

dollars was assessed each of the men who put up resistance against the posse. This was the lowest penalty allowed by law.

In 1863, when General Connor established a military post near Soda Springs, Idaho, about eighty families once belonging to the Morrisite colony moved to that vicinity and established homes.

Davisites. William Davis was one of the Morrisites who settled in Soda Springs, after the death of their leader, and he claimed to have had a vision making him trustee of all the property owned by the followers of Joseph Morris. In another vision he said it was made known to him that a child born of Davisite parents would be the future Messiah. The child was actually accepted, kept away from the other children, dressed in white, and trained to take his place as the second Savior. Mr. Davis' followers gradually lost faith in his claims and some moved to Nevada.

George Williams' Church. Two months before Joseph Morris was killed George Williams claimed to have had a vision "of armies of heaven and God on His throne. . . Enoch and Elias ordained him Morris' successor and St. John came from the lost ten tribes—on a part of the earth that is detached—to baptize him. He was to rule to the end of the dispensation for he is Cainan, one of the seven angels. In his second reincarnation he was Melchizedek and was in full authority regarding the records to come forth and temples to be built." Mr. Williams secured a small following. About 1869 he returned to England but corresponded with the Saints as late as 1881 and tried vainly to convert the world to his ideas and office.

Christ Church of the First Born. In July, 1876 some of the followers of George Williams organized a church in San Francisco which they called the Christ Church of the First Born and he was accepted as their prophet. In 1886 this group printed the Morris' revelations in a pamphlet called "The Spirit Prevails." George, James and Joseph Dove, Joseph Taylor and John Neilson were members. As late as 1914 there were still a few people formerly affiliated with the Morrisites in California who were now members of this new church.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, INDEPENDENT

A group of people with Pauline Hancock as pastor is located in Independence, Missouri. The following is her story:

For many years I had a hungering in my heart that had not been satisfied. The things I had been taught to believe did not give peace to my soul. I had gone into business hoping to drown the cry of my heart that I could not still. God in His infinite mercy visited me. No other but He sought to help and relieve my need. I had never understood the blood of Christ or the way of salvation until one day God in His great love opened my blind eyes by the following:

I was reading in our living room, when all of a sudden I saw a marvelous vision. It seemed that I was taken to Jerusalem and I saw a man seated upon what looked like a stool. All around and about him, men were mocking, bowing and making fun of this individual. They spit in his face, they laughed at him with scorn. I watched and I watched and I had never in all my life beheld such love as that which shone on his face.

I continued to watch as he was condemned to death and a crown of thorns was placed on his head. I followed as they led him to Calvary and nailed him to the cross, my eyes were fixed upon him and for the first time in my life I beheld the blood of the lamb of calvary. I knew all of a sudden my own vile and sinful nature—my lost condition. I knew that there was nothing good in me except God had put it there. I looked and looked at Him. I couldn't get enough of what I saw shining from His face. I knew that I was nothing like this wonderful person. When others were cruel and unkind, He was kindness himself. His face reflected love and compassion. I had murmured and complained at my burdens and trials while He in the greatest of agony, was willing to bear all this, that I might live again a new creature forever, for it was Jesus that I was beholding. Oh, the beauty, the glory, the wonder of such love that I saw in Him. I knew I had to have this Jesus or die. My soul began to thirst and hunger for Him. I fell upon my knees and prayed to God through Jesus and His shed blood, to be forgiven of my sins, that I might have the love I had seen in Him. When my prayer was finished, God baptized me with His own spirit and my soul was on fire with love towards God and mankind—I became a new creature. Oh, Glory to God for such a Redeemer as mine.

God spoke to me then and said: "Now go and teach all people what I have shown you—for I am the way." I answered Him that I couldn't do that and He said, "I will be with you." I said, "I am a woman and they won't receive me." He said, "I wasn't a woman and they didn't receive me—go teach and I'll be with you."

Blessed be the name of God. Yes, He calls women. He called me. I know for He lives in my soul. I would rather have the love of God in my heart than all this world affords. I'd rather have Jesus than anything. I pray that I shall faithfully teach what God in His Mercy has shown me. May God help each one of you is my prayer in Jesus' name. (End of quote.)

Preaching the same doctrine and associated with her in publishing tracts are H. Irvin Luke and Andrew L. Parker of Independence, Missouri. These independent groups are firm believers in the truths of the Book of Mormon, preaching that its purpose "is to convince the Jews and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ, the Eternal God, manifesting himself unto all nations." Their tracts plead with people to realize the importance of their teachings in the gospel plan of Jesus Christ and to return to these teachings.

Tanner. In Salt Lake City another branch with the same beliefs as Pauline Hancock is headed by youthful Jerald Tanner, who, when asked what he and his followers believed, wrote:

We believe the Bible and the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.

We do not believe in holding up any man, but rather in holding up Christ.

We believe that all mankind are lost through the fall: for the natural man is an enemy to God and has been from the fall of Adam, and will be, forever and ever, unless he yields to the enticings of the Holy Spirit, and putteth off the natural man and becometh a saint through the atonement of Christ the Lord. . . .

We believe that a person must be faithful in Christ until death or he cannot be saved.

We believe that this life is the only time given man to prepare to meet God, for there will be no chance for repentance after death.

Mr. Tanner has written a number of tracts which he distributes freely on such subjects as the *Book of Mormon*, Priesthood, Marriage, proof that the *Book of Mormon* and the *Bible* agree, one on the Doctrine and Covenants, another on the Book of Mormon and Plural Marriage.

THE FUNDAMENTALISTS AND OTHERS

The Cultists or Fundamentalists were organized against the wishes of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to abandon the practice of plural marriage. When the Manifesto was signed by President Wilford Woodruff and accepted by the Church, it was thought it would receive the unanimous support of all members. As time went on the actions of several who were high in authority proved otherwise. Some members refused to obey the edict, therefore, in April, 1904 a statement again went out from the presidency of the Church that "any person solemnizing or entering into a plural marriage would be excommunicated."

In 1931, President Heber J. Grant announced that no man had the right to perform plural marriages, but certain groups continued, claiming that the L.D.S. Church authorities had no right to denounce plural marriage, basing their claim on a statement made by Lorin C. Woolley in September, 1929. Mr. Woolley stated that at a meeting held in the home of his father, John C. Woolley in Centerville, Utah, in September, 1886 a proposed manifesto relating to plural marriage was discussed. Present at the meeting were President John Taylor, Charles Wilkin, John Nuttall, George Birrell, George Q. Cannon, Franklin Richards, Hiram B. Clawson and Lorin Woolley. These members did not all agree on the proposed manifesto. President Taylor was then asked to take the matter up with the Lord and give his decision the next day. Lorin Woolley, who acted as guard,