

I had the pleasure of attending two conferences during the present month, one at Frisco and the other at Sacramento. A most enjoyable time was had at both places by Saints, Elders and friends. A grand picnic and ball was given the Elders after each conference. It seems that one has to go on a mission in order to fully appreciate the association of friends. The joy and pleasure experienced by such meetings is due to the six months' separation of Saints and Elders, together with their faithfulness in discharging their duties and obeying the Gospel. Such love and unity must exist among any people who are striving to keep the commandments of God. At the close of the conference the Elders received their new appointments and set out for another six months' labor among those who sit in darkness. All feel greatly benefitted and strengthened by the instructions received during conference and Priesthood meeting and went forth with renewed energy and a stronger determination to discharge their duties as servants of God. Much prejudice is being allayed by the persistent efforts of the Elders, assisted by the Saints. Many friends are being made and the Mormon people are being more thought of and their doctrines are being investigated by thousands of people.

In the cities the Elders find it necessary to pay their way. Street preaching is carried on extensively and is productive of much good. Thousands of people are thus reached and listen to the Gospel that would never enter the door of a hall or church. All classes of people are being taught the true plan of salvation upon the streets of this state, so the rich as well as the poor and loafers, hear its precious truths.

I had the honor of listening to the last public address uttered by our beloved Prophet and leader, President Wilford Woodruff, delivered before the Saints in their hall on 909 Market street, San Francisco, on the Sunday before he passed away.

California is still suffering from drouth. The sugar beet and grain crop was a failure in the southern part of the state. The people predict an abundance of rain the coming winter.

People having relatives in this part of the state and desire us to call on them will kindly send their addresses.

I am your brother in the Gospel of Christ.

ELDER BYRON A. WEST,
Fourteenth Ward, S. L. City, Utah.

Sacramento Conference.

The Sacramento conference convened in Sacramento, City, Oct. 9.

Elder E. H. Nye and wife of the California mission were in attendance, having come from San Francisco for the purpose of participating in the services.

Our conference president, Elder U. E. Stoker, presided at the meetings.

After the usual opening exercises Elder Stoker set forth the object of the conference and welcomed all to attend its sessions. The general Church authorities were presented and unanimously sustained. The duties of the various officers in the Church were explained by Elder Stoker.

Elders H. J. Bodily, N. F. Egan, Byde A. West, C. A. Mickelsen, Elder Hovey, John Miller, Orville Coffey and G. C. Child spoke on the first principles of the Gospel and bore testimony that Joseph Smith was a true Prophet.

The afternoon session opened with a greater number in attendance. Elder N. D. Jackson was the first speaker, taking up the question of divine authority. Jno. T. West, Harry Haines, Alvin Benson each spoke on Gospel principles.

Sisters John B. Miller and Hattie M. Nye each spoke bearing strong testimonies of the truth of the Gospel and reported that they had taken great joy in their labors.

Elder E. H. Nye occupied the remainder of the time and related some of the great gifts, powers and blessings that we as a people enjoy. He said that we live in the very midst of miracles and prophesying.

The evening services were well attended by Saints and investigators. Elder N. E. Stoker delivered an address upon the authenticity of the Bible and spoke of the restoration of the Gospel, and he bore his testimony to the truth of the work as promulgated by the Latter-day Saints.

Elder Nye made closing remarks, calling attention to the faithful and energetic labors of the Elders.

At the Priesthood meeting Monday many timely instructions were given to the Elders by Elder Nye. All felt that a good work had been done and that bright prospects were before us.

At the social Monday night all had a most excellent time. A well prepared program of music and recitations.

The branch of the Church established ere is growing and many truth-seekers are investigating the principles of the Gospel.

Any mail sent to 405, 15th St., Sacramento, will reach any of the Elders laboring in this conference.

A. G. BOHMAN,
Conference President.

EDDIE GARLIC, Secretary.

The Testimony of the Gospel.

Blue Shin District, Heard Co., Ga.,
Oct. 26, 1898.

In the Atlanta Journal, published Oct. 14, 1898, an article appeared containing the report of fifty of Georgia's newspaper men, who had been to Salt Lake City. They publish to the world just how they found Salt Lake City and the Mormons, and gave a very good report our people and praising President Brigham Young. They acknowledge him as one of the greatest men of his age. This is helping our cause as missionaries very much. It has taken away a great deal of the prejudice that has existed in Georgia.

