

MISCELLANEOUS.

STAKE CONFERENCES

UTAH.

The Uintah Stake quarterly conference was held in Vernal May 8th and 9th 1898, President S. R. Bennion presiding.

There were present on the stand Apostle M. F. Cowley, Bishop Preston, the Stake presidency and numerous other officials both of the Stake and various wards.

Prayer was offered by Elder O. D. Allen.

Counselor R. S. Collett made some introductory remarks concerning the condition spiritually and physically of the people. All was peace, the general run of the people seeming to be more faithful than had been the case in the past. The Stake had been visited in all its branches by one or more of the presiding quorum.

The several Bishops presented favorable reports of their wards and in all instances improvement was declared among the people:

Sister Susie Y. Gates then addressed the conference. She was present in the interest of the Young Ladies' associations. Her subject was the moral condition of the world at large and the duties of mothers in teaching their boys and girls purity and chastity in all places and under all circumstances.

Bishop Preston was pleased to meet the people in Vernal. Had been delighted in listening to the reports of the reports of the various Bishops and also the remarks of Sister Gates, whose utterances are gems more precious than gold to all children and parents. While speaking upon the requirements made of Bishops, he said they should counsel with their assistants and pray together that they may ascertain what is necessary for the advancement of the ward or wards. It would be an excellent idea for Bishops to call together the Priesthood occasionally and counsel together concerning the best manner to accomplish the development of all temporal matters in their various wards.

Afternoon Session.—After the usual opening exercises Counselor James Hacking gave a very favorable report of the various Sababth schools throughout the Stake. Also touched briefly on points connected with the proper education of our young, especially as to the kind of literature perused and the companionship necessary for parents to select in behalf of their children.

Elder M. F. Cowley followed; was pleased with the reports of the Bishops. Had been impressed since coming to this valley that the people need the Spirit of God to guide them in extending their possessions and building up their homes. Referred to the revelation given to President John Taylor concerning the Priesthood and members being set in order, and said if we would do this, God had promised to fight our battles, which means protection in all lines pertaining to our well being.

Sister Gates spoke briefly on the object and manner of colonization, then read and commented at considerable length on the 58th chapter of Isaiah, which speaks pointedly on the breaking of the Sabbath.

A general Priesthood meeting was held at 7 o'clock p. m. at which the brethren gave valuable counsel and information as to the manner of organizing and keeping in order the different quorums in the wards, their duties and the effects of faithful work by those in authority.

Monday Morning Session.—Prayer by Bishop James Shaffer.

Elder R. S. Collett was thankful to have an identity with people of God, who are a peculiar people in their characteristics and general demeanor in the eyes of the world. Those who are not of us, at least many of them, characterize us as priest-ridden, in bondage and entirely governed by our leaders who preside over us. But this is a mistake, as there is no people on earth so free from bondage as are the Latter-day Saints.

Elder Cowley felt to rejoice very much in listening to those who had previously spoken. The brethren do not visit the various conferences merely to speak, but also to feel the spirit manifest among the people. On account of unfavorable circumstances in Zion, and the difficulty of procuring employment for emigrants, the authorities have deemed it wise to counsel the Elders who go out as missionaries not to urge the gathering. In the Southern states the people are establishing themselves permanently by building churches, establishing Sunday schools, etc., which are doing a power of good among the people not only of our faith but those who are alien. They are also colonizing to some extent, that is gathering together on farms and plantations near together, which seems to be enlarging the friendship of the people in that region of country.

Monday afternoon session: Prayer by Patriarch Nathan C. Davis. Bishop Preston spoke of the lack of one organization in the Stake, that of the Industrial Bureau. These organizations should be instituted in each Stake and ward that information can be had at Salt Lake City as to the kind of inducements each locality has to offer to people wanting employment and homes. Also spoke of the proper location for the erection of a Stake tabernacle and the necessity of beautifying our homes.

