

CHURCH NEWS

NORTH WEST VA. CONFERENCE

Clarkburg, May 8.—At the semi-annual conference held May 5, 6 and 7, a very enjoyable time was had, there were present President John G. McQuarrie of the Eastern States mission, Conference President Ezra F. Woolley and 12 Elders. Friday evening a grand social was held at conference headquarters; the evening was spent in listening to an interesting program; after which refreshments were served.

A Priesthood meeting was held Saturday at 11 o'clock when many valuable instructions were given by President McQuarrie, and a very complete report given by the secretary of the work done during the past six months, also the financial condition of the conference.

The work was very satisfactory to the president and along the lines suggested at the previous conference.

Elder August F. Kotter was chosen president of the conference, to succeed Elder Ezra F. Woolley, who was honor-

FOREIGN MISSION FIELD.

Baptisms at Wisbech.

Elders John F. Anderson and Horace W. Vincent send the following: "After a number of months' labor in this part of the Lord's vineyard, we are pleased to report two baptisms which took place April 24, 1905, in the river, two miles out of town. These two in conjunction with one baptized in Norwich, April 16, 1905, make three honest souls from Wisbech baptized since the call to the field. The ceremony was performed by Elder Anderson. We feel to thank the Lord for this, and as other true investigators are becoming interested, we hope to soon have an increase in members."

Progress in South Africa.

President Lyon of the South African mission sends word that the Elders there are enjoying the spirit of the Lord in abundance, and that marked progress is being made. They have many opportunities to hold cottage meetings, and have recently held one in the British South Africa which has an area of two million square miles, with a population of over seven millions, one tenth of whom are white. Presenting himself to the people of Bloemfontein, Orange River colony, for missionaries to learn the Dutch language. There are three members of the Church in this city, and they have interested others.

Branch Organized at Aberdeen.

Elders George W. Webster and David H. Packard send the following from Aberdeen: "No doubt the members of the Church are becoming more and more interested in the work. We had the presence of President Eccles on the 9th inst., when an organization of a branch of the Church was effected. We also had the privilege of leading three honest souls down into the water of baptism. There were about forty friends and investigators present. It is indeed gratifying to see the improvement being made in the Sunday school work, not only in its growth in numbers enrolled—now upwards of 200—but in the mental and spiritual condition of the children."

PITT ISLAND MEETINGHOUSE.

poral work, he left Elder Finlayson and the many friends in the latter part of December, 1904.

Elder R. H. Parrish was then called to return to his home in the latter part of the month. He left with Elder Finlayson, took up the work.

They visited Pitt Island a small dot of land 12 miles off Chatham Island. There are 16,000 acres of land in this island and seven families occupy the land as sheep farmers. The Elders found these people very kind and hospitable, so after a visit around the island to which was attached no little amount of pleasure, they decided to hold a meeting in the schoolhouse.

On Sunday, Jan. 25, the islanders came to the building and a quiet meeting was held.

An extremely kindly feeling was shown, and expressed by those who were already converts, and many talks with the people during the week. The Elders then returned to Chatham Island and spent the week advertising the meeting. It was a most interesting and profitable one, making a good impression. It was the first meeting held on the main island, and the Elders felt well paid for their work.

On Monday, Jan. 26, a meeting was held on the island and then Elder Finlayson sailed for New Zealand, leaving Elder Parrish to carry on the work until another Elder comes, which will likely be after the April conference.

These islands are inhabited by a good class of men, their chief occupation being fishing. They are very different to religion as they consider things of this life of more importance. They treat the Elders to the best of their ability, and many books have been sold and many of the smaller ones have been given away so the work is progressing by a natural course, and the results will come in the due time of the Lord.

UPOLU, SAMOA, CONFERENCE.

