

gather at his home and discuss their work with him, and should always be sociable when meeting any of them.

To secure punctuality on the part of the children, the teacher should call upon the parents, and show an interest in the pupils, and should give a class social now and then, at his own home. A statement sent by the teacher to the parents showing the work done by their children would increase punctuality. At all events the parents must be enlisted to secure the punctual attendance of the children. Teachers should notice, bow to or speak to their pupils when they meet them on the street or elsewhere and try to win their respect and love. The speaker exhibited a four page folder, which is to give the yearly record of a Sunday school pupil, as a device to secure punctuality.

Elder George Goddard led in singing: "In our Lovely Deseret."

Elder George A. Smith spoke upon "The Sunday school superintendent." The office is a very important one, and he who occupies it should be humble, prayerful and desirous of keeping all the commandments of God. He should be exemplary in all his habits, personal genuine missionary spirit. He must and otherwise, and should have the keep the Word of Wisdom as well as teach it. He should have good judgment, and avoid acting hastily in matters that come before him in connection with his school. He should be willing to consider the views and feelings of others, and a good suggestion from any source. He should know of all the work that is going on in the school. He should visit every class each Sunday and be ready to confer with the teachers respecting their work. He should not try to answer questions if he does not know what the right answer is.

President Cannon in answer a question said the superintendent might call on one of his assistants to take the lead, but it was not proper for the superintendent to take turns with his assistants in presiding.

Elder L. F. Moench spoke upon "The Sunday school teacher." The moral qualification is the most important the teacher can have. He should be humble, meek and prayerful, and known that all true wisdom comes from God. Some teachers have knowledge but lack wisdom.

He should be able to read the natures of his pupils and properly adapt his bearing towards them and his treatment of them. How can a man who is not prayerful, teach prayer? I am asked if a man who is not prayerful should be permitted to be a Sunday school teacher. I think he should be labored with, and converted to the practice of praying. Men and women who keep the Word of Wisdom should be selected as teachers in the Sunday school. A teacher should be a tithe payer. Our Church differs from others in that it believes in doing as well as in believing. It is well to choose day school teachers to teach in the Sabbath school, if they are otherwise qualified. The teacher should avoid trivial questions in the class, and devote attention to important ones.

Answering questions the speaker said that a teacher who did not properly do his duty should be labored with in the teachers' meeting. So with a teacher who does not speak to his pupils when he meets them. Teachers who do not attend school after being labored with may be replaced. A school teacher's course is given in the Brigham Young academy at Provo, and young men and women should be sent as missionaries to take it and so qualify themselves. Teachers should be promoted from grade to grade when entitled to and qualified for promotion.

Elder Joseph W. Summerhays gave

out a number of announcements and answered a number of questions.

Adjourned till 2 p. m.

Singing. Benediction by Elder C. D. Fjeldsted.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Singing. Prayer by Elder George Reynolds.

Elder T. C. Griggs delivered an address on "Sunday school choirs and their relation to congregational singing."

The Sunday School Union has given much and substantial encouragement to music, with the result that the musical interests of the community have been greatly advanced. A choir should be formed in each Sunday school of the best material the school embraces. The choir should be frequently and intelligently drilled that it may lead in the singing. This is the function of the choirs. The choir is also very useful in giving entertainments for the raising of funds for Sunday school needs, and for singing at funerals and on other occasions. It also develops musical talent among the children.

The piece to be sung should be announced and the congregation should be invited to join. The choir leader should secure the attention of the congregation and draw out their interest in the singing. The speaker gave some good advice to choir leaders in regard to conducting singing. The ten minutes allotted by the Treatise should be used for rehearsal by the congregation, led by the conductor and choir.

Sunday schools are the nurseries of our musical progress. The old and familiar hymns of the Church, that have made such deep impressions upon thousands of Saints, should be sung by the congregation. Pieces having vim and sprightliness are well enough, but others expressive of sentiment and devotion should also be sung. The orderly marching of the pupils out of the building, or from one department to another, is facilitated by music, under the direction of the choir leader and superintendent. The Sunday school choir should be an aid to punctuality. The leader of the singing should never be tardy because that is the first exercise of the school.

