

Stake authorities were in attendance, as was also a good representation of the Sunday schools of the Stake, showing that great interest is taken in the Sunday school cause. Five meetings, including that of the Teachers, were held in which reports from most of the schools were given and also class exercises. The reports of the various superintendents were generally good and showed that in all our schools (nineteen in number) the organizations were complete and in fairly prosperous condition. The visiting brethren at each meeting gave instructions pertaining to the conducting of the Sunday schools which we trust will have a beneficial effect in the regulation of our schools.

GEORGE THOMAS,  
Secretary of Stake.

### UTAH STAKE S. S. CONFERENCE.

The Sabbath schools of Utah Stake met in conference capacity November 16th at 10 a. m. Present on the stand, Stake superintendents L. E. Eggertsen and William S. Rawlings; of the general superintendency, George Goddard and Dr. Karl G. Maeser, Reed Smoot, of the Stake presidency, and a good representation of the ward superintendents throughout the Stake.

Conference was called to order by Superintendent L. E. Eggertsen. The congregation sang, "Hope of Israel." Prayer by Brother James Hardy. The congregation sang, "Our Mountain Home."

Elder L. E. Eggertsen said he was pleased to meet again in conference capacity. Although the weather appeared somewhat threatening yet representatives from the distant schools were present. He desired the aid of the Spirit of God during our conference.

The first exercise was an address, "The Sunday School Pupil," by Bro. B. L. Hinchley, of the Provo First ward school. The Sunday school pupil comprises the small child, the youth and the father and mother. The small child is a bundle of small possibilities, and how necessary for the teacher to have the spirit of his calling with him. The Sunday school teacher, if he does his duty, will prepare the young for the Mutual Improvement associations and the larger responsibilities of life. He prayed for the continuance of the spirit that has actuated the subordinate school workers.

Supt. Thos. Williams represented the Pleasant Grove Second ward branch school. It was in a scattered condition but was working hard for the success of the school.

Supt. Mads Jorgenson reported the Lake View south branch school as progressing fairly well, the main detriment being the necessity of some of the teachers having to leave home for work.

Supt. W. B. Wursenroff, of Payson First ward, represented their school as being in a prosperous condition. Teachers are earnest workers and regular in attendance.

Elder George Goddard said he was pleased to see an increased attendance over last year's conference. Felt to prophecy that never again would there be so small an attendance at the first meeting as today's even, because the Sabbath school work was progressing. They were organized in 1849 and now

number between 80,000 and 90,000. The first step upward was the ordination to the Priesthood, Deacon, Teacher, Priest and then Elder; and now there are over 1,000 Elders preaching the Gospel. He urged punctuality in Sabbath school; if 10 o'clock is the hour the first object lesson is punctuality. He then sang "In Our Lovely Desert," and had the children join in the chorus. Afterwards he directed his remarks especially to the small children regarding the Word of Wisdom.

Elder Maeser followed. The fact of our Sunday school conferences being held but once a year makes them important, and the instructions given should receive general distribution. We are daily sowing seeds of good or evil and we will be held responsible for the harvest. Let the Spirit of God guide in all actions. We may be able to philosophy well but we cannot accomplish what is desired in the Sabbath schools without the spirit of God any more than the electric light can take the place of the sun light in giving life to the things of the world. The board was now preparing a course of study, but this should in no way make it necessary to thoroughly prepare by study and prayer. The Sunday school officers should keep in elbow feeling with the Priesthood.

Saturday afternoon—Singing "Joseph Smith's first prayer," prayer by Brother Andrew M. Ferguson, of Lake Shore; singing, "Beautiful Zion."

Roll called, seventeen schools represented.

Brother N. L. Nelson, of the Provo Fourth ward school, spoke upon "The Sunday School Teacher. He of his relationship to the classes, the school as a whole and to his fellow teachers and the parents. He helps or retards the school by his example. Spoke of the natural tendencies of men to work during the week for worldly wealth and spend scarcely any time in preparing for Sunday school work. The Sunday school should fill in the vacancies left by the day school in development of religious and moral nature.

The Pleasant Grove First ward and Provo City Third ward schools were represented by their respective superintendents, Samuel H. Smith and Alfred S. Harding.

Elder David John of the Stake presidency was pleased to meet in conference, yet our Provo City people ought to turn out many more. It is the duty of the Priesthood to aid the Sunday school work, and they should be labored with first to attend.

Elder Maeser answered the question, "What do you mean by Sunday school concerts?" Said they were gotten up for the entertainment of Sunday school officers and pupils and to present examples of good taste. They are something out of the ordinary and the children should be encouraged in reciting and in giving musical selections. Also answered the question, How can young men be induced to attend Sunday school? In the first place make the Sunday school very interesting; let them find something there worth going for; one of the means is missionary work. Referred to Lehi and how successful they had been in this way. Young lady missionaries should also do missionary work, Sun-

day school workers should seek opportunities to do good to others.

Elder Goddard followed along the line of missionary work; make the Sunday schools so interesting that the children cannot keep away. Everything should have a spiritual bearing upon the children. The maintenance of good order is one of the best capabilities of a superintendent. Children should be taught to have a sacredness for places of worship. He closed his remarks by singing "Have you spent a pleasant day?"

Benediction by Brother Emil Maeser.

At 7:30 p. m., there was a very instructive and entertaining program. In addition to the songs by the school children, Elder J. M. Tanner spoke upon the subject of the Sunday school teacher as the person who is ever remembered by his Sunday school pupils.

Elder Maeser gave a few strong points on living for others and for the good we can do, and not for self.

Superintendent L. E. Eggertsen referred to his missionary experience and said that oftentimes while addressing his congregation the instructions from his Sunday school teacher appears before him as an open book.

Brother Goddard added to the entertainment by a song and his testimony of fifty years as a Sabbath School worker.

The songs and organ solos were highly appreciated by the audience.

Sunday morning.—Superintendent Wm. S. Rawlings presiding. Singing, Prayer by Brother Geo. Jex of Spanish Fork. Singing, "Welcome, welcome, Sabbath morning."

Superintendent W. S. Rawlings gave a report of the condition of the Sabbath School. Had visited all schools in the Stake with the exception of three or four. Had organized one Sunday school during the season between American Fork and Pleasant Grove, called Grove Fork; said he believed every superintendent had done his utmost to abide by the instructions given by the Union Board; expressed thanks to the Stake presidency for their interest, also the Bishops for their aid; also the superintendents for sustaining the Stake superintendency; hoped every year would be a step higher; desired the Sunday school workers to have confidence in each other.

A class exercise by the first intermediate department of the American Fork Sunday school, on the infancy and birth of Christ, was very creditably taken through.

The Ten commandments were recited by the schools present in concert, Superintendent L. E. Eggertsen leading.

A class exercise was then taken through by the Pleasant Grove Sunday school, illustrating how a teacher would take charge of a class if called upon for the first time very creditably.

Elder Reed Smoot, of the Stake presidency, said the sight present warmed his heart; the Stake presidency had taken an interest in the Sunday schools and to know that the Spirit of God is leading them in their work. This labor would be productive of much good. Spoke of his own experience in attending the Sabbath school. Referred to the subject of prayer and spoke of its powers,