

Light storms and much wind. Corn and potatoes doing well. A very hot week.

J. H. SMITH

Observer and section director, Salt Lake City, Utah.

BINGHAM STAKE SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho, Aug. 19, 1896. —The annual Sunday School conference of the Bingham Stake convened Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 15th and 16th, 1896, at the Iowa ward meeting house, Iowa, Idaho. There were present George Reynolds, of the Union Board and John M. Whitaker, general secretary, James E. Steele, R. L. Byher, Jos. L. Mulliner, of the Stake presidency; C. S. Crabtree, J. H. Evans, E. B. Brown, of the Stake superintendency of schools, and a fair representation of ward superintendents, other officers and teachers. The general attendance increased as the conference proceeded, until on Sunday afternoon, the house proved insufficient to accommodate all. Five meetings were held, including a meeting of officers and teachers Sunday morning.

The reports showed that there were twenty-three regularly organized schools in the Stake, with a total enrollment of 2,100. The schools generally were well attended and prosperous.

Obedience, faith, the duties and responsibilities of teachers, the general management of schools, the purpose and adaptation of the Sunday School Treatise, were among the topics of discourse during the conference. The general sentiment is that much unity of action will result from these meetings.

J. H. EVANS,

Acting Secretary.

REMINISCENT REMARKS.

FARMINGTON, Utah,

August 18, 1896.

Three years ago, when Elder Andrew Jepson was in Farmington near the beginning of his present tour of gathering statistics, etc., he had a conversation with Mrs. Ruth Oviatt in regard to the time the Farmington Sunday school was first started. This was the second Sunday school organized in the Territory; commenced and at first taught by herself and her husband, Ira Oviatt, who died in 1868. They came to Utah in 1851, wintered in Centerville, moved to Farmington in the spring of 1852, and commenced the Sunday school soon after they arrived here. Mother Oviatt died at the age of nearly 85 years a few weeks after this conversation referred to.

Again referring to Indian matters; I will name an incident called to my mind by reading the list of Utah executions for murder as published in the semi-weekly News of the 11th inst. I refer to the two Indians hanged in 1859 for the murder of the two Weeks boys in Cedar Valley in 1854. During the move south in 1855, my folks moved to Payson. A great deal of the country in that vicinity was open prairie on which children of nearly all ages would herd their stock. I was engaged in that business when this incident occurred. I was a little over eleven years old. Just before noon one day in June or July, we were a great deal surprised, and still worse scared at seeing a lot of Indians

on horseback riding at full speed among our herds of stock. We boys were more willing they should capture the cattle than ourselves, so we struck for Payson, all or nearly all of us on foot. We soon met a number of Payson men armed and mounted, inquiring for their boys. They had seen the Indians, and heard them shooting at jackrabbits, as they were on a rabbit hunt. As your other correspondent writes, people were easily excited in those days, and they of course frequently had occasion to be excited, and to be continually on the watch.

When General P. E. Connor was returning from his Bear river fight and dearly purchased victory over a northern tribe of Indians—I think in 1863—his troops and teamsters, mostly sled drivers, (the wounded soldiers were brought down in sleds, also, I think the dead,) nooned in Farmington. One of our citizens, a late arrival from Wales, asked, "Where are the Indians' wagons?" Being told the Indians did not have wagons, he innocently said: "Then how do they haul their stuff about?"

T. B. CLARK.

STAR VALLEY STAKE CONFERENCE.

AFTON, Wyo., Aug. 19, 1896. —The sixteenth quarterly conference of the Star Valley Stake of Zion convened in the Afton meeting house, Afton, Wyoming, on August 15 and 16, 1896.

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, conference opened in that Stake, with Elder John Henry Smith of the Council for Apostles, Ezra Clark of Farmington, Utah, the Stake Presidency and quite a number of noted residents of Star valley on the stand, and a goodly congregation in attendance.

The usual reports customary at conference were dispensed with, as the Stake was reported in good condition at our last Priesthood meeting, so the program was entirely the preaching of the Gospel. Several speakers were called up and all exhorted the Saints to live humble and be charitable and kind toward all.

Elder J. H. Smith spoke very strongly on the necessity of being willing to acknowledge the hand of God in all things; said faith in Him should be our first thought, and that we should have no fear of death, as it was only a change to another sphere of action.

In the afternoon several speakers occupied the time very profitably, as all encouraged the Saints to do right and live in accordance with the mind and will of God.

Sunday morning, in addition to our visitors of yesterday, noticeable on the stand were Elder Seymour B. Young of the First Council of Seventies, also Elders Charles Bridges and Niels Hognesen of Montpelier, Idaho, who contributed of their large store of knowledge to the edification of the Saints.

Elder Seymour B. Young felt a joy and satisfaction in having the privilege of meeting with the Saints of Star Valley; spoke on the favorable circumstances by which we were surrounded; was pleased to note the improvements which had taken place since his last visit six years previous; advocated cleanliness in the homes of the Saints; showed plainly that if mankind would

be true to themselves they would be true to each other. He spoke strongly against the sin of blasphemy.

Elder John H. Smith made a soul-stirring appeal to the young men present to prepare themselves for work in the missionary field and to study the first principles of the Gospel for the Gospel must be preached to all the world as a witness.

Mark Hurd and company sang: I know that my Redeemer liveth.

President George Osmond and Counsellors W. W. Burton and Anson V. Call, encouraged the Saints to a performance of their duties.

Several other speakers also took part in our worship.

We had an especial outpouring of the Holy Spirit and all went to their homes with renewed determination to keep the commandments of God.

The health of the people is good and our prospects for good crops is excellent.

WM. H. KENNINGTON,
Stake Clerk.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL SITE.

Attorney General Bishop has transmitted to the trustees of the State Industrial school the following opinion touching the purchase of a new site for that institution:

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the State Industrial School, Ogden, Utah:

Gentlemen:—I have before me your favor of the 17th instant in which you submit the following and ask to be advised thereon: "The board of trustees of the State Industrial school are about to purchase certain real estate for a site, etc., for the said institution, and the following question is asked for your advice. To whom should the property be deeded?"

Section 6, page 362 of the laws of 1896 relating to the State Industrial school provides that "the board shall elect one of their number treasurer and under the direction of the State board, he shall be the custodian of all of the funds belonging to the said school, whether arising from an appropriation made by the legislature and drawn from the State treasury or from whatever source, and shall execute to the State a bond with two or more sufficient sureties in the penal sum of \$20,000, conditioned that he shall faithfully account for all money and property that may come into his hand by virtue of his office; all fiscal transactions and dealings on account of said school shall be conducted by, and in the name of the treasurer thereof, who shall be capable in law of suing and being sued in all matters concerning said school by his name of office, and by that name he is authorized to sue for and recover all sums of money or any property due from any person to the State on account of any business pertaining to the said school.

Upon the interpretation or construction of this statute depends the answer to your inquiry. "All fiscal transactions and dealings" are words used by the Legislature.

Would the taking of title to property purchased by the institution come within this provision? I am inclined to think it would. This conclusion is strengthened somewhat by the clause which follows further on, which empowers the treasurer to sue for and recover all sums of money or any property due from any person to the State. If suit should be instituted for the recovery of certain property and a decree was rendered thereon, the title would necessarily be vested in the treasurer of the said school for the use and benefit thereof. Such suit under the pro-