

## BOX ELDER STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Quarterly Conference of the Box Elder Stake of Zion convened in the Court House, Brigham City, on Saturday the 27th inst., at 10 a.m.

On the stand were Elders Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow and Franklin D. Richards, of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles; Elders Oliver G. Snow, Elijah A. Box and Isaac Smith of the Presidency of the Stake. Also Patriarch W. Box, members of the High Council, the President of the High Priest's Quorum, and most of the Bishops from the various Wards comprising the Stake.

The meeting was called to order by President Oliver G. Snow.

The choir sang the hymn

Come all ye sons of God  
Who have received the priesthood.

Prayer was offered by Bishop Thomas Harper.

Choir sang—

The time is far spent,  
There is little remaining.

The congregation consisted of the priesthood only, the reason of this, as explained by President L. Snow, was that the house was too small to accommodate others, and the Tabernacle, which was nearing completion, not being finished, they were under the necessity of turning the Conference into what might more strictly be termed a priesthood meeting.

The statistical reports of the various Wards were read by the Clerk of the Stake, Elder George Bywater, who also read a report of the Young Ladies Mutual Improvement Association, presided over by Sister Minnie J. Snow, with Miss Fanny Graehl as secretary. It showed that the society was organized July 30, 1875, with 125 members, besides officers, and that meetings were held every two weeks, with a good attendance. The society had donated \$415 towards the building of the new Tabernacle, besides amounts for other purposes, and had money in the treasury, with no indebtedness against the society.

Elder A. CHRISTENSEN, the County Superintendent of Sabbath schools, made his report, showing the total number of Sabbath school children to be 1,134, of whom 594 were males and 540 females. There were 138 classes, consisting of Bible, Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, Catechism, Juvenile Instructor, etc., taught by 141 male and 120 female teachers. The schools generally were in a prosperous condition, and were well sustained by the community.

ELDER E. A. BOX, President of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association, reported the society to be in a very good condition. It numbered 225 members. During the winter its meetings were held regularly every two weeks, with an excellent attendance. The exercises were those usually adopted in improvement associations.

The superintendents of the various industrial departments of the Brigham City Co-operative Association represented by request the following branches. The brethren making the reports, not expecting to be thus called upon, were unprepared to give them in full and with that degree of accuracy they otherwise would have done:

**Woolen Factory** superintended by Bro. James Pett. Twenty hands were employed forty-four weeks during the year; 36,000 pounds of wool was required to run the mill during that time. Goods consisting of men's and women's wear, blankets, yarns, &c., were made last year, amounting to \$42,000.

**Boot and Shoe Department**, by Bro. Charles Kelley. This branch was started in 1869 with four hands; it employed now 32 hands. The work turned out weekly averaged \$700 the year round. Since its organization it had manufactured \$132,000 worth of goods, all of which found a ready market.

**Hat Department**, by Bro. David Booth. It had been running three years; but in consequence of the building not being suitable, this business had not assumed the proportions it was soon expected to; the manufactured goods amounted yearly to from \$4,500 to \$5,000 dollars. The material used was rabbit, and beaver fur, and some wool.

**Blacksmith and Wagon Department**, by Brother John D. Rees.

Wagons, carriages, machinery, farming implements, etc. were manufactured and repaired; its income this year would amount to from \$12,000 to \$13,000.

**Tailoring Department**, Brother Owen Stohl. It had been in successful operation three years. Six male and three female hands were employed. They turned out wearing apparel amounting to \$14,000 a year. Connected with this department was a millinery business which also did considerable artificial flower making.

**Sheep Herd**, by Brother George Facer, the U. O. Shepherd. The herd numbered 7,000 head, 3,000 males and 4,000 ewes. It was divided into three herds for pasturing, running from two to three thousand in a herd. They ranged on the mountains as long as possible during the summer seasons. Every shearing time, the mouth of each sheep was examined, if the teeth were found defective through age or otherwise, a "rejected" brand was put on, and only from such the butcher was allowed to pick his muttons. When the herd was first started, about three years ago, the wool clip averaged only one and a half pounds; last year it averaged four pounds per head.

The choir sang and the meeting adjourned.

Closing prayer by Bishop George Dunford.

