

## CONDITION OF THE STAKES OF ZION.

Reports Made at the General Conference  
Of the Church of Jesus Christ of Lat-  
ter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Sun-  
day, Salt Lake City, April 5, 1936.

Jordan, Morgan and Nebo Stakes  
Represented by Their Respective  
Presidents—All in Flourishing  
Condition—Marked Increase in  
Union and Good Works Shown.

### ELDER HYRUM GOFF, (President of Jordan Stake)

My dear brethren and sisters, this is the first time in my life I have been called upon to address so large an audience. I rely upon the Spirit of our Heavenly Father to sustain me; for I realize that I am surrounded by some of the best men upon the earth. In assisting to represent the Jordan Stake of Zion, I do so with great pleasure. Our stake is yet in its infancy, being only about three years and three months old. It is located in the southern end of this county. Its area is about 15 by 20 miles. We have 13 wards, and I believe all the organizations that we have been called upon to establish are fully organized. We take great pleasure in representing our Sunday schools. They are in a very good, flourishing condition; also our Mutual Improvement associations. Those who have been called upon to preside over these organizations are faithful men and women, who observe the law of tithing, and, I believe, the Word of Wisdom; for these are two of the qualifications required of them. We desire those who represent these young people's associations to strictly adhere to these things, that they may set an example to the others. I have had called to my assistance two worthy men as counselors. We are working together in perfect harmony. Our High Councilors are men of God, who are willing to sacrifice their time and talents to promulgate the Gospel in our stake. They are willing, when called upon, to do missionary labor in the various wards, and labor with the people at their firesides, holding cottage meetings, etc. This has proved a great blessing to us, and we feel that great good will come of it. We have many aged people who are not able to attend public gatherings much, and it is our privilege to carry to them the joy and satisfaction that we have in the Gospel. We have many good, faithful Latter-day Saints, and we have some to whom it is necessary to preach repentance. I have taken great pleasure myself in visiting the homes of the Saints in the various wards. I desire to say that we have a good people there, and that they are enjoying the spirit of our religion to a great extent. We have what is termed civilization with us. It should be "uncivilization." Out of our 13 wards we have 19 that have no schools; but I am sorry to report that in the other three we have enough to supply all the rest.

My brethren and sisters, I take pleasure in testifying to you that I know this is the work of God. I have a testimony of it. When I got that testimony I do not know; for something over 63 years ago I was born in the Church, and that testimony seems to have been born within me. I desire that this testimony may be increased within me, and I know that it will as long as I am on the road of progress and intelligence. The more I learn of the Gospel, the stronger becomes my testimony; and I believe that the case with all of us. I wish to testify that it is through the power of the Almighty that I am here today; for I know, had it not been for the faithful of the Holy Priesthood, I should have been gone hence before now. I feel a desire in my heart to testify to the goodness of my Heavenly Father in this line. I pray God to bless the faithful Latter-day Saints, and to stir up those who are not so faithful to renewed diligence. I ask these blessings, with all others that are necessary for us to prove true to the end, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

### ELDER COLLINS R. HAKES, (President of Maricopa Stake)

My dear brethren and sisters, in standing before you for a few moments I earnestly desire your faith and prayers, to the end that we may be blessed in the time that I occupy. For twenty years, the 22nd of this month, I have been connected with the Maricopa Stake of Zion, which is situated in the heart of the Arizona desert—the territory that we called the sun-kissed land. I have learned to love that land; I have learned to love the climate; I have learned to love many of the people in that country. While our stake is one of the smallest, if not the smallest, in all Zion, we have many good, staunch, thorough Latter-day Saints in that little stake—men and women who are seeking "first the kingdom of God and His righteousness," and who have faith that God in His mercy will add all things that are necessary. But we are not all of that type. We have others that are not so full of faith and good works. We have the company of almost everything, in the shape of saloons, casinos, and societies that are not of God; to contend with; but the majority of the Latter-day Saints in our little stake get along with the saloons by simply letting them alone, and we get along with our neighbors of the different societies by treating them with kindness and courtesy, but not affiliating with their organizations. As a rule, they treat us in about the same way. We have in that country, I think, one of the most fertile and productive pieces of land that can be found within the bounds of the United States. We are lacking one element—water for irrigation purposes—but it certainly looks now as though that question was about to be solved in our country and a supply of water provided sufficient to make that one of the most beautiful spots of the earth.

