Morgan Stake Conference.

The quarterly conference of Morgan Stake convened Sunday and Monday, Aug. the 13th and 14th.

The conference was not as largely attended as usual, probably owing to the bad stormy weather; but a good spirit and feeling prevailed. The time was occupied by the Stake president, and others of the local officers. The instruction given was very good and timely. Honesty in the payment of our debts, strict economy in the expenditure of our means, mercy and charity towards our brethren and sisters and all mankind; these, with many principles and doctrines of the Church were very treated by the Elders during the conference. A very timely circular addressed by President C. W. F. Smith of Weber Stake conference, and published in the NEWS, was read by the clerk and listened to with much interest by the people. The Stake statistical report was also read and showed a satisfactory increase in numbers during the past year. A portion of a letter received by Bishop Carter from an aged sister now in a mission in America to the effect that the hearts of a band who whipped him and his partner a short time ago were softened by the sheriff, so that the governor would do nothing to have them punished, was the cheerful appointed to President Cheesman and received the reply that he was to protect the Mormons whenever he will at other times and places the whole militia of the state is on it.

The conference was brought to a close at 4 p. m. Monday and adjourned for three months.

The heavy wind and rain storm Sunday afternoon did much damage to the hay and grain crop in this county.

A. FRANKLIN CLEG.

MORGAN CITY, Aug. 15, 1893.

Star Valley Stake Conference.

The fourth quarterly conference of the Star Valley Stake of Zion convened at Afton August 12th and 13th, with a good representation from all of the different wards of the Stake. The health of the people is remarkably good, not one case of sickness of any kind in the whole Stake, as per reports of the several Bishops.

The teachings of the Elders also a dressed the conference were very edifying as also instructive, being of a nature to unite the Saints together in their religion. They exhorted the Saints to be content with what they have, and avoid running in debt.

We have had a very cold, dry season up to the present, but we has a shower of rain during the afternoon of Sunday the 13th that set the hay makers to thinking how soon their hay would be dry enough to haul. The crops look tolerably well, and we live in expectation of a pretty fair harvest. We are much disappointed at not seeing any of the First Presidency of the Church on the stand, but we realize the great amount of responsibility resting upon them.

The Saints enjoyed a goodly portion of the Holy Spirit and they all felt to return thanks to our Heavenly Father for all He has blest us with here on earth.

WM. H. KENNINGTON, Stake Clerk.

Commissions.

Governor West has issued commissions as follows: William S. Taylor, city treasurer, and Clarence L. Pritchett, recorder, Fairview, Sanpete county; E. Savage, justice of the peace, Star precinct, Beaver county; T. J. Hilton, city treasurer, Eureka; Joseph Hilton, justice of the peace, Tropic township, Garfield county; J. T. Pollock, constable, same precinct.

Arresting Lambs.

I keep labels in the ears of all the registered ewes, and a record is kept of the names and numbers of all sheep. When the little newcomer is ushered into the world he is not neglected, though when in need of aid, till he has attained the age of ten or five months, at which time the ears and horns are put in two separate lock contrivances too and allowed to stay there two or three hours till the lambs get quite hungry and the ewes equally anxious to be relieved of the short nuisance. Labels, punch, record and pencil are made ready, and when everything is in readiness ewes are caught and put in the pen of lambs, and her own will immediately come to her and proceed to relieve her mother. The lambs are caught, labeled and turned out in the pasture.

A record is made of the numbers of the labels in the lambs ears as belonging to the ewe whose number you have at hand, and when the record is complete the ewe is turned to pasture with the lambs and the work proceeded with till all have been treated in the same manner. I find this a very satisfactory way in keeping the record, and much prefer it to the plan of cutting or notching the ears. Putting labels in young lambs' ears is out of the question, as the ear is so small and thin, that the heavy label will cause it to droop, and the ear being quite tender the label is frequently lost by being torn off.—George W. Franklin in Breeder's Gazette.