Pesaga, Upolu, Samoa, April 22.—The Saints and Elders of the Upolu conference met at the residence of Elder Parrish on the 22nd inst. for a conference. The purpose of the gathering was to discuss the work of the branch which is called "Saunatu" on April 14, 15 and 16. Although this place has been a branch of the Church for about five months, they have accomplished wonders in the way of work. They have built eight houses, cleared a large piece of land and have organized a school. They are also building a fine stream of water. The spiritual condition of all the Saints and Elders is such that they are living at Saunatu well prepared to take care of the Saints and Elders who are suffering with the heat and humidity of the island. They are also providing with shelter and food and everybody was made happy.

Friday, April 14, 1905, at 1:30 p. m., the Elders met at the residence of Elder Parrish to discuss the work of the branch. The following reports were given by President Thomas S. Court, who presided. Elder Parrish reported on the work of the branch. The following Elders were present and all gave a good account of themselves and their work: Elder Parrish, Elder Court, Elder Young, Elder Emery, Elder Ruppert, Elder Smart, Elder Baird and Elder Porter. President Frederickson of the Savaii branch was also present. The following reports were given by President Thomas S. Court, who presided over the Upolu conference. The following Elders were present and all gave a good account of themselves and their work: Elder Parrish, Elder Court, Elder Young, Elder Emery, Elder Ruppert, Elder Smart, Elder Baird and Elder Porter. President Frederickson of the Savaii branch was also present.

THE NEWCASTLE CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual Newcastle conference was held in Odd Fellows' hall, Newcastle, on Sunday, April 23, 1905. Elder Nephth Anderson of the Liverpool office, President Alexander Adams, and fifteen traveling Elders of the conference were present. President Grant was not able to be with us because he was suffering from a cold. The three regular services were held, and throughout the day a good spirit prevailed.

After the usual exercises in the morning service, President Adams greeted those present, and made a few remarks, reporting the conference to be a successful one. He also presented the general and local authorities, who were unanimously sustained, after which the statistical report showing the progress of the work was read. Elder William W. Hardy was the first speaker, followed by Elders Matthias W. Lowe, Orson John Hyde, and J. Marlow Taylor, all of whom spoke by the direction of the president. The report of the president of the truthfulness of the latter-day work. Elder Nephth Anderson made a report on the work of the Saints by way of encouragement.

At the afternoon meeting Elders James McFarland, William White, Jr., and Vincent F. Wootton bore testimony to the truthfulness of the latter-day work. Elder Nephth Anderson made a report on the work of the Saints by way of encouragement.

During the conference several addresses were rendered by the Middlesex branch, under the direction of Elder Robert Hazen, Jr. Sister Alice Ryder sang two sacred songs. On Saturday evening the Elders met in council meeting at the residence of J. Marlow Taylor, Clerk of Conference.

NEW ZEALAND MISSION.

Successful Opening of Chatham Island District.

From Port Waikato, Chatham Islands, New Zealand, March 25, Elder R. H. Parrish writes the "News" as follows:

At the April, 1904, conference of the New Zealand mission, Elder Karl Q. Cannon and Thomas V. Finlayson were called to open the Gospel work in the Chatham Islands, a small group of New Zealand eastward, about 400 miles. The first change they had of getting there was by the steamer "Toron," about June 1. Arriving at Waikato, they port on the main island, they found themselves among Europeans and Maoris. They were successful in making friends of all and, after having spent a few months on the island, Elder Cannon was released to return home.

Elder Atkins next came to labor with Elder Finlayson but, as he was needed in New Zealand to assist in some tem-

LATTER-DAY SAINTS' SUNDAY SCHOOL AT RIPON, WIS.

Elder James Grant sends the "News" about the picture of the newly organized Sunday School in Ripon, Wis., a section in which the Latter-day Saints missionaries are meeting with success. The Sunday school is growing and several baptisms have been effected since April. The names of the members of the Sunday school are as follows: Miss Olive Witte, Miss Lucy Streamke, Miss Vera H. Marquette, Elder R. J. Alder, Edward Konow, Ida Konow, E. Streamke, Emma Preilwitz, Earl Witte, Mrs. Emily Witte, Mrs. Ida Pease, Blanche Pease, Elder Grant, Miss Laura Witte.