We have every prospect of having it in an early date. Let me say that while many of our people have within the past few months pulled out of that country and gone to other parts, I feel in my heart that it will be many years before they are any more comfortably situated for making a living for themselves and families than they were in Mesa, Arizona. This was the feeling I had the other day when I separated from a company of fourteen who came with me as far as Ogden, and who were going into Montana, Canada and Idaho, seeking homes. I hope that they may be blessed, so far as the Lord sees fit to bless them and to give them better places than they have left. We sow our wheat in November and December, and we reap it in May and June, and when we have water we get from forty to fifty bushels to the acre. We put our stock upon the stubble until the middle of July, and then, if we have water, we plant corn and fall crops; and in our second crop we can get just as good a yield of corn as is got in almost any country. But these possibilities are only when the water supply is there.

I say to the Latter-day Saints that I want to breathe good warm air, come down to Arizona. We will give you a warm reception—especially if you come in July and August. I came here a little early this morning, and stood outside before the doors were opened. Some of my friends were admiring the beautiful fresh and bracing breezes that were coming in from these snow-capped hills, and I thought that if I only had power to bring down a few thousand cubic feet of Arizona weather and spread it out here, it would be a great benefit. But to me, my brethren and sisters, it does not matter where I live. It does not matter a great deal how long I live; but it does matter a great deal how I live. I believe that God is able to adapt us to the elements of the country where the servants of God wish us to reside; and I believe that the men and women who are filled with the Spirit of God are filled with the spirit of contentment; and that they will seek after the kingdom of God and His righteousness in any land or climate, hot or cold. If you want a healthful climate, we have it in Arizona. I believe we have many days of sunshine in that country as there is in any land. We will positively agree not to freeze you; but we will give you plenty of good weather, and we will give you plenty of labor, and a country that under the blessings of God and the toil of the Latter-day Saints will yield of its fullness, as results to the farmer.

### ELDER DANIEL HEINER, (President of Morgan Stake)

If the Lord will bless me with His spirit and give me strength, I will be pleased to say a few words in reporting the Morgan Stake to the General Conference. The Morgan Stake is comparatively small. Brother Hakes stated that he had one of the smallest stakes. I have been thinking that we had almost the smallest in the Church. We live in a small valley, but the soil is very fertile. The Presidency of the Stake feel that they have a very good people. The Priesthood of Morgan Stake are becoming more united, and the prospect for the spiritual growth of the people is very favorable. The Presidency of the Stake are united. We meet once a week. My counselors understand just about as much of the condition of the stake as I do. I have two very good counselors. The same may be said of the High Council. Our financial condition is improving. The people are just beginning, I believe, to find out the value of their homes. I think the homes in Weber valley have, in the estimation of the people there, increased in value 100 per cent within the last year or two. It is probably due to the people cultivating the land more thoroughly and making better use of their time and opportunities. The organizations in the stake, such as the Sunday schools, are very good. We feel that there is an extra good work being done in the Sunday schools and in the Mutual Improvement associations. I am happy to say that everything is favorable in the stake, although we have some people that are a long way off from being as good as they ought to be; but the Presidency of the Stake are encouraged by the prospects. I thank the Lord for a living testimony of the Gospel. I thank Him that He blessed me with worthy parents, who taught me the Gospel, and that He gave me faith in the Gospel, so much so that I have a living testimony, which comforts me all my days. I ask the Lord to bless the people in the Morgan Stake and in the whole Church, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