Elders S. R. Bennion, R. S. Collett and James Hacking were sustained as members of the industrial bureau, with H. W. Woolley as secretary. A vote was called as to the location of the anticipated Stake tabernacle, which was decided to be near the present site of the academy building. The vote was entirely satisfactory as unity prevailed.

Elder A. B. Anderson reported the status of the academy, what branches are pursued and the general condition of the school as being commendable.

Elder Cowley was the next speaker and called attention to the sustaining of the authorities, which does not merely mean the uplifting of our hands but it means sustaining them in our hearts, which will bring forth actions and words to uphold them in all rightful undertakings. He spoke of the classification that exists in our midst, also the greed and pride stating they were absolutely wrong and displeasing in the sight of God.

President Bennion made a few closing remarks, bearing testimony to what had been said during the conference and urging the people to a faithful performance of their various duties.

After benediction by Bishop Preston, conference was adjourned for three months.

H. M. WOOLLEY, Stake Clerk.

SANPETE.

Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah.

May 17, 1898.

The conference of the Sanpete Stake of Zion was held on the 14th and 15th of May, 1898, at Manti, President Canute Peterson presiding.

At the opening meeting the following

Stake authorities were present: President Canute Peterson and counselors; High Councilors, Bishops of the wards, etc. President Peterson in opening remarks said the Saints should cultivate the spirit of appreciation of the many great blessings bestowed upon them by the Lord; believed we appreciate the conferences, especially when visited by the presiding authorities of the Church; said there are at present 79 missionaries out among the nations from this Stake, and quite a number of young men have volunteered and joined the army. The Saints should remember all of these brethren in their prayers.

The following named Bishops each gave a report of his ward: Bishop W. T. Ried of Manti north ward; C. A. Madsen of Gunnison; James H. Allred of Spring City; Acting Bishop Matsen of Mt. Pleasant; John Bartholomew of Fayette; Peter Peterson of Indianola, and James W. Stevens of Millburn. The reports showed a reasonably satisfactory condition, a time of general good health with, present and prospective prosperity.

Elder Henry Beal was pleased with the Bishops' reports and to know that the several quorums in the Priesthood are kept fully organized. The Saints should not fail to remember the missionaries and their families, also those who have gone into the army. Recess till 2 p. m.

2 p. m.—Opening exercises; statistical report read. Elder George Teasdale of the Apostles, who had arrived, addressed the conference upon the present duties of the Saints and what is required of them in the Gospel in order to obtain deliverance from the power of death, and to be permitted to return into the presence of God. Said what a great disappointment it must certainly be if we fail, after all the opportunities we have here to secure the blessings the Lord offers us. We being free agents can receive or reject the same.

At 8 p. m. Elders R. N. Allred, John L. Bench and J. F. Allred made short addresses.

Elder George Teasdale desired that the Saints should accommodate themselves to the conditions that will obtain by the Sunday schools meeting Sunday morning. Said it had been a matter of surprise to him that people of education should turn a deaf ear to the Gospel as something beneath their notice. Spoke of administering the ordinances of the Gospel.

On Sunday at 9 a. m. the Sunday schools held a session to 10:30 when the conference convened. Elders Maiben and McAllister occupied the time until recess.

2 p. m.—Elder Maiben presented the general and Stake authorities, who were all sustained by unanimous vote.

Elder Teasdale presented the names of Reddick N. Allred and John L. Bench to be ordained Patriarchs. Sustained unanimously.

Henry Fowles of Fairview ward, John Braithwaite and Lars Peterson of Manti South ward were presented to be ordained High Priests. Sustained.

President Peterson gave a brief outline of the duties of the presidency of the Stake.

Elder Teasdale again addressed the conference and spoke of the Temples and their uses.

Elder Teasdale, assisted by Patriarch Canute Peterson, ordained R. N. Allred and John L. Bench Patriarchs.

Choir sang an anthem. Benediction by Elder Henry Beal. Conference adjourned for three months to meet in Mt. Pleasant.

GEORGE TAYLOR, Clerk.

STAR VALLEY.

The quarterly conference of the Star