2 P. M.

Services commenced by the congregation singing the hymn,

Come, come ye Saints,  
No toil nor labor fear.

Prayer by Bishop Geo. W. Ward.

Congregation sang,

The Spirit of God like a fire is burning.

The General Authorities of the Church as sustained at the last General Conference, in Salt Lake City, were then presented and sustained by unanimous vote. Also the local authorities of the Stake as follows:

Oliver G. Snow, President of the Stake, with E. A. Box and Isaac Smith as his counselors.

Patriarch, Wm. Box.  
High Council—J. C. Wright, Samuel Smith, James Bywater, Wm. Box, W. L. Watkins, M. C. Jensen, Ephraim Wight, M. L. Engsign, Adolphus Madsen, James Pett, John P. Wood and Jacob Jensen.

High Priests—Hans P. Jensen, President, R. L. Fishburn and Chas. Kelley, counselors.

## BISHOPS.

First Ward of Brigham City, Henry Tingey; Lucius A. Snow and Jonah Mathias counselors.

Second Ward, Alvin Nichols; Joseph M. Jensen and Alvin Nichols, Jr., counselors.

Third Ward, John Davison Burt; Antoine A. Jensen and Peter F. Madson, counselors.

Fourth Ward, John Welch; Thos. H. Wilde and Lorenzo S. Wright, counselors.

Three Mile Creek Ward, Orin A. Perry; Richard Thorn and John D. Peters, counselors.

Willard City Ward, Geo. W. Ward; Geo. Facer and Abraham Zundell, counselors.

Mantua Ward, Peter C. Jensen; Lars A. Larson and Peter J. Madsen, counselors.

North Ward, Thomas Harper; James May and Heber C. Loveland, counselors.

Honeyville Ward, Abraham Hunsaker; Benjamin H. Tolman and Lewis N. Booth, counselors.

Deweyville Ward, John C. Dewey; Orville R. Childs and Ansen C. Loveland, counselors.

Portage Ward, Oliver C. Haskins; Martin V. Hale and Wm. H. Gibbs, counselors.

Malad City Ward, Geo. Dunford; Daniel Daniels and John D. Reese, counselors.

Bear River City Ward, William Neeley; Knud Mortensen and Nephi P. Andersen, counselors.

Corinne Ward, H. J. Faust.

Curtlew Ward, Arnold Goodliffe.

Grouse Creek Ward, Samuel H. Kimball.

## ELDERS QUORUMS.

First Quorum, Jonah Evans, President, John Christiansen and David P. Burt counselors.

Second Quorum, David Booth, President, Wm. J. Packer and John Ipsen counselors.

Third Quorum, Albert Ward, President.

Fourth Quorum, Jacob Hansen, President, Morten C. Mortensen and Carl Jensen counselors.

Fifth Quorum, Wm. C. Heaston, President.

## PRIESTS QUORUM.

John Welch, President, T. H. Wilde and Lorenzo S. Wright counselors.

James Bywater, historian and clerk.

It was desirable that the superintendents of departments continue their reports; and the whole of the time was used in the same manner as the forenoon.

The **Agricultural Department** was partly represented by Brothers Henry Tingey, Neils H. Nielsen, and H. P. Jensen. The farms managed by those brethren had been visited by grasshoppers, and the crops either wholly or partly destroyed. From the farms represented 4,000 bushels of wheat, several hundred bushels of rye and corn, and 182 tons of hay were during the past year netted to the Institution, and several hundred acres of land were already under seed grain, in the hope of being harvested next season. There were three other farms not represented. Bro. H. P. Jensen, before resuming his seat, also represented the **Lime and Lumber Departments**. The former, he said, had furnished 4,600 bushels of lime, and the latter had done an excellent business.

The **Dairy Department**, by Brother Christian Hansen. The enterprise was started seven years ago with seventy-five cows, now it managed 600 cows. Cheese amounting to 52,000 pounds was made the past season, which found ready sale; in fact the demand for their brand could not be supplied. When this business was started the Institution owned no cows of its own; now from the profits arising from the dairy, it owned 215 cows and 140 calves; also 100 hogs, besides having built a new two story rock dairy 74 by 24, well furnished and finished.

