

damage to fruit trees which had begun to bud as the result of the few warm days last week.

The heavy rains of the past few days have caused all the rivers in Missouri to rise rapidly. The Osage and Gasconade especially are pouring floods of water into the Missouri, which in turn flows into the Mississippi. The gauge here marked 24.6 feet at 8 a. m. and the river is still rising. This mark is 4.9 feet higher than registered yesterday. It is expected by the weather bureau that by tomorrow morning all the low lands along the Mississippi as far up as the mouth of the Illinois river will be under water. Damage from the rising rivers in this state is feared. At St. Charles the Missouri has risen at an alarming rate, threatening to overflow a large area of the best farming lands in the state. The melting snow will add much to the rising waters.

Only a few of the incoming trains arrived on time today. The delays were caused by the washouts and landslides.

All the streams about Nashville, Ill., are rising and the Okawa river is on the rampage. Wheat fields are flooded and all the bottom lands north of Covington are submerged, the Okawa being five miles wide at the point. The new iron bridge there is in danger of being washed away. Families living on low ground have been compelled to move. One family narrowly escaped drowning.

Bluff line and Burlington tracks are so washed that trains are being run over the Chicago & Alton tracks from Louisiana and Springfield to Alton, Ill. A Bluff line train tried to pass through the low place in the Macoupin bottom, near Haegeman, where the track is two feet under water for over two miles. The fire in the engine was put out and the engine and a train of ten freight cars are stopped. Another engine cannot back in to pull the train out, so the only thing to do is to wait until the waters subside.

ZIONISM AS VIEWED FROM JERUSALEM

It is probably something in the nature of a surprise, says the Literary Digest, that the thirty thousand or more Jews who now live in Jerusalem do not look with favor upon the agitation of the Zionists in Europe looking toward a restoration of the kingdom of Israel in the land of their fathers. They rather "view with alarm" the project of Zionism. A recent issue of the Bote aus Zion, a German mission journal published in Jerusalem, brings the following intelligence on this matter, translated for the Digest.

However much the Jews of Jerusalem, both from a religious and a national point of view, put forth effort to make their individuality in the community felt, and however much their rapidly increasing numbers and their activity in commercial and business life have been making them a noticeable factor in the city of their ancestors, they nevertheless will have nothing to do with the national movement of the Zionists as this found its expression in the convention at Basel. The writer recently asked an old influential Jew of Jerusalem in regard to this matter. He stated that the whole agitation was a swindle, the real purpose of the leaders being to make money; and that this was the reason why the great majority of the rabbis would have nothing to do with the project. He declared that the Jews had never sold Palestine, and that accordingly it was not necessary to buy that country back; the only way to reacquire it is by conquest, and this would be hard, if not impossible.

Every intelligent observer who is in a condition to judge will acknowledge

that the effort to establish a Jewish state in Palestine, in view of the surrounding difficulties, not all of which would be caused by the Turkish government, would be a matter of extraordinary difficulty. It really seems phenomenal that the Zionist society has seriously thought of carrying out a plan and to do so with the aid of money. Even the Jews in the sacred city are so surprised at the method proposed that they almost spontaneously have come to the conclusion that a financial speculation is at the bottom of the whole enterprise.

The object sought by the Zionists is something entirely different from the way by which they are trying to attain it. The old orthodox Jew, while in full agreement with the former on account of his interpretation of prophetic prediction, protests most decidedly against the latter. That Palestine is actually the property of the Jews is, on the basis of the Holy Scriptures, acknowledged not only by the Jews and the Christians, but even by the Mohammedans. The latter have it as an article of their faith, which they, too, are perfectly willing to acknowledge, that the time will come when they themselves will again return to their southern homes and the Jews will take their place in the Promised land. It is quite natural that the Jew is not allowed openly to speak of his hopes of realizing this idea, and it has occurred more than once that a public reference to the uprising of the Israelites under the Maccabees, as an example of what should take place again, has been punished by the authorities. But the vast immigration of Jews into the land of their ancestors in recent decades is founded on this hope, as also the establishment of Jewish agricultural colonies throughout the length and breadth of the land, upon which much money and enthusiasm have been spent and some of which are in a flourishing condition. The fact that in a comparatively short time the greater portion of the trade of the country has fallen into the hands of Jews who have permanently settled in Palestine, was something to be expected. Then, too, that all branches of artisan work, such as masonry and stone-cutting, are now being practised by the Jews of Palestine, can probably be explained on the ground that the Jewish immigrants from southern Russia and southeastern Europe in general were accustomed to such work. But that the Jews have founded agricultural colonies and are zealously working them, is remarkable, yet there are more than twenty of these now in Palestine, especially along the coast districts and in the upper Jordan valley, all controlled and worked by Jews. They have been thriving to a notable degree, having learned what crops can be successfully raised. An important factor in the prosperity of these colonies is the fact that they are liberally supported by wealthy Jews in Europe, especially the Rothschilds.