### ELDER J. S. PAGE, JR., (President of Nebo Stake)

My brethren and sisters, for a good many years I have been in the habit of attending the annual and semi-annual conferences of the Church, but have sat in the congregation and looked on from then in this direction, and I must confess that I had grown to feel much more at home than I do standing here facing you. At the same time it is an inspiring spectacle to see this large number from among the hosts of Israel, gathered together in the name of the Lord. It gives one some impression

of the strength of the work that the Lord is accomplishing upon the earth, and as I take strength from one another in thus assembling in standing before you for a short time to represent the affairs in the Nebo Stake of Zion, I do so in humility and with a desire to have the things of God in my mind and in my heart. The Priesthood of that Stake are engaged in preaching the Gospel as recorded in the scriptures, which were written by holy men of God as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost. They are endeavoring to realize the efficacy of the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, to understand our relationship to Him, and our dependence upon His atonement and labor. We are endeavoring also to honor the Prophet Joseph Smith as an instrument of God, who was called to establish Zion in the last days, and through whom the Gospel was restored, with the authority to administer its ordinances; to also honor those who have succeeded him in the Presidency, and to realize that their words spoken by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit are the words of God unto His people. In addition to this, we are

## HANK MONK'S FAMOUS DRIVE

Horace Greeley's Stage Coach Ride Vividly Recalled by  
An Interesting World's Fair Exhibit.

St. Louis, Aug. 18.—Hank Monk, the stage driver of the pioneer days in the far West, was immortalized by Mark Twain in his "Roughing It." The stage coach, in which Hank Monk got Horace Greeley to Placerville, "on time," and the gold watch that was presented to the intrepid Jehu because of his record-breaking trip, will be among the interesting curios at the world's fair, St. Louis, 1904.

Mr. J. A. Yerrington of Carson City, Nevada's executive commissioner to the world's fair, was in St. Louis a few days ago and told Charlie M. Reeves, secretary of the states and territorial exhibit committee, that Nevada would exhibit among other interesting things, these famous Hank Monk relics.

Hank Monk, as will be remembered by everyone who has read Mark Twain's first famous book, "Roughing It," was the driver who was in charge of the stage that carried Horace Greeley into Placerville one evening in the latter sixties. Mr. Greeley was booked to deliver an address in that mining village at 1 o'clock. The trip was tedious and the great editor began to fear that he would not reach Placerville in time to keep his engagement. He leaned out of the stage window and asked the driver, Hank Monk, if he could not make a little more speed from the horses.

The perturbed driver leaned down and replied: "Keep your seat, I'll get you there on time." Hank Monk kept his word as graphically recorded by Mr. Clemens. Probably no trip over the mountains was ever made at such break-neck speed. The distinguished passenger was tossed around in the bounding stage coach like corn in a popper and there were those who declared that Mr. Greeley's head was forced through the roof.

The trip was the topic of the entire coast country and some admirers of the

trying to have every man who holds a portion of the Priesthood honor the labor and manner the Priesthood that has been placed upon him. In doing this we have taken pains that not one young man of sufficient years should be overlooked, but that all should have the opportunity to labor according to their capacity and desire, that they may not rise up in later days and say that the doorway to progress and advancement had been closed in their face by those whose duty it was to open it. The Priesthood are also trying to inculcate the principles of faith, humility, obedience, and a seeking after the things of God, in order that they may have the Spirit of God to be a companion and guide, that we may all realize that light has come into the world, and that we may walk according to that light, and continue to be in companionship with the Holy Ghost. I believe I can say with truth that the very great majority of the Priesthood are striving to labor for the establishment of Zion upon the earth, and to be enabled to give a good report of the work that is placed in their hands to accomplish. This can be said, too, of those who preside over and labor in the auxiliary societies of the Church. As a rule, they are zealous and earnest. The interest of the religion class work particularly comes to my mind at this time. It is something that we have not given as much attention to as some other branches of the work; but with its development in our midst we begin to appreciate the blessing of the Lord in having such a classed among us, and we look for great good to come therefrom. It is coming to be loved by the people. The Priesthood of the stake are working together in harmony from first to last, as I am acquainted with a desire to be humble, to be led by the Holy Spirit, and to labor according to the counsel of the Prophet of God and to sustain those who preside over us. That we may be able to continue to do so, and that the blessings of God may be upon all the Church in every part of the earth, is my prayer in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.

