

PRESIDENT WOODRUFF SPEAKS.

President Woodruff, by request, made a few remarks, expressing his pleasure at listening to Dr. Levy's lecture. He felt that the principles advocated were true, that Spain was a wicked nation, and that justice should and would overtake it. President Woodruff related a little story connected with his travels in Arizona, and closed by asking God to bless the visitor and all assembled.

A vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Levy for his lecture, and after the singing of America by the choir and congregation, benediction was pronounced by Elder M. F. Cowley.

PRESTON, IDAHO.

Preston, Idaho, June 7th, 1898.

During the past year many substantial improvements have been made in Preston and vicinity, and the front part of the ten-acre public square in the center of Main street has been sold for business premises. Sidney Stephens and the Opera house company and others propose erecting handsome business blocks. Heretofore Preston has been so scattered, people living on tracts of land all the way from a city lot to one hundred and sixty acres, but now they have an eye to the future, viz. the dividing of Oneida county and thus making Preston a county seat, and this is what should be, as it is 35 miles to Malad, and the people find it very inconvenient to go so far to record a deed or transact any legal business, and in winter and spring the bad condition of the roads make this a great hardship.

On Saturday the Stake Priesthood meeting was held, and men came long distances, from Pocatello and Chesterfield, fifty and one hundred miles.

The school elections were held on Monday, and James Johnson was elected for Preston. This is his third term, and not one vote was recorded against him.

On Friday next the Stake academy closes its yearly labors, and it has been a very successful one. The Stake presidency and people are highly pleased with the labors of Professors Hickman and Dalley, who are assisted by an efficient staff of teachers.

Preston is a nice place to live in, and people are coming here as the years come and go. The ranchers for miles around flock here on Saturdays, and, in fact, almost every day, and the amount of business that is done is immense. The stores do a large trade. Four or five wagon and farm implement establishments all say trade is better than ever. The farmers are buying carriages and all machines necessary and this on account of the fine appearance of their crops. All they now ask is warm weather, as the three weeks' rain has made all crops a sure thing. Good health abounds, and everybody is busy and very happy.

The merchants and business men last fall abandoned the scrip currency. It was a lithographed article, much resembling the greenback, and by it and through it all trading was done. The nurse at the birth was paid in scrip, and the minister took it at the marriage, as also did the doctor and sexton. It was everywhere present, and cash was invisible. This paper was discounted at all stages. Since it was all burned, money alone has been the currency both here and at Franklin.

At first it was very awkward. There being no banks here, checks were paid, and they must go to Logan to be cashed, but in a short time money was plentiful, and the change has been very satisfactory both to the merchants and people. The doing away of this scrip business has given a new impetus to the town, everybody has been bene-

fitted, and it would be a great blessing both here and in Utah if a state law was passed prohibiting any firm from issuing it. With the free coinage of silver and scrip banished, money would be much more abundant. SALOP.

LETTER FROM LOS ANGELES.

Westminster, Orange County, Cal.,

May 27, 1898.

Your most interesting magazine, the "Deseret Weekly," frequently finds its way to my postoffice box through the kindness of the Elders. We are traveling missionaries in southern California. It is always a welcome visitor, so much so, that I feel lonely if it does not appear once a week.

I find the "Weekly" the most richest feast, to attending conference. I had the pleasure of attending the last conference held in the city of Los Angeles, which convened April 24th and ended with the usual social on April 27th. It was to me one of the richest spiritual feasts that I ever enjoyed in all my life. Every one present seemed to be filled with the Holy Spirit. The music was excellent, and the testimonies very earnest and edifying to all.

I would like to mention some of the names of the brethren and sisters that I met there. It may be interesting to the Elders abroad to hear of so many being present. The following are the one that I became best acquainted with: President Nye, state president; Sister Nye and little Hattie; Elder and Sister Eldredge and their daughters, Susie and Afton, of Utah (out on a mission); Elders Hansen, W. E. Hawkins, W. F. Egan, P. Madgby, B. A. West, E. V. Suston of Liberty, Idaho; George J. Fox, Salt Lake; Raymond, Stokes, Lunt, Coats, Matthews and others that I cannot now call to mind. The sisters from a distance were: Salt Lake City, Sister Louise Edwards of San Diego, Cal., conference secretary; Sister Anelice Turler of Calton, Cal. I cannot take time to mention all of the kind Saints who made my stay in the city one to be long remembered.

