

ELDER GEORGE GODDARD, Assistant General Superintendent, expressed his pleasure at beholding so many thousands of the active workers of the Sabbath School cause. This is an evidence that great interest is being taken by the hundreds and thousands of brethren and sisters engaged in this great labor, in this glorious cause. We are the greatest in number of any other organization in the Church of God. Sixty thousand children are now being trained in our Sabbath schools, preparatory to occupying great and important positions, civil and religious. They will occupy the places of their parents in a short time if they are faithful before the Lord in keeping His commandments, and we should labor assiduously to this end. We desire to present a few items for your consideration, the first of which is the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

A number of years ago, before President Brigham Young died, a circular was issued under his direction requesting that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper be administered to our Sunday School children every Sabbath-day, and that the Bishops, or their counselors, see that this was attended to. In some of the Wards and districts where the schools are large, and a great number attend them, complaints have come to us about too much time being consumed in attending to this holy and sacred ordinance and it has been hinted that this should be dispensed with in some cases. This must not be. We would suggest, in regard to these cases, that more help be called. There are plenty to select from to assist. It is also very desirable that there be as little interruption as possible during the administration of the Sacrament. Another desire of the General Superintendency is that the time for commencing our Sabbath schools be uniform through the Church so far as possible. The hour suggested is ten o'clock each Sabbath morning. There may be some that do not meet at this hour, but it is very desirable that they should, for the reason stated, so that when that morning arrives, every school in Zion will be in session. The exercises should commence promptly at that hour. In some instances meetings interfere with our schools, on account of being held too long, and this is an injustice to the scholars and an injury to the Sabbath schools. This should be avoided.

Another thing: When Branch, Ward or Stake quarterly reviews or jubilees are being held, and where parents and children meet together, and the children sing, recite and give dialogues, nothing of an outside character should be introduced. In our judgment the songs of Zion, gems of truth, recitations, dialogues, etc., that are contained in our own books, are sufficient, and all that is needed for this purpose. Nothing should be permitted that would mar the peace or destroy the spirit of these gatherings or any other meeting connected with the schools. Another very important item is that our Sabbath Schools should be kept open regularly, and receive as little

interruption as possible. Matters that can be attended to at other times, interfere with and are the cause frequently of closing these schools, much to the hindrance of their progress. Drawbacks of every kind should be guarded against and avoided.

We have a great host depending upon us for instruction, therefore let us honor and magnify our calling and the Lord will bless us and them. Select the best teachers you can get in Israel for this work and may they labor with all their might to train the young and rising generation in the way in which they should walk, and thereby receive the blessings of the Lord.

ELDER ISAAC B. NASH, Assistant Superintendent of Oneida Stake, Idaho, reported that they had twenty-six Sabbath schools in active operation and in a healthy condition. In the Franklin Sunday school the Leaflets on the Scriptures, lately issued, are used in the normal, intermediate and smaller classes. The pictorial charts are used in the primary class. The Leaflets have been of great service to the officers and teachers and have resulted in much good to the students.

In Franklin, the superintendent of the school and the teachers meet every Sabbath morning at half past nine o'clock, and review the lessons of the day, and find out if the teachers are thoroughly conversant with them. If any one of these teachers does not fully understand the subjects to be presented to the classes, the superintendent explains them. This is very beneficial to the whole school. We have quarterly and annual reviews, and they are very profitable. The alacrity with which the children answer the questions is surprising to all. The questions are put before the school in a promiscuous manner and the answers given show that the students have learned their lessons thoroughly. Prizes are given each year to the children according to the manner in which they respond to the questions and otherwise merit them. We have as teachers the Presidency of the Stake, High Councilors Bishops of Wards and other officers of the Church and we find that they are the best of all. The greatest drawback we have in the Stake, which covers a large area of country, is in regard to singing, and this we are trying to overcome. We have every thing to encourage us and have great joy in our labors.

ELDER ANDREW GALLOWAY, Superintendent of the Bear Lake Stake, said they had twenty-seven Sabbath schools with something like 2700 scholars enrolled. This district was one hundred miles in length by fifty in breadth, and it required a good deal of time to travel and visit all the schools; but they had made it a rule to make the round at least once a year. A seven, eight and even twenty-one day trip was not uncommon, and they had sometimes to be made over deep snow. Notwithstanding this the superintendency enjoyed their labors greatly, and they were gratified at the progress made and being made in these schools. Our mission is a great one,

for upon the servants and hand-maidens of the Lord rests the responsibility to a greater or less degree of the training of the young. Let us labor with all our might to promote this cause and its further and continued development.

Prof. E. Beesley, Brother Matthew Noall and Sisters Lizzie Thomas and Viola Pratt rendered the quartette, "Lord remember me."

ELDER JAMES E. TALMAGE, by request, addressed the meeting on the subject of grading of classes in the Sabbath schools. He remarked that he was simply a lay member in the Sunday school work, but nevertheless took a great deal of interest in the movement. The Sabbath school cause is of supreme importance among the Latter-day Saints. I have taken a great deal of interest in what has been said on this occasion. I realize that the success of the Sabbath school means an increase of efficiency, in sincerity; in short, of godliness among the youth of Zion.

We have been repeatedly told that it is to the youth of Zion that we have to look for the future development of the work connected with the establishment of the Church of God. I feel and realize that the Sunday school organization is a living one. It is growing and increasing in power very rapidly, and is like a tree planted in good soil, absorbing nourishment continually, and producing an abundance of good fruit. As the tree is capable of producing other trees, so is the Sunday school organization capable of developing and growing stronger and greater.

The Sabbath school of twenty years ago will not suffice for today. Its growth, development and increase are characteristic of every other organization of the Church of God. The Sabbath school of today must of necessity reach the highest standard. More is expected of it than was looked for years ago. We have a right to expect more. Our superintendents and teachers have better opportunities and greater facilities for obtaining information than they had in years gone by. More will be expected in the future. I have had opportunities of visiting schools in many parts of this Territory and have seen all varieties of classes, some of which were very mixed. Some time since I visited a distant place in another Stake of Zion, and attended the Sabbath school. One class was engaged on the work of Josephus. I sat down among them and upon inquiring I found that it was composed of Seventies, High Priests, Elders and others. There were two boys, one of whom was about 14 years of age and the other about 16. I asked why it was that these boys were in this class, and was told because they could read better than any other man in the class. I remarked they may be able to do that, but what about the understanding of the subject? I did not think it proper. A parrot might be taught to say something about Josephus, or even quote from the Latin classics, but it could not be