook of the nature of a sermon on the doctrines and faith of the Saints. Mrs. Horne took occasion to rebuke the absent sisters because they had not made a greater effort to attend the service commemorating the birth of their prophet. Mrs. Horne spoke of the persecutions of the Saints, but said they should rejoice in their persecutions, for the Savior was called all manner of vile names, and he and his apostles were thought not worthy to be associated with. And so with the Saints today; but they should rejoice for their redemption is near at hand. In speaking of the division of the stake, Mrs. Horne was willing to abide by whatever decision the leaders of the church might make.

OUTSIDE SISTERS TALKED.

Then some of the sisters of outside wards were called upon. Mrs. Jensen of Sandy, Mrs. Mary Dixon of Mountain Dell, Mrs. L. L. Stevenson of Forest Dale and Mrs. Sarah J. Cannon of Cannon ward reported the condition of affairs of the Relief society in their respective wards. Mrs. Stevenson and Mrs. Cannon objected to the division of the stake, but knew the leaders would do what was to the best interests of all.

Bathsheba W. Smith counseled the sisters to obey the commandments. She said that this is the dawn of the millenium, and if Saints live up to the best light they have, the millenium will surely come for them.

Mrs. Rachel Grant, after relating the blessings which had come upon her since she cast her lot with the Latter-day Saints, spoke of the troubles which are now upon the Mormon people, and said:

THE ROBERTS CASE.

"Some say these troubles would not have come upon us if Brother Roberts had not been elected to Congress, but it was not Brother Roberts's election to Congress that brought all the trouble on the people some ten or twelve years ago. The people on the outside are simply trying to bring trouble upon us, but if the Latter-day Saints will keep the commandments the power of the adversary will be broken. The whole nation today is aroused against this people, but the people of God will triumph, and will look back and be glad that we have had the privilege of being tried and found true."

THE COMMEMORATION SERVICE

At the afternoon session the attendance was very much larger than in the morning. Addresses were made upon the "Life and Teachings of Joseph Smith," by Mrs. Horne, Samuel Richards and Angus M. Cannon, all of whom had known the prophet.

Mrs. Horne remembered the prophet well, although she was but a young girl when he was put to death. She told of his personality, his strong character and winsome manner; how all who came in contact with the man were impressed with his teachings, and of the great influence which he had upon the Saints. So strong was the faith of the people in the prophet, Joseph Smith, that it was feared upon his death that no one could be found who could successfully lead the Saints.

Elder Samuel Richards, who was closely associated with the prophet, compared the life of Joseph Smith to that of Christ, saying that the persecutions which he endured, the sacrifices which he made, the martyrdom which he suffered, were similar to those endured by the Savior.

President Angus M. Cannon said that he still retained a vivid recollection of the prophet, and that the impressions gained from the testimony of the prophet were very forceful. He loved Joseph Smith intensely, and his death was a greater shock to President Cannon than he suffered in the loss of his parents.

In the course of his remarks, President Cannon said: "Let the wicked conspire and do what they may, their efforts will be futile. Zion will prevail."

The music was a feature of the afternoon exercises. Horace Ensign sang "Joseph, the Seer"; Mrs. Maggie Hull, Messrs. Thomas and Christensen, "Weep Not for Me, Zion," and George D. Pyper, "The Holy City," all the selections being rendered very beautifully.

TALKS OF POLYGAMY.

Widow of Joseph Smith Speaks at Celebration.

The Sixteenth ward Assembly hall was very tastefully decorated in honor of the birth of the prophet. On the walls were pictures of numerous of his relatives and others who were acquainted with him in Nauvoo and other places, and who were identified with him in the scenes attendant upon his killing.

Among those on the stand were Bishop Emery and Counsellors C. V. Spencer, Hop Pender, Joseph F. Smith, Joseph E. Taylor, John Smith, the patriarch, Bathsheba W. Smith, Lorin Farr and Mrs. Lucy W. Smith.

Bishop Emery opened the meeting with a few remarks about the importance of the occasion and the lessons to be drawn from the life of the prophet, and he was followed by a quartette composed of George D. Pyper, H. S. Ensign, Willard Christophersen and J. Dunbar.

Lorin Farr of Ogden told of his relations with Joseph Smith and alleged that a greater and grander man than he never lived.

Bessie Edmonds followed with a pleasing vocal solo, when Inez Smith read a chapter on the early life of the prophet.

