

rest upon them. He could clearly foresee that the liberty of those in our midst who were seeking to lead astray our children by offering the inducement of a free education, would eventually prove a source of regret and sorrow, unless the Lord in his providence overruled and changed the current of events.

ELDER W. WOODRUFF

Said we, as a people, were fulfilling our destiny, and carrying out those principles and prophecies that the ancient prophets foresaw. We had, therefore, a great responsibility resting upon us to erect temples, wherein we might redeem the living and the dead.

He gave some good instructions to the Presidents of Stakes, Bishops and other officials, and urged upon them the necessity of each one of them using all his influence to sustain every co-operative institution, as a preparatory step towards the establishment of the United Order, which would have to be entered into by us as a people. We would have to be united in all our temporal labors to promote the principle of union for the benefit of the whole people. We were here to build up Zion, to establish righteousness, and prepare ourselves and our children for the coming of the Son of Man in the clouds of heaven. The gospel which we had received was everlasting in its nature, there was no change, it was always the same in every dispensation. Faith, repentance and baptism were eternal principles. He said that we should remember that everything which leads to good is of God, and whatever leads to evil is from the evil one.

He closed his instructive remarks by praying for the blessing of God upon the Saints, that they might be enabled to carry out the counsel that had been given them.

PRESIDENT JOSEPH YOUNG

Said that though far advanced in years, and feeble in body, he could still feel that the theory of truth had been advanced by all the previous speakers as it had been revealed by the inspiration of the Almighty; but the practical part was left for the Saints individually to carry out. He then described the fearful condition of those who had once known the truth, and tasted the good word of God, and had apostatized from the faith, but yet bore the image of God. There were many spirits in our midst, all bearing the image of our Heavenly Father, and many of them knowing not, but being entirely ignorant of the great and glorious purposes of God. We should treat them kindly, for we knew what God designed in his providences concerning them. He then invited the bishops and other authorities to unite with the seventies in the selection of men to take missions, who would be honorable representatives of the kingdom of God. He also urged the establishment of labor institutions that none need walk our streets seeking labor and finding none. He also pleaded the cause of the poor.

The conference was adjourned till 2 o'clock p.m.

The choir sang the anthem:

The Lord will comfort Zion,

Benediction by Elder D. H. WELLS.

AFTERNOON.

Oct. 8, 2 p.m.

The choir sang,

Softly beams the sacred dawning  
Of the great millennial morn.

Prayer by Elder J. D. T. McALISTER.

The choir sang,

Hark listen to the trumpeters  
They sound for volunteers.

Elder Geo. Q. Cannon read the following interesting reports:

PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR'S REPORT.

At our last April Conference (1878), we read an account furnished by the different Stakes, giving a full exhibit of the financial condition of all the various Stakes of Zion. I had quite a desire to have a statement of these accounts read at this Conference, but found upon reflection, that it would be altogether impracticable. The bishops in their several wards do not make a settlement with their wards oftener than once a year, namely, at the end of each year. It is true that there are some places and parties who make settlements oftener than this; but as these settlements are not general, it would only com-

plicate matters to give a partial view, and would not meet the object designed. I have therefore thought it best to defer this matter until the next April Conference, when the general reports from the several Stakes will be in, which will thus enable us to make a satisfactory exhibit. I would respectfully request that the Bishops and Presidents of the various Stakes will furnish to me not later than the first of next March, and each succeeding year, a full financial report of the several Stakes, including schedules of tithing, and also that Bishop Hunter's agents will furnish him a similar statement, so that his clerk and mine may have time to adjust all accounts between the Trustee and Bishop, that a satisfactory financial report may be presented.

In the absence of a financial report, I am very happy to be able to state, that during the last year no person has presented at the Trustee-in-Trust's office any draft, bill or acceptance that has not been met on the day, as promptly as at any business house or banking institution, and I see no reason why we shall not be able to do so in the future.

Reports from Arizona and other missions in the south are quite encouraging, although the settlements on the Little Colorado river have met with severe losses in their crops, arising from a very heavy flood.

Brother Erastus Snow, John W. Young, L. John Nuttall, and a company of prominent elders are now on a visit to those far off settlements, with a view to instruct, comfort, organize and regulate the affairs of the Church. The settlements generally there are operating in the United Order, having started out with that intention and under those instructions.

Our missionary operations in the Southern States are being prosecuted with earnestness and zeal; baptisms have been gratifyingly frequent, and quite a call is being made for missionary help.

In the northern and northwestern States also the labors of our brethren have not been without fruit, and it is with much pleasure and gratification that we notice an increase of the missionary spirit in the hearts of our brethren of the Seventies, the Elders and others upon whose shoulders lies the responsibilities of preaching the gospel to all the world; which awakening, we trust and anticipate, will grow and develop, until every man called to minister for God shall realize the weight and responsibility of his office and calling.

