

# BISHOPRIC OF CANADA

RE-ORGANIZED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

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35 Huron St., Toronto, Ont.

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## TO THE SAINTS OF THE CANADA MISSION,

GREETING:— My counselors and others concur in the thought that it would be wisdom for me to publish a circular giving a brief summary of the financial department of our work, together with a short synopsis in which the law of the Lord is briefly stated, in support of the position occupied by us as the children of God.

The history of my connection with the Bishopric may be stated as follows: Sometime in the month of June, 1896, Apostle J. H. Lake, then President of the Canada Mission, received the word of the Lord, saying "That my servant R. C. Evans should be selected to act as the Bishop's Agent for the London District." The same night, Elder Longhurst, President of the London District, received similar instruction. These brethren were miles apart at the time, each wrote the other, relating the message as received. I was notified and stated that if it was the will of the Lord, and the Presiding Bishop would so appoint, and the London District would confirm the appointment, I was willing to act. This being accomplished, I received the books, papers and money from the retiring Agent, as the following note found in the books will confirm:

"St. Thomas, Ont., July 20, 1896. This certifies that I, J. R. Shepherd, have passed over to R. C. Evans all books and papers belonging to the Bishopric, also the balance of the money in my hands, \$2.98. (Sgd.) J. R. Shepherd, Bishop's Agent."

Since that time the Lord has blessed our work and we have been wonderfully sustained by the saints of the district, as a result of the united efforts put forth; missionaries have opened the gospel work in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Winnipeg and many parts of Ontario, hundreds of thousands have heard the gospel preached by the ministry, hundreds have been baptized, many churches have been built and we are now a happy and a prosperous people.

Notwithstanding the great demands made upon

us to finance the work, we have answered every call, and beside all this the books show that from the district purse we have sent to the Presiding Bishop over \$23,000.00 in tithing, offering and consecrations, to say nothing of hundreds of dollars for Kirtland Temple, Graceland College, Saints' Home, the Sanitarium and other demands.

When we think of the sacrifices that have been made to sustain the work in the district we thank God for the privilege of abiding among such a people.

We have not the items at hand to speak definitely regarding the good work accomplished by the Chatham District, but we can say from knowledge at hand that Chatham District has paid her way and sent thousands of dollars to help other parts of the Church. Under the careful, persistent work of

Richard Coburn, former Bishop's Agent, and the present Bishop's Agent, Bro. J. H. Tyrrell, who for many years has been the Bishop's Agent there; wonderful strides have been made and many new branches organized and several nice church edifices erected.

The past has but made possible the present splendid conditions, and as we view the future it is big with promise. May our most sanguine hopes be realized.

Having been called to the office of Bishop, I was ordained April 21st, 1909, under the hands of President Joseph Smith and Apostle W. H. Kelley. The First Presidency and the Presiding Bishop then placed me in charge of the financial department of the Church in the Canada Mission.

After much prayer I selected Elders J. T. Thomp-



R. C. EVANS  
Bishop of Canada Mission

son, of Toronto, and Wm. I. Fligg, of London, to be my counselors. They were ordained during the June Conference. These two faithful men need no recommendation from me, they are favorably known throughout the mission.

During the June Conference of this year the final act in the dividing of the London District was performed. Both as a matter of history and a source of encouragement to other Bishop's Agents, I submit from the books the report of the auditors upon my books as Bishop's Agent for the London District:

" St. Thomas, Ont., June 11, 1909.

We, your auditing Committee, in winding up the Conference business of this the last session of this

new districts as follows: London, Toronto, Winnipeg and Saskatchewan.

The Saints of the Mission are hereby requested to forward their tithing, offering and consecrations to the following Bishop's Agents in their respective districts:

Chatham District— Bro. Jas. H. Tyrrell, Box 375, Chatham, Ont.

Winnipeg District—Bro. L. H. Carter, Esterhazy, Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan District— Bro. W. E. Nelson, Francis, Saskatchewan.

London District—Bro. John L. Burger, 87 Flora Street, St. Thomas, Ont.



J. T. THOMPSON  
Counselor



W. I. FLIGG  
Counselor

the original London, District, beg leave and say that upon looking over the Auditors' Reports or the books since coming into the care of Elder R. C. Evans, Bishop's Agent (July 20th, 1896), there has never been once that they have found an error in the accounting of the many thousands of dollars received and expended, and we heartily recommend that a unanimous vote of thanks be tendered Bro. Evans for his faithful and faultless services in the same."

R. C. RUSSELL }  
(Sgd.) J. T. THOMPSON } Auditors.  
DAVID PYCOCK }

The above report and recommendation was adopted unanimously.

The original London District was divided into four

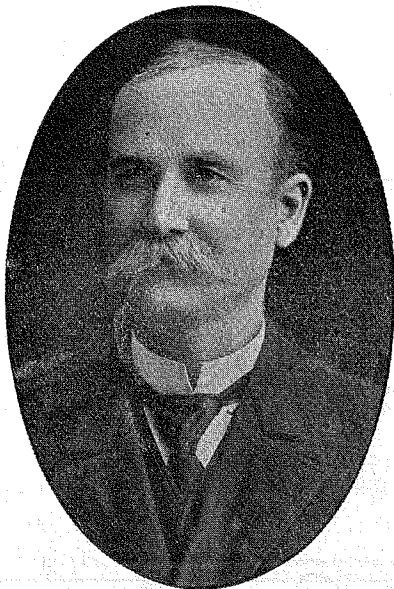
Toronto District—Bro. R. C. Evans, 35 Huron Street, Toronto Ont.

