

the Priesthood. Let every man perform his duty diligently. All bearing the Priesthood should be actively engaged in the work of salvation. Do not rebuke the wayward individually in public, but admonish them in private and let a spirit of kindness enter into all our labors when administering to the people. The great deficiency today is the lack of carrying the principles of the Gospel to the firesides of the people, where they should be taught to both young and old. Where young people have received the baptism of water but not that of the Holy Ghost, as is apparent in many cases, they should be instructed in a spirit of love and led to seek for the light and testimony essential to the life and status of a Saint. There is a great field in which the Priests can operate. It is the duty of the Lesser Priesthood, particularly the Priests, to visit the Saints in their homes and administer the words of life. Every member of the Church should receive these visits, be enquired after and be fed with the bread of life.

As regards these Sunday, moonlight and other excursions that tend to evil, our influence should be exercised to deter the young from joining them. But recreation and amusements in which there is no evil should be provided for the young, and even if such pastimes are not particularly instructive they will do no harm if they are not associated with positive evil and are not carried to an unreasonable extent. If the design of the Lord in the organization and functions of the Lesser Priesthood was carried out the Bishops would know through them the status of every member of the Church in their respective wards. It was especially the duty of the Bishops and their Counselors to instruct the Lesser Priesthood in all the requirements of their offices and meetings should be held for that purpose.

The Bishops of the City wards were called upon in turn to report if they knew of any violations of the laws relating to the Sabbath, and their responses indicated that very few of those professing to be Latter-day Saints attended Sunday excursions to the lake.

Elder George Goddard spoke a few words in behalf of the Sabbath Schools, and suggested that a missionary labor be adopted, such as visiting the children at their homes by their respective teachers or others on the Sabbath morning, and thus induce all the children that can attend Sunday School to be there. Where this rule had been observed, as it had been in some of the wards, there had been as high an increase as fifty per cent. He said, let the good work go on.

President Angus M. Cannon having come into the meeting, stated that he was unavoidably detained. He endorsed the remarks that he had heard since coming in, and, as regards the canvassing of the wards and names of the people therein, this met his mind. He said further that efforts should be made to have persons who had

moved from one ward to another attached to the wards where they reside. He also urged action upon persons who had apostatized from the Church but whose names were still upon the records as though they were in full fellowship.

The meeting then adjourned until the first Saturday in August at 11 a.m.

Benediction by Elder A. W. Carlson.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The officers and teachers of the Sunday schools of this Stake met on Tuesday evening, July 2, in the Fourteenth Ward assembly rooms. A very good representation was present from nearly all of the schools of this Stake. Supt. J. C. Cutler presided.

The excellent singing exercises rendered on the occasion were given by the Fourth Ward school, led by Brother Wm. Foster. Opening prayer was offered by Elder J. M. Fisher.

Sister Amelia Weiler conducted a very pleasing exercise with her class on the catechism of the Book of Mormon. The children were well trained, and promptly answered their teacher.

A duet was sung by Sisters Minnie Sperry and Mira Weight.

Supt. Willard Done, of the Eleventh Ward school, conducted an impromptu class exercise on the Sunday School Leaflets, lesson second, and showed his manner of conducting a class with these new lessons. The Leaflets were distributed and the class read in consecutive order the verses of the lesson—Luke 2, 40-52, the subject of the lesson being the boyhood of Jesus. The teacher, to save time, quoted the references given at the foot of the lesson, although it is intended that these shall be read by the members of the class. The "lesson statement" was then read by the class, followed by "what may be learned from the lesson," and the "notes" on persons, places and circumstances mentioned in the text of the lesson. If the class using the Leaflets are fairly good readers, it is suggested that the members of the class shall read the "Notes," etc. Otherwise it will be better for the teacher to read them. After the reading of the lesson, the teacher catechised the class thoroughly on the same, the teacher preferring that the answers should not be given in concert, but by members individually. As time permitted, the "illustrative passages" could then be read, either by the teacher or the class. The lesson of each leaflet, if gone through with in this manner, would last about twenty minutes.

At the conclusion of the lesson Elder Joseph H. Parry made a short address on the subject of the S. S. Leaflets. The lessons had been specially prepared by the general board of the Sunday School Union to aid the teacher, and were not intended to replace individual preparation and study on the part of the teacher. If the lessons were taken hold of in earnest spirit by theo-

logical as well as by the intermediate classes in our Sabbath Schools, they would prove the means of making the exercises of all these classes more interesting than they had ever been, and the principles of the Gospel would become better understood by their use than by any other course of study that the speaker was acquainted with.

The speaker stated that if time permitted during the school session, the teacher would find much in the lessons, of contemporaneous history, geography and other incidents, which could be enlarged upon with profit, and much information could be imparted which was but hinted at in the lesson.

The illustrative passages relating to the life and ministry of the Savior could be read and expatiated upon almost indefinitely, and the lesson made all the more attractive. A comparison between the life of the Savior and of his doctrines, as written by His Apostles, and that written by the Prophets of the Book of Mormon and Bible—centuries before his advent—could be made a very interesting study as showing the beauty and harmony of the plan of salvation.

General Superintendent Geo. Q. Cannon was the next speaker. He took a great deal of interest in these meetings, and said that they should be specially interesting to those engaged in teaching the children of the Saints. There was great responsibility resting upon those who labored in our Sabbath Schools. There were now upwards of 60,000 children enrolled in our Sabbath Schools, and, as a missionary field, there was not a greater offered to the Elders of Israel. Elders who go abroad reap but a little harvest as compared with what might be done with the same earnest efforts at home.

Referring to the Leaflets, he was convinced that they could be made of great help to the teacher, but reminded teachers that they were an aid and were not intended to do away with the individuality of the teachers or to curtail their individual methods of teaching. They should be used as it was intended they should be, as auxiliaries, and should not be followed so rigidly and formally as to quench the individuality of the teacher.

He was averse to the methods adopted by some teachers of requiring the children to commit to memory long passages of Scripture. Such a course often proved an injury to the memory, the matter memorized often taking the place of something more important. He would suggest as a better system the teaching of principle, and sustain the same by quoting appropriate texts till they were thoroughly understood by the children. The speaker was gratified with the progress made by the children of the Saints in the doctrines of the Gospel. Much more remained to be done, and he trusted all who were laboring in this direction would continually strive to thoroughly indoctrinate the principles of the Gospel in the hearts of the children.

Regarding the use made of the