Since our last conference it has been deemed desirable by the Council of the Apostles to release Elder Joseph F. Smith from the presidency of the Church in Europe, so that he may be the better enabled to give his entire energies to the numerous and responsible duties devolving upon him at home. We have appointed Elder Wm. Budge, of the Bear Lake Stake of Zion, to succeed him in that important position. From the reports of Elders Smith and Budge we learn that the Elders in Europe have, during the past season, labored with much assiduity, faithfulness and zeal. In northern Europe the Church was never so large as it is to-day, notwithstanding the great number of Saints who are constantly gathering to the body of the Church therefrom. In Sweden the progress made by the work of the Lord is especially gratifying.

Within the last few months the Book of Mormon has been translated, by Elder A. W. Carlson, into the language of that nation, and a periodical, representing the faith and doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ, is now being published there regularly. These aids to the great work of the last days in that land will, we trust, cause it to advance with greater speed and to the accomplishment of still more abundant good. In Great Britain, though the baptisms are not as frequent as in former years, the labors of the brethren are not without encouraging success, especially when we consider the almost universal indifference that is at the present time manifested by the people of that country to all religious matters and themes. In Germany the way is gradually opening for the preaching of the gospel, and we yet look for a glorious and abundant harvest of souls from amongst that people, to add to the strength of Messiah's growing kingdom. In Switzerland also, the Elders are patiently and untiringly warning the people of

the day of God's controversy with the nations; and the same may be truthfully said of the laborers in the Lord's vineyard in Australia, the Sandwich Islands, and wherever else they may be found ministering.

It is gratifying to learn that the Temples in Logan and Manti, as well as Salt Lake City, are progressing favorably; and that the Sunday and District Schools, as well as the Brigham Young Academy, of Provo, and our University, are in a healthy and prosperous condition.

The Relief Societies are progressing with a laudable zeal, and our Young Men's and Young Women's Mutual Improvement Societies are performing a good labor in the culture, advancement, education and general improvement of our youth.

We are striving to adjust matters relative to our co-operative institutions, and to place them on a basis more in consonance with the revelations given to us on that subject. Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution has been established as a stepping stone to the introduction of the United Order, and it is proper that in all of our moves of a temporal nature, we should have this great object in view. That Institution is emphatically called Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution, and ought to operate, as its name indicates, in the interests of Zion; and all the various Stakes, being what are termed "Stakes of Zion," ought to do their business through that institution, and sustain it in all of their mercantile operations; on the other hand, that institution should act in behalf of, and in the interests of all the people in the several Stakes, and while it is being sustained and helped by all, ought to shield, protect and help all, that a mutual reciprocity of feeling and action may exist as between the people and that institution.

Already a committee has been organized for the purpose of introducing measures to promote the interests of that institution as well as the general interests of the people throughout the Territory. It is contemplated to have a permanent committee, but not having time during this conference to consummate this work we shall be under the necessity of leaving it in the hands of the Twelve, the Presidents of Stakes and the presiding Bishopric to organize such committee, and perhaps county committees also, and for which we desire to have your vote and sanction. There are certain reports presented by sub-committees who have been investigating several matters associated with the mercantile and other interests of this community which we will now present;

REPORT OF SUB COMMITTEE ON DRY GOODS, NOTIONS, BOOTS AND SHOES.

SALT LAKE CITY,

October 3, 1878.

To the Chairman and Members of the Investigating Committee.

Gentlemen.—Your sub-committees on dry goods, notions, boots and shoes, having given the subjects referred to us due consideration, beg leave to submit the annexed as our report.

1st. We consider the best means to unite the people in support of co-operation is for co-operation to deal so fairly that it will be to the advantage of the people to support it.

2d. We believe the Z. C. M. I. is purchasing generally to the best possible advantage under the circumstances.

3d. We are satisfied that goods can be furnished by Z. C. M. I. to the branch stores and retail dealers on such terms as it will be to their interest to purchase of Z. C. M. I.

4th. We would suggest that our manufacturers of woollen goods consider the propriety of classifying the products of their several factories, as we believe goods can be produced cheaper when a specialty is made of some particular line than in the attempt to manufacture all classes in the same factory. And that they and all manufacturers of home productions bring their business to a cash basis, that their goods may be handled to the best advantage. And that the Parent Co-op. and all other merchants instruct their managers and salesmen to urge the sale of all classes of home products upon the attention of the people.

5th. We are pleased to learn that Z. C. M. I. has purchased, during the last twelve months, over \$125,-

000 worth of home-made articles, and that they are disposed to encourage the sale of all home products as far as practicable.

H. S. ELDRIDGE,  
F. M. LYMAN,  
S. R. PARKINSON,  
S. H. HIGGINBOTHAM,  
J. P. FREEZE,  
R. S. WATSON.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON GROCERIES, HARDWARE, ETC.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,

October 5th, 1878.

H. S. Eldredge, Esq., Chairman of the Investigating Committee, City.

Dear Brother.—Your sub-committee on hardware, groceries, etc., have given these special departments of merchandise careful investigation, and in accordance with the instructions from the general council, beg to report as follows:

We are of the opinion that to secure for co-operation, the united support of the people, it is essential that the several co-operative enterprises in the Territory have their confidence, which can be obtained by fair, just and honorable dealing, and offering advantages to patrons, in prices and qualities of goods.

