

The year 2000 is noted as the sesquicentennial of the first expanded effort for LDS missionaries to preach the gospel in Continental Europe. Taking their message of faith, repentance, and salvation, these stalwart men soon gained converts in Denmark, Germany, Italy, and France. To honor the early missionary efforts in the nation of Denmark, the Mormon History Association held its annual conference in Copenhagen and Aalborg, 25 June through 2 July 2000.

Two papers in this issue were presented at the Denmark conference and serve to enlighten our readers about people and events from that early period of LDS Church history. Richard McClellan presents a short history of an early French convert, Louis A. Bertrand—a political editor of the largest communist periodical in Paris, and an associate of Etienne Cabet. Bertrand translated the Book of Mormon and other books into French, served in three mission presidencies, and was a close personal friend of President Brigham Young. Michael Homer's essay introduces us to the opening of the Italian mission by Lorenzo Snow, the political and religious climate in Italy, and the history of the Waldensians, where the early proselyting began.

Noted sculptor, Dennis Smith, recounts the story behind two sculptures he was commissioned to create for Denmark. One, entitled "Mormon Immigrant Family," loosely based on Smith's ancestral family, was unveiled at Rebild Park near Aalborg on 4 July 2000. The other, named "Kristina," in honor of Smith's great-grandmother, was unveiled two days later at Amerikakaj in Copenhagen, near the place where thousands of early emigrants set sail for America.

Two other manuscripts provide for additional interesting reading. Stephen Prince tells the story of Allen Taylor, including his leadership qualities during the rescue of the poor camp in Montrose, crossing the plains with Brigham Young's 1848 company, returning with the teams, and trekking to the Salt Lake Valley again. Prince vividly portrays the Saints' problems and trials as they journeyed west. Arnold Garr chooses a different type of pioneer to write about. He pens a biographical essay of the life of Bishop Daniel S. Tuttle, an Episcopalian pioneer among the Mormons.

In our "Document" section, Scott Faulring moves us back to the year 1840 with a Historical "Address" by Wilford Woodruff to Heber C. Kimball and George A. Smith. In this document, Woodruff recounts to Kimball and

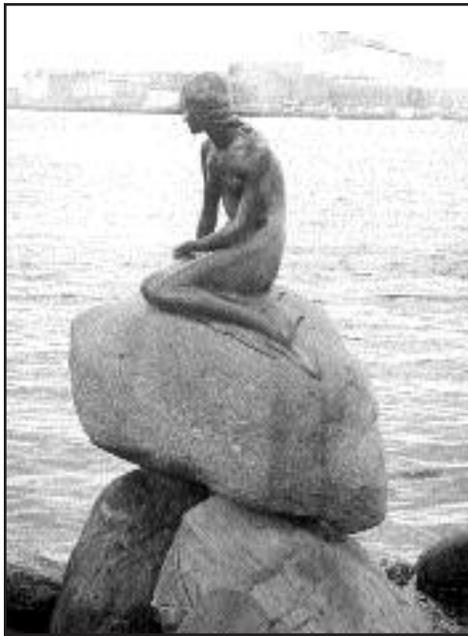
Smith the time they spent together opening the city of London to missionary work, and recalls the wonders of London which they visited together.

Another integral part of Church emigration was the Perpetual Emigrating Fund, which provided financial help to nearly thirty-thousand saints. In 1877, the PEF Company published a listing of over 18,000 names of debtors who had not reimbursed the company for their expenses. Richard Jensen provides an introduction to an index which was prepared and alphabetized by Maurine Ward.

A new feature category premiering in this issue, we have simply titled, "A Conversation With a Historian." In this, and each subsequent number of *Mormon Historical Studies*, we will include the conversation with a historian who has left his or her imprint in the study of Mormon History. We have chosen to begin this feature with an interview with James L. Kimball, Jr., recently retired from the LDS Historical Department. His son, Richard Kimball, conducts the interview. Continuing in this issue, as in past numbers, is the "Book Reviews" section.

We welcome your letters, comments, and recommendations.

MAURINE CARR WARD, editor



*The Little Mermaid, Copenhagen, Denmark.
Photo by Maurine C. Ward*