

MANUAL TRAINING IN CHURCH SCHOOLS.

Addresses Delivered at the Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, April 5, 1903, by
ELDER GEORGE REYNOLDS
 And
ELDER R. G. MILLER
 (President of Emery Stake.)

It was with more than ordinary interest and pleasure, my brethren and sisters, that I listened to the remarks of President Smith yesterday morning, perhaps for the reason that I felt for some time the great necessity of instruction being given on many of the points on which he touched. One thing particularly impressed me, and that was the necessity of more encouragement being given to the teaching of manual training in our schools. I well remember when President Brigham Young established our Church schools, how strong was his wish that these things should be encouraged and this department taught in the institutions of which he then laid the foundation; and I have always regretted that more attention had been given to this department in these schools. We all know what a very practical man President Young was; how essential he felt it was that we as a people should be self-sustaining. In his day our territory was full of the best of mechanics, who had gathered from various portions of the earth. It was well known that in no part of the United States were there better handcraftsmen, or artisans than in Utah. The work done in those times still stands as a monument of how well they could accomplish their purposes. But today, unfortunately, it is not altogether so. Our rising generation, born in the midst of these valleys, apparently does not turn naturally in this direction. Although we have increased in numbers, we have not developed in these conditions. In fact, we are not so well off as we were a century ago. A century ago or more, one remedy for this evil is that those who direct the feelings and thoughts of this people should impress upon the youth the necessity of learning trades by which the community can be built up, and not so many turn in the direction of what are called the learned professions. We cannot have a prosperous community if it is overworked and top-heavy with so many inclined in one direction, and the arts and industries which lie at the foundation of all progressive and successful communities are neglected or trifled with. I have often felt the necessity of our people being impressed with these truths. I was exceedingly pleased to hear our President talk as he did yesterday morning. I will acknowledge that I have felt that the best of training the young men placed in their care in those things that will make them most useful. Of course, we are told that athletics are necessary. I admit that. But the argument appears to me to be essentially weak when applied to ball games and games of a like description, when we recollect that those engaged in them are the strongest, the healthiest and the best developed students in the institution, and that those who are not so well developed, and who need the training to strengthen them, if any do, are the ones that stand around, applaud, clap their hands and yell

themselves hoarse when their representatives play a good game, or secure a victory. I believe, my brethren and sisters, that in developing the muscles and the vitality of our people a little change from athletics to manual training will be a great advantage to this community.

CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK.

As a number of the presidents of stakes have reported their stakes, I wish to say a few words with regard to our Sunday schools, as I am one of the assistants to President Joseph F. Smith in the general superintendency. I wish to report that as a general thing the schools are progressing satisfactorily. During the past year we have made a marked change in our methods and in the conduct of our schools by introducing a uniform plan of study in all the schools, so that any pupil going from one school to another can continue in the new school the same series of lessons that he studied in the school which he has just left. There has been a complaint that in our Sunday schools some of the children have received a one-sided education, having studied but from one or two of our sacred books during the whole time they have been in school. Some have been confined to the Bible, others to the Book of Mormon, others to Church history, others to the Articles of Faith. This has not been intentional, but it has been the want of a detailed, progressive outline of study. The General Board has endeavored to obviate by the "Outlines" which have lately been published. At this time any child who continues in the Sunday school through the entire course will have had every phase of religious history and doctrine desirable to be learned presented to him by the time he has passed through the various departments. He will commence with the kindergarten, where he will be taught in the story form; then up through the primary, the intermediates and the theological, until he will become acquainted with the history of the Church, with the doctrines of the Gospel, with the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, the Pearl of Great Price, and their contents. While no book, sacred though it be, is made the object of study, that which is taught in all the departments is intended to increase the faith of the child in the Gospel of the Son of God and in love for Him. When the pupil has passed through all the departments he will go out with a word of understanding of the dealings of the Lord with His people in this and in past dispensations. This has been our object in preparing the "Outlines," and though occasionally we hear a word of complaint, when he is being taught in the story form, we are adhering too closely to the mere historical record, yet I wish to say, as one of the representatives of the Sunday schools, that this is not our intention. Our intention is that we are being blessed in the Emery Stake of Zion; for a similar report to those given might be made of the Emery stake. It lies about south-west from here, and east of the Sanpete stake. It is comprised of two counties—

Great Need of Handcraftsmen in the State, Formerly Noted for Its Experts—Wish of President Young that People Should be Self-sustaining—Athletics One-Sided—The Work of the Church Sunday School—Report of Emery Stake.

ter days. I would exhort the teachers in this great cause to remember that all other considerations are secondary. While we give the historical portion a prominent place, yet that is simply intended to lead the mind and feelings of the child in the direction of the great truth that God has revealed, and we desire to make all teaching subservient to this end and intent.