The **Masonry Department** by Brother Antoine A. Jensen. This branch had been organized three years. During the first two years 46 houses were built, and 163 rooms plastered, and 4 public buildings had been erected—the Social Hall, Machinery Hall, Boot and Shoe Shop and the Tabernacle; for doing this work this Department was credited \$21,000. This year, having increased the number of their hands to forty-six, at least twice that amount of work will be done.

The **Tannery**, by Brother A. Healam, had turned out the past year 800 sides of sole leather, and there were 1,000 sides of other kinds in the vats, and hides were being worked.

BROTHER WM. L. WATKINS, Secretary, represented the Institution to be in a flourishing condition. Its capital stock was \$191,000 by far the larger portion of which was paid in labor; the shares were at first \$50 each, they were reduced at different times until now they were only \$5 each. This was done to meet the circumstances of those who could not afford to purchase shares at the higher rates. The number of shareholders was 585. It employed 340 hands, and it took 7,000 bushels of wheat per year to bread themselves and families. The income last year from the several departments amounted at their trade rates to \$260,000. This year it will be still larger, the business having been enlarged.

There were several other departments not represented in consequence of lack of time, such as the **Mercantile, Tin Shop, Butchery, Woodworkers, Harness, Nursery, Pottery, Adobie and Brick, Dixie Cotton farm, Machine Shop, etc.** Also a department, if it might be so termed, the name of which was not learned, but which had netted to the Institution the past year \$950. This amount was realized from the labors of tramps who sought relief, and residents of other settlements who sought labor; it is managed by Brother A. Baird.

The earnestness that the brethren evinced while reporting the results of their temporal works, was truly characteristic of that zeal which is always manifested by God's servants when success attends their spiritual labors. They acknowledged the hand of God in the prosperity that had already attended their united efforts, and prayed that his blessing might be continued unto them, while they still labored to build up his Zion of the latter days.

As the brethren of the Apostleship who listened to these reports were so particularly interested in them, Pres. Snow said that at a future Conference, probably the next, more complete reports of all the departments would be given.

The congregation sang the hymn

Redeemer of Israel our only delight,  
and the meeting adjourned.

Closing prayer by Bishop Wm. Neely.

Two meetings of the Priesthood were also held during the morning and afternoon of Sunday, both of which were addressed by Elders Woodruff and Richards; and in the evening a public meeting was held, commencing at 6 o'clock, the congregation consisting chiefly of the sisters, who were addressed by Elders Woodruff and Richards, and by Sister Eliza R. Snow.

At the afternoon meeting Elder Jonathan C. Wright was unanimously sustained as a traveling missionary in Malad Ward.

The spirit of the Lord rested upon the speakers and hearers, and valuable and seasonable instructions were given which were reported in full.

The Conference was adjourned to meet on Saturday, the 26th of January next.

Benediction by Counselor E. A. Box.

Reported by GEO. F. GIBBS,

Reporter.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

## AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 29.—The following was issued this afternoon, by the President of the United States of America:

The completed circle of summer and winter, seedtime and harvest has brought us to the accustomed season at which religious people celebrate with praise and thanksgiving the enduring mercy of Almighty God. This devout and public confession of a constant dependence of man upon the Divine Father for all the good gifts of life and health, of peace and happiness, so early in our history made the habit of our people, finds in a survey of the past year new grounds for its joyful and grateful manifestation in all the blessings which depend upon the benignant seasons. This has indeed been a memorable year. Over the wide territory of our country, with all its diversity of soil and climate and products, the earth has yielded a bountiful return to the labor of the husbandman. The health of the people has been blighted by no prevalent or wide-spread disease. No great disasters of shipwreck upon our coasts, or to our commerce on the seas have brought loss and hardship to our merchants or mariners, and clouded the happiness of the community with sympathetic sorrow. In all that concerns our strength and peace, and greatness as a nation; in all that touches the permanence and security of our government and the beneficent institutions on which it rests; in all that affects the character and disposition of our people and tests our capacity to enjoy and uphold the equal and free condition of society now permanent and universal throughout the land, the experience of the last year is conspicuously marked by the providence of God and is full of promise and hope for coming generations.

