

non-Mormon parents in the Territory, 7,582. Boys of Mormon parents, 24,082; girls, 23,289. Whole number of children of Mormon parents, 47,371; making the grand total of children in the Territory, of school age, 54,953.

"Schedule B" is the annual statistical report of the district schools for the school year ending June 30, 1888, and shows the whole number of district schools, number reported, number of teachers and assistant teachers, Mormon and non-Mormon, and other statistical matter required by the provisions of the Act of Congress above quoted, and of the Territorial law. From this table it appears that only .184 per cent. of the children of non-Mormon parents attended the district schools, and .401 per cent. of the children of Mormon parents; making a total in attendance at these schools of .585 of the school population.

"Schedule C" is a like statistical report of the denominational schools, being schools other than district schools, which are also required to be reported by the said Act of Congress. This being the first effort, however, to collect statistics from this class of schools, some difficulty was experienced in obtaining the desired information—owing, however, almost exclusively to the fact that these private schools had never been in the habit of keeping the data required of the district schools. Subsequent efforts, however, will doubtless result more effectually in obtaining completer reports from these schools.

"Schedule D" is the annual financial report of the district schools for the year ending June 30, 1888; showing total amount of moneys received, and from what sources, as well as the total expenditures for said schools.

The small percentage of the children of school age in actual attendance upon the district schools, as shown by these reports, is but one of the consequences of the inadequate legislation upon the general subject of schools, the lack of uniform public interest in their prosperity and progress, the conditions in the past that have brought about the establishment of the number of private denominational schools shown to exist in the Territory, and the more recent influence that is exerted by the Mormon portion of the community in the establishment and support of schools under the direction, control and patronage of their sect.

These conditions have operated

to prevent the erection of school houses adequate to the proper accommodation of that portion of the school population which is actually in attendance at the schools, as shown by the statistical tables referred to, the fact being that the school rooms are already over crowded. It is absolutely certain that with an increased number and more commodious school buildings, there would be a largely increased attendance, notwithstanding the other unfavorable conditions existing with reference to the public schools.

I submit herewith, in addition to the statistics above enumerated, a printed copy of the report of the Commissioner of Schools to the Twenty-eighth Session of the Legislative Assembly, supplemented by the financial and statistical reports for the year ending June 30th, 1887; and also a copy of the laws of the Territory now in force upon the subject of schools.

The same general conditions exist now that existed at the time this report was presented to the Legislature; and as it contains a more extended and detailed statement of the situation of the public schools of the Territory, the influences operating upon them, the urgent need of additional school buildings and increased facilities, and also the views of the Commissioner as to the legislation required upon the subject, I beg your attention to what is there said.

Without further legislation of the general nature there indicated, I am firmly convinced there cannot possibly be that progress and prosperity of the public schools that must exist before they can afford adequate and satisfactory opportunities for the education of the children of the Territory.

The act of Congress quoted above, providing for a Commissioner of Schools, provided also that he should "receive the same salary and compensation as the Territorial Superintendent of District Schools" had received while that office was in existence; the assumption seeming to be that a fixed salary had been provided by law, but such was not the case. It has, on the contrary, been the uniform usage of the Legislature to make appropriations for the office extending only until the next session of that body. These appropriations have varied from time to time, never exceeding \$1,500 per annum, and being as low as \$500. It has also been usual to make a small appropriation to meet

the expenses of printing the blanks, etc., which the Commissioner is required by Sec. 18 of the Territorial school law to furnish the schools and school officers throughout the Territory. At the twenty-seventh Session of the Legislature held in 1886, the entire appropriation bill failed, so that during the years 1886-87, there was no provision for either compensation or expenses. At the twenty-eighth session an appropriation of \$1,500 was made for the compensation of the superintendent and commissioner for those two years; and an appropriation of \$2,500 was also made for the salary of the Commissioner for the years 1888 and 1889, but no provision whatever was made for traveling, printing or office expenses. The expenditure for printing blanks, even with the utmost economy, amounts to between \$200 and \$300 per annum, and if not done, the collection of the statistics required by both the laws of the United States and the Territory, is absolutely impossible. The result of this condition is that the Commissioner is furnishing these blanks at his personal expense. Yet it is true that the provision for compensation and expenses of the Commissioner's office is quite as liberal, proportionately, as that provided for other departments of the school system, and illustrates the inadequacy of the support provided for the schools themselves, as well as their proper supervision.

Respectfully submitted,

P. L. WILLIAMS,

Commissioner of Schools for Utah Territory.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, December 31, 1888.

The question of securing by legislative enactment one day in seven for absolute rest, when it shall be unlawful for any one to perform any kind of labor, may or may not be considered of sufficient importance to occupy the time and attention of the statesmen who assemble at Washington. But certain it is that the people have been giving the question serious consideration when a petition carrying more than a million names can be secured with less than one year of active agitation.—*Journal of United Labor*.

For God doth not walk in crooked paths, neither doth he turn to the right hand nor to the left, neither doth he vary from that which he hath said, therefore his paths are straight, and his course is one eternal round.

Doc. and Cov.