I cannot this morning give you any figures with regard to the increase of our schools, or of our attendance, because we have lacked some of the statistical reports. And this teaches us a lesson of how dependent the whole people are upon individual effort. If the lack of one report causes the whole report of the Church or of the schools to be misinterpreted, and perhaps untrue, it shows how necessary it is that those who have the clerical work of the Church to do, whether in the wards and stakes or in the auxiliary organizations, should be correct and prompt; for statistics of any kind, if not exact and truthful, are worse than worthless, because they are misleading, and they give wrong ideas regarding existing conditions and what is being done. But I find—as I have much to do with these things in my daily duties—that the reports which are sent in, both by the school officers and the stake officers, often come in a most undesirable condition. We receive reports constantly that are unsigned, undated, and unnamed, and we have to guess whence they come from the little information that is recorded. Think of a report without a signature, without any date, without any name, and you can see how difficult it is to make up general reports. Then they are occasionally sent in just a day or two before the general report is required, when they ought to be in at least a month before, and two months would be better, so that they could be properly tabulated, examined, and the results understood.

Altogether, as far as the Sunday schools are concerned, I feel that we have great cause for encouragement, and with succeeding years they are doing more and more good in the establishment of righteousness and in the confirming of the faith of God's people. God bless you. Amen.

ELDER R. G. MILLER

(President of Emery Stake.)

While sitting here I was reminded of what President J. Golden Kimball said at one of our conferences. He said: "You can tell around here what is going on by looking at the clock, and you can't tell just where." I feel like it had struck this morning. In standing before this vast congregation I feel very weak; but I trust I may be able to speak for a few minutes and report the Emery Stake, over which I have been called to preside. It pleases me very much to hear the brethren tell of their stakes. It is a testimony to me that we are being blessed in the Emery Stake of Zion; for a similar report to those given might be made of the Emery stake. It lies about south-west from here, and east of the Sanpete stake. It is comprised of two counties—

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Carbon and Emery—and is about 70 miles east and west and 50 miles north and south. We have 100,000 acres of land in this large area of country. We have some disadvantages compared with other stakes. As a consequence, we are probably not making the progress that we should. The people generally are trying to do their duty and to serve God, though there is considerable room for improvement. We have all the modern conveniences of civilized society; we have schools and organizations of most every kind. I am, however, happy to say that the very few of our people have joined the organizations outside of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The stakes, with perhaps two exceptions, are run by people not of our faith; and in a short time we hope to be able to say that no one runs a saloon in our stake who claims to be a member of the Church of Jesus Christ. There will be no saloons run by our people.

There are great resources in our part of the country, and only about one corner of it has been developed. One of our people, one of our citizens—Carbon—you will see that we have coal there. The statistics of the state show that we have more coal in that region than there is in any other part of the world. The coal that will be developed, and that the world may be supplied from the abundance of coal to be found there. There is coal all along the north boundary of our stake. It is full of coal, and we hope the day is not far distant when it will be produced and marketed. We have a fine agricultural district also, where a man can raise a great many things. There are thousands of acres will be brought under cultivation; and we invite the Saints who are looking for homes to cast their eyes on Emery stake. The people of Carbon and Sanpete counties have had a movement on foot for some time to store water in the mountains and convey it into their counties; but they have seen a more feasible way to get rid of their water, and they have kindly consented to come into Carbon county. We ask you brethren and sisters who are looking for homes to join with us, and we will welcome you there.

I feel well in the position to which I have been called. I desire to do my duty and assist the people and help build up the kingdom of God. I have been blessed with good companions. My business are sturdy, thrifty men—John H. Pace and Henry G. Mathis. We work together in unity. I know this work is true. It is the work of God. I have known it since my infancy. I was born with a testimony of the Gospel. My parents were among the early settlers of this country, and went through all the hardships and privations, and it seems to have been in my nature that this is the work of God.

