WLYON & CO. OL

CONDITION OF THE STAKES OF ZION. OF

Reports Made at the General Conference Of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Sunday, Salt Lake City, April 5, 1903.

Utah, Union, Teton and Woodruff Stakes Represented by Their Respective presidents.-All in Flourishing Condition.-Marked Increase in Union and Good Works

The second secon

ELDER DAVID JOHN.

(President of the Utah Stake.) I am pleased to make a few remarks, and they must be very few, as a good many others have to speak.

I am pleased to say that the Church in the Utah Stake of Zion is in a healthy, thriving condition. Of course, our stake is one of the oldest, being organized soon after the settlement of the people in that county. They divided our stake about 27 months ago, organizing two other stakes—Alpine and Nebo—leaving us between the stakes. leaving us between nine and ten thou-sand souls. Previous to the division we had between twenty-four and twenty-five thousand souls in the stake. We are five thousand souls in the stake. We are trying our best to keep up with the times. The people are paying their tithing. Some 2,500 Saints in our stake are paying a full tithing. There are others who pay only a partial tithing, 480 who should be tithe-payers pay no tithing at all. This is quite a drawback to them, and it is also a drawback to the Church. We are laboring with these people and are trying to get them to assist the kingdom. We want to labor with all of them; for we do not want to be rash in handling them

to labor with all of them; for we do not want to be rash in handling them for their fellowship. It is far better to labor with them, to seek to enlighten them, and to draw them to us, and to get the Spirit of God in their hearts.

I labored a long time in the Utah stake with the late President A. O. Smoot, I was with him over 18 years, assisting in the presidency of the stake. Then I assisted President Partridge five and a half years. Since the death of Brother Partridge I have had charge of the stake, in connection with my counselors. We labor in harmony and with ors. We labor in harmony and with
re for one another. Our High
uncil and our quorums are
good working condition. Our
shops and their counselors
e men of God, alive to Bishops and are men of their callings. Our home missionaries and all our organizations are doing excellent work. We have been striving, of late, to infuse new life into the quorums of the Deacons, Teachers and Priests. We feel that we have neglecttd these quorums more than we should in our stake. We want to bring the boys to the front, those who belong to the quorums of the Lesser Priesthood and have them do the work pertaining to their callings. In doing this, they will grow and develop and become members of the hurch in very deed.

I have a testimony of Jesus Christ in

my heart, and light from heaven to comfort my heart and to cheer me in thy labors. To me serving God is a pleasure. I have endeavored to do this pleasure. I have endeavored to do this all my life, and to devote my life and all that I have to God's service. I pray God to bless us all and to enable us to obey the Priesthood, to pay our tithes and offerings and attend to our duties, and to build an altar of prayer in our own homes. May God enable us to do this, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER FRANK J. BRAMWELL,

President of the Union Stake of Zion. It affords me very great pleasure, my brethren and sisters, to represent the Union Stake of Zion, one of the youngest stakes in the Church. I believe it was organized nineteen months ago tocay. We were very few in number at that time, and were located almost en-tirely in the Grand Ronde Valley, in Oregon. Since our organization our bumber has increased exceedingly. am reliably informed that the inc of the Union stake exceeded that of any other stake in the Church during the year 1902. To be exact, our number increased 1,030 during the past year. have ten organized wards and one branch. All the organizations of the stake are complete, as are also the ward organizations, with the exception of

two.
The Union Stake of Zion was organized, you might say, in the midst of the world, and there are great opportunities for missionary work—and established. pecially by the good example of the Saints living there. The people of Oregon, I am pleased to report, are very broad-minded, as a rule. We meet with practically no opposition. We are invited into the business circle. We are invited to take part in committees in the local government. Only a few days the local government. Only a few days ago I was sent for by the business men of the city of LeGrand, which has a population of upwards of 5,000, and I was informed by that body of gentlemen that they had decided to put a ticket into the field that should be known as a business ticket, and that they wanted a "Mormon" to head that ticket. I considered this a very great compliment to the few of us located in that vicinity.

nat vicinity. We have an exceptionally rich valley. The soil is exceedingly rich, and with the cultivation that will be given it, I trust, by the Latter-Day Saints already there and those who may join us, it will produce enormous crops, and our peo-

ple, I trust, will become wealthy.

