

the society at all. Even loans are not awarded at the expense of a bidder, but priority of application—other things being equal—determines the loan; and a conservative committee or examining board estimates all security offered and recommends or otherwise for the action of the board at large.

Such a society should command a much larger membership, both of those who may need money for a home and those who prefer its savings bank features until they want to build or buy. While the whole Territory is suffering from a dearth of employment, it seems a good time to suggest the increase of such organizations. There is not a settlement, there is scarcely a family, or home or a farm, but what needs a building, a fence, a barn, an addition or an improvement. The means for all this is in abundance; the labor of the artisan, the mechanic waits for demand; and organization helping to a mutual change of product would revolutionize the appearance of any settlement speedily if the same prudence, patience, perseverance and interest were brought into play, as have been done through Zion's Benefit Building Society. Mutual interest, involving mutual help from mutual action is the need of today and under this beneficent union, marriages could be made more numerous and easy, homes would spring up as if by magic, extensions for family comfort and accommodations would give a higher tone, a richer air of refinement and culture than is possible today in cramped and crowded dwellings miscalled homes.

Let this effective, popular, successful society be the stimulus and example; and if circumstances in the city and country do not afford an exact parallel because money is scarce in the latter, let it not be forgotten that the province of intellect is to devise, to explain, to meet an emergency; and let it be fully understood that taxable property, tangible wealth in homes, farms, families, etc., never increased as fast in Utah as when dollars were as scarce as "hen's teeth," for the essential spirit of the community was then a veritable "Zion's Benefit Building Society."

Subscriptions of fifty cents per share per month can be made now for the incoming year's series; the worthy secretary, Mr. Edgar Howe, can be found at his office in the Z. C. M. I. shoe factory, where circulars can be had or any other information in regard to the society past or prospective.

OFF FOR MEXICO.

Henry Lunt, of Colonia Pacheco, Mexico, is bidding good-bye to his friends in this city, and expects to start for his home this week. Elder Lunt was a pioneer in Southern Utah, and is continuing his worthy labors in the new settlements of Chihuahua. He is in his seventieth year, and is in excellent health and spirits. About 20 years ago his sight was partially impaired, but it has not grown any worse during the past few years. In conversation with a News representative, he said: "We have got a nice little place at Pacheco, where there are about thirty families. The place is under the presidency of

Jesse N. Smith Jr. It is 7,000 feet above the level of the sea, in the Sierra Madre mountains, and the climate is most delightful. The summers are cool and pleasant and the winters mild. Water is not very plentiful, and there is not much farming.

"The country is a good place for plenty of hard work. The chief crops near Pacheco, are corn and potatoes. The locality is also a good place for stock raising. Down at Dublan, Diaz and Juarez they do not raise good keeping potatoes, and those from Pacheco bring about three cents a pound. The fruit crop at Juarez has been mostly destroyed by frost this spring, I am told. There is a good tannery down there, established by Jacob Walser, formerly of Payson. We also have a grist mill, and contemplate building a woolen factory soon. We have two saw mills. It is a good country for sheep. There were no sheep in that section until the Mormons brought some to the mountains last year. There is a good wheat crop at Dublan, and at Diaz W. W. Galbraith, formerly of Davis county, has a farm of 300 acres which is the finest in that section. His prospects are better now than they ever have been. The customs duties seem a drawback to us, but they compel us to sustain ourselves, and such a policy might be better for the people here. The Lord opened that country for the Saints, and it is going to be a good place to live, though it will take lots of hard work. I put the first shingle roof on a house in Pacheco, and my son was the first child born in that town.

"I left there on the 25th of March, to come to conference. From here I went to visit relatives in the south, as far as St. George, and had a most pleasant time. At Cedar City, my old home, I was accorded a most hearty reception, being met by the brass band and choir. I commanded the first company of settlers that went to Cedar City. We left here December 7, 1850, with President George A. Smith. There were 101 wagons and two carriages in the company. From 1854 until late in the fall of 1857 I was on a mission to Great Britain, and then went back to Cedar City, where I remained till I went to Mexico a few years ago. I came back Monday from my trip to Southern Utah."

Elder Lunt is full of reminiscences of his pioneer experience in the south, and exerts a cheerful and happy influence in his conversation.

IN FAR OFF NEW ZEALAND.

The semi-annual conference of the Manawatu district, New Zealand, was held at Te Awapuni on Saturday and Sunday, May 27th and 28th, 1893. Elder W. T. Stewart, president of the Australian mission, and Elders B. Goudard, J. G. Kelson, J. M. Hendry, F. W. Nebeker and Charles Peterson were present. There was a good attendance of members from all parts of the district, and the usual good spirit characterized all the meetings.

Elder Goudard greeted the Saints and welcomed the visitors from other districts. He gave a brief report of the condition of the district, and urged the members to be diligent in magnifying their various callings.

Elder Charles Peterson counseled

the Saints to resist all evil, and referred to the temptations that they had to contend with. He expressed his pleasure in seeing the Maori people take so much interest in the work of the Lord, and urged all the members to endure unto the end. He commented on the trials of Job, showing that God is ever willing to reward the faithful.

Rewi Maaka, a native Elder, also addressed the Saints.

Elder John G. Kelson rejoiced in meeting again with the Saints of Manawatu district. He referred to the blessings enjoyed by the faithful, and warned them against seducing spirits that would endeavor to lead them astray. He showed how false prophets would arise in the last days and that the Maori people were in great danger from this source on account of their weaknesses and traditions. He spoke at some length on the duties of the members generally, and gave good and timely advice to all present.

A general Priesthood meeting was held on Saturday evening and President Stewart addressed the members on the prevalent evils in the midst of the people, and explained how the Saints must be dealt with who persisted in violating the laws of the Church.

On Sunday, May 28th, Elder J. M. Hendry spoke on the powers of Satan in leading the Saints astray; commented on the condition of Israel in Egypt and the miracles wrought in the presence of Pharaoh by Moses, and repeated by the sorcerers. He urged all the Saints to listen to the counsel of the servants of God, spoke encouragingly to those who were leading exemplary lives, and warned all against the seducing spirits so numerous in the land. Ratima and Ngarori, two native members from Hawks Bay district, also addressed the meeting.

In the afternoon a large number of Europeans were in attendance, and after the opening ceremonies the Sacrament was administered.

Elder W. J. Stewart afterwards addressed the congregation, speaking at some length to the Europeans, explaining the principles of the Gospel and the plan of life and salvation. He showed clearly the apostate condition of the religious world, and the necessity of rendering obedience to the law of God. He counseled the Maori members to be faithful to their covenants and prove worthy of the blessings in store for this branch of the house of Israel.

A general testimony meeting was held in the evening, which continued for five hours, twenty-six members bearing their testimonies, and this brought to a close another characteristic conference of Maori "bul." All the visitors were hospitably entertained as usual, and all present appeared to rejoice in the spirit of the Gospel.

After the Maori meetings the Elders above named devoted their attention to European work. For some time past reports have been received from all parts of the mission that the time was ripe for introducing the Gospel among the Europeans. Accordingly arrangements had been made for a series of meetings in this vicinity. In Palmerston North the Theater Royal was secured for three nights and there was an average attendance of two hun-