

# The Cardston News

CARDSTON, THE TEMPLE CITY OF CANADA

CARDSTON, ALBERTA, TUESDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1941

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## Alberta Stake Social Centre Gets a Fine Start

### President Edw. J. Wood Pours First Load of Concrete Into Foundation

The citizens of this community, long having felt the need of a large recreation hall, have now decided to proceed as rapidly as possible with the construction of their \$65,000.00 building, which has been postponed from time to time due to various causes out of control of the local committee. After much "red tape" and a tremendous effort on the part of the local committee, headed by John S. Smith of the Stake Presidency, the building is now under way in good fashion.

The excavating was done and the footing forms were placed prior to a celebration which took place last night.

Assembled in the east end of the excavation were a large number of businessmen and visitors from far and wide, including representatives from the district and the Flood Reserve. A number of the Indians also participated in the ceremony.

At 6:30 in the evening the crowd was called to attention by John S. Smith, general chairman, and the hymn, "How Firm the Foundation" was sung, followed by invocation by M. A. Coombs, president of the senior quorum of the Alberta Stake. An outstanding and historical

a large foyer or entrance with cloak rooms, checking rooms, etc., and when completed would be a modernistic structure of latest design, both inside and out, the pattern being supplied by a local Cardston boy, now a registered and nationally known architect, Lowell L. Parrish.

Mayor Lyle Holland stated that whatever work had been undertaken by our people had been successfully completed and this would be no exception.

J. Y. Card, chairman of the publicly committee and member of the finance committee, was called upon to dismiss with prayer. This he did and prayed that the building would be all ways properly used and would be a joy not only to the people here, but to the soldiers, sailors and airmen who are now in the forces, and whom we expect to return to enjoy it with the rest of the people at home. Local photographer, J. F. Averton, then took a picture of

ed usually by a thousand dancers.

This recreational center has been needed for many years because of dances, parties of all kinds, including Dominion boxing finals, and all athletic sports, having been confined to the gym in the public school building. It has been known for some time that the needs of the students call for the use of the school building exclusively, and that the general public should provide a building for their own needs outside of it. The time has now arrived, thanks to the untiring efforts of the Alberta Stake presidency and all of those associated with them, that the district, whether members of the L.D.S. church or not.

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An outstanding and historical sketch was given by Z. W. Jacobs of the Stake Presidency, who mentioned that on that spot was erected the first school and the first church and in it had been entertained government officials, church presidents, prophets and pioneers.—that the spot was sacred to the people of the Alberta Stake. It was most fitting, in his opinion, that a large community centre should be erected on that particular lot. He invoked divine blessings upon all, and particularly those who participated in its construction, and trusted it would be used for the building up of the people of the entire district, not only socially but mentally and fraternally. He expected that the roof would be on the main building before the end of the year. President Smith interjected that it should be on before the end of November. President Wood called for three cheers for the committee and asked all those who wanted to see the roof on the building before the end of the year to shout "ave ave" This was re-

sponded to with great vigor by the assemblage. A round of applause was then given in honor of John S. Smith, general chairman, and for his committee.

Mr. Herbert L. Fleue, church construction engineer who is employed and paid by the church, asked for the co-operation of everyone and said the building could soon go up if everyone gave a hand. He said that actions spoke louder than words and he would wait to see what could be put into the building before he had much to say.

Magistrate H. G. Jensen called for volunteers for Wednesday night, as from 20 to 30 businessmen were needed to help put in the footings.

Chairman Smith briefly explained the building and its usages. First, a huge combination dance floor and athletic hall with bleacher seats on each side, which would seat comfortably upwards of 700 or more people. The building on the east was to have a large stage, dressing rooms, etc., and on the west a large ladies' lounge which could be converted into an additional stage. It would also consist of a kitchen, large dining room or banquet hall and other rooms that may be needed. The building will also have

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Local photographer, J. F. Atterton, then took a picture of President Wood in the act of wheeling the first cement into place.

The ladies, not to be outdone, furnished lemonade and cake to all the volunteer workers. These ladies were members of the Alberta Stake Primary board whose president is Mrs. J. R. Stutz.

The entire east end of the inside footing was then poured. It was 9 o'clock before a halt was called to the voluntary services.

Fully 25 men and 8 or 10 boys participated, and a splendid social and fraternal get-together was enjoyed, as well as this most historic event. Cardston will now have one more tourist attraction in addition to the great Temple, and the building itself will undoubtedly be of great use to all of the people living within the boundaries of the Alberta Stake. It will be large enough to accommodate the celebrated annual event, "Green and Gold Ball" staged by the Stake M.I.A., and attend-

ed usually by a thousand dancers.

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As a matter of record it is interesting to note that the following businessmen and others, and also nearly a dozen boys, gave voluntary labour on this occasion.

### BUSINESSMEN ON THE JOB

J. S. Smith, Willard L. Smith, D. A. Allred, H. G. Jensen, J. Forest Wood, Mayor Holland, Alma Wiley, Thomas Meyers, Pres. E. J. Wood, L. M. Rasmussen, E. F. Lamb, Bruce Burt, P. C. Gregson, Jay Cahoon, Duane Forsyth, Milton Hansen Sr., M. A. Coombs, D. W. Card Jr., J. Y. Card, Z. W. Jacobs, Scott Forsyth, D. H. Holland, Garth Holland, Milton Hansen Jr.