The spirit of unity prevails there. I knew of no unhealthy condition in any of our stake or ward organizations. I think I am also safe in saying that there are fewer drones, at least in one or two of our wards, than it has been my lot to observe in any other stake. I do not say this boastingly, but with

do not say this beastingly, but with thanksgiving to the Lord.

Our borders extend to the state of Idaho. We have two wards in that state which are increasing with rapidity. A few weeks ago I was in the office of the chief executive of the state of Idaho and was speaking of the coloffice of the chief executive of the state of Idaho, and was speaking of the colonization of the western portion of that state by the Mormon people. I assured the governor that it was our intention to multiply and replenish the earth, to reclaim the desert, to do as much good as possible, and to assist in the civil government all we could. He gave expression to an observation that he had made, which will perhaps be of interest to you. He said, "Mr. Bramwell, the Mormon people compose about one-Mormon people compose about one-third of the population of this state. There are in the penitentiary today about 125 persons, nine of whom are, or call themselves, Mormons." There are in the insane asylum of this state ninety or one hundred persons, only six of whom are furnished by the Latter-day whom are furnished by the Latter-day Saint populace. Such figures as these are very encouraging. It seems to me that to those who do not like "Mormons" or "Mormonism," in their sober moments of reflection, this would appeal at once and bear witness that some good, at least, can come from what they term "Mormonism." I consider it a very favorable showing and what they term "Mormonism." I consider it a very favorable showing and a great compliment to the Church of Christ in the earth. I remarked to the governor that if those nine individuals who found themselves behind the bars in the penitentiary had listened to the teachings of the authorities of the Church, there would have been nine less Church, there would have been nine less church, there are not to be wondered at, be ditions are not to be wondered at, be cause it is claimed by the people, and cause it is claimed by the people, and cause it is claimed, and do always Lord. I have claimed, and follow, but the some stake in trump sounds, some the When the least trump sounds, some the Woodruff Stake. It covers a large are of country. Our stake extends area of country. The stake extends area of country. The stake and west 125 miles, and about the east and west 125 miles, and about the same distance north and south. The same distances are distincted as and west 125 miles, and about the east and west 125 miles, and about the same distances north and south. The same distances in the word file of corn is one thing a rea of country. The same distances in the word mining alistricts are divided about equally. That portion of the same distances north and south. The same distances in the word word will ask Gabriel to weit a file. A good field of corn is one thing a rea of country. The same distances in the word mining and agricultural districts are divided about equally. That portion of the same distance north and south. The same distances in the word file of the s

that it takes a great deal of intelligence and wisdom to lead. As President Rich has suggested, the Lord has been true to his promises. He has gathered His people from the nations of the earth and has established them here in the tops of the mountains. He has said that He would gather us from every nation and that He would teach us of His ways, that we might walk in us of His ways, that we might walk in His paths. If we are the best people on the face of the earth, it is because

on the face of the earth, it is because we have been taught of the Lord.

I rejoice in the spread of the Gospel. I rejoice in the privilege that I have of being a witness of the Lord Jesus, that I am able to testify to the restoration of His Gospel, and that I know it is the power of God unto salvation to all those who accept it. I have been greatly privileged for which have been greatly privileged, for which I am exceedingly thankful. I am thankful that the Lord has blessed our efforts in the Union Stake of Zion. I think it has the nicest name that any stake in Zion could have. As I tell our people, we expect a great deal of them because as long as they are at home they cannot get away from Union. The great and last prayer of the Lord was that union might prevail, and we have got it in Oregon, at least in name. I trust that the fruits we bear will prove that we are worthy of the name. I know that "Mormonism" is true, that the Lord has revealed Himself in the earth, and that the power of God is in the earth for the salvation of the human family. Let us be faithful; let us man family. Let us be faithful: let us live according to the light that the Lord has given to us, following our file leaders. We sometimes sing the hymn, "We thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet, to guide us in these latter days;" but, unfortunately for us, individually at least, when we are told to do a certain thing, in some instances we fall. If we are thankful to the Lord for a Prophet to guide us, let us listen to his words. guide us, let us listen to his words, else how can he guide us? God bless us, and may He bless His children in all the world, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER DON C. DRIGGS, (President of the Teton Stake.)

