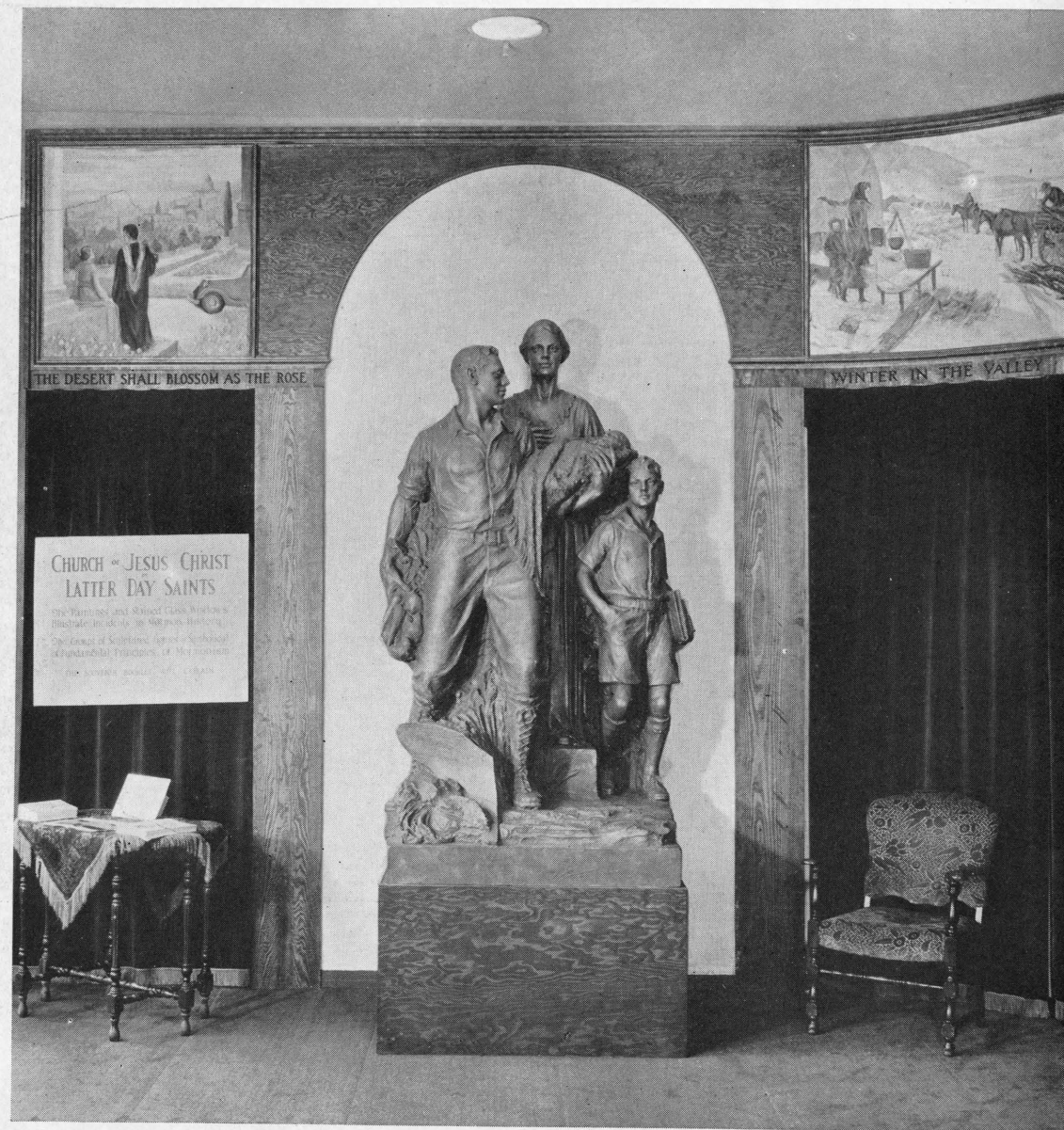


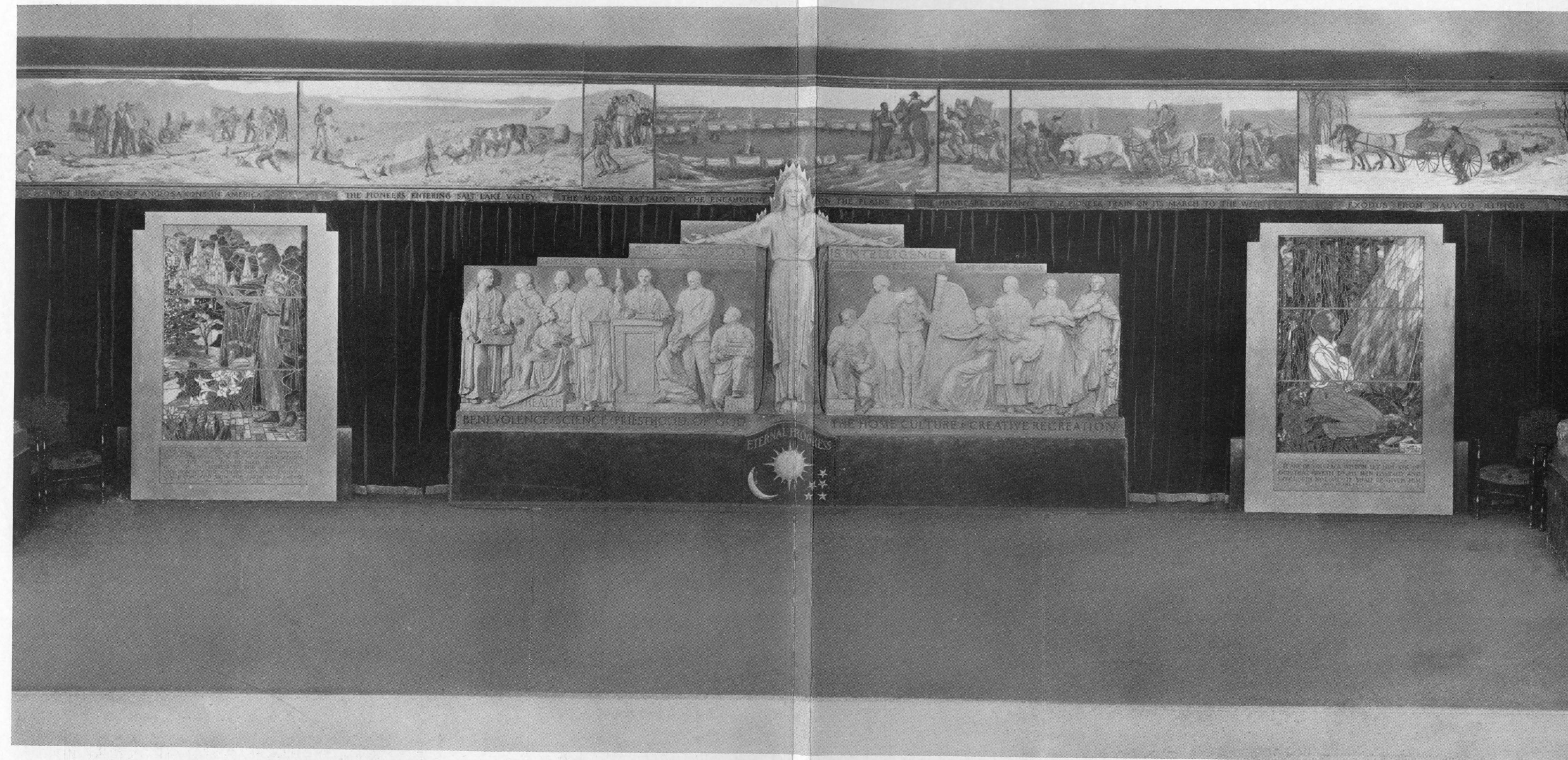
Mormon Temple

"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." *Mal. 3:1*

MORMON EXHIBIT
Century of Progress
Chicago, 1934



"New Life and New Frontiers"



The above is symbolical of Eternal Progress through the three stages of Man's existence—before birth, during life and after death—Explanation in text



"Tragedy of Winter Quarters"

THE TRAGEDY OF WINTER QUARTERS

Professor Avard Fairbanks has created a master piece of statuary which symbolizes the struggle of man against death: the strength and courage and fortitude of master spirits resisting and overcoming the power of destruction and death that ever reaches out to grasp them.

New truth that is born into the world requires a struggle. Pain and sorrow and suffering seems to be required of those who bring it forth.

And so it was in the beginning of the "Dispensation of the fulness of times." Through the Prophet Joseph Smith and his associates a great light had been seen. Religious truths new to this generation had come into the world. Those who proclaimed it had been driven from one state to another; and finally, after having built the city of Nauvoo they were driven into the wilderness. Here the same threatening hand of death pursued them. At Winter Quarters, on the banks of the Missouri River they found a temporary resting place, a camp on the frontiers of civilization where they paused to recuperate and make preparation to face the desert, the savage Indian, and the desolation of an abandoned and unknown wilderness. Because of the hardships and the lack of proper food, clothing, and shelter, disease and scourges came upon them. Death stalked among them, robbing husbands of their wives, wives of their husbands, children of their parents. To these people life was a stern reality. They faced the tragedy, but not without hope.