I pray that the blessings of the Lord may continue with us during this conference, that we may go home filled with the Spirit of the Lord and more determined to serve Him and keep His commandments; which I do in the name of Jesus. Amen.

FISH CULTURE ON THE FARM.

H. A. Surface, professor of zoology in the Pennsylvania State college, thinks that by using the water as intelligently as the land the home supply of food may be greatly augmented. There are many persons, he says in the New York Tribune Farmer, who have ponds or available streams that could be profitably utilized if the owners but knew how. Life is far more abundant in water than in the same area on land, and this means that the water can be made to yield fully as much for man's use as can the soil. "The waters should feed the land," is an old saying that may justify claim as an old saying. In some parts of Europe ponds and lakes are rented to the land rate per acre. This is for the fish they are made to yield. Although our state and national fish commissions are doing all in their power to maintain the number of our fishes and to make them more abundant, it is not enough. It is not enough to be acknowledged that they are playing a losing game owing to (1) a lack of the complete and detailed knowledge as to what is best to do and how to do it; (2) the constantly increasing destructive effects of the so-called "march of civilization," and (3) the lack of adequate state and federal support for placing this very important industry upon its proper scientific basis.

Truly has one of America's greatest living scientists, Prof. S. A. Forbes, state zoologist of Illinois, said in one of his recent reports, "In regard to fish culture we stand today at a point to be compared with the state of our knowledge of agriculture at the time of the discovery of America by Columbus." However, we can live up to the best light and knowledge we have, and by so doing hope to obtain more. Just as the Indians could use their crude knowledge of agriculture by clearing the ground, planting the grains, tilling the soil with sharpened stones and sticks, and pulling some of the larger weeds in abundance above what it would be without this effort, so can we use our crude knowledge of fish culture to make the water more productive by observing some of the following suggestions:

First—Put the pond or stream into proper condition, not only by cleaning everything out of it, and making it a proper depth, but by making a selection of condition. The fishes can be selected to suit themselves. One part should be as deep as possible, another should be shallow and quiet and contain growing aquatic vegetation of as many varieties of plants as possible, while in the narrow and rapid parts of the current there should be sand and gravel.

Second—The water should be kept as cool as possible in summer, both by shade trees growing along the banks and by artificial devices to afford shade and concealment. Grass and weeds should be permitted to overhang the waters to yield some insects to vary the diet of the fishes and give them additional protection.

Third—Enemies of fishes should be reduced. These are most voracious fishes, water snakes, muskrats, herons,

ospreys or fish hawks, kingfishers, sometimes owls, hawks and raptors. Fourth—Ducks and geese should not be kept in waters intended to yield fish. They defecate the water, make it muddy, and destroy the organisms that would directly or indirectly become the food of fishes. Fifth—After the favorable and desired conditions are established, the food plants and small aquatic animals have been introduced, minnows added, if for fish eating fish, spawning sites, winter retreats and summer shade provided, then introduce the desired fishes suited to the waters. Sixth—Select the kinds of fishes suited to the water thus prepared. If this is not known send full descriptions of the conditions to the United States fish commission, Washington, D. C., or to other experts and receive the essential information, acting accordingly. We know where this has been done in such a practical, sensible and scientific manner, with the most gratifying results.

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1903.

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ARRIVE.

From Ogden, Portland, Butte,

San Francisco and Omaha, \$3.00 a.m.

From Ogden and intermediate

points, 9:10 a.m.

From Ogden, Milford, Nephi,

Provo, and intermediate points, 9:35 a.m.

From Ogden, Cache Valley, Chi-

cago, St. Louis, Omaha, Den-

ver and intermediate points, 12:01 p.m.

From Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Kansas City, Omaha, Denver

and San Francisco, 4:06 p.m.

From Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Terminus, 5:00 p.m.

From Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 5:35 p.m.

From Ogden, Cache Valley, Butte,

Portland, San Francisco, 8:10 p.m.

DEPART.

For Ogden, Omaha, Chicago,

Denver, Kansas City, St. Louis,

and San Francisco, 7:00 a.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 7:30 a.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Terminus, 7:45 a.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 8:45 a.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 9:45 a.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 10:45 a.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 11:45 a.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 12:45 p.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 1:45 p.m.

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For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,

Provo, and intermediate points, 11:45 p.m.

For Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis,