

N. G. Stringham, Timaio, a native Priest now performing missionary work, was with us.

Five general meetings, a Priesthood meeting at which Natario, a half-cast, was ordained to the office of Teacher, a Sunday school conference meeting and two meetings of the Elders were held at all of which the Spirit of the Lord was very much manifest. Elder Wood's lantern exhibition of Utah views, etc., attracted an immense crowd (for Samoa) on Saturday night as did also his closing sermon on Sunday evening.

Six Sabbath schools were represented and rendered a program of English and native exercises that astonished both Saints and strangers and did much in allaying the prejudice engendered in the hearts of this naturally good-hearted people by the teachings of their sectarian ministers.

Less than two years ago the Atua district had but three villages where Mormons could be found, while today eleven villages contain members of the Church.

N. G. STRINGHAM,
Clerk of Conference.

In Southern Texas.

Deavors, Nov. 13, 1898.

But little has appeared in the "News" regarding the progress and development of the work in southern Texas, which perhaps is due to the fact that our conference is in its infancy only having been organized six months. During that time we have made great advancement notwithstanding the delay caused by sickness and a limited number of Elders.

The first conference held in this part convened Nov. 8, 9 and 10, during which time we partook of a spiritual feast. At 10 o'clock Tuesday morning we met in Priesthood meeting. Each Elder gave in his report and bore a strong testimony to the truth of the Gospel. At 1 o'clock we met again and listened to the instructions of Elder Wm. T. Jack. Our duties were pointed out to us and the blessings that will follow the fulfillment of the same. Before the close of the meeting Elder Wm. T. Jack announced the release of Elder John M. Kearns as president of the conference. We all regret to part with him.

Elder Wm. C. Young was ordained president in his stead. Owing to the stormy condition of the weather, but few people came out to the first meeting, but the following meetings were much larger than the first. The first principles of the Gospel were treated on in a simple and comprehensive manner.

The Elders laboring in this part of the Lord's vineyard are as follows:

Wm. C. Young, Deavors, Liberty Co., Texas.

Levi J. Taylor, James G. Reeds, Montgomery Co.

Hyrum O. Pack, Jas. Barnett, San Jacinto Co.

Stephen D. Taylor, Horace T. Johnson, Walker Co.

John W. Mattice, James M. Larsen, Houston, Harris Co., Texas.

Chas. W. Hansen, Peter Norton, Houston.

Any one having friends or relatives in this section wishing the Elders to visit may send information to W. C. Young, Deavors, Liberty Co., Texas.

WILLIAM C. YOUNG,

President of Conference.

CHAS. W. HANSEN,

Secretary.

Wisconsin Conference.

In a private letter to Elder J. M. Christensen, Elder J. D. Cummings Fond du Lac, Wis., Oct. 4, 1898.

It is now four months since I arrived in this mission, during which time I have labored in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. My health has been rather poor most of the time since I came here,

but I have been blessed with the privilege of holding about thirty-five meetings some of which were on the street corners. I have got so that I rather like street preaching. I have had a great many Gospel conversations and I find that much of the old, bitter hatred toward us is fast disappearing in this section and we find many honest people.

We travel a great deal in the country. We are now getting ourselves in shape for winter work. We are being sent to different cities where we go from house to house with tracts and trying to get into conversations. Next spring and summer we will go into the country occasionally as we have done this summer, and reach the farmers.

The ministers give us a wide berth and are afraid to converse with us, but they close their churches against us and won't let us have them to preach in. We hold meetings in private residences and on the streets and teach the people the Gospel.

Your brother in the Gospel,
J. D. Cummings,
Clerk of the Wisconsin Conference.

A Conference in Maryland.

The Elders of the Maryland conference met in conference at Mt. Savage, Alleghany Co., Md., on Oct. 22 and 23 and enjoyed a spiritual feast characteristic of a Mormon conference.

There were present Elder A. P. Kesler, president of the Eastern States mission; Elder M. M. Decker, president of the Maryland conference, and thirteen traveling Elders, besides a number of Saints and friends from other branches.

Conference convened at 10 a. m. Saturday at the residence of Brother Isaac Collins. This meeting was of a testimonial character, and each Elder spoke and bore a testimony to the truth of the Gospel.

