

I believe I never enjoyed a Conference better than this of the last two days. I rejoice to feel that the Lord is with His people and that His people are trying to be with Him. If you will accept the counsel you have received during this Conference, you will be united, true to each other, to your faith, and to your God.

You will feel humble and hopeful, willing to forgive each other and to ask to be forgiven. We should always come to the Lord's supper full of forgiveness for all who have aggrieved us, and desiring to be forgiven our trespasses.

I pray the Lord to bless you abundantly and keep you full of His Spirit that you may walk in His ways and not deviate therefrom. Amen.

STAKE CONFERENCES.

MORGAN.

The quarterly conference of this Stake convened Sunday and Monday, February 15th and 16th. The meetings were well attended, and judging from the interest manifested, were highly appreciated. Among those who spoke during the conference, besides the local brethren, was Elder Palmer, also Elders Middleton and Lambert, of Summit Stake. The counsel of the brethren was that the people should be more faithful in their labors in the cause of truth, and more liberal in their tithes and offerings and use more of their surplus means for the furtherance of the Lord's purposes and not to enrich themselves. The good singing by the Stake choir was a feature of the conference.

As the conference closed on Monday at 4 p. m. a heavy snowstorm set in, and though it only lasted a few hours, was the most severe witnessed here for some time.

ALONZO FRANCIS, Stake Clerk.

BANNOCK.

On the 14th, 15th and 16th of February the Quarterly Conference of Bannock Stake was held at Louisville. Saturday was devoted to the Primary and Relief Societies, which are in a satisfactory condition and well attended.

On Sunday morning, Pres. T. E. Ricks called the conference to order. There were present of the Stake Presidency, Pres. T. E. Ricks and Jas. E. Steele, also several of the Bishops and other leading brethren. On account of the severe weather and much sickness among the people the attendance was small.

All the wards were reported by their Bishops as being in a prosperous condition, and a general improvement is manifest throughout the Stake.

Patriarch John R. Poole spoke on the spiritual labors of the people, particularly that of "baptism for the dead," and other temple duties. The necessity of organized unity in disposing of the products of the soil, was presented in a forcible manner, which, no doubt, will be of benefit to the agriculturists if acted upon.

President Steele spoke of the goodness of God in restoring the Gospel, with the authority of the Priesthood, and how that by that power the people had been gathered from all parts of the earth to build up the Zion of God.

In the afternoon Elder J. Spori reported the Stake Academy as being in a prosperous condition and the pupils making satisfactory progress. He spoke on the science of Theology and proved it to be the foundation of all true education.

On Monday morning President Ricks took up the subject of ordinations, and progressive advancement in the Priesthood, showing how the different organizations are aids to the building up of God's kingdom. Our enemies are afraid of our unity and desire to weaken us by every possible means. It is our duty to contend for our rights and use all lawful means to obtain them. I am pleased to see the increase in the tithing of the Stake. The manner in which the same is disposed of and the blessings that will rest upon those who observe this law was forcibly explained.

The progress made in settling the country has been remarkable, and though the hardships and losses experienced have been severe, yet God is enabling us to build up a beautiful and wealthy country.

An excellent spirit prevailed during conference, and the people returned to their homes feeling that God had been with them.

JNO. T. SMELLIE,
Clerk of Conference.

OLD FORT BLOCK.

To The Editor:

Will you permit a citizen of Salt Lake City who has not been interviewed on the subject of the proposal to sell a block in this city for the alleged purpose of aiding in the construction of a railroad, to express briefly an opinion thereon?

Certainly we all want, or believe that we want, more railroads. There are various other things we need as well, but how we are to obtain them is a question.

Artemus Ward, I believe, was the unselfish patriot who wanted the rebellion put down, and to accomplish that object was quite willing that his wife's relations should volunteer or be drafted into the service and shed the last drop of their blood, not himself, however. Many gentlemen who have been interviewed seem anxious to have a railroad built to Deep Creek, who are willing that this city shall dispose of a public square to aid the enterprise, instead possibly of lending personal aid.

Men who usually build railroads, do so for profit, and not to assist in building up cities, hence I presume that if Mr. Bacon does not see profit in it he will not put money in this scheme. If there is profit in it let that suffice. Why should we be so eager to afford him the opportunity to make a speculation by selling him a block of land at a price far below its value?

The wise founders of Salt Lake City set apart certain blocks within the limits of the city as public squares for the benefit and use of the public, which were so designated, I presume, on the original map of the city, and the public being the constructive occupants thereof, when the city land was purchased from the government, the title to these blocks went to the public, and not to the corporation of Salt Lake City. If I am correct in taking this view of the ques-

tion, then it is not in the power of the City Council to sell or give away these public squares. It will doubtless be said that already the city has disposed of two public squares in the city. It is true that two attempts in that direction have been made, and it may be that no effort will be made to set aside those attempts to dispose of the people's property; and while this is true, the fact still remains that two wrongs do not create one right.

It is not safe to assume, as has been done, that because of a clamor from certain quarters for the sale of the block in question, the citizens generally of this city desire it. On the contrary, it is the opinion of this writer that, if a vote could be taken a majority would oppose any disposition of the block in question.

Before making any attempt to sell or give away the Old Fort block, it occurs to me that the City Council would do well to thoroughly inform itself as to its power to do so. It has an attorney who is no doubt well posted in regard to all local and general laws governing such questions, and will doubtless give such advice as seems to him just and proper.

H. D. J.

PRIESTHOOD MEETING.

Priesthood meeting of the Salt Lake Stake convened at 11 a. m. Saturday, Feb. 28th, as per adjournment, in the Assembly Hall, President Angus M. Cannon, presiding.

The High Priests' Quorum were also present.

After the usual open exercises President A. M. Cannon read a letter of inquiry and answered the same, the essence of the subject being as follows: When a man is ordained an Elder he should get a certificate of said ordination, should keep the same, wherever he goes, or whatever Quorum he may join; but in removing from one ward to another, a Bishop's recommendation, which is different and for a different purpose, should be taken by such person to the ward to which he goes.

A letter was read from Dr. Karl G. Maeser, general superintendent of the Church Board of Education, asking for statistics regarding the organization of religion classes, etc., and as no definite movement as yet had been taken, Dr. James E. Talmage was unanimously sustained as superintendent of the organization in this stake, and he is at liberty to call any others in the stake to his aid, in each ward.

President Cannon also recommended that when funerals were desired to be conducted on Sundays, that services be held before, Sacrament meeting or between meetings.

Counselor C. W. Penrose said that as Stake Conference would be held tomorrow and as good efficient Deacons were needed to aid in seating the people and maintaining order, it was necessary that three deacons from each city Ward be sent to the Tabernacle to perform these duties.

Meeting adjourned until the last Saturday in March, at which time the High Priests' Quorum will meet jointly with the priesthood in general, and a lecture by Bishop O. F. Whitney will be delivered.

Benediction by Bishop E. M. Weiler.