

would like to enjoy the same success; but they refer this to Joseph and Brigham, and their shrewd and practical associates, although the power is not there. Omnipotence is at the helm, the wisdom of the Gods devised and determined its startling course, and association in its triumphs comes alone to those who through faith, repentance, baptism and "the laying on of hands," have become co-workers with God and His Son Christ Jesus.

### CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

On Sunday Sept. 29, 1895, the San Francisco and Sacramento branches of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints held their first semi-annual conference in this city. Meeting was called by Elder Henry S. Tanner, president of the California mission, and after singing and prayer, Elders Joe. R. Shepherd and Henry Peterson were appointed and sustained by the Saints as president and clerk of the conference. Reports were presented of the two branches named. Good health is at present enjoyed by the members with the exception of one or two individuals; union and brotherly love prevail among the saints; each branch has a Sunday school organization, which, though yet small, are in a flourishing condition; in the San Francisco branch there are also a Relief society and a Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement association; the latter of these deserves mention, as regular meetings are held in which great interest is manifested, and it is managed entirely by the young people resident in this branch.

A report of the mission was given by its president, Elder Henry S. Tanner. Besides the branches here assembled in conference, three other fields have been opened as follows: Los Angeles about April 1st, Fresno county, May 1st, and San Diego, July 1st. There are prospects of other good fields being opened as soon as Elders arrive and are at the disposal of the president. When Elder Tanner took charge of the mission a little more than a year ago there was but one Elder laboring in the state. Since then sixteen have been sent here and two released, leaving fifteen at present in the field. The cold indifference that at first hindered the spreading of the Gospel in this mission is fast dwindling away, and an increasing interest in the principles advocated by our Elders is shown. During the past year twenty-six persons have been baptized and there are at present ten or twelve more who have applied and are waiting for the ordinance.

The speakers in our forenoon session were Elders P. E. Anderson and Jas. Christensen, laboring in Fresno county, Nathan A. Tanner, of the Sacramento branch, and W. C. Horsley, of the San Francisco branch. All enjoyed the Spirit of God and testified to His goodness toward them. During the afternoon session Elders B. W. Henderson, Willard Scowcroft, E. M. Whitesides and Henry Peterson, laboring Elders in the San Francisco branch, and Bishop M. F. Brown of the First ward, Ogden, and Elder Wm. Driver, also of the above named city, were the

speakers. Owing to the number present from whom the people desired to hear, discourses were necessarily short, but all testified to the good feeling that prevailed and spoke by the inspiration of the Spirit of God with which we are blessed in rich abundance. Elders J. R. Shepherd and H. S. Tanner occupied the evening services in inviting and encouraging strangers to investigate the Gospel and in exhorting the Saints to greater diligence in obeying the commandments of God.

Appointments were made as follows: Elders Henderson & Peterson, (705 M. St.) to Sacramento; Elders Anderson and Christensen, to Selma, Fresno Co.; and Elders Shepherd, Whitesides, Scowcroft and Horsley, to San Francisco.

Elder Tanner contemplates going south soon to hold conference in the southern part of the state and to organize branches of the Church and Sunday schools in the town where Saints are found. At the same time a new field will be opened in San Bernardino to labor in which Elder N. A. Tanner has been appointed. He will be assisted by a companion from the southern conference.

We solicit visits from visitors who may come to the coast and correspondence from Saints who may have acquaintances in this state. The headquarters of this conference and of the mission has been lately removed from 417 Van Ness Ave. to 538 McAllister street, San Francisco.

On the evening preceding the conference we enjoyed a social or concert in which songs, recitations, speeches, original poems, etc., were rendered by the Saints and Elders of the two branches. An enjoyable feature of it was the informal hand shaking and conversation which enabled the Saints of the different places to become better acquainted.

Praying for the progress of the work abroad and the welfare of Zion, I remain, Yours in the Gospel of Christ.

HENRY PETERSON,  
Clerk of Conference.

### ST. JOHNS STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the St. Johns Stake, Apache county, Arizona, was held at Union ward (or Springerville) on the 8th and 9th of September, 1895. The presidency of the Stake, Patriarchs, Bishops of wards, and a number of Stake officers, were present, and a fair attendance of the Saints. The reports were to the effect that the Saints live their religion as a general rule, and were at peace one with another, having a desire to do right, battle against evil, and labor for the upbuilding of the kingdom of God.

This season's crop has been very good in general, although there have been exceptions. The high winds, frost, insufficient water for irrigation and chinch bugs have been the cause in divers places to diminish the good prospects in the early part of the season, but as a whole it is better this year than for some years previous. Owing to the failure of crops for the last two or three years, the people have run in debt, and their financial condition is not very good, although this year's crop will give them some relief. At St. Johns they have had "a year of

jubilee" in raising a crop of peaches, something that has not happened to them but about one year in seven. But this year everybody has had "a fill" and some two, as the fruit has been stored away in different shapes and conditions, "for future reference."

The health of the people is good although the measles has lately visited several of the settlements but is now disappearing.

The different organizations in the ward were reported in good running order; especially does there seem to be great interest taken in the Sunday school. The speakers' remarks at the conference were inspired, instructive and gave renewed spiritual vigor and strength to the Saints. They were reminded of the blessings they enjoy in these perilous times. Considerable stress was laid on educational matters, Church schools, academies, etc., and also the necessity of home manufacture.

A few families move away from here but our ranks are filled up by "the young and rising generation" and thus the work goes on here on the borders of Zion.

E. W. A. MOHR,  
Stake Clerk.

### MORGAN STAKE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The second annual Stake Sunday school conference of Morgan Stake was held in the Stake house at Morgan City, September 28th and 29th. Saturday evening's session, owing to the extremely busy time and the Saints forgetting the announcement of the conference, was very slimly attended. It was called to order by Stake Superintendent F. W. Clark; a number of very favorable reports from ward Sunday schools was given and necessary questions answered by the superintendents. Elder Daniel Heiner then gave a brief report of Sunday schools in the Stake in which he stated that the schools were never in as good a condition as at the present; nearly all were adopting the latest and best methods of conducting and teaching in the various departments. Elder George Goddard, of the Deseret Sunday school board, now in his 80th year and enjoying perfect health, appeared before the conference in his usual happy manner and gave a little of his experience in traveling 10,000 miles by rail and 2,000 miles by team in visiting twenty-four Stakes since January of this year in the interest of the Sunday school cause; after which he gave some most valuable instructions to all who were laboring in the Sunday schools, and closed his remarks by singing "Hark, Listen to the Music."

At 2 p. m. reports from several ward superintendents were given. Elder F. W. Clark made a few important remarks and exhorted the Sunday school laborers to be faithful. Elder Goddard followed with an able address on Sunday school work and discipline, laying much stress upon punctuality and the Word of Wisdom, and closed by singing "The Dream."

Sunday morning the Stake House was filled with earnest Sunday school workers. After the usual opening exercises the remainder of the ward