At 2 p. m. the Elders assembled in Priesthood meeting, at which the Spirit of God was poured out in rich abundance. Each Elder reported his labors and gave a summary of the work accomplished in his field during the summer.

The reports generally were encouraging and showed a marked improvement over the previous six months. Better success seemed to attend the labors of the Elders in the rural districts than in the large cities and for this reason only two Elders were sent back to Baltimore instead of six.

Elder Kesler said he was pleased with the progress made and commended the Elders for their untiring effort. He gave many instructions pertaining to our high and holy calling.

Three well attended meetings were held on Sunday in the Odd Fellows' hall, at which a number of the traveling Elders spoke as well as Elder Kesler.

The speakers enjoyed a rich flow of the Holy Spirit which enabled them to present the principles of the Gospel in a clear and forcible manner.

The Elders received their appointments and on Monday morning began to disperse for their respective fields, full of the Spirit of God, and with a determination to work more diligently for the salvation of mankind.

The Maryland conference is yet in its infancy, but nevertheless a good work is being accomplished.

I am, your brother,
M. M. DECKER,
President of Maryland Conference.

In the Far North.

Wingaker, Sweden, Nov. 8th, 1898.

In leaving my mountain home in southern Idaho early in the spring of 1897, I was requested by some readers of the "News" to let the people at home know how the work of the Lord is progressing in the far North. Knowing that the majority of the Scandinavian

people in Utah and surrounding states and territories are readers of your valuable paper, I send this to you.

In arriving at Copenhagen, Denmark, the headquarters for the Scandinavian mission, your correspondent was by Elder C. N. Lund assigned to labor in Gothenburg conference. My labors have mostly been in Skofde branch, from which many have emigrated to Zion. Your correspondent has found many honest in heart in this part of the vineyard, and the Lord has crowned our efforts with success. In Warnhem the inhabitants did not know anything about the Gospel of Christ until about two years ago when two of our Elders secured a private house to hold meetings in. Our late conference president, Elder H. M. Pearson, and other Elders held a number of meetings. The people turned out in large numbers to listen to the speakers, and many believed. Next time the Elders came, they found things different. The adversary has been at work. Very few come to meeting, and mostly all seemed to have lost the love for the Gospel. Through faith and prayers your humble servant and J. P. Lofgren began anew to sow the good seed. A new place about two miles away was opened. An aged gentleman invited his neighbors to come and listen to us explaining the first principles of the Gospel. The old family Bible was taken down from the shelf and our teachings were compared to the word of God.

Having fulfilled our appointment in other places, we returned to our kind friends with intention of holding meeting, but did not reach our destination until after dark. We gave up all hopes of having any meeting that evening, thinking it too late to notify the people. In arriving at our old friend's home, they at once went out and invited their neighbors to come and listen to the Mormon boys.

The next morning, after promising to write and let them know of our next arrival, we bid them farewell, to return to our headquarters. At Molltrop I was notified of the arrival of L. E. Erickson, of Montpelier, Idaho, in Gothenburg, and that he would join us in a day or two. A week later Elder Lofgren was called away and Elder J. P. Peterson, of Hooper, Utah, having just arrived from home, was called to take his place. Having written and appointed a time for meeting at our old friend's place, we were glad to find their large room rather too small to contain all the people that had gathered at the appointed time. The congregation paid the strictest attention, and all seemed to be satisfied.

We began anew at the first place, and not very many came the first time; still we continued our labor with good results. The attendance increased from time to time. In coming to fulfill our appointment on a certain occasion, the undersigned was somewhat surprised to hear that the mission house near by had been opened to us to hold our meetings in. A good-sized audience was gathered at the appointed time and people paid strict attention to what was said. The trustee of the house had said some time previous to this that no Mormon would ever get to sound his voice inside of that house. The Lord blessed our labors and the seed sowed began to bear fruit so there is now quite a number of Saints in that locality.

The same may be said of another district in the same branch. A meeting has been appointed on a Sunday. On the Friday previous your correspondent went from place to place to notify the people around of the meeting. In coming to one place the lady of the house was sewing, the undersigned informed her of the meeting. After a couple of minutes of considering, she asked, "Is it Mormon meeting?" I said that such