and when bent on revolution he often had to stop to receive ovations by the way. Hernandez was the leader of the revolutionary forces in Bolivia when in 1892 Crespo attacked Andrezuela Palace. He did not agree with the policies of Crespo and left the country. He spent several years in travel and study and was in New York for a time. In 1897 he returned to Venezuela and announced himself as candidate for president on the national ticket, introducing into the country American electioneering tactics, to the great amazement of the natives. Failing of election, he declared that he had been counted out by Andrade and tried to capture the presidency in the traditional South American can way, with the result that he was thrown into prison by General Crespo. He was taken after a year's struggle, and after being driven past the yellow house in Caracas, where Castro could look down upon his conquered enemy, he was carried to the medieval dungeon at the entrance to Margarita harbor, in which he was to stay until the means of foreign attack led to Castro's amnesty. "Old Mocho's" release was greeted by the populace with the loudest enthusiasm, and on his journey to Caracas he was overwhelmed with congratulations and applause.

drade's, soon after captured "El Mocho" and sent him to San Carlos prison, where he remained 11 months. When Andrade was overthrown by Castro, Hernandez was again set free. For a time he kept on good terms with Castro, but one of the disagreements which arose so constantly in the maze of Venezuelan politics turned him against the president, and he took the field with the avowed intention of making himself the head of the government. He was taken after a year's struggle, and after being driven past the yellow house in Caracas, where Castro could look down upon his conquered enemy, he was carried to the medieval dungeon at the entrance to Margarita harbor, in which he was to stay until the means of foreign attack led to Castro's amnesty. "Old Mocho's" release was greeted by the populace with the loudest enthusiasm, and on his journey to Caracas he was overwhelmed with congratulations and applause.

### THE REASON WHY.

The late Mrs. James C. Blaine used to relate charmingly the unbecoming criticisms of her sons and daughters-in-law, she once said: "When James, his father-in-law, was a little chap, he discussed for a long time one day the subject of wedding cakes. He made my son and daughter-in-law all about wedding cakes—how they are made, how they are cut, and how pieces of them are sent to the friends of brides and grooms. This last custom he was especially pleased with. He thought a piece of wedding cake made a delightful gift. "Then he pondered for a moment. He frowned. He said: "But, mamma, I can't send you any of my wedding cake when I get married." "Why not, my dear?" I asked. "Because," he said, "you didn't send me any of yours."

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General Jose Manuel Hernandez, Rep-  
resents at Washington His  
Old Enemy Castro.

### Special Correspondence.

Washington, Aug. 17.—General Jose Manuel Hernandez, the new Venezuelan minister to the United States, is the hero of a romantic career unrivaled even in those turbulent South American republics, where an uneventful life is the exception rather than the rule. The head of innumerable revolutions against the changing governments of Venezuela, equally at home in the field and in a military prison, General Hernandez has reached the age of nearly 60 with undiminished powers and with no other visible mark of his adventurous past than the crippled arm from which he derives his sobriquet, "El Mocho."

He has only recently been released from prison at Maracibo, where he was confined for twelve years for starting a revolt against Castro and where he is said to have suffered torture worse than that to which Dreyfus was subjected on Devil's Isle. It was freely predicted that he would never leave prison alive. The imbroglio between President Castro and the governments of England and Germany, when Castro was threatened on one side by the allied fleets and on the other by a lively insurrection of his own people, induced him to pardon General Hernandez in the hope of amalgamating Venezuela against the foreigners, and now that peace has been restored he is sent to represent his old enemy in the most important diplomatic post to which Castro could appoint him.

Jose Manuel Hernandez was born near the mouth of the Orinoco river about 56 years ago, the son of a Spaniard. In his youth he was apprenticed to a carpenter. Young Hernandez had the blood of the old Spanish explorers in his veins, he was fond of adventure, quick to see the proper moment to act, and when scarcely more than 20 years old he was in the thick of revolution. In 1868 he assisted in the overthrow of General Falconer, Guzman Blanco later incurred his disapproval, and he gave that leader many a night. He had the distinction of being sent to prison several times by Blanco. He fought against Andrezuela Palace, Rojas

Paul and Joaquin Crespo, winning from them sometimes victories and sometimes a course of narrow cells and irons. As a leader he never knew when he was beaten, and on account of his courage and honesty he had a following even among those who were the most bitterly opposed to him on political grounds. In 1897, when he was but became many years ago a popular idol.

For want of a nail the shoe was lost;  
for want of a shoe the horse was lost;  
for want of a horse the rider was lost;  
all for the want of a horse shoe nail.  
—Franklin.

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