My brethren and sisters, I am proud My brethren and sisters, I am proud to stand before you this afternoon to represent the youngest stake of Zion that has been organized, being the fiftieth, I believe. We are located in the eastern part of Idaho, joining the great national park, our boundaries taking in the Jackson Hole country as well as the Teton valley. It has been about 15 years since our people first began to settle in that country. I was one of the first. The scene that greeted our eyes settle in that country. I was one of the first. The scene that greeted our eyes at that time was very fascinating indeed, in looking into the Teton valley. It was then uninhabited, with the exception of a few trappers and frontiersmen, I think about 30 in number. To look upon that beautiful valley and see the miles and miles of fine land threaded by silvery streams of water, one was led to exclaim, "How in the world has a country like this lain so long unoccupied?" But as we view it now and see it occupied largely by our people, we cannot help but think that it was reserved as a gathering-place for the served as a gathering-place for the Saints. In fact, the Apostles who visited us in those early days told us that it would be a home for many thousands of the Saints of God, that the thousands of the Saints of God, that the land would be fruitful, that the elements would be tempered, and that we would be able to produce all that was necessary for our sustenance. These promises have been truly verified, for we are not only producing that which is necessary to sustain us, but we are exporting a great deal in the way of grain, potatoes, timothy seed, etc. Of course we do not raise everything, but we are able to produce that which is we are able to produce that which is necessary to sustain us. Our stake was organized about one and one-half years ago, by President Joseph F. Smith. We rejoice very much that we have this organization and to receive the blessings that we derive from our varblessings that we derive from our var-ious organizations in the stake. They bring into active labor a large num-ber of people, and we see the benefits and are enjoying the blessings that come to us in this respect. Some of the brethren here have men-

tioned something about the products of the soil. I might mention the fact that In the Jackson's Hole country we have, I presume, the greatest game country in the United States. Most of the elks from the national park are wintering there. I suppose that about 20,000 elks have relatived in the Jackson's Technology. in the Jackson's Hole country we have, there. I suppose that about 20,000 elks have wintered in the Jackson's Hole country during the past winter. I was going to say that many thousands of them had died of starvation, but I believe it would be more correct to say many hundreds. There has been a great loss among these animals on account of the early thaw that came in the winter resulting in the crusting of the snow, which prevented the animals from getting their feed. The loss was mainly among the calves. The settlers have encroached upon the winter feeding grounds of the elks. The elks have resented this by breaking into the hay-stacks, and they have become a menace to the people in that region, especially during the past winter.

ace to the people in that region, especially during the past winter.

I rejoice in the instructions that we have received during this conference. I have been particularly pleased in listening to the reports of the presidents of stakes. I am glad to be able to take advantage of their experience, having learned what they are doing and how they are working in their stakes. I hope to profit by their experience, and also by the counsel and advice that also by the counsel and advice that has been given to us by the brethren. I do not feel that it would be proper for I do not feel that it would be proper for me to occupy more of your time. I want to remember the advice given in the manual of the Y. M. M. I. A. To practice stopping at the right time and in the right place. I pray that the Lord will bless us, and bless Zion, that we may all rejoice in the Gospel and the placesings that are youchsafed to us. blessings that are vouchsafed to us, through obedience to the command-ments of God, which is my prayer.