It must be confessed that the success of these enterprises is a credit to Jewish perseverance and intelligence. They have demonstrated the fact practically that national farming, especially on the sea-coast districts, can satisfy even the demands of European agriculturists, and more than this would not be asked in case a Jewish state were re-established in Palestine. These colonies show that the Jews can live and thrive in their ancestral patrimony, even if the Zionist methods do not find their approval.

RETURNED ELDERS

Elders W. F. Tolley of Nephi, Juab county, and Hyrum Christensen of Mayfield, Sanpete county, have returned home from missions. The form-

er left home January 11, 1896, and went to Southern Indiana where he labored with good results and enjoyed good health. The latter left Utah in March, 1896, and went to Wisconsin where he labored during the whole of his mission.

Among those who have recently returned from missions is Elder J. H. Moss of South Bountiful who has been laboring in the Manchester conference, Great Britain. Elder Moss reports progress in that section of the vineyard. He enjoyed good health and returns home in excellent spirits.

Elder John J. Gallacher of the Second ward of this city who departed for the Indian Territory mission March 28, 1896, to labor in Oklahoma and Chickasaw returned home on the 16th inst. The prospects in these districts for effective missionary work are very promising. Elder Gallacher was compelled to return home on account of ill health.

Elder John P. Wright of Mill Creek, Salt Lake county, returned from a mission to Great Britain on Saturday last. He labored in the Welsh conference which he reports as being in a flourishing condition.

Elder James S. W. Frame of Taylorsville, Salt Lake county, who went to Great Britain as a missionary in Nov., 1897, is home again having returned on March 12, 1898. His missionary services were performed in Scotland.

Elder W. J. Holt of East Bountiful has returned home after an absence of eighteen months. During that period he labored as a missionary in the Liverpool conference.

Elder Foster W. Jones of Nephi, returned from the Northern States mission field Wednesday. He left home Jan. 18, 1896, and labored while away in the states of Indiana and Illinois, where he reports the work progressing, many of the people investigating the principles of the Gospel. Especially are conditions favorable in Indiana where an enjoyable conference was held recently. The Elders are enjoying good health, generally speaking, and Elder Jones has little room for complaint on this score.

Washington, March 28.—Mr. Dolliver said today:

"Reports show that the explosion was the result of a well-planned conspiracy involving many persons expert in the use of infernal weapons and having access to the military stores of the Havana government. It was an act of barbarism, and if it were not overshadowed by the larger national duty in respect to Cuba, would lead at once to a declaration of war. As the whole case now stands, our duty to end the misery in Cuba by whatever means are necessary, is plain. I hope that there will be no hesitation and little delay."

The governor of Idaho has issued the following proclamation: I, Frank Steunenberg, governor of the state of Idaho, by virtue of the authority in me vested, do hereby offer in behalf of said state of Idaho, a reward of \$1,000 each for the arrest and conviction of the assassins of Frederick D. Whitney, who was shot near the town of Gem, Shoshone county, state of Idaho, on or about the 23rd day of December, 1897; it appearing that the said Frederick D. Whitney was a peaceable, law-abiding citizen and was assassinated by persons unknown. Given under my hand and the great seal of state of Idaho, this 25th day of March, A. D., 1898.