SOIL MOISTURE.

Early Planting Followed in Consequence Made by the Pennsylvania Station.

When ground is plowed in the spring and a stratum of soil four or six inches in depth is dried completely from that taken and restored to a loose condition there is there is provided a covering which acts as a strong mulch. It is believed by scientist farmers that the checks in a mulched depress the loss of water by evaporation from the underlayed soil. Prairie States have been being learned, until recently the Pennsylvania experiments station made careful investigations. One plot was planted April 27, 1891, and the soil was carefully tested in comparison with a similarly manured field May 4. The mulched ground contained in the upper four feet 2.19 pounds less water than the other, but the planted ground had an equivalent of 1.73 inches of rainfall. When it is observed that the amount of water available for crop production is almost all lost in the time that elapse and is used in the last stratum, when one year is taken with another, such a fact has an important bearing upon practical tillage.

It has been the theory and practice generally to so plowed in the spring the ploughing should be done as soon as the soil is dry enough to permit it, and that where corn is to be planted upon fall plowing, the disk harrow, or similar tool, should be used upon the ground as early as practicable, to avoid a needless loss of water by surface evaporation. The new system of conserve waste of soil water is not the only thing we may learn from the experiments of Pennsylvania which they wrap with the idea of a mulch. Plowing at the same time in the best possible tillage as that will put from the surface two or three inches of the soil, and those together into the form of small clods which are so exacting in protecting the land, and so permeable to large rains.

The ground referred to in the above experiment and planted April 27 was left in excellent tilth, but that which, side by side with it, lay idle dark loose soil was growing and developed in it during that time a great number of clods of different size and hardness, and it became necessary to go over the ground twice with a heavy harrow, twice with a disk harrow and twice with a heavy roller before it was brought into a condition of tilth only approaching that which it might have had had it been tilled on April 27. Clods only did the work in preventing normal loss of the water of filling the ground, but at the same time it resulted in an unnecessary waste of water, which was large and greatly needed. The Farmers Review, commenting on the foregoing, says very truly that we are but starting to believe that surface tillage diminishes the rate of evaporation from the soil, but as yet we are without positive data in regard to just how great the saving may be.

The experiment was conducted at the Rhode Island, R. I. was found that during 1891-1892 days, for each column of soil one square foot in section and six feet long, the uncultivated ground had lost 4.84 pounds more than cultivated. A saving of 4.84 pounds per square foot is equivalent to a rainfall of 1.1 inches. 300.00 pounds of water are required for a pound of dry matter in corn, and the above saving of water in times of shortage should increase the yield of dry matter per acre 1,217 pounds, which is about 16 per cent, of a good yield.

The Honey Bee Exterminated.

Extensive experiments have been conducted under the auspices of the department of agriculture to decide if the honey bees are deserting of the seven extermination reported in some quarters from fruit growers. Neither care nor expense was withheld. Hives were kept within a building from which the bees could not escape, to fruit-growers, peaches, pears and plums, carrying from place to dead, ripe, were placed. The bees were deprived of food and left with the fruit exposed. Many came to the fruit, but never broke the skin, but when the fruit had it broken they fell upon the oozing juice. They showed no tendency to use their jaws in cutting upon a place.

The test issue thirty days, other bees were tried with similar results. In all cases food was taken only from fruit which had been previously broken. Consequently it appears that bees will not injure sound fruit. Professor Panton, of the Ontario Agricultural college, says that this is what might have been expected when the structure of the bee's mouth is considered. It is quite different in the case of wasps, which are supplied with jaws suitable to break into the skin, and in all probability they are the cause of the injured fruit upon which complaining observers have seen bees feeding.

Poultry for Cover.

Here is what Prairie Farmer says: "If you have had your access is making down grass on your land and have taken proper care as to seed, seeding etc., it is probable that your failure is because the soil is deficient in potash. Use 100 pounds of muriate of potash to the acre and try again."

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