

LABORATORIES.

Each institution in which scientific branches are taught should have a laboratory. If the sciences are taught extensively, the students should have a separate working room.

APPARATUS.

Pieces of apparatus, that cannot be made under the supervision of the teacher, may be obtained from furnishing houses at a comparatively low cost.

Lists of apparatus, suitable for the various grades, will be found in the text books, and in the catalogues of furnishing houses.

RECORDS.

Besides the blanks for the Statistical and Financial Annual Reports already furnished to our existing schools, the following records are deemed necessary to be kept with the greatest care, by the respective Principals and their Assistants:

1. *General or Annual Record* with accompanying *Index*, containing names, age, parentage, home, time of entering, departments, attendance during each term, Church standing, remarks, etc., etc.

2. *Records of Plans and Programmes* containing the grading and plans for all courses and classes for each term of the school year.

3. *Register of Studies*, containing the weekly reports of the respective class work per week.

4. *Minutes of Faculty*, containing also the Principal's Reports, Programmes of Examinations, and Minutes of Academic Councils whenever held.

5. *Records of Standing*, containing the percentage of standing of the students in their respective departments and classes from which every parent or guardian should be furnished an abstract at the end of the term.

6. *Teachers' Record of Daily Attendance and Preparation.*

Note.—The mode of keeping some of these records will have to be left optional with every Principal, provided that the records themselves are there, subject to the inspection of the General Superintendent at his periodical visits.

LADY TEACHERS.

We urgently recommend that every one of our Church Schools have the benefit of a Lady Teacher not only qualified to instruct in the common branches, but also able to conduct ladies' work, have special charge of the lady students, and, if possible, be acquainted with the principles of Physiology and Hygiene, Domestic Science, Drawing, Music, and Kindergarten work.

MUSIC TEACHERS.

Great importance should be attached to the cultivation of music in our Church Schools. It is, therefore, recommended that the various Boards of Education make it their special care to procure competent Music Teachers.

BUILDINGS AND FURNITURE.

The General Board of Education

has repeatedly been asked to furnish plans for school buildings, but in consideration of the variety of conditions, plans generally applicable can not be furnished. We call the attention of the Boards of Education to the fact that an elaborate architectural edifice is not essential for a successful school, but that the consideration of teachers' support, health and comfort of students, and the condition of school furniture and utensils is of far greater importance.

Note.—The General Board is not in a position, at present, to render any assistance for building purposes.

BOARDS AND FACULTIES.

Members of Faculties should not hold office in the Stake Boards, Principals excepted.

The General Board in presenting for your consideration the foregoing suggestions desire it to be borne in mind that they are given more in light of guiding principles than of cast iron rules. The object is not only to merge into harmonious working order all our Church schools, but to give every child of the Latter-day Saints the opportunity of a thorough education, to elevate our educational system in the future to the highest academic and collegiate standard, and to make it, under the blessings of God, worthy to become a factor in preparing the way for the destinies of Zion.

In behalf of the General Board of Education,

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
President.

GEO. REYNOLDS,
Secretary.

IN PALESTINE.

A traveler who has reached Jerusalem, will likely also visit Jericho, the Dead Sea, Jordan and Bethlehem. To each of these places history is indebted for some of the most remarkable and important events ever recorded. In the destruction of Jericho and of the other cities of the plain we read of God's justice, while Jordan and Bethlehem shall ever stand as monuments of God's unfathomable love. The places mentioned are therefore surrounded by a nimbus second in glory only to that of Jerusalem, the Holy City, and are every year visited by thousands of pilgrims and tourists.

It was early in the morning of February 26th when our little party, having secured three donkeys and a guide, left Jerusalem for Jericho. We crossed the valley of Jehosaphat, rode past Gethsemane, following a road that winds around the slopes of Mt. Olivet, and passed through Bethania. Let us halt here a few minutes.

In this peaceful little village our Savior often rested when He visited this part of the country. Here was the home of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, of whom we read "and Jesus loved these three." Here Jesus was anointed before His death by Mary (Matthew xxvi: 6; Joshua xii: 3). Here Lazarus was raised from the dead, and here Jesus stayed

over night the last week before His crucifixion. The hatred of the Jews then compelled Him to seek shelter outside the city of Jerusalem, and He came, it appears, every night out to this place, about twenty minutes' journey from the city, after having poured out His soul in fervent prayer under the heavy shadows of the olive trees by the woodside. At present Bethania is only a very small place, hidden behind numerous olive, fig and almond trees. The Arabs call it "el Asarije"—the Place of Lazarus.

Having left Bethania, the road to Jericho leads through the so-called desert of Judah. There is nothing of particular interest in this wildly sublime region, except, perhaps, the road itself. It was in this region that Christ was tempted after His baptism, and somewhere here the good Samaritan found the victim of the robbers bleeding by the roadside. I constantly admired the skill of our donkeys in preserving their and our equilibrium on this truly dangerous road. They performed miracles in this respect. They trudged faithfully along without hesitation, unconcerned whether the way lay up-hill or down, whether the road had been cut right through a rock or laid on the edge of a precipice, with an abyss of some 200 meters deep beneath. "Always forward!" That was the motto of those donkeys. We, consequently, reached Jericho after six hours' ride, and concluded to stay there over night.

The ancient Jericho was an important and well fortified city, the residence of one of the Canaanitish kings. When the Israelites came from the wilderness, it seems that the inhabitants made no effort to hinder their progress. It was at a period of the year when the Jordan had become swollen and flooded the country; wherefore the Canaanites probably thought it impossible for Joshua to cross with his army. But they counted without God. The waters were divided. Israel crossed over without difficulty, and Jericho fell at the sound of the trumpets. The city was demolished and a curse was to be pronounced upon any one who undertook to rebuild it. This curse fell upon Hiel of Bethel, who would again fortify the place (1 Kings 16: 34). In the days of the Prophet Elijah a prophet school flourished here. Some of the children of Israel who returned from Babylonia settled at this place, and from that time it commenced to rise in importance. In the ninth century after Christ there was considerable farming in the whole region, which was celebrated more particularly for its sugar cane. But since the Mahommedans became masters everything has retrograded. The present Jericho is called "er-Riah," and is situated about a mile and a half from the spot where ancient Jericho stood—just near enough to let the people hear the howls of jackals and hyenas, which make the night hideous on the once ensanguined battlefields. Josephus calls this region "the fattest of Judea," and there is no doubt that