

not only in drying and otherwise curing fruits, but in trying to disseminate a knowledge of improved methods among the people, that we may produce as marketable an article as our neighboring states. We were shown and indeed bought 100 pounds of as choice dried apricots and peaches as ever come from California, showing plainly the practicability of producing a high-grade article of dried fruit in our State. A treatise on these improved methods is set forth by the Horticultural society, and I may venture to say, Secretary J. A. Wright, of Ogden, would be pleased to forward to the address of any citizen one of these pamphlets. Respectfully,  
ANDREW KIMBALL.

### CONFERENCE AT ELSINORE

Richfield, Utah, Aug. 28, 1897.

The quarterly conference of the Sevier Stake of Zion was held in Father Jensen's grove, Elsinore, on Saturday and Sunday, August 21st and 22nd. There were present of visiting brethren Elders Francis M. Lyman of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles and Jonathan G. Kimball of the First Sevier Stake of Zion. Also the Stake presidency, many bishops and counselors and other leading brethren from most all parts of the Stake. On Saturday the meetings were not so well attended, but on Sunday there was a large attendance at all meetings.

During the first day's meetings the Bishops of the several wards reported the condition of their people, which, taking the report as a whole, was gratifying, and with the exception of a short time occupied by the Stake presidency, the balance of the time was taken up by Elders Lyman and Kimball, whose instructions, counsel and advice were both timely and fatherly to all classes and conditions of the people.

The general Church and Stake authorities were presented and all sustained by unanimous vote of the conference. Elder Henry N. Hayes was sustained as a member of the High Council.

The weather during the whole conference was all that could be desired.

The singing was furnished by the Elsinore choir, under the leadership of Brother Petersen, and was much appreciated. Taking it all in all we had a very enjoyable and profitable time.

A majority of the irrigation companies of the valley have associated themselves together and formed a corporation known as the Otter Creek Reservoir company, which has for its object the securing of a site (which already has been done), building a dam and storing of water for times of need, as we have learned through the experience of the past two seasons at least, that with even the best prospects in the spring, we are liable to go short of water before the end of the irrigating season.

SIMON CHRISTENSEN,  
Stake Clerk.

### VALE AND MOUNTAIN.

Your correspondent has been making excursions through the villages of Salt Lake county over country roads that he traveled five years ago. The thing that impressed him most was the presence of weeds. These politicians of the vegetable world are becoming among the farms what the politicians are in the world of man, a dangerous enemy. In many places large tracts of good soil are entirely covered by weeds, and in many other places crops are completely destroyed by them. There ought to be a State law securing the destruction of weeds. Leave

them to spread for fifty years and the Utah Centennial will find no farms to glorify.

As to mining, I find that the reports published concerning districts through which I have traveled are so erroneous as to suggest the suspicion that they have been purposely procured by interested parties with fraudulent intent. For instance, I found in a recent Salt Lake paper a glowing account of a group of claims at the head of Big Cottonwood canyon. The statement boldly made that ore is now being mined at different tunnels on the property while, as a matter of fact, there has not been a pick struck in the property this year and not enough work done on it to cover the assessment since 1894. Substantially the same is true of certain claims in Little Cottonwood canyon. The papers have been giving enthusiastic reports of so-called mines that have never been anything but prospects and of alleged shippers that have never paid expenses.

It would be better for Utah to say nothing about mining than to say what must necessarily deceive those who might make investigations on the strength of such reports. If men have a good property it will advertise itself just as fast as its owners make it worth knowing. If men have prospects that they are playing with for the purpose of procuring provisions from grocers and clothing from tailors through fraudulent advertising from cheap reports or careless papers, with a promise of pay if sale can be made to some unlucky tenderfoot, they are injuring the opportunities for honest men as well as doing a positive harm to the State. It would be well for managing editors to be more careful in the selection of reporters, or more discriminating in the use of the stuff they write.