Amen. ELDER JOHN M. BAXTER,

(President of the Woodruff Stake.) I take pleasure, my brethren and sis-I take pleasure, my brethren and sisters, in representing the Woodruff stake of Zion. The Woodruff stake was organized about five years ago. It comprises the south half of Rich county. Utah, and the southern half of Uintah county, Wyoming, also taking in the Lucern valley in Uintah county, Utah. We have fifteen wards and branches in the Woodruff Stake. It covers a large

now have a meetinghouse in course of construction at Randolph, which will cost upwards of \$15,000. It has not been

finished yet.

We suffered a great loss two years ago, after the organization of our stake when so many of our people were called to colonize the Big Fforn country, in ciuding President Sessions, my first counselor, and a number of other percluding President Sessions, my first counselor, and a number of other persons holding prominent positions in the Woodruff Stake. The Big Horn Stake was organized two years ago; previous to that time it belonged to the Woodruff stake of Zion: We met with another great loss in the Woodruff stake, through the closing of the mines at Almy, Wyoming, which caused the breaking up of the ward at that place. Alma was the largest ward in the Woodruff stake at the time of its organization. When the mines closed down, the people scattered throughout the states of Wyoming and Utah. I am pleased to say, however, that tithes of the people have not diminished on account of this loss. We are paying more tithing at present than we were when the Alma ward was in a dourishing condition and when the Big Horn country was still included in our stake. So, we are increasing in number and good works. That barren country country was still included in our stake. So, we are increasing in number and good works. That barren country known as the Ft. Bridger country, over which so many of our fathers and mothers traveled in coming to these valleys, which was then, and up to a few years ago, a barren desert, now has many beautiful farms and homes. We now have a thriving people there. They have erected a large meetinghouse, and it is equipped with all the modern improvements.

it is equipped with all the modern improvements.

We are getting along very nicely with our neighbors in Wyoming, although, in many of the towns in which our people are located we are greatly in the minority, yet we are accorded all the rights and privileges that others enjoy. We find the people of Wyoming to be a broad-minded, generous and large-hearted people. They are willing to accord to the Latter-day Saints all the rights and privileges that are given to other people, and we are enjoying the friendship and fellowship of the people of that state. We love them, and love to associate with them. I am happy to say that some of the congressmen of Wyoming have had the courage to defend our people in the halls of Congress.

courage to defend our people in the halls of Congress.

All the organizations of the Woodruff Stake of Zion are complete. I have, indeed, been blessed with good counselors—men of wisdom, men of experience, who have been a support to me. We also have a good High Council, which is a help to the Woodruff stake. We also have good Bishops and good people in that stake of Zion.

There is one thing that was brought to my mind this morning, while one of the brethren was speaking about the young people's moving away from his stake. We find that a great many young men and young ladles from Utah go to the mining camps of our stake, in search of employment. There are many temptations surrounding the young people in those places, which are not to be found in our agricultural districts in Utah and other places. So far as saloons are concerned, I believe we can boast of more saloons in the Woodruff stake fhan in any other stake in the Church. Every mining town in the stake has from 10 to 15 saloons, and Woodruff stake than in any other stake in the Church. Every mining town in the stake has from 10 to 15 saloons, and I almost believe the people drink more beer than water; but it is not our people, as a rule. Our people who live there are nearly all temperate. Some of them visit the saloons, I am sorry the set. Some of the young people who to say. Some of the young people who go to the mining towns from our agri-cultural districts in Utah and other places, after 'getting married, being surrounded by these influences and no longer under the watchcare of their parents and the Priesthood—some of them partake of these influences and fall to attend to the duties that devolve upon them. Latin-day Sainte.

attend to the duties that devoive upon them as Latier-day Saints.

