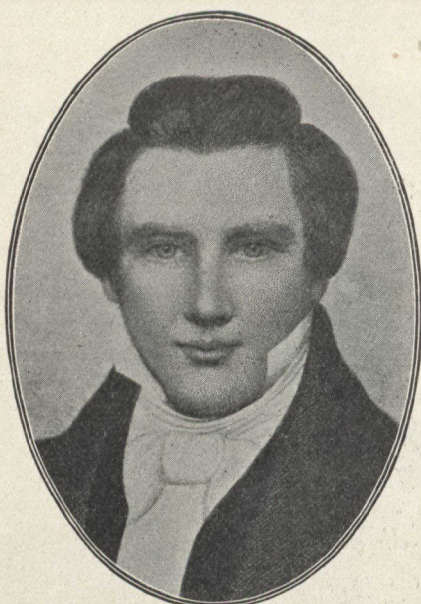
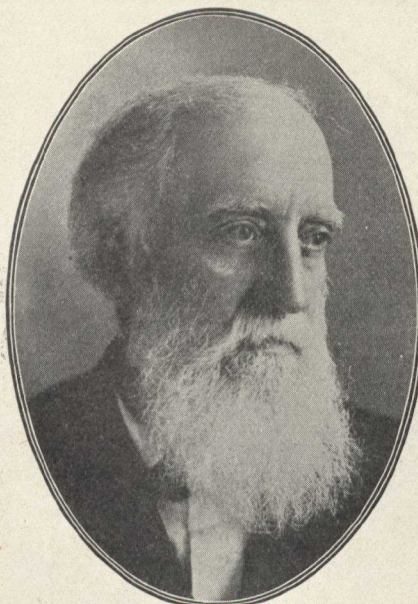


Elder Evans, Head of the Church in Ontario.



Joseph Smith, the Seer, Assassinated in 1844.



Joseph Smith, present Head of the Reorganised Church.



J. W. Woolf, M.P.P., Cardston, Alberta.

The Latter Day Saints

Ordinary Mormons and Others

By NORMAN PATTERSON

MORMONS and Latter Day Saints are not quite synonymous. To put it in another way, the Mormons of Utah and Alberta are a different religious body from the "Reorganised Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints" which is strong in Ontario. The former believe in polygamy either theoretically or practically, while the latter do not; there are also other doctrinal differences. These divergencies were caused by Brigham Young, who appears to have had some revelations which certain of the Mormons or Latter Day Saints do not accept. Polygamy is one of these.

In one of his printed addresses, Elder Evans says: "It will be my effort to-night to show that Joseph Smith never did practise nor sanction polygamy, and in fact had no more to do with Salt Lake Mormonism than the Pope of Rome or the Archbishop of Canterbury." He asserts that he has never read a book which denounces polygamy in more forcible language than does the Book of Mormon—"the Bible excepted." He points out his disagreement with Brigham Young's biblical sanction for polygamy. Moreover, he points out that Joseph Smith, the founder of this new religion, was killed before plurality of wives was ever talked of or practised by the Mormons. Joseph Smith was killed in 1844; the Mormons did not reach Salt Lake City until 1847, and polygamy was not practised until 1852. Elder Evans would have us believe, and perhaps rightly, that plurality of wives was due to the evil desires and vile passions of Brigham Young and his associates.

The number of Latter Day Saints in Canada is steadily growing. Except in Alberta these are all members of the Reorganised Church which denounces polygamy and does not look to Utah for its leadership. The census of 1901 gives the following statement as to Mormons without distinction between the churches:

British Columbia	125
Manitoba	65
New Brunswick	11
Nova Scotia	73
Ontario	3,377
Quebec	3
Territories	3,237

Total

6,891
There were more in 1901 than in 1891, and there are more to-day than there were six years ago. The following particulars concerning the Reorganised Saints have been gathered from the leaders in Toronto.