Replying to questions the speaker said the leader should not try to drown others in congregational singing. It is proper for the superintendent to lead the choir only when no other leader can be obtained. It is better to seat the choir in a body near the stand, or near the center of the building. The choir should be confined to the song books furnished by the Union.

Elder John W. Tate explained the manner in which the authorities of the Church should be sustained, by going through a class exercise. The class to whom the questions were put consisted of nineteen pupils of both sexes and various ages, and the questions were read from a leaflet. The answers to these questions stated the presiding quorums of the Church and gave the names of their members. A vote in support of each quorum was taken, seriatim, as they were reached in the list of questions, the congregation voting with the class.

Elder F. M. Lyman spoke upon the administration of the Sacrament in the Sunday school. It is proper to partake of the Sacrament under the direction of the superintendent if the Bishopric is not present. The revelation requires the Church to meet together often to partake of the Sacrament; but only a minority of the Church could have the privileges unless it was extended in the Sunday school, for only a minority attended the usual Sacrament meetings. That there may be order in the Church, the Bishop has charge of the ordinance, if present, but if he is not present the Superintendent may take charge. It is

proper to have music, and even remarks, while the Sacrament is being passed, and it is proper for the deacons to pass it. The Spirit of the Lord should indicate whether or not there should be music or speaking during the ordinance. It is proper to give the Sacrament to children who have been properly taught and are ready for baptism as soon as opportunity offers, who are yet past eight years old. Children believe that whatever is taught them until they discover the hypocrisy of mankind. The school should remain seated while the Sacrament is being passed.

This convention is a unique gathering. It embraces the leading elements of Sunday school work throughout the Church. It is proper for the Priests to be given experience and practice by being called upon to bless the Sacrament. It is not specially necessary to raise the hands while pronouncing the blessing. The ceremony should not be read, but should be memorized in advance. Persons not holding the Priesthood may pass the Sacrament, but it is unnecessary to call on them to do so, as there are plenty of persons who hold the Priesthood who may be called upon. The administration of the Sacrament does not consist in passing it around, but in consecrating it.

Most of the above points were given by Elder Lyman in answer to questions.

H. S. Goddard sang Hosanna.

Elder Karl G. Maeser spoke on How to Conduct a Sunday School Conference. The failures in holding these conferences have been often considered by the board. The speaker had attended some of these conferences and left ignorant of the condition of the schools of the Stake. The object of the conference is threefold. One purpose is to present a model to each school, showing how it should be conducted, especially giving an example of punctuality. Singing should also receive special attention and the best choirs should be heard. Exercises by classes selected from different schools should be given, and there should be marching by some school, to show how marching should be done. All exercises at the conferences should be models for the several schools of the Stake to follow.

Another object of the Stake Sunday school conference is to give the members of the general board an opportunity to reach the Stake and determine the condition of its schools. Each school should be reported upon the twenty-one points specified by the blanks furnished for the purpose. Another object of the conference is to afford an opportunity to give suitable and necessary instructions to the Sunday school workers of the Stake. Replying to a question the speaker said Stake Sunday school conferences may be held in two or more places in the Stake if the latter is large.

Elder George Reynolds read a program for Stake Sunday school conferences to be held in 1899. It provided for a two days' conference of two sessions each. It is to be printed.

As a member of the general board, the speaker said that more questions had been asked at this convention than can be answered for lack of time. Some of them will be answered in the Juvenile Instructor. Many of them show that the persons who have asked them do not read the Treatise nor the organ of the Sunday school the Juvenile Instructor.

Elder Joseph W. Summerhays said that it was proposed to hold in January, 1899, a semi-centennial celebration of the first Latter-day Saint Sunday school in the Rocky mountains, and put the proposition to the convention for a vote. It was unanimously endorsed. The speaker said further particulars