I feel it my duty to mention Sister Caroline Rothlisberger and daughter May for their kind hospitality to me and my visiting friend Mr. Hattie Bradbury of Westminster. Sister May is organist at the regular meetings and teacher in the Sabbath school. I received a beautiful letter from her yesterday stating that the infant class had grown to such a number that they would have to grade and divide it. She also said that they have extra regular Tuesday evening service, at the cottage home of Brother and Sister Marsh, whose names will be read with delight by some of the Elders, especially Elder B. A. West, who, I think it was, that had the pleasure of leading Brother and Sister Marsh into the waters of baptism in August last. They are wholesome workers in the cause of truth.

While many dear faces that were seen in conference last October were absent this spring, their places were filled with others, and I think I can safely say a much larger congregation attended each session of the conference. We missed the pleasant faces of Elder German E. Ellsworth and Elder Bossman who were present last year at the October conference. The Mutual Improvement association in the city is presided over by Sister Eliza Wolcott, who has been a member of the Church for over forty-five years. She told me so herself, and said every succeeding year was her happiest. She is indeed "A mother in Israel." She has a beautiful home in the city where

all the Saints and Elders feel perfectly at home. Brother and Sister Eldredge are quite comfortably situated at No. 441 Grand avenue. I had the pleasure of dining with them. Elder Hansen was present at the dinner.

Elders W. W. Lunt and P. Mageiby are at present laboring in Orange Mutual Improvement association in and after the 1st of June they will have a postoffice box, donations are already promised by friends to pay for for the same. The Elders are making many new friends and, I think, keeping the old ones. Some new baptisms will soon be performed. I am out in one corner as it were, but have some honest hearted friends who are investigating. I pray that our Father will lead them into the glorious truth and light that I now enjoy. May the Lord bless and keep the Elders and all the Saints in the fold and many more be added before the next conference, is my earnest prayer, your Sister in the Gospel,

A. E. BATES,
Westminster, Cal.

THE WORK IN MONTANA.

Kallispell, Mont., May 27, 1898.

Elder N. B. Marble and I were sent here about the 1st of the present month to open a new field, it being the first effort made by our people in the Flathead country. We labored diligently for some time before we could see that our efforts were being rewarded to any marked degree. There have been a good many false tales told here, as well as elsewhere, about our people, which a great many believe. These slanders of course are among the unpleasantnesses we have to meet. But despite the scandalous tales that have gone on the wings of lightning, we will with the help of the Lord be able to do good work here. We find that He is not slack concerning His promises to us. The people are generally quite hospitable, the customs being nearly the same as among our own people.

A few days ago we called at a place along in the evening, and asked if we could get to stay all night. The gentleman said that they could give us some supper, but they were a little "under the weather" and didn't feel like being put about. We were of course glad to accept supper, as we knew not where else to go, and had already tried at two places for entertainment. After we had eaten our supper and had a pleasant half hour's chat, we spoke about leaving, when the man asked if we knew where we were going, to which we replied that we did not. He then told us that we could stay, and we were made quite welcome. The Lord is not slow in coming to the aid of the Elders, and touching the hearts of the people, when necessary; if they do their duty.

We have held quite a number of public meetings since we came here, but not as many as we would have held had it not been such a busy season of the year. The attendance has been good and the attention worthy of imitation by many of our people at home. Thus, and in our many private conversations, we have been scattering seeds of truth, many of which no doubt will fall upon good soil and there germinate, take root and grow. In this work we hope to see the bread we have cast upon the waters return after many days. And by gathering a little here and there may the time be brought about when "truth shall cover the face of the whole earth as the waters do the deep."

Respectfully,
W. H. CARBINE.