

and oats flat on ground and if storm continues no doubt but rust will follow; ranges look well.

Coalville—Showers of rain on 27th and 29th; the rest of the week very fine. The hay crop is earlier and better than the usual crop.

Heber—A good week for the farmer in the hay field; much hay has been cut and a great amount is in the fields at present; only had two light showers the past week; nearly all the lucern is badly damaged; some patches lay for two weeks and rotted in the field; clover and timothy heavy, badly lodged and rotting; grain and gardens look well; some grain turning. Monday, 10 a.m. raining again, bad for the hay.

Payson—Usual farm work progressing; great expense taking care of the down crops of grain and hay damaged by heavy rains; corn, beets and potatoes doing well.

Fountain Green—The past week warm and pleasant; the previous storms and floods which struck this part of the country, of which this town had seven but did not do much damage to any grain fields; a great deal of damage to lucern by the rains.

Koosbarem—Weather quite warm; crops growing well.

Center—The rain has stopped for a week and crops look well. Hay is dry and grain ripening very fast.

The past week good for growth. Second cut of lucern commenced and cutting meadow hay in operation; grain cutting commenced; grain badly lodged.

Huntville—Fine weather for growing crops but not the best for haying. Rye and fall wheat getting ripe.

Joseph—Monday rain, Tuesday the same; rest of the week warm some days, hot others; very little wind. Lucern that was not cut before the rain rusty.

Brigham City—Rain and wind storms during the week have damaged crops. On the evening of the 27th heavy thunderstorm with strong wind from southwest and rain .16 of an inch. Rainbow in the east evening of 28th; night of 29th, wild and stormy, thunder and vivid lightning; rain .21 of an inch. Forenoon of 30th, stormy, rain .19 of an inch.

J. H. SMITH,

Observer and Section Director.
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah.

A GREAT ENTERPRISE.

Thinking that the readers of the News would be interested in knowing what progress is being made in the manufacture of butter and cheese in Utah, I write you these few lines:

In Cache Valley there are eleven dairy owners who are furnishing the markets with the purest products, the quality of which cannot be excelled anywhere. There is one creamery in particular of which I wish to speak. It is owned by Mr. Samuel McMurdie of Paradise, and is the largest one in Utah, having but last spring commenced operations.

Mr. McMurdie has the reputation of having a modern perfected farm. He has spared neither means nor energy to bring the important industry of making butter and cheese to the highest point of excellence attainable. After having equipped his dairy with

the best machinery obtainable by money, he has employed a Mr. Harwood, a man who has spent his whole time in one of the largest creameries in Illinois, thereby making him one of the most skillful in his work. The machinery for the work is all run by steam, generated by a 35-horse power boiler and a 32-horse power engine, the latter having the capacity to run at 46-horse power.

All the floors are made of the best cement and are kept as scrupulously clean as human hands can make them. The whole interior of the building is calculated as nicely as the most skilled labor could execute the work. In the room where the butter is made is a 600-gallon milk vat, two 300-gallon cream vats, a churn holding 300 gallons of milk, a very large butter worker of the best make, two standard rushing separators and all things necessary for making the most thorough tests of every gallon of milk received. There is a capacity for making 1000 pounds of butter per day, but at the present time only one-tenth of that amount is made, having but just started to make this article.

The cheese department is fitted out with two 600-gallon vats and a curd zinc which will accommodate 550 pounds of curdled milk; in this department also there are all necessary milk testers. The day I visited the dairy about 600 gallons of milk was converted into beautiful cheese weighing 550 pounds, in two and one-half hours. The vats are heated by steam, thus doing away with the unpleasant odor of burning wood and coal beneath the vats to make the water hot, and enabling the cheese maker to keep the milk at an equal temperature all the time.

Tests are made at the end of every month. In the receiving room and neatly arranged are bottles placed on convenient shelves; these bottles are all numbered and every man who brings milk to the dairy is numbered. When the milk is brought in the morning it is all weighed separately and a small amount placed in the bottles which contain certain chemicals for testing purposes, so at the end of the month Mr. McMurdie can tell which delivery of milk produced the most butter fat. All the whey that comes from the vats when making cheese is carried along the room in a stone trough and enters some large pipes which take it to the hog house half a block away from the creamery, thereby insuring against any possible impurities getting to the store rooms which are kept perfectly clean and white.

As to the other parts of the farm, Mr. McMurdie has the two largest barns in the valley; one is 120x80 feet, with accommodations for thirty head of horses or cattle, and the other 90x60 feet, has stalls enough for fifty head. The owner puts up 200 tons of hay in these two barns every year. In one of the barns he has a work and repair shop, besides several of the most modern farm machines. The pig house is certainly very fine, in fact it is better than what hundreds of people have for a home, and is kept cleaner than a great many. The entire cost of these buildings, including the creamery, was \$20,000, the greater portion of the amount, however, being put in the dairy. It is certainly a grand sight to

visit this large place of industry and earnest enterprise, and for his determined efforts at perfecting it, Mr. McMurdie deserves the support of the merchants of Utah. M. M.

WAYNE STAKE CONFERENCE.

LOA, Wayne County, July 23, 1896. —The annual Stake conference of the Sunday schools of Wayne Stake was held at Loa July 25 and 26, President Joseph Eckersly presiding; with his assistants, the general Stake presidency and Elder Karl G. Maeser on the stand.

After the opening exercises, President Joseph Eckersly offered a few remarks on the prospects of the conference; reported his labors in brief; his assistants had labored in harmony with him; he felt a great deal of satisfaction with the progress of the schools. The results of the nickel fund were very gratifying, showing an increase of 35 per cent over the year before and making 75 per cent paid. All officers seemed to be honest, faithful and progressive.

Supt. Andrew Sander of Loa reported his school in fair condition.

Thomas H. Jakeman reported the Lyman school in good condition.

Bro. K. G. Maeser occupied the rest of the time of the forenoon session, speaking on Zion and the great advance of the Sunday School work. Advised all teachers to get the Sunday School treatise and study it. Gave teachers instructions as to duty and methods of teaching.

Another interesting meeting was held in the afternoon, and conference was continued Sunday morning with a full house.

The first place on the program was a class exercise on the articles of faith by the Lyman school. Elder S. A. Hank, second counselor to President Eckersly, reported his labors in the eastern part of the Stake. The schools were doing well; teachers are making great headway with the Sunday School treatise.

After a recitation from a member of the Fremont school, Counselor H. M. Hanson of the Stake presidency spoke a few minutes on the great Sunday school labor. This was followed by a song by a member of the Loa school.

Elder Karl G. Maeser then presented a religion class exercise. He made the work very plain by frequent explanation as he progressed. He also spoke of the education of the children.

Stake President W. E. Robison said that he never felt a better spirit than when Brother Maeser was conducting the exercise; asked parents to heed the counsel and requests that Brother Maeser had made.

President Eckersly thanked the Lord for the blessed privileges that we were enjoying, the good spirit, and the presence of Brother Maeser, after which the meeting was brought to a close.

At 12 m. the teachers and officers were called together and Brother Maeser instructed them in regard to the Sunday school treatise, the duties of teachers and officers in the Sunday schools, and kindred subjects.

At the afternoon session Sacrament was administered by Elders C. P. Okerlund and Jacob S. Bastian.