

Priests, 17; Teachers, 26; Deacons, 144; members, 1340. Children under eight years, 1198. Total of souls, 3154.

The speakers in the forenoon were Orange Sealy, of the Emery Stake Presidency, and Brother Bean, of the Sevier Stake Presidency, who bore testimony to the truth of the work in which the Saints are engaged.

Bishops Frandsen, of Price, Pulsipher, of Huntington, and Olsen of Castle Dale, reported their wards in good condition. The remainder of the time was occupied by Apostle Grant.

At the afternoon meeting, the general and Stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained. Representatives H. J. Stowell, of Spring, Glenn, Calvin Moore, of Lawrence, W. G. Petty, of Emery, and A. Anderson, counselor of Orangeville, gave favorable reports of their wards.

Apostle Grant urged upon the Saints the great responsibility of teaching their children the principles of the Gospel, both by example and precept.

President Larsen offered a few closing remarks, thanked the choirs for the music and all who had aided in making the conference interesting.

Price and Spring Glenn choirs joined and rendered the anthem, "Jerusalem, my glorious home," in an excellent manner.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder O. J. Anderson and conference adjourned to be held at Castle Dale, August 10 and 11.

O. J. ANDERSON, Stake Clerk.

THROUGH ARIZONA.

Three miles from Solomonville, Graham County, is San Jose, a small Mexican town with all the characteristic features of this class of residents. Duncan is a farming town, on the Arizona & New Mexico Railway, forty miles from Solomonville. About twenty-five families are located there, chiefly Texans. It is a good location for agricultural pursuits, and is situated on the Gila River. It was unnecessary to inform us that this was not a "Mormon" settlement. We visited it on Sunday and found the farmers at work in the fields, others carousing in saloons and no church in the town. The reply to our question respecting the last named was that "the people did not want religion." A Sunday School was advertised, but only two or three children usually attended.

Clinton, on the San Francisco River, is one of the most prosperous mining towns in Arizona, and is reached by the A. & N. M. Railway. There are forty miles of this narrow gauge road in Arizona. After passing Guthrie, it has an exceedingly heavy grade and a 150-foot truss bridge of wood and iron is crossed. Within a few miles there are four tunnels, besides over five thousand feet of trestle work and pile bridging. The passengers have an enjoyable experience viewing the fearful

chasms as the train winds along the cliffs and crosses precipices. The mountain scenery in the vicinity is truly magnificent.

The plant of the Arizona Copper Company, located at Clifton, is one of the most extensive of its kind in the west. In order to reach Apache County, in the north, we must necessarily travel through New Mexico, and the first town en route is Carlisle, a declining mining locality about eighteen miles from Duncan. Until lately it has been a lively camp, but the works are closing down.

After two days' travel through the mountains, in a northerly direction, we reached William Valley, N. M., where the little town of Pleasanton is located on the San Francisco River. Only a few families now reside there, though at one time it had good prospects.

Some of the readers of the NEWS will remember it as a "Mormon" settlement, but land troubles and sickness compelled the settlers to leave. The last hours of that hardy pioneer and faithful Indian missionary, Jacob Hamlin, were spent at Pleasanton, where he succumbed to malarial disease, and in peace and solitude he was laid to rest. We visited the open grave, the remains having been removed to Alpine, where members of the family reside.

Alma is situated about fifteen miles further up the river, but the town is almost dead, owing to the failure of the mines in the vicinity, which produced nearly all the business.

Bacca Plaza is a Mexican town near the head of the San Francisco River, and extends about five miles along the banks. It possesses all the facilities and resources for a large and prosperous agricultural town, but requires "Mormon" industry and energy to accomplish it. This is what is lacking in all the towns above referred to, and is apparent to all who have been privileged to note the contrast.

We continue to travel over the mountains and climb what is known as Milligan's Slide, a very steep ascent, necessitating the unloading of our conveyance, but we succeeded in gaining the summit. At last we reached the pleasant valley of Luna in Socorro County, New Mexico. What a picture! For days we have looked on a barren country, or traveled over rugged hills and through dense timber, and now we behold from the top of the hill a beautiful valley with its green fields and pastures, and surrounded by pine clad hills. Many neat and substantial residences are clustered together at one end of the valley, and a comfortable meeting-house is situated near the centre of town, where an excellent day school is conducted by Sister Heywood.

Recently a ward organization was effected known as the Heber Ward, presided over by Bishop Gilbert Greer and his counselors, M. H. Thompson and Henry Reynolds.

Two streams of excellent water flow into the valley, and a reservoir is being constructed about eight

miles distant which will enable the settlers to store enough water for the whole valley. About twenty families are living there at present, but there is ample room for thirty or forty more. Good crops are raised, it is said, with less labor than in Utah, only one irrigation being necessary, as sufficient rain falls to mature the crops. A visit to their Sunday School and meeting convinced us that the Saints were united and alive to their duties. More help is needed, and good Latter-day Saints are wanted to assist in building up the town.

Fifteen miles from Luna is Bush Valley, where the town of Alpine is situated. The people have been harassed by grasshoppers, having lost their crops now for two years and the prospects are not very promising for this year.

One of the newest little towns visited in our travels is Nutrioso, about twelve miles from Alpine. The houses are mostly built of lumber and many of them painted white, giving the town a cheerful appearance. About twenty-five families reside in the ward, presided over by Bishop Brown. Good crops are raised, some of the brethren having harvested last year from fifteen hundred to two thousand bushels of grain each. Two excellent schools are conducted by competent teachers during the winter months.

A three hours' drive enables us to reach an extensive valley in which are located the towns of Eagerville, Amity and Springerville. All these are included in one ward, presided over by Bishop George H. Crosby, who was recently arrested during a short visit to Utah. Preparations are being made to erect a commodious meeting-house at Eagerville, and at present Sunday school and meetings are held at the new grist mill, belonging to President Udall, which is centrally situated. These settlements obtain their water supply from the Little Colorado River and have constructed a reservoir enabling them to store up an abundance of water. Some of our brethren who are at present desirous of obtaining farms and new homes, would be encouraged if they could view the extensive farm of President Udall where he raised over five thousand bushels of grain last year. Settlers are invited and there are good openings for energetic men. As we travel on a vast plain stretches before us relieved only by low hills. St. Johns thirty miles distant, is the country seat of Apache County and, as many of your readers are aware, it has required much hard labor and self-denial to make it the flourishing city it now is. The district school is very prominently situated on the hill, and during last winter over one hundred and fifty students were in attendance. We visited the St. John's Stake Academy held in the titling office, a commodious brick building, and were cordially welcomed by the principal, Brother Brown. This institution has done a good work during the past winter and deserves encouragement. Much interest is being taken in it by the