The canyons have been very beautiful this season, especially Little Cottonwood. The warm summer called forth the wild flowers in more than ordinary abundance, and the absence of forest about the head of the canyon gives the flowers full opportunity to paint the landscape in glory that it would be difficult to surpass. But the sheep are inveterate enemies of these grand gardens of God on the heights.

The old camp of Alta, like a man who has passed his allotted term of life, appears to grow more feeble year by year. The old cabins are one after another tumbling down. The only building that shows any improvement is the Emma boarding house, which Mr. John Stillwell, the careful and efficient watchman of the Emma and Flagstaff, had shingled a year ago. As an evidence of the purity of the air up here I might say that those shingles are still so clean and bright that I thought they had been put on this summer. But if the cabins in Alta are old the people are young. The piling years do not burden them. Families come here year after year, always, it seems to me, with an increase in the number of children, and revel in the delights of clean, pure, cold air and water. The women are apparently as free from care as the children. Such clear, ringing, joyous laughter as you can hear among them would make an old man young. If you do not believe it come up and spend a week with me.

The dining room of the Emma boarding house has been converted into a grand saloon under the supervision of the resident and visiting ladies, and dances are given there that make people laugh and grow fat.

Yesterday I parted reluctantly with three friends who, though on pleasure bent, still had a frugal mind, as John Gilpin had. That is, they took an outing, and at the same time examined property that we are jointly interested in. They were Messrs.

Giauque, Brockbank and Winter. Mr. Brockbank was interested in a hole in the ground here thirty years ago. He had lost track of the place, but I piloted him to it and he took home bits of ore that had lain on the dump a quarter of a century. Mr. Giauque visited the canyon and climbed its lofty sides for the first time. These men are both good climbers. In fact they can all climb well. But, owing to his bay window, Mr. Winter cannot see where to place his feet coming down the mountains and, consequently, he did not enjoy romping as much as the others of our party did.

I wonder how people can be contented with Wasatch, when by going eight miles farther, on the train, they could find one of the most delightfully wild and beautiful spots in which to pitch their summer tents in all the mountain land.

CHARLES ELLIS.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

Logan, Utah, Aug. 30, 1897.

The Sunday school conference of the Cache Stake of Zion was held in the Logan tabernacle Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 28th and 29th. The meetings on Saturday were very well attended considering the busy time of the year. All of the Stake officers were present during the entire conference. Or the general Sunday school officers present there were Superintendent George Goddard and General Treasurer George Reynolds, who gave many good and timely instructions which, if put into practice, would be a grand advancement in the Sunday school cause, and make us greater and nobler in the sight of God.

During the session on Saturday, the superintendents of the various schools made a brief report of their workings and labors of the schools of the Stake. There were also a number of exercises given, which showed much time had been spent in the preparation.

The Sunday sessions were better attended and much more interest was taken by the children and officers.

President Orson Smith of the Cache Stake and Superintendent Ormsby spoke in a forcible manner on the necessity of attending to the duties that are given to us through the mercies and blessings of God.

Immediately after the morning session the officers and teachers of all of the schools meet in special session.

Brothers Goddard and Reynolds spoke on various subjects of interest to all laborers in the great Sunday school cause. They exhorted all to be good.

In the afternoon the general and local officers were sustained, and a time of rejoicing was had, as was manifest by the spirit that was present, not only with the speakers and those who took part, but with the congregation in general. Taken altogether much good will be derived from our annual conference.

LOUIS S. CARDON,  
Secretary.

It is quite evident that Miss Cisneros now detained in a Havana prison, is not the guilty woman the Spanish governor general attempted to make her out, or there would not be such a disposition to set her at liberty. She is not the rich and aristocratic senorita who it was supposed at first was arrested, which supposition called for American protests; but just the same her incarceration is now admitted to be undeserved, and the interposition called forth by the mistaken identity of the prisoner yet was directed to one who merited it, although she was not a member of the aristocracy.