As regards the importation of merchandise, we believe that it has been done by Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution, to the best possible advantage under existing circumstances. To-day, however, the institution is in a position to purchase its goods in the markets of the east and west at closer figures than heretofore; and we are satisfied that local co-operative stores, and retail dealers, can be furnished with these goods at figures and upon terms that will be to their advantage.

All classes of home products should be persistently brought to the notice of the people, and to this end we would recommend that managers and salesmen of co-operative institutions urge upon the people the purchase of a home produced article in preference to an imported one.

Z. C. M. I. has done much to foster home products, and is desirous to continue to do the same.

During the past year, we learn, that no less than \$125,000 worth of home made articles were purchased by the parent institution, and sold to its customers.

Respectfully,  
WM JENNINGS, Chairman,  
FERAMORZ LITTLE,  
D. H. PEERY,  
JOHN CLARK,  
THOMAS G. WEBBER,  
HENRY EYRING.

REPORT SUB COMMITTEE ON PRODUCE.

SALT LAKE CITY, U. T.,

October 4th, 1878.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee of Inquiry.

Your committee on produce beg respectfully to submit as their report:

1st. That the produce trade of our Territory is an important one, approximating in value to one million of dollars per annum, and should, in the opinion of your committee, be handled and marketed as far as possible by Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution, in the best interest of the producer.

2d. It is the opinion of your committee that this branch of trade heretofore, has been too extensively managed by middle men, having no common interest in the prosperity of the people. These parties have frequently secured the saleable produce of our Territory at rates which too often seem to have had no relation whatever to the prices secured by them, from actual consumers. This, in the opinion of your committee, is all wrong, in that it is a positive injury to our farmers who, as a class, are not supposed to be fully familiar with the "tricks of trade" often practised upon them by these middle men; nor can they reasonably be expected, individually to become familiar with prices ruling at commercial centers. It therefore becomes the duty, and it should be the pleasure of Z. C. M. I. in receiving the patronage of our home producers to look well to the interest of the latter in this regard; securing for them the lowest rates for transportation where produce is shipped out of the Territory, and the highest ruling prices for the same at points of destination.

3d. When Z. C. M. I. exchanges goods for produce, they should, in the opinion of your committee, make a reasonable profit on the

former, and not seek to make gains on the latter. A uniform policy of this kind strictly adhered to would, without doubt, speedily render the business of these middle men in this line, very undesirable.

4th. We believe that, in all these matters, Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution, should, as heretofore, take the lead, fully demonstrating that her interests are fully identified with the interests of the people of our Territory, and that her efforts are for and not against them, and in this connection she should avoid as far as possible, the importation and sale of foreign produce, giving always our home produced articles the preference.

5th. In order to secure the best results as to the quality of, and prices for the produce of our Territory, we would respectfully suggest and earnestly recommend the organization and permanent establishment of a local board of trade in each Stake throughout the Territory to do business in harmony and with the aid of Z. C. M. I.

6th. The best possible means with which to unite our people on co-operation in reference to the produce trade of the Territory, is, in the opinion of your committee, to adopt and practice these suggestions, and for Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution in all her commercial relations, to protect her customers and particularly our home producers as she, under like circumstances would like to be protected.

Very respectfully, etc.,  
M. THATCHER,  
R. S. WATSON,  
WM. W. BURTON,  
GEORGE TEASDALE.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON WOOL, HIDES, PELTS, ETC.

SALT LAKE CITY,

October 2d, 1878.

To the Committee appointed to consider the Manufacturing and Mercantile Interests of this Territory.

Brethren—Your sub-committee on wool, hides, and pelts, etc., met pursuant to adjournment, at the Council House, and after mature deliberation, we beg leave to report that,

In our opinion, in order to accomplish the desired object and obtain a unity of action among the people, the presidency of the several Stakes should be called upon to make a strong and determined effort to unite the people in this matter, and,

We would respectfully suggest that full instructions be issued, by the proper authorities, to said presidents, setting forth the object to be accomplished, and asking them to use their best efforts to protect the home-manufacturing and export interests of the Territory.

And your committee would further suggest that their attention be especially called to the wool and hide products of the Territory, as they are the foundation of our largest home-manufactures, we think these articles should be handled within ourselves. We are well aware that there is a large surplus of wool and hides over and above what is required for our home use, and if these products are handled within ourselves, the kind and quality best adapted can be selected for home consumption, and the surplus sold to our own agents or shipped by them on commission as may best suit the producer.

Your committee firmly believe that it is for the best interest of the people to adopt this course, and in doing this, our home industries will be fostered, patronized and sustained, fully carrying out the old adage of, "The greatest good to the greatest number."

A. O. SMOOT,  
FERAMORZ LITTLE,  
H. B. CLAWSON,  
ANSON CALL,  
WM. R. SMITH.

REPORT SUB-COMMITTEE ON WAGONS AND MACHINERY.

SALT LAKE CITY,

October 7, 1878.

To the Committee on Co-operation, Home Manufactures and Industries.

Brethren—The committee on wagons and machinery met pursuant to appointment, and beg leave to report, that:

We have examined into the feasibility of furnishing wagons and agricultural machinery at a small per centage above cost, and we are

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