Joseph Smith, the founder of the Church, was born in Sharon, Windsor County, Vt., December 23, 1805. His parents moved to the State of New York when he was about fourteen years of age,

where he attended revival meetings, which made a great impression on him. While reading his Bible he found a paragraph wherein he was instructed to go to God direct for light and guidance. He tells us that he repaired to the rear of his father's farm, in a clump of woods, and while praying an angel from Heaven appeared to him, and told him that the church of Jesus Christ as instituted eighteen centuries before, had fallen from the true faith, that it had become corrupted, and that the time was near at hand when a church would be established, in keeping, both in doctrine and organisation, with that described in the New Testament. From that time on he continued to receive angelic communications.

In one of these communications he was informed that this continent was inhabited by civilised, God-fearing people 1,000 years before Columbus discovered it, and that the remains of the wonderful cities were to be found in the jungles of Central and Southern America. These inhabitants, by their Prophet Mormon, wrote a history of themselves all on golden plates. An angel led Joseph Smith to the spot, where he received these golden plates, and "by the power of God" translated it. This is what is known as the Book of Mormons, so called because of the Prophet's name, Mormon. This book does not take the place of the Bible with the Latter Day Saints, but is used as a supplement or confirmatory to the Bible, and teaches the same doctrines and ordinances.

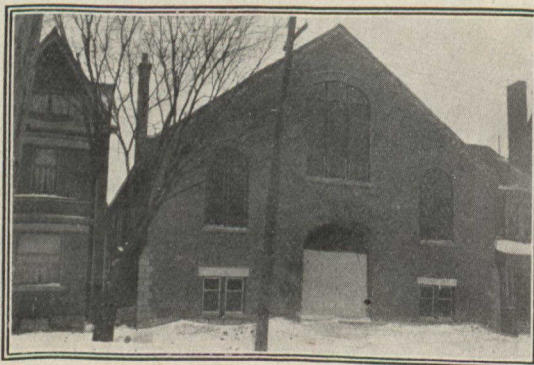
Joseph Smith gathered about him a small following which spread until it had between two and three thousand communicants in fourteen years. He met with much persecution, and was finally cruelly murdered. Some time after his assassination, which occurred June 27, 1844, Brigham Young, who was at that time a member

of the Church, led a small band of followers of the Church to the wilds of the Mexican territory, among the Ute Indians, where he established a colony, with himself as the head. This has since developed in the State of Utah. Eight years later Brigham Young introduced the doctrine of polygamy, blood atonement, and other attending follies in connection with the wicked system known as Utah Mormonism. Brigham Young made the claim that the doctrine of polygamy was revealed to Joseph Smith by an angel, as were his other communications. This, however, is denied by Joseph Smith's adherents, or the Latter Day Saints, and it must be understood that Joseph Smith and the church over which he presided never endorsed this system.

In the year 1860 we find that the eldest son of Joseph Smith, Joseph Smith by name, has become a prophet, and is president or head of what is known and incorporated as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. It seemingly found followers as at the present time it numbers about 70,000, having churches in all the States of the Union, nearly all the Provinces of the Dominion, and throughout the British Isles and other countries. The Church numbers in Canada upwards of 5,000 communicants, the majority being in Ontario.

The work in Toronto was started in 1876 under the leadership of Joseph Luff, who was originally a Methodist minister. The little band did not prosper, and they were compelled to sell their meeting-house, and there was no work publicly performed in several years. Some ten years ago under the guidance of President Evans and other elders, the work was renewed in Toronto, since which time they have built a church at Humber Bay, Davisville, and two in the city of Toronto, the largest church being erected on Soho Street at a cost of \$1,500.

Four winters ago, their church being too small for the congregation, Elder Evans was induced to hire the Majestic Theatre, since which time this young man has certainly accomplished wonders. Every Sunday evening he will probably preach to more people than the pastor of any church in the city of Toronto. In thirty-one years he has converted five thousand Canadians to his belief. Like all prophets, his path was not strewn with roses. Scoffs and jeers, and sometimes riots, were the order of the day. Words of commendation were few and far between. To have obtained thousands of believers in the Book of Mormon in the face of all the prejudice that existed against the Mormon Church in Utah, to be able to command in the city of Toronto, a stronghold of orthodoxy, an audience of a couple of thousand people (and turn hundreds from the doors), indicates that there must be something



The Church of the Latter Day Saints, Soho Street, Toronto