

a success; but the fact still remains that a success is obtainable. Many of our large fruit growers can and are spraying their fruit and disinfecting their trees with success and some of them tell us that they would prefer to have no law on the subject as they think that if all of our fruit growers cared for their trees and fruit it would create so much competition that it would lower the price and make it less profitable. We see no need of fear on this score, as we should raise fruit to ship to outside markets; but does this not lessen the necessity of stringent measures and does it not tend to prove that the State should not pay out a large amount of money to force the people to work for their own interest? If viewed in this light stringent laws might be passed to make the people grow all kinds of crops, because forsooth it might be to their own interest.

In traveling around among our fruit growers the past two weeks we find that a majority of them are in favor of some law to work to. They all agree that spraying has come to stay, law or no law, and what the people need is general information. They think that any measure passed should tend in that direction, and many are getting interested and inquiring as to the best method to accomplish the best results. Now, if this be true why pass a law on this or any other subject in the interest of office seekers, who are interested only for what they expect or hope to get out of it? While there may be exceptions to all rules, we believe those methods should not be encouraged and as far as practicable those receiving the benefits of legislation should be the parties as far as possible to pay for it. Also it is necessary that our Legislature should not create too many offices and no one should hold office and draw a salary without earning it. We know of some that have worked hard and faithfully for the public good, and who failed to get their honest dues; no one admits that this is right; neither should the public funds be paid out recklessly.

Now in regard to our fruit and other industries, while we do not wish to be rigid in the matter, as we have a deep interest in it, and have spent much time and money trying to make it a success, and are still willing to do so; yet in the light of past events we believe that if some mild medium measure could be adopted it would result in much benefit to the fruit industry. To ask for expensive legislation on this subject is something our State and the people cannot afford, and besides there is no need of it; then why further tax a long-suffering people for expensive luxuries of any kind or on any subject that can possibly be avoided? We all know the people already have all the burdens they can possibly carry. Of course if our State had surplus funds on hand we believe no one would object or complain if a few thousands were spent in experimenting for the benefit of the fruit and other industries; but the facts as they exist at present plainly tell us it is the reverse of this. The financial problem of this city and of the entire State is the all-absorbing topic, and all classes of the people are asking the vital question, what shall

we do to be saved from further increasing burdens? The times are hard, business is dull and the laboring classes cannot get enough work to live; and the great number of offices and large salaries are considered to be one of the causes of our general depression; and while some of those office holders are getting fat the people suffer and mourn. We sincerely hope that the efforts of the mayor and council, with others, will be kept up till the people obtain relief; for why should some of these office holders draw from the public treasury from four to seven dollars per day when many that have to pay the taxes to keep it up have no guarantee of employment at even one dollar per day? We have been informed that many of the people last year did not earn or obtain enough money to pay their taxes. Another cause of the general depression is the depreciation of real estate values, caused partly by the increasing burdens of taxation and in turn this is partly the cause of the extreme dull times as capitalists will not invest for the reason, as they tersely put it, that it is a losing game. We find that more property is being sacrificed for taxes than at any other time in the history of Utah. The vital question is, how long can the people stand this, and will our business men and all the people that are so deeply interested in this matter wait until everything goes down out of sight before they make an effort to help themselves? They have the remedy and why don't they use it? How are the people to live if this state of affairs is to continue much longer? Is it any wonder that the people complain that we have already too many and too high salaries? There is extreme danger that without a change for the better in the near future, our city will recede instead of increasing in wealth and population.

Now if these are facts that cannot be disputed, should not every lover of Utah exert himself to their utmost for reform until the expenses of the entire State are less than the income, and should it not be devoutly hoped that our legislators may exert themselves to that end and thus preserve the credit and good name of our fair State? L.

ST. GEORGE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The proceedings of this conference extended over a period of three days, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the 14th, 15th and 16th of March.

On the first day the Stake gathering of the Relief societies convened in St. George Lyceum; as the former Stake president has died, it became necessary to organize the Stake presidency. Sister Ann Cannon Woodbury was unanimously elected Stake president, vice Sister Anna L. Ivins, deceased. Sister Emma P. Morris was unanimously elected first counselor and Sister Mary A. L. Juda was unanimously elected second counselor in the Stake presidency of the Relief societies of St. George Stake. Sister Mariuda Colborn Miles, counselor to the former Stake president, earnestly asked to be released from acting longer in this Stake capacity, and her sisters reluctantly yielded to her request. The whole organization appreciate the faithful devotion of this retiring officer and manifested this feeling in the Stake conference on Sunday.

The Priesthood meeting of the Stake also convened on Saturday, the 14th, and, under presidency of Daniel D. McArthur, transacted such business as the Stake presidency and the Bishops submitted for consideration.

The Sunday (15th) morning, afternoon and evening sessions of the regular conference were characterized by replete instructions, earnest testimony and fervent exhortation. This also continued at the morning meeting of Monday, 16th. The afternoon meeting of Monday was devoted to the giving of information to the people relative to plans and prospects for placing southern Utah in railway communication with the north and southwest. Thus at this conference we have had spiritual and temporal pabulum, and this was handed out by the dispensers with that direct earnestness which produces united endeavor and good results.

The general authorities of the Church and the Stake authorities were heartily sustained, and without one dissenting vote. The only visitor we had to aid in ministering the good word to us was our sometime fellow citizen Edwin D. Woolley, president of Kanab Stake. The Spirit of the Lord was manifest on speakers and hearers.

JAMES G. BLEAK,
Stake Clerk.

POCATELLO ITEMS.

POCATELLO, Idaho,
March 14, 1896.

For several days in the beginning of the month we were visited by wind and snow, but the weather took up at the end of last week, and gave us a good idea that spring was coming. The morning of the 13th, however, came in with a strong breeze until nearly noon, when snow made its appearance and in about three hours fully six inches had fallen. This morning again reminds us of spring weather, although we hear the sleighbells ringing.

Primaries of the various political parties have been held and other notices are out. Our election for city officers takes place on April 7th. Each party seems to have full confidence of success.

We are to have a visit of the Crittenton party from the 15th to the 25th. They are to hold three meetings on Sunday and two each day thereafter until the close. The length of time will allow all in Pocatello to visit them if they so desire.

We were favored with a visit from Dr. Karl G. Maeser on Tuesday, the 10th. He spoke to us in our meeting house which was crowded to excess, some of us taking seats on the floor of our stand. This reminded me of meeting among the remnants of the Lamanites. He spoke in his well known style, assisted by the power and inspiration of the Holy Ghost, which enabled him to give us some fatherly and valuable instruction in regard to the spiritual education of our children. His remarks were listened to with great interest by all present and it is to be hoped they will be long remembered and practiced by the Saints, who feel to say: God bless Brother Maeser for his fatherly counsel.

T. L. Cox, Agent.