

and used by the Israelites, and which, he says, is the standard measurement of the great pyramid, as a proper standard upon which to base a metric system. The cubit recommended by him is 25.025 of our inches long, obtained from computations made by Sir Isaac Newton and said to be the ten millionth part of the semi-axis of the earth. The axis of the earth is obtained by taking the means of two methods of computation given by the British ordnance survey.

Much more is said upon the subject by the writer mentioned and I recommend that if possible all the objections of Mr. Seiss be met fairly and if he is correct or not let us know it.

The question arises naturally enough, was there ever a standard of measure or of weights revealed? If so what are they? If not, then we are at liberty to adopt the metric system or any other at our will.

There is no comparison between our present abominable system of weights and measures and the metric system, when we think of the time that will be saved to students and business men when it is once introduced. The thing we have to meet, though, is this: every man who owns a yard stick, a steelyard, a pair of scales, a tape, chain, rod or ruler will have to get a new one. Our charts, maps and records will gradually have to be changed. Our public land survey will never fit evenly and nicely to the metric system, but surveyors will find least trouble of any class of citizens in making the change.

Trusting a few words from the off side of the question may not be amiss and that the NEWS may take up the subject in the light mentioned and give us all the information that can be had, I am yours truly;

F. M. LYMAN, JR.

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov 29, 1894.

MEETINGS IN IDAHO.

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho, Nov. 28, 1894. —Two interesting meetings were held in Blackfoot court house and one at Riverside Sunday, Nov. 25, 1894. At 10 a.m. meeting was called to order by President Thomas E. Ricks. The Riverside choir sang the hymn on page 258. Prayer by Elder Thomas Horkley. The Basalt choir sang the hymn on page 15.

Wm. F. Rigby, first counselor to President Ricks, was the first speaker. He said that he was pleased to meet the brethren, sisters and friends. Told them how it was that we came to bear the name of Latter-day Saints; spoke of how Joseph Smith approached the Lord in prayer and the answer he got to that prayer; said how the Bible had been handed down to us; that the sealing power spoken of by Jesus Christ in the New Testament was now upon the earth, that the Elders of our Church did and could testify to this, asking God to bear witness of the same.

Elder A. H. Cannon, of the Council of Apostles, said he was pleased to meet with the people of Blackfoot, as this was his first time to stop off at this place. He was pleased to find that the hearts of some of the people had become a little more softened toward us as a people. This to him was very gratifying. It showed more

Christian kindness. Our views seem to differ with those of many of our friends, but we were not to blame, as God Himself was the author of the Gospel we preached; that we had sent over nine hundred missionaries to the world the past three years and we intend to send more to the civilized and uncivilized nations of the earth, until all mankind should hear the Gospel preached to the black, the white, the bond and the free. He spoke of the Book of Mormon and why the Latter-day Saints take so much interest in the fallen races; said that God would reward all men for every kind and good deed they did, no matter of what religious creed they might be.

The Riverside choir sang the song, "Sweet Tones of the Heart." Benediction by Elder A. W. Beach.

2 p.m.—Singing hymn on page 107. Prayer by Elder T. A. Nixon. Singing by the Riverside choir, "What was Witnessed in the Heavens." Elder A. H. Cannon then delivered a powerful discourse on the first principles of the Gospel, how it would elevate the living and save the dead who had died without hearing them. He said that all mankind would be saved sooner or later—that this was the purpose that God had in revealing these truths to mankind. He closed by asking the Lord to bless the people.

President Ricks then thanked the court officers for their kindness in letting them have the house, and the choirs for their singing.

The choirs and congregation sang "The Spirit of God like a Fire is Burning," and benediction was offered by Elder Wm. F. Rigby.

At Riverside, at 7:30 p. m., meeting was addressed by Elder A. H. Cannon. The discourse delivered was of such a nature that the Latter-day Saints will not forget. It was a thorough Gospel sermon. THOS. HORKLEY.

M. I. A. CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual M. I. A. conference held here Saturday and Sunday was well attended, and a most enjoyable and profitable time was had.

Saturday was mainly devoted to meetings of the officers, and the Y. L. M. I. held a meeting in the afternoon.

In the evening a concert was given in the tabernacle, under the direction of Professor H. E. Giles. The selections rendered were mainly patriotic and war songs. A large audience enjoyed the musical festival.

Sunday forenoon there were present in addition to the stake Presidency and the stake officers of the M. I. A., President Joseph F. Smith, Elders Heber J. Grant, Junius F. Wells, H. W. Naisbitt, K. G. Maeser and others interested in the education and progress of the young people.

The first speaker was Elder George A. Brimhall. He spoke of the object of the M. I. A. being the cultivation of the minds of the members, and urged the necessity of leading the growing mind in such a direction that good may result from its development, showing that if the mind is not guided aright in its growth, evil consequences will follow. The work of the M. I. A.

could be made more effectual if increased financial aid could be obtained with which to purchase books, etc., and he hoped sufficient interest would be awakened among the people to cause them to contribute to the success of the associations in this manner.

Elder Junius F. Wells contrasted the institutions with which he had become acquainted in the world, having for their object the intellectual advancement of their members, with the M. I. A. The feature that especially characterized the M. I. A. was the desire to learn the will of our Heavenly Father. The religious sentiment and spirit which should pervade the M. I. A. and the spirit of testimony among its members was the life of the associations and should be kept constantly in view.

Elder H. J. Grant, of the Council of Apostles, spoke earnestly upon the necessity of being influenced by the Spirit of God in all conditions of life. Something more than the cultivation of the mind was necessary to the perfect development of our young people, and the cultivation of the spirit of the Gospel should have a prominent place in all our educational institutions. The fact that the tabernacle in which he spoke was mortgaged showed a lack of this spirit among the people of the Stake. If they expected to maintain this as a center of education they must also maintain it as a center of the spirit of the Gospel. The speaker then referred to the large amounts of money expended by the Latter-day Saints in articles the use of which were forbidden in the Word of Wisdom. One and a half million of dollars was spent annually in the Territory for tea, coffee and tobacco. It would take 160,000 bushels of wheat to pay for one brand of tobacco alone consumed in the Territory. It was shown that beneficial results would follow if this amount of money uselessly expended was diverted in educational and manufacturing channels. He had been blamed for reducing the keeping of the Word of Wisdom to a question of dollars and cents, but at this time the authorities of the Church had been led to take steps for the temporal salvation of the people, and if the people refrained from wasting large sums of money annually upon articles prohibited by the Word of Wisdom it would greatly aid in accomplishing this temporal salvation.

In the afternoon meeting Elder Grant occupied a short time on educational matters.

President Joseph F. Smith spoke upon the principle of forgiveness, and the Word of Wisdom. He also endorsed the remarks of Elder Grant and advocated an education that would develop the physical, spiritual and intellectual man; and condemned the tendency to find fault with the authorities of the Church and with brethren and sisters.

In the evening an interesting and instructive lecture was given by Elder H. W. Naisbitt. His subject was educational in its nature, and embraced a wide range of topics, all tending to the development of the young into the highest types of manhood and womanhood.

The work of building the new depot at La Junta, Colo., will be begun at once.