

desired abstracts to furnish the books in which they desire them copied, so that errors may be avoided.

Pres. Woodruff said every Elder should keep a complete and careful genealogical record.

Franklin D. Richards spoke of temple work, and also invited the brethren to take life memberships in the genealogical society which has recently been started.

Pres. Jos. F. Smith said the same patriotism which we have shown in our religious affairs should be manifested in regard to the sustaining of home industries, and if trusts are formed to break down our struggling businesses we should work against them. The time may come when we will be cut off from the outside world for our supplies. If this does happen we will be in a bad condition if we are not self-sustaining. Though outside concerns may reduce the price on some goods which we here manufacture it will be only for the purpose of closing down our factories, and they will then raise the price when there is no competition. We have the living oracles in the Church, and their counsel must be sought. The moment a man in authority decides to do as he pleases, he steps on dangerous ground. One of the Twelve and one of the Seven Presidents of Seventies have done wrong in accepting obligations without first consulting and obtaining the consent of those who preside over them.⁷⁰ No man surrenders his manhood by seeking the advice of his superiors.

Heber J. Grant bore a very strong testimony to that which Pres. Smith had said. He would rather have the confidence of the Presidency and Twelve than that of the whole people otherwise. He expressed the hope that politics would not be allowed to cause us to lose interest in the work of God. He spoke strongly in favor of home industries, and said the stores would carry home-made goods, if the people demanded them.

Pres. Woodruff said we must sustain ourselves in temporal matters or we will place a weapon in the hands of our enemies with which to injure us.

⁷⁰ This statement precipitated the most extensive controversy in Utah regarding Church interference in politics. In my "Utah's First U.S. Senate Seats," I explained that among the fallout, George Q. Cannon's "chances of ... being selected by the Utah legislature were dashed by the rash act of one of his closest associates, Joseph F. Smith" (352). See also entries for Nov. 7, 8, 11, 12, Dec. 2, 6, 9, 10, 26, 1895.