My companion is Smith D. Rogers of Snowflake, Arizona. We came into the county of Heard on September 4th, 1898, and commenced our labors and have met with success up till the present time.

Once we held a meeting in a school house and had a large audience. The Spirit of God was with us and we were able to speak with great power. After we had dismissed our meeting, a reverend gentleman told the people to keep their seats. He turned to us and asked: "Are Brigham Young and Joseph Smith members of your Church?" Then he began to denounce us and the doctrines which we were preaching, especially the eighth article of our faith. He said this gave us a loop hole to take one part of the Bible and reject the balance, and by adding the Book of Mormon. Therefore we were adding to the Bible; therefore plagues will be added unto us. Elder Rogers answered him and told the people that would speak the next night on the Book of Mormon. We had a larger meeting than the night before, people coming from several miles around. Elder Rogers spoke for one hour on the Book of Mormon. When we dismissed the meeting the reverend gentleman called the people to order and continued to vilify the character of the Prophet Joseph Smith, President Brigham Young, H. C. Kimball and others. When he was through, I arose and testified that I knew that God lives and that Jesus was the Son of God and that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God. Since

that we have been treated with the greatest respect, and have been preaching every night. We are holding about eleven meetings per week. We are now in what is known as the Blue Shin district, where Elders Lyman and Cowley were preaching about the year of 1883. We are stopping at the same house where they stopped.

The following incident is related here: Elders Lyman and Cowley were treated very badly while preaching at a church called Salem, and at a place where Brother Spradlin was building a mill dam. Brother Lyman said that before long there will come so much water down this creek that it will rise thirteen feet above this dam. "Well," said Brother Spradlin, "I had better take it out." "No," said Brother Lyman, "it will not hurt your dam." He added, "These fruit trees will cease to bear fruit and this land will almost cease to grow crop."

Brother Spradlin says that the next spring there came a flood of water down that creek, and going over his dam thirteen feet higher than the dam. He says he measured it himself. The trees did not bear fruits, and they have only got their lands to yielding any kind of a crop. He says that he believes in prophecy now.

God is blessing us on all sides.

Your brothers in Christ,

D. H. KIMBALL,
SMITH D. ROGERS.

Address: Franklin, Heard Co., Ga.

In Georgia.

Pittman, Ga., Oct. 20, 1898.

It is indeed gratifying and inspiring to read from the columns of your paper the welcome weekly visitor to thousands of Elders, Saints and friends, of the progress and success of God's work among the people of the world. It is a new impetus to greater efforts.

In connection with Elders W. M. Woolley and Wallace O. Bunting, I have been laboring in Gwinnett county, Ga., since conference, which was held July 9th and 10th. We have been blessed with friends and valued opportunities in getting the Gospel before the people, and thus today we see the fruits of our labors. We sowed and watered and God gave us the increase.

We have enjoyed our labors very much in Georgia and in this enjoyment the Lord has seen fit to call us elsewhere. A sad and painful task now awaits us, and that is, after seven months of joy and sunshine in Dixie Land to leave Saints and friends and journey to the States of Mississippi and Alabama, and labor in the respective conferences. Friends wishing to write to Elder Bunting may address him, Courtland, Ala., and friends can favor me with good news by writing to me at Meridian, Miss. Our trip via the Shoe Leather Express is a long one, and while we are trudging along the dusty roads, in answer to the mind and will of God, we desire the faith and prayers of Zion.

JOSEPH HUGHES,
WALLACE O. BUNTING.

IN THE EUROPEAN MISSION.

[Millennial Star, Oct. 20, 1898.]

Arrivals—The following missionaries from Zion arrived at Southampton per American Line s. s. Pennland, on October 12, 1898: For the British mission—William Smith of Mill Creek. For the Scandinavian mission—Peter Jensen and A. A. Larsen of Geneva, and A. H. Erickson of Salt Lake City. For the German mission—Walter Alder of Salt Lake City and C. R. Jeppesen of Geneva.

Appointment—William Smith has been appointed to labor as a traveling Elder in the Birmingham conference.