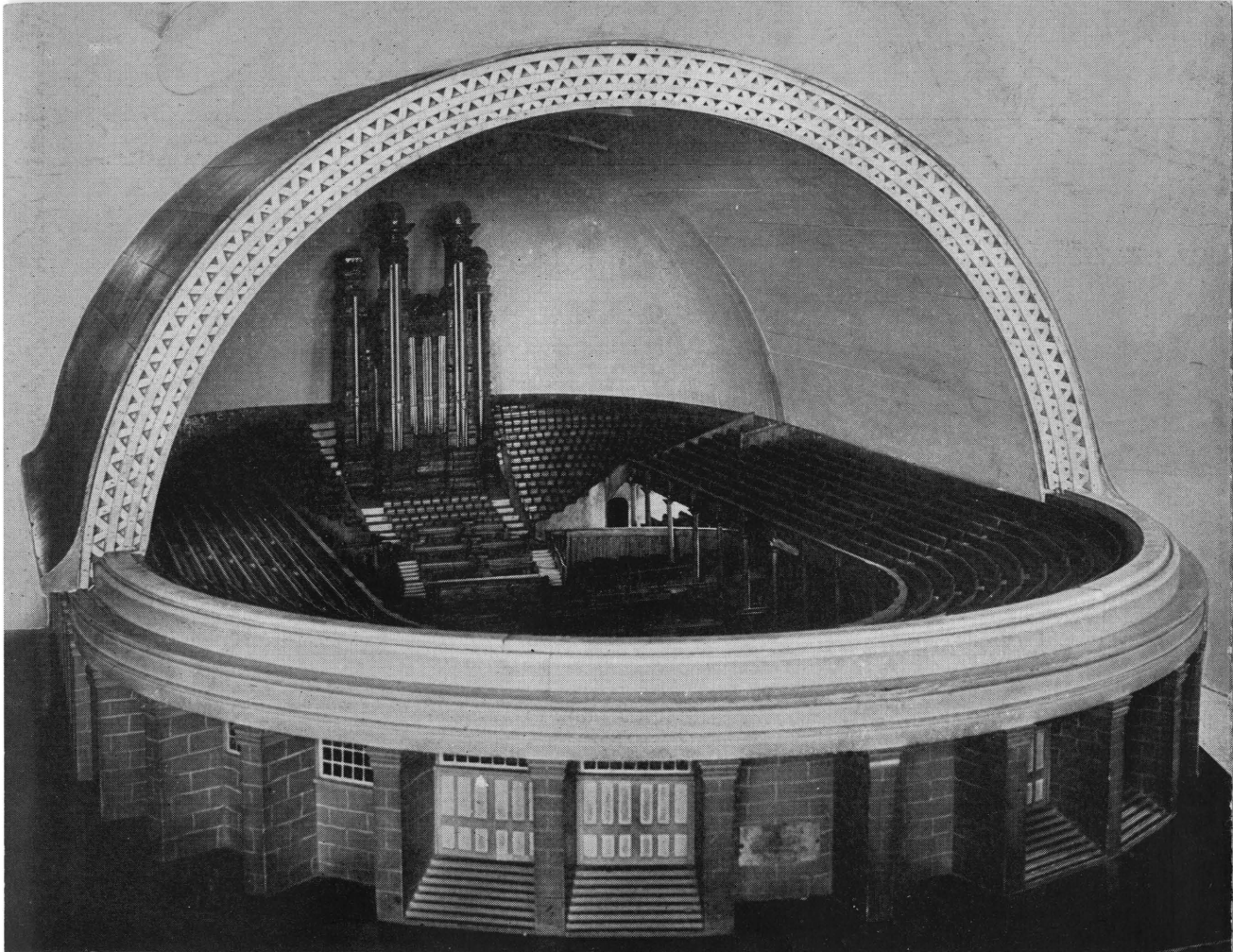
In the statue we see the father and the mother with their child in the open grave before them. The sculptor has written in their faces and figures grief but not despair. There is sorrow, but strength and determination is felt in every line. There is a realization of death and desolation, but they do not face it with faltering step. Faith in their high destiny radiates from them and we feel that they are born to conquer. A conviction of the truth of their religion sustains them. They will not falter. They cannot fail. Though often hungry and weary with fatigue their hands raised the great Mormon Tabernacle and magnificent Temple out of the sagebrush in the heart of the desert. In one generation they rose from the log hut of the pioneer to the home of comfort. In the heart of the Rockies an empire was builded.

NEW LIFE AND NEW FRONTIERS

This group symbolizes the spirit of the Mormon Pioneers of today. Out of the setting described above a new problem is born—a new atmosphere is created. The last generation were frontiersmen on the borders of a material civilization. They builded well. The present generation face a "New Life"—they are on the "New Frontiers" of a rapidly changing intellectual and spiritual world. Their fathers needed clear vision to foresee the physical dangers in the desert. They must have a more penetrating sight to detect the illusive errors that lead into the byways of the political, economical, and religious wilderness before them. The fathers needed animal strength and physical courage to tame the savage and make the desert blossom as the rose. They must have moral courage and spiritual strength to resist the seductive influences, and build the Kingdom of God on earth.

In this statue the face and posture of the woman expresses the clearer vision and deeper inspiration to which her companion instinctively turns, and in which he trusts as he shares the responsibility in guiding the new lives in their care. Yet he resolutely pushes forward. He is the dauntless leader who finds obstacles but the stepping stones to success.





Mormon Tabernacle and Organ

Built by Mormon Pioneers in 1863-67 in
the heart of the great American Desert.

