

the Indians are no longer considering the promises made by Sitting Bull and other medicine men who led the trouble two years ago. While there is no open dancing, there is a quiet discussion of the subject, and the fact that the promise was that the Messiah would come after two springs (which would bring the time in the spring of 1893) is being carefully kept in mind by the Indians.

The government recently paid the Indians at Pine Ridge \$85,000, and this was used as an argument that the Great Father feared his red sons, else why should he seek to buy them off? Then the return from Fort Sheridan of Short Bull and Kicking Bear added another disturbing element to the already deeply stirred state of affairs at Pine Ridge. The most significant thing is the fact that there have been communications between the various tribes of a secret nature during the summer. There is a line of communication well established and constantly used between Indian Territory and British America and Indians all along the line understand each other."

### DESERET SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Present on the stand of the general superintendency, George Q. Cannon and George Goddard; of the Deseret Sunday School Union board, George Reynolds, Abraham H. Cannon, Thomas C. Griggs, Jos. W. Summerhays, Levi W. Richards, Francis M. Lyman and Heber J. Grant; Stake superintendents and other leading brethren.

Assistant General Superintendent George Goddard called the assembly to order and the choir and congregation sang from the new Deseret Sunday School Union song book "Beautiful Zion Built Above."

Prayer was offered by Elder Wm. Paxman, superintendent of the Juab Stake.

The choir and congregation sang "Sowing," from the new Union song book.

The secretary called the roll of Stakes, showing representatives from nearly all of them.

Assistant General Superintendent George Goddard was very pleased to meet again in the semi-annual conference of Sunday schools, and gratified at so large a congregation notwithstanding the inclement weather. Calling for those in the congregation who were Sunday school workers, the vast majority arose to their feet. This was certainly gratifying, when we think of the vast progress made in the few years past since the first Sunday school was organized. The great labor devolving upon the Deseret Sunday School Union board, the superintendents, teachers and officers, calls for the noblest and best action possible.

The board are continually working to advance the interests of this vast organization, and have lately published a new song book that should be placed in the hands of every school in Zion. It contains selections mostly from home talent and is filled with the principles of the Gospel. The board meet every Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 and transact business connected with the good of the schools of Zion. They are now contemplating the issuing of another Book of Mormon chart and

cards and also lessons for the departments each Sunday in the year.

The selection last year of a few Sunday school missionaries to labor in the different Stakes of Zion was but the commencement of a great work, and this year a greater number has been called and will be set apart for that labor. The result of their labors last year in their statements and reports was commendable, and shows an increase in the growth of the work.

Whenever a call is made from the Deseret Sunday School Board it is generally responded to very promptly and when aid is solicited it comes back to the schools in the shape of new publications, etc., and we still desire that this may increase and grow until we shall have all our own publications and lessons for a highly graded system of schools.

Grading has been inaugurated and is progressing very satisfactorily, and where it has been tried for some time has been attended with the most gratifying results, and in the future students will graduate from one class to another by undergoing an examination. We shall be pleased to see all the schools in Zion graded as soon as possible and in such a way that it will be the best advancement of the several schools.

I shall be pleased to see the day and to live when the young of Israel will keep the Word of Wisdom, and when the word shall come from schools that every officer and student is living in harmony with its requirements. Then will be power, then will grow up living exemplars of the Gospel that shall carry with them mighty power with the heavens and wield an influence for good among their fellows.

Elder George Reynolds then gave an epitomized statement of the financial condition of the Union from the receipts of last year from the nickel donation and concert, and stated that the Union board have distributed to every school in all the world one of the Book of Mormon charts and a number of small cards, gratuitously, and should there be any who have not received them, if they will send to the general secretary, the Union will send them.

There are still a number of the charts now for sale by the Union and are of such a character that they would be useful in every family of the Saints.

The nickel fund for this year is coming in very slowly, and each Stake Superintendent should see that it is forthcoming from every school and forwarded to them, that they may take the 20 per cent. decided upon by the Union for Stake Sunday school purposes. There should not be one school in all Israel fail to send in its mite. It is expected that this will be an annual donation to assist the Union in publishing necessary works for the guidance and benefit of the schools. This is what the nickel day is set apart for; this is the object of the donation, to publish works that come back to the schools free of charge.

The choir and congregation sang: "Love at Home."

Elder Thomas C. Griggs said that the Sunday School Guide had been published for the benefit of the schools and to assist them in their work of grading. It suggests many excellent features

and if followed would assist in grading schools to a high standard.

The Deseret Sunday School Union is the centre of the operations for Sunday school work, assisting the general superintendency in their great, responsible and important calling. It is continually laboring to devise means for the progress of the schools, but it is so little understood by many officers and workers. Elder Griggs felt to ask the blessings of the Lord on all interested in this great movement and trusted that the schools and officers would be prompt and labor to assist the general board.

Dr. Karl G. Maeser said in substance: My brethren and sisters and fellow laborers in the cause of the youth of Zion, I earnestly solicit an interest in your faith and prayers to assist me in the few remarks that I may make upon "Sunday School Government, Sunday School Management." This heading covers the whole work in the Sunday school, and cannot be disposed of in a few minutes, nor in a course of two or three lectures, and I shall have necessarily to be brief tonight.

It is a labor progressive in its nature among the youth in this great cause, and will require attention and faithful labor on our part. I can only mention a few leading items, that may be to the officers as land marks, as pointers, showing the way, guiding in the direction best to follow, in shaping a good course, that the labors may be more harmonious and more directly to the point. There is a great deal of lost time in the way that many schools are conducted at the present time; but I do not feel capable of laying plans that will meet the requirements of all.

The first requisite or feature commences with the superintendent himself. He cannot give what he does not possess. He should be a man filled with the Spirit of the Lord, for that Spirit leads to the great requisite of order, a most essential thing in schools. The Spirit of the Lord operates best under favorable conditions, and each superintendent should so strive that it will be unto him a continual stream of light and truth. The superintendent should consider the work that is to be performed in his school, the conditions by which he is surrounded, and the teachers at his disposal to assist in that work. These things the superintendent should constantly keep in view. He should mark out a certain course to follow; he should have a map of the whole work in his mind from the beginning to the end of the year; should know what movements to make for the good of the school. He should prepare for each grade, lessons—of course the teachers assisting in this most important labor—suited to the conditions and circumstances of the various grades in the school, so that the students can gradually pass from one grade to another until they reach the Theological department which should be the normal class in the school. It is not meant that a superintendent should necessarily be as experienced a worker as is required for a district school superintendent, but some certain understanding of the work before him is necessary, coupled with humility, the spirit of the Lord and a desire for the welfare of his school. Like the painter, builder,