I will say in conclusion, that I have a testimony to bear of the truth of this Gospel. I know that it is true. I was born and reared in this Church, being bern in Salt Lake City. I have had evidence, all my life, of the divinity of the work in which we are engaged. I know that this Gospel is a perfect law of liberty. I was freeborn, and I have liberty. I was freeborn, and I have been free ever since I was born. I have taken a great deal of comfort and pleasure in seeking the counsel and adpleasure in seeking the counsel and advice of those who were placed over me, and I want to testify to you, that I have profited in every instance by doing so. I know that those who are placed in the Church to lead us are men of God; they are men of experience; they are men of wisdom, and above all, they are inspired of God. It will be profitable to us as Latter-day Saints not only to take the advice that they may give to take the advice that they may give us from time to time, but to seek for their counsel and advice continually May God bless us and help us to do this, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THEOOCTOR'S ADVICE,

Marshall P. Wilder, the humorist was, not umnautrally, in the best of spirits at his recent wedding in New York. One of the things he said was this:

"I am going to tell you about an experience that an Irishman had with a doctor. This will be appropriate, for the reason that my wife is a doctor's daughter, and I thought seriously of studying medicine in my youth.

There was an Irishman who rushed, late one night, to a doctor's house in great Maste and terror. He rang the doctor out of bed, and he said; nearly weeping:
"Dector, dector dear, my little son
Pat, has swallowed a mouse, What in

the world is to be done?
"Swallowed a mouse, has he?" said
the doctor gruffly. 'Well, go back home
and tell him to swallow a cat.'

PROVERBS UP-TO-DATE.

Better swallow your good jest than lose your good friend. Sweet are the uses of adversity, bit-

ter are the uses of prosperity. The rising generation owes much to the inventer of the alarm clock.

If vanity were a deadly disease, every undertaker would buy fast houses. When the last trump sounds, some woman will ask Gabriel to well a min-

"MORMONS" ARE A GOOD PEOPLE

Such is the Testimony of the Rev. Samuel Hart of Australia.

WAS HERE IN APRIL, 1902.

His Impressions of President Smith, Church Teachings and Its Hembers Generally.

The following correspondence will doubtiess prove interesting to many of

the readers of this paper:

Nampa, Idaho, Aug. 13, 1903. To the Editor: Dear Sir-You may perhaps remember the Rev. Samuel Hart, my nephew, an Episcopal or Church of England minister from Australia, who was intreduced to you by the undersigned, at the April conference in Salt Lake lity, 1902. After leaving your city he visited England, thence made a continental trip through the Netherlands, France, Switzerland, the German states, Italy and across the Red gan, and returned safely to his home in Australia.

We had not met for 50 years when he paid me a visit in February, 1903, and post about three months visiting his spent about three months visiting his relatives in Bear Lake and Cache counties. I have received a letter from him recently dated June 20, 1903, and take therefrom the following extract that may be interesting to some of your readers who met him during his visit. His address you have. As will be seen by his letter he is a reader of the Descret News.

Yours very truly.

JAMES H. HART.

Mr. James H. Hart-My Dear Unclewas glad to hear you were well. Also stearn of the continued welfare of my

I was glad to hear you were well. Also to learn of the continued welfare of my dear cousins. I will never forget them. Their faces are all printed upon my mind. I forget nothing of all I learned from them and from you.

The Deseret News comes regularly for which I thank you very much. Those articles about the "Mormon" Church are most interesting—I mean those from the New York papers. What a queer thing that there should be such stupid opposition. I notice that the late Dean Farear of Canterbury was favorable to the work of the Latter-day Saints. I remember he published three sermons some years ago on "Eternal Hope," which caused great excitement. He must have got the doctrine from the Book of Mormon. It is a wonder those ministers who are so zealous for their gospels, do not remember and act upon the attitude of Pharisees, Acts 23-2; "We find no evil in this man, but if a spirit, or an angel hath spoken to him, let us not fight against God." I notice what you say about the work you have done and intend to do for my I notice what you say about the work you have done and intend to do for my father and mother. There is certainly scriptural authority for what you do.

scriptural authority for what you do, beyond what you believe is revealed in these last days.

