

Niels Anderson, Liberal.
P. L. Sherver, People.

FOURTH WARD.

A. C. Ellerson, Liberal.
E. Orth, Liberal.
Heber Wright, People.

FIFTH WARD.

I. N. Pierce, Liberal.
Geo. Burdette, Liberal.
McLaren Boyle, People.

Both bands are out serenading and great excitement prevails.

THE INDIAN CONFERENCE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The conference between Secretary Noble and the Sioux Indian delegation began this morning at the Interior Department. The Secretary of War and Mrs. and Miss Proctor were present, and also the wife of Secretary Noble and Miss Halstead. The conference was opened by Secretary Noble, who said: "You were represented here just after the agreement with General Crook was made. You made certain complaints and requests at that time and you received certain promises from me. There has been trouble since then, and you have come again to say what you think proper as to the cause of the trouble and to make any further complaints you see fit. The Secretary is here to tell you that he has kept his word, but if there is anything more he can do through friendship for the Sioux he is ready to do it. He is your friend, and the Great Father has told him to be your friend. He wants you to talk to him as friends and he will meet you in the same spirit.

The Secretary then asked if the Indians had made arrangements about speakers. He could not hear them all, but would listen to a few and he desired them to speak briefly. He added, if no objection were made, he would hear from John Grass, Hollow Horn, Bear, American Horse, Two Strike, Hump and Young-Man-Afraid-of-His Horse.

In response, Louis Renoltre said this arrangement was not satisfactory, as it was desired that each agency should be represented. The Secretary replied that he would hear John Grass and American Horse and then take counsel with them as to who should follow.

JOHN GRASS

then came forward. Rev. C. S. Cook, Episcopal minister at Pine Ridge, acted as interpreter. Grass at once began to speak of the recent trouble among the Indians, the origin of which he did not know. They had come for the purpose of conferring with the Secretary in regard to the matter. The Indians, he said, did not desire to be driven back to their wild life, but wished to consult with the President, so as to determine upon the future. The Indians thought it desirable that the agents should be civilians, rather than military. In the past, he said, the Indian agents had opportunities to steal, but now it was difficult for them to adopt such practices. The agents of late years, he said, were good men. In speaking of his own reservation (Standing Rock), the threatened trouble had been put down by the Indian police. They believed in Indian police and he asked for an increase of fifty men.

Grass then shook hands with the Secretary and took his seat.

AMERICAN HORSE

was the next speaker. He displayed considerable natural ability and made a graceful preface to his remarks, referring in complimentary terms to the Secretary and the ladies present. The government, had made mistakes in their attempts to civilize the Indians. He proceeded to enumerate their mistakes. Instead of the positions at the agency being filled by Indians, white men had crowded them out and taken their places. What his people wanted was a chance to rise and fill positions of trust and consequence. He then spoke of religious matters and said there were three religious bodies on their reservation, who were trying to teach them to live better lives, and especially bring about religious marriages, but they did not want to be compelled to marry certain persons.

The Secretary inquired who had sought to

COMPEL THEM TO MARRY.

American Horse replied that he referred more particularly to persons who eloped. When the couple were brought back the agent obliged them to be married.

YOUNG-MAN-A-FRAID-OF-HIS HORSES related his services in the interests of harmony during the late trouble. He brought his people into camp and had turned in their arms.

"How many?" queried the Secretary, and the orator was somewhat nonplussed. He knew that the total was small and did not care to say. He hoped the Government would not only educate the children, but also give them something to do when they finished at school.

TWO-STRIKE

said he had made peace with General Miles and was now going to do what he could to maintain it.

HUMP

said about 300 of his people had been killed and there should be some consideration shown to the survivors. He wanted the ration increased and continued.

HOLLOW HORN,

Bear and Medicine Bull talked briefly, and then Secretary Noble spoke to the Indians. He said the Indian must not be discouraged. He would be supported as long as he endeavored to do well. There were two sides to the question of what is due from the Indian. Up to 1884 the Sioux had been given \$42,000,000 by the Government. The Government acknowledges its treaties and agreements with the Sioux. Since 1884, when this money was paid, there had been much more money paid, according to treaty.

The Secretary then quoted statistics as to the issues to the Indians. The schools the Indians want have been kept up at all the agencies, and industrial schools, such as they want, had also been re-established at Pierre and another school would be put up at Flandreau.

Farmers had been kept at different agencies to show the Sioux how to farm the land. It was a mere accident that \$400,000 should have been cut off the Sioux appropriation immediately after the agreement with General Crook. It would have been the same if there had been no agreement. These things should convince

the Sioux that the government had been trying to do what was right for the Indians.

In conclusion the Secretary advised the Indians to think over the many things the government had done for them, to look at the promises made by General Crook and have confidence in what he said. The Secretary said he wanted the Indians to make up their minds to do the best they could to educate or have educated their children, and never to let their young men dream that they could ever get anything by force from the United States.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The Sunday School officers and teachers of this Stake met Monday evening, Feb. 2nd, in the Fourteenth Ward Assembly Rooms; the attendance was quite large, and there were representatives from nearly all the schools of the city. The Twenty-first Ward school, who furnished the excellent singing exercises, was represented by nearly all the members of the school. Assistant Superintendent Lyon presided.

The opening prayer was offered by Superintendent Robert Aveson.

The singing exercises conducted under the direction of Brother Thomas McIntyre, were given from songs prepared under the tonic sol-fa system; the beautiful harmony produced by the whole school showed the simplicity of this method, and how easily and thoroughly the songs of Zion can be acquired when set to this notation.

Elder J. M. Sjodahl gave a very instructive lecture on the subject of "Infidelity and Criticism," prefacing his remarks with an explanation of the difference between unbelief and infidelity, the former being the natural state of man till enlightened by the Gospel, and the latter being the condition of those who, hearing the truth and seeing the light, refuse to receive it and choose to remain in the dark. The speaker briefly traced the growth of infidelity from the early ages and pointed out its connection with an unreasonable criticism of everything that God has revealed. Criticism is all right, the speaker said, when rightly applied, and particularly when applied to ourselves in order to ascertain whether we are doing our duties. This criticism lead us to feel right. And as we live and feel right, our understandings are gradually enlightened until we see clearly those truths which to infidels appear to be only darkness or inexplicable difficulties.

The school sang, from the German, "God Speed the Right," singing first the tonic sol-fa notes, to illustrate the method of instruction adopted in the Twenty-first Ward school.

Superintendent W. J. Beattie, of the Seventeenth Ward School, in replying to the general questions—what is the average attendance of Latter-day Saint children in the Sabbath School? and how to increase the same, stated that about 56 per cent of the children of the ward were in regular attendance. To get parents interested in the Sabbath School was one of the best means of increasing the average attendance of the children, and without this co-operation of parents it was difficult to do much in this direction.