

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The Sunday School conference of the Salt Lake Stake began a two day session in the Assembly Hall at 10 a.m. Saturday, Superintendent T. C. Griggs, presiding. After the opening exercises Superintendent Griggs made a few remarks. The Seventeenth Ward Sunday school kindergarten class under the direction of Miss Gwendolyn Lewis, then gave an exhibition of the work done each Sunday morning, the subject being love one another, based upon the topic of Jesus blessing little children. This was interspersed by songs.

Superintendent George Clark of the Fifth ward then reported their Sunday school stating that it was graded in accordance with the instructions of the Sunday school authorities, also that they have an active and energetic corps of teachers, the only regret being that they have not sufficient room for the children and therefore had not been able to use the missionary for the purpose of gathering in more children although when any of the children are absent for three consecutive Sundays they send the missionary.

Elder Bassett then furnished a text from his class.

Sugar House (Central) Sunday school then furnished an extract of their first intermediate department under the direction of T. W. Bliss; the subject, Christ's sermon on the Mount. Two members of the class sang the song Story of Jesus, and the choir rendered America, the Congregation joining in.

Superintendent Horne then reported his visits to the Sunday schools of this Stake, which he found in a good condition, and said we have a corps of teachers who for earnestness and energy could not be beaten.

Superintendent W. S. Burton said Brother Goddard wished him to say a few words and in response thereto he spoke interestingly for a few minutes.

Superintendent T. C. Griggs, Elder Goddard and George Q. Cannon, general superintendency of the Sunday School Union, imparted much valuable instruction.

Meeting called to order by Stake Superintendent T. C. Griggs.

The juvenile choir and congregation sang Hope of Israel.

Prayer was offered by Elder J. D. Cummings.

God will Bless the Pure in Heart was sung by the juvenile choir.

Supt. Samuel L. Howard of River-ton reported the Sabbath school of that ward in a flourishing and prosperous condition. It was fully graded and conducted in conformity with the general rules and suggestions of the Sunday school board. The average attendance is probably as good as that of any school in the Stake. The teachers are earnestly endeavoring to fill their positions and most, if not all of them, keep the Word of Wisdom. Teachers' meetings held nearly every month.

Superintendent John Sutherland of Big Cottonwood reported the two schools of that ward. Excellent work was done in both. The attendance of teachers and pupils was good, and all were earnest in their labors. Average attendance about 60 per cent. School is divided in the usual four Sunday

school grades, each having a secretary. Nickel Sunday was a success. Teachers meetings are held regularly once a month. With a possible exception of one or two, the teachers and officers observe the Word of Wisdom.

"The Home by the River," quartette and chorus, was beautifully rendered by members of the juvenile choir.

Superintendent Isaac J. Wardle reported the South Jordan school. Graded, but have not rooms to accommodate each department separately. Average attendance is good, especially as so many have two and three miles to traverse before reaching school. They have found that much good results from the regular attendance of teachers; when they cannot attend the next Sunday's session the teachers are expected to send in an excuse as early as the previous Tuesday. Last quarterly report stated that all kept the Word of Wisdom.

Supt. Archibald Frame, of Taylorsville, reported that there were three schools in his ward, each one was doing excellent work, and were mostly graded. He presides over the first or main school. Punctuality is generally observed. The first Sabbath in the month is usually set apart and observed as fast day, with very gratifying results.

A very pleasing lesson was given the primary department of the Nineteenth ward school under the direction of Miss Olive Derbidge, on the subject of the "Betrayal of Christ."

Prof. Joe M. Tanner, a member of the S. S. Union board, was the next speaker. The children of the Sabbath school, he said, are the hope of Israel. They will take part in the great events connected with the growth and building up of the kingdom of God. As the children grow up to manhood and womanhood, temptations to sin will be placed in their pathway and these must be resisted and overcome. The sins and temptations of this city, he believed, are manifoldly greater than in the county districts, and greater diligence and watchfulness was required of parents and teachers to keep their children in the path of duty and purity, and every effort should be made to keep them interested in the Sunday school work, that they may grow up in the fear of the Lord, and become useful and choice members of His kingdom.

Elder Levi W. Richards, of the Union board, next addressed the conference, and called attention to the importance of teaching the children of Zion the principles of the Gospel, the order of the Priesthood, and the discipline of the Church.

Assistant General Superintendent Geo. Goddard made a few observations relating to the Sabbath school work. Referring to the adopting of minutes when read before the school, the correct way, he said, of approving of them was by a show of hands. Teachers' meetings should be held regularly, once a month at least, and opportunity given all officers and teachers to ask questions and offer suggestions for improvement.

Weary Not was the closing hymn by the choir, and the conference adjourned, after benediction by Assistant Superintendent W. C. Burton, till 10 a.m.

Sunday, 10 a.m.—Stake Supt. T. C. Griggs presiding.

The congregation and Sunday School choirs, under the direction of Prof. E. K. Bassett, sang the hymn beginning "Did you think to pray." Opening prayer was offered by Assistant Superintendent R. S. Horne. "Hope of Israel, Zion's Army" was then sang by congregation and choir.

The city schools met at their ward houses and came in a body to the Tabernacle. Most of the schools outside the city were also represented, and nearly all the Sunday School officers and missionaries of the Stake were present.

The first exercise was the repetition of the Lord's Prayer in motion language, given by the members of the Deaf Mute Sunday School. The following excellent letter by a member of the Deaf Mute Sunday School, addressed to the superintendents of this institution, was read by President George Q. Cannon, and illustrates how much the work of Sunday schools is appreciated by these afflicted ones:

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,  
April 26, 1896.

Brothers Barrell and Pratt:

Dear Brothers—I feel very thankful to you for the good help you have done for me. I also feel to love my Sunday school and I feel sorry for staying out some time ago. I know that I was mistaken for doing so. I will try and do better than I used to. I also will try to go to Sunday school every Sunday. If it had not been for your help I might not have known much about God. I would not know much about what God has done for us and about Jesus Christ who had come to earth and died on the cross for the sins of the world. I love my teachers also. I know that if you had not taught Sunday school that many of us would be more ignorant than we now are. I think you have been very patient all the time since you began to teach school. I have no more to say. We all must feel very thankful to you for what you have done for us.

Your loving friend,

CHARLEY MARTIN.

P. S.—I would very much like to have a Sunday school when we go to Ogden.

CHARLEY MARTIN.

President Cannon also read the following interesting letter from a young lady teacher of the Deaf Mute Sunday school, who is a deaf mute herself. She writes:

SALT LAKE CITY, May 2, 1896.

Brothers Pratt and Barrell:

At your request I will try to write a letter to you saying how I like my position as teacher in your Sunday school. There is nothing I like better to do than to make known to them the word of God and at the same time gain more knowledge myself. I firmly believe that our Sunday school has been a help to many of us and will continue to be so throughout our lives.

In teaching them the principles of the beloved Gospel, I have marked a warm interest in this subject.

When we move to Ogden we shall surely miss our Sunday school and you our two dear teachers, too. If I am at Ogden I will do my best to keep your teachings instilled in their hearts.

May God bless and keep you and crown you with success in all your good works is my most sincere wish.

Most respectfully, your friend,  
LIEBIE DELONG.

P. S.—There is nothing that would please me more than to have a Sunday