Under a sense of these infinite obligations to the great Ruler of the times and seasons and events let us humbly ascribe it to our faults and frailties, if any degree of that perfect concord and happiness, peace and justice which such great mercies should diffuse through the hearts and lives of our people, do not altogether and always and everywhere prevail. Let us with one spirit and one voice lift up praise and thanksgiving to God for his manifold goodness to our land and his manifold care for the nation.

Now, therefore, I, Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the United States, do appoint Thursday, the 29th day of November next, as a day of national thanksgiving and prayer, and I earnestly recommend that, withdrawing themselves from secular cares and labors, the people of the United States do meet together on that day in their respective places of worship, there to give thanks and praise to Almighty God for his mercies, and to devoutly beseech their continuance.

In witness whereof, etc.

(Signed) R. B. HAYES.

The House committees, as constituted by Speaker Randall, are very generally received with approbation, although a number of disappointed members who expected chairmanships or prominent positions

are feeling rather bitter tonight, and there is also considerable complaint among southern men concerning the membership of the Pacific railroads and war claims committees. On the latter there are eight northern men and only three southerners.

Senor Mata's departure for Mexico last Saturday was caused solely by the fact that his health does not permit his remaining in this climate during winter. It does not indicate the rejection, but only the temporary suspension of the recognition of the Diaz government. He left on good terms with President Hayes and the State department, after successfully conducting the informal negotiations looking to the conclusion of a new treaty between the United States and Mexico. Assistant Secretary Seward, who conducted these negotiations on behalf of our government, inherits from his distinguished father the earnest disposition to promote friendly relations with Mexico, and develop American commerce with and American interests in the sister republic. Diaz, on the other hand, manifests a cordial purpose to go as far as the Mexican constitution will permit in satisfying our demands against his country. With this amicable spirit on both sides, there is no possible basis for the renewed assertions of danger of armed conflict with Mexico, especially as the President unhesitatingly disavows and denounces sympathy with speculative schemes looking to the acquisition of Sonora and other Mexican States. Our pacific American minister, Foster, has been instructed to conclude and sign a general treaty with Mexico, Senor Mata not having received plenary power to do so in time to enable him to act before leaving the country. The signing of such treaty will, in itself, be a recognition of the Diaz government, hence Diaz has a strong motive for meeting Secretary Evarts's views. Mata, however, satisfied that our government first that he had no power to give up the remaining two El Paso marauders, whose extradition was recently demanded, and they having claimed the protection of the Mexican courts and secured it under a clause of the existing treaty with that country. Again, while Mexico could not accept the proposition for the establishment of an international court to try such marauders, because her constitution prohibits it, Diaz consents to provide in a new treaty for mutual extradition of criminals in such a way that the criminal's nationality shall in no case save the marauders. A proposition practically agreed upon is that several legal points or places for crossing horses and cattle over the Rio Grande shall be settled upon, and all animals crossing elsewhere shall be deemed stolen and contraband and treated accordingly. This, it is thought, would materially reduce the cattle thieving expeditions of both Indians and Mexicans. The strip of territory within which it is proposed to have a military patrol for the protection of the border is to be fifty miles on each side of the Rio Grande, instead of twenty-five, although the military police of each country would have the right to cross in pursuit of marauders into the territory of the other within this distance of fifty miles from the river. Stringent stipulations designed to restrict troops from entering dwellings, cities or towns, or interfering in any way with the peaceable settlers will be made. The marauders, when arrested, are to be handed over to the nearest authority for punishment, if arrested in the country where the crime is committed, or for extradition if arrested on the boundary. The other proposed stipulations look to the protection of American capital invested in American railroads, mines and other public enterprises; but these may be deferred for a subsequent treaty, in which it will be more convenient to provide means of making American people feel safe from plunder in the shape of forced loans, a point upon which our government lays great stress.

Minister Foster is not limited to the exact propositions set forth, but his treaty must be in accordance with their general spirit and purpose.

Butler, the recognized attorney for the Lower California speculators, who failed so signally years ago, is known to intend to embarrass and defeat, if possible, any new treaty with Mexico, unless he can secure in it a provision for the payment of damages to said speculators.