We request that the Bishop's Agents secure a real live solicitor in each branch to represent him in the collecting of moneys to be forwarded to him at stated times as may be agreed; this will save time, trouble and expense to both the Agents and those who send up their offerings. These solicitors may furnish written receipts until the Bishop's Agent sends the printed receipts as published by the Bishop when the solicitor's receipt should be destroyed.

We trust that the time is near at hand when the Bishop's books in Canada will show the name of every Latter Day Saint in the Mission as having

kept the word of the Lord in tithing, offering, consecration, or surplus.

I herewith submit a brief synopsis of the law from the Books. May the reading of it bring light to the mind and love to the heart, resulting in every Saint



JAS. H. TYRRELL  
Bishop's Agent for Chatham District

doing their duty as workers together with God.

I believe, as stated by one not of the Church, "That the original and unrepealed claim of the Most High God, the Possessor of Heaven and Earth, upon every human gainer and owner of substance, is that "ONE TENTH IS THE LORD'S" and to be rendered to Him directly, as Proprietor and Ruler, in token of His original and fundamental ownership and our allegiance, dependence and stewardship."

That Abraham, the father of the faithful, paid tithes to Melchizedek, and that the Master commended Abraham's action in this, and that as Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek, so Christ, being a Priest after the order of Melchizedek, we should through the appointed priesthood, pay tithes to Christ. See the following: Gen. 14, 18-20; Heb. 7, 1-9; Luke 18, 12; John 8, 39.

That Jacob, in the time of sorrow, poverty and loneliness, made covenant to pay tithing, and that notwithstanding he had sore trials, even his father-in-law acting very dishonourable toward him, in that he changed his wages ten different times, yet Jacob prospered in keeping his covenant to give the

Lord ONE TENTH. See Gen. 28, 20-22; Gen. 30 27-43; Gen. 31, 1-14.

Please notice how strict God is regarding his right to the TENTH of all we possess. Remember He does not regard it as a present but that it is His by right. Though you may pray, preach and do other good things, yet if you do not pay to Him the TENTH, His rights, that He regards you as robbing Him. See Lev. 27, 30-34; Deut. 12, 17; Deut. 14, 22-28; Deut. 26, 12; Mal. 3, 10-12.

That our Father is interested in the life-work of His children, whether in the store, or work-shop, country or city life, and that He will bless us in barn or house, farm or office, grain or fruit garden, if we keep His commandments. See Mal. 3, 10-12; Deut. 28, 1-12; Prov. 3, 9-10; 2nd Chron. 3, 5-10.

That if we "ROB GOD" and refuse to keep the law, He will permit us to suffer under the curse of disobedience, is clearly set forth in the following: Mal. 3, 6-9; Deut. 28, 15-39; Prov. 11, 24.

That even the poor should pay their tithing, and give willingly, as the law directs, is very evident



JOHN L. BURGER  
Bishop's Agent for Lunenburg District

from the following scriptures: Read the Master's commendation of the widow's mite and the Good Samaritan. Also read the narrative of the widow's gift of meal and oil and the cup of cold water. We are also informed "If you sow sparingly, ye shall reap sparingly." That we should give as we have opportunity, and that we should give willingly; not only because in so doing we help others, but that we ourselves will be under the favor and blessing of

our Lord. See Mark 12, 41-44; 1st Kings 17, 10-16; Luke 10, 29-36; 2nd Cor. 9, 1-9; Gal. 6, 6-10; Deut. 16, 17; Ex. 25, 1-3, Luke 6, 38; 2nd Cor. 8, 1-24; Mark 9, 41.

That the Lord has appointed the Bishops to teach the financial law, and have charge of the store-house or treasuries of His Church, read the following: Deut. 28, 8; Mal. 3, 10-11; Neh. 12, 44-45; 1st Chron. 9, 23-27; 1st Chron. 26, 20; Luke 21, 1-4; Doc. and Cov. sec. 51, par. 1-5; sec. 58, par. 6-7; sec. 70, par. 2-3; sec. 72, par. 3-4; sec. 106, par. 1-2; Sec. 122, par. 5-6; Sec. 42, par. 8-9.

Now, dear Saints, having been called to pay special attention to the presentation of the financial law and to bring into prominence our duty along temporal lines, it is with the desire that I become successful in assisting you to do your duty along these lines that I write this article. I hope that all

best methods of making your inventory, will be gladly furnished you, as I have on hand printed blanks to be furnished free to those wishing to make out their inventory.

May the Lord enable all His Saints to consecrate themselves to the great work committed to their



W. E. NELSON  
Bishop's Agent for Saskatchewan District



L. H. CARTER  
Bishop's Agent for Winnipeg District

care, and more than ever realize the words of that old familiar hymn:

“With my substance I will honor  
My Redeemer and my Lord;  
Were ten thousand worlds my manor,  
All were nothing to His word.  
Be His Kingdom now promoted  
Let the earth her Monarch know;  
Be my all to Him devoted;  
To my Lord my all I owe.”

Your Brother,  
R. C. EVANS,  
Bishop of the Canada Mission

will feel perfectly free to write me should they need further instructions in order to comply with the law in temporalities. Any information regarding

Toronto, July 28th, 1909.