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The second day's session of the conference was also well attended, according to the list, Elders Jos. F. Handson, Wm. R. Rigby, and President James G. Duffin, who were the speakers in the forenoon. In the afternoon Elder H. H. Robinson spoke a short time and bore a faithful testimony. President Duffin then presented the names of the general authorities of the Church, who were unanimously sustained, together with the mission and conference presidents and officers. In all there were held five general meetings, with an average attendance of 400, three Priesthood meetings, and one Sunday school entertainment. The Spirit of the Lord was truly with us, and all had an enjoyable time.

The last six months there have been 18 baptisms in this conference and quite a number are now ready for baptism. The Elders are received by the people very kindly, and many books and tracts are being disposed of.

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ELDER JOHN F. DIXON, Secy.

NO. CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual conference of the Northern conference of the California mission, was held at San Francisco, in the Redmen's hall, 225 Golden Gate avenue, April 14, 1905. Elder Jos. E. Robinson, president of the California mission, presiding during the day session, which began at 10 o'clock a. m., and Elder R. E. Hanks, president of this conference, presided in the evening, having been detained out of town during the day.

President Robinson welcomed the Saints and spoke of the tithes paid in the mission, and of their disposition in the treasury, etc. He exhorted the Saints to obey this law of tithing and also every other law of the Church. The other speakers were Elders E. M. Corry, O. H. Hanson and E. C. Jones, their subjects being "Pre-existence," "Faith," "Repentance," "Baptism," and "The Gift of the Holy Ghost."

The afternoon session opened with a hymn and prayer by Elder Thos. V. Williams of Salt Lake City.

Elder A. G. Benson then addressed the Saints on "Authority." Sister Lella Robinson of Salt Lake City, rendered Elder's variations of "Nearer My God to Thee," on the piano. Elder J. E. Carruth spoke on "Salvation for the Dead." Elder H. W. Clark followed with an address on the Holy Ghost. Elders Wm. D. Phillips and Robert L. Anderson rendered a duet. Elder Lee R. Taylor spoke on Prophecy. Elder Robert Anderson, recently returned from laboring in the British mission, bore testimony to the truthfulness of the Gospel and of his interest in the cause of truth.

At the evening meeting, Pres. R. E. Hanks presided. Pres. Robinson addressed the congregation on Gospel principles and bore testimony to the truth of the same.

On Monday, April 17, a Priesthood meeting convened at 10 o'clock a. m. All of the Elders and several of the local brethren were present. President Jones E. Robinson spoke feelingly of the work in which all assembled were interested and counseled and instructed them in the line of duty. The Elders made reports of their labors and they were given their appointments. In the evening a very enjoyable time was spent in dancing. Many visitors joined in making the event a success.

Thursday evening April 18, the Mutual Improvement association under the presidency of Chas. S. Hill and

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In the evening the Kelsey Sunday school gave an entertainment, which was a complete success, and all the parts were well rendered. It is indeed gratifying to see the improvement being made in the Sunday school work, not only in its growth in numbers enrolled—now upwards of 200—but in the mental and spiritual condition of the children.

The second day's session of the conference was also well attended, according to the list, Elders Jos. F. Handson, Wm. R. Rigby, and President James G. Duffin, who were the speakers in the forenoon. In the afternoon Elder H. H. Robinson spoke a short time and bore a faithful testimony. President Duffin then presented the names of the general authorities of the Church, who were unanimously sustained, together with the mission and conference presidents and officers. In all there were held five general meetings, with an average attendance of 400, three Priesthood meetings, and one Sunday school entertainment. The Spirit of the Lord was truly with us, and all had an enjoyable time.

The last six months there have been 18 baptisms in this conference and quite a number are now ready for baptism. The Elders are received by the people very kindly, and many books and tracts are being disposed of.

The Elders have left their fields of labor, feeling very much encouraged. There are three Sunday schools in this conference, and all are in prosperous condition.

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