Bishop George Romney had heard Joseph Smith speak by inspiration, and he was deeply grateful that he had been accorded the privilege of knowing and associating with him. "There was that awful day," said Bishop Romney, "when he was killed, I never saw the

Mormon people so excited before, and had not God held them back they would have—well, done some damage, at least. I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, and that his mantle fell upon Brigham Young. We may be hounded as a people, but what of it, as long as we know we have the truth."

Lucy Walker Smith was introduced as one of the wives of the prophet. She testified to his great worth, of him as a man, and how loth she was to enter into polygamy, and that she did not do so until she had prayed long and fervently, that if polygamy were true that she should be given a knowledge. That knowledge she subsequently obtained, and it was then that she consented to marry the prophet. One night when she was praying in her room, it suddenly became as light as day, and it was then that she was given the testimony. After the death of Joseph Smith, she became the wife of Heber C. Kimball. Emma Smith, the wife of the prophet, was a good woman, but she, too, had made mistakes at times. Men did not take polygamous wives because they loved them or fancied them or because they were voluptuous, but because it was a command of God.

Mrs. Smith then called the attention of her hearers to the deaths of a number of people who had persecuted the Mormons in the early days. Some of these deaths were most horrible in their nature, but all had been foretold by prophecy.

George D. Pyper sang "Hosannah." His voice was never heard to better advantage.

Mrs. Elizabeth T. Roundy referred to the prophet as being the greatest and best man who had ever lived since the days of Christ.

Evan Stephenson and Willard Christophersen sang a duet.

A call showed thirteen relatives of the prophet present.

"The Lone Grave," composed by the youngest son of the prophet, was pleasingly rendered by Mrs. H. H. Dinwoodey, and Joseph F. Smith explained that the sentiment had been expressed in it because the composer did not know where the body of his father was buried.

After it had been determined to hold another celebration next year, Patriarch John Smith pronounced the benediction.

DESERTED ON WEDDING DAY.

TESTIMONY TAKEN IN BURT DIVORCE CASE.

Failure to Support also Alleged—

Referee Recommends that Wife be

Granted a Decree.

Deputy Clerk of the Court Blair yesterday heard testimony in the divorce case of Ada A. Burt vs. Peter M. Burt, in which the plaintiff sought a decree on the grounds of desertion and failure to support. Mrs. Burt testified that the marriage took place in Salt Lake on July 23, 1897, and that on the same day her husband deserted her, and since October 28, 1898, has refused and failed to support her. She understood he was now in Montana.

Mrs. Burt's testimony was corroborated by James G. Burt, and, the defendant putting in no appearance, the referee will recommend that the plaintiff be granted the decree and the custody of their child, aged 2 years. Attorney H. C. Edwards represented the plaintiff.

Our Art Gallery.



United States Marshal Glen Miller is a young man with a smooth face and a guileless cast of countenance. His specialties are dramatic criticisms and recommendations for the appointment of Utah postmasters. He has recently expressed a decided preference for the former. It doesn't make any difference how many wives an actor has, but with a postmaster it is different. In his apte-recommendation catchism for would-be postmasters, Mr. Miller has added the following: "How many wives have you, and why?" Mr. Miller has just returned from a trip to Washington, where he called upon President McKinley. The President, it is said, recognized him in spite of the fact that his mustache (Miller's, not the President's) had been removed. The President never wore a mustache. Mr. Miller spent a very pleasant half-hour with the President, although he suffered somewhat from the heat. It gets awfully warm in the White House sometimes. And then, Mr. Miller has been cutting so much ice in Utah that he was hardly prepared for the sudden change. He escaped, though, without catching cold, for which he is truly thankful.

HEALTH REPORT.

Fewer Typhoid and Scarlet Fever Cases Last Week.

The report of the Board of Health for last week showed births, males, 7; females, 5; deaths, males, 7; females, 4; bodies brought from other places for interment here, 6; contagious disease flags outstanding, 17, covering seventeen cases of scarlet fever and one of smallpox; infectious diseases reported, one typhoid fever case.

This, as compared with the previous week, shows a reduction of nine cases of scarlet fever and a reduction of four cases of typhoid. The smallpox case reported is that of Mr. Samuelson, which, with Dr. Ray's case, previously reported, makes two cases, both in the pesthouse.