It is nice of you to say that I should be welcome, and that I have many friends, should I ever return to see your dear old face again. It is by no means impossible, for I assure you I shall never forget your great kindness. I can hardly believe that I have so many who eare for me, and my family among a

nardly believe that I have so many who care for me, and my family among a people, who are, or at least have been, everywhere spoken against.

I never lose an opportunity of speaking a good word for the "Mormons," and the glories of Utah. I say that ing a good word for the "Mormons," and the glories of Utah. I say that I found a most courteous, liberal, broadminded, intellectual, well-educated, and well advanced, industrious, and religious people, of whom more lies have been told, and retold than of any other people under the sun. The world can put up with the Dowleites of Chicago and the Agapennoults of London; and the prostitutions of Christian effice, and the bigamy of Christian kings are winked at, but the honest, straight. and the bigany of the honest, straight-winked at, but the honest, straight-forward marriages of the poor "Mor-mons"—well. I had better not say any

Yes, I remember going with you to see your President, and a nice unas-uming man he is: and if this gentle-annly Christian bearing, this intelmanly Christian bearing, this inter-iscitual and dignified presence, this spiritual power and influence are char-acteristics of a prophet, then I have seen a prophet and Divine leader of men in the person of Joseph Ficiding Smith. This I thought when I saw and heard President Smith in his official lay my uncle introducene, and this I think now.

Lielleve me, as ever, your affection are nephew, SAMUEL HART. MULATTOES FIX COLOR LINE.

A social boycott has been declared in Scorgetown, S. C. The mulatioes have

celared that they intend to draw the olor line against their darker brothre in their social and religious assemlies. What has occasioned this deerse on the part of the "funs" is no known, but it has caused the blacks to resent in the strongest terms this rounted claim to superiority by those

The first move in the campaign of the mulatioes was the effort to have the black preschers removed from the the black preschers removed from the various churches in the city and to fill their piaces with ministers of yellow skin. Beginning with this, the boycott has opreed through the whole colored recial fabric and has lavelyes the entire negro community. Sometimes the terror that there are in the same family those of yellow and of black skin and then there arises much embarrass-ment in determining the social lender-

The most important victory won thus far has been the successful outcome of the attempt by the "lans" to remove the black editor of the Advocate, the negree create. He was deposed from his position and a yellow editor put in his place. The sext turn of affairs is awaited with much show of anxiety on the part of the negroes and of curlosity among the whites. - Chicago Chronicle,

GETTING USED TO 1T.

The new trolley route through the little country town had been completed only a week, and the car was at the terminal walting until the proper time to make its return trip to the city. An old farmer clambered slowly onto the ond tarnier commores slowly onto the car, sat down gingerly, and then climbed down again. Then he climbed into another sent, only to stay there a law minutes, and then he got out once more. After he had repeated this perormanes twice more, the motorman hought something was the trouble. "What's the matter old man? The car s going to Steeling in a few minutes, an't you make up your mind whether ou want to go there or not?"
"No. young man, I ain't goin' to Steelton today. But some day I catherlates to ride an one of these care, and I thought I'd practise a little gettin' off and on, so as to git kinder used to it."

New York Times.

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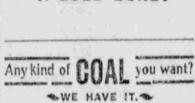
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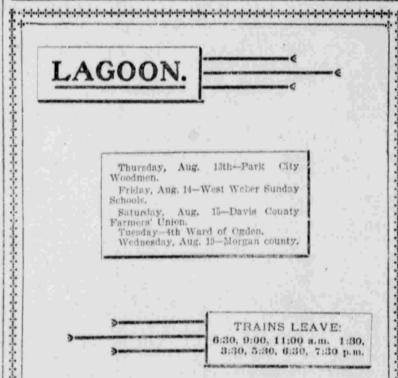
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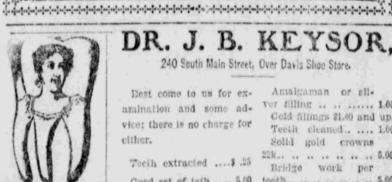
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