

The Bishops of the following wards reported their condition: Arnon, Grant, Taylor, Eagle Rock and Shelley. The reports in substance were that all were working harmoniously. Bishop Dabell of Grant stated that eight years ago they had threshed in that ward 700 bushels of grain, and this season they would thresh over 50,000 bushels. He mentioned this as an illustration of their progress.

The time remaining after reports were given was occupied by Elder Walter Hoge and Elder John H. Smith. The first spoke of the objects in view and the reasons so many had left their homes among the nations of the earth and gathered and settled among the people in these valleys, it being that they might thereby serve God more fully. Elder John H. Smith said the reports show that the people in this Stake are being blessed in a material way; he also dwelt upon the policies adopted by the Latter-day Saints in the settlements of Utah, wherein they sought to unite the temporal with their spiritual affairs, and the beneficial results of the same which are now in evidence among the people.

2 p. m.—The speakers during the afternoon services were Elder J. H. Smith of Bear Lake Stake and Emil Bauckman. The first dwelt principally on the mission of the Holy Ghost. Elder Bauckman chose as his text the Gospel of Christ, and in an earnest and eloquent manner, and with his statements substantiated by Scriptural quotations and references he made a powerful plea for the correctness of the Gospel as taught by the Latter-day Saints.

At 4 p. m. a Priesthood meeting was held. Elder J. H. Smith said that such meetings were proper places to talk over temporal affairs, prices of grain, and other produce; spoke of some of the horrors of debt, and advised all to keep themselves free from it. Geo. Muir was ordained a High Priest and set apart as Bishop of the Grays Lake ward.

Monday, 10 a. m.—The meeting was turned over to the Y. M. M. I. A., for their conference. Reports from the Stake presidency of the Y. M. M. I. A. as to the progress of the various associations of the Stake, and instructive remarks by Prof. D. M. Todd and Elder J. H. Smith, occupied the time of this conference.

Monday, 2 p. m.—The speakers were, Elders Bybee and Mulliner, Sister Susa Y. Gates, and Elders D. M. Todd, J. H. Smith. The first two endorsed the report of President Steele in regard to the condition of the Stake, and spoke of the benefits we would derive if we would only profit by the experience of others; also in regard to the value of time—young men cannot afford to sow wild oats; time is too precious. Sister Gates spoke principally upon chastity and the necessity of its strict observance by the boy as well as the girl, saying, Let the fathers and the boys take the lead in this and the women will gladly fall in line. Prof. Todd spoke of the education of the child and gave some valuable hints to young mothers in regard to the proper training of their children. Elder Smith dwelt for a short time on these questions, chastity, virtue and education, emphasizing the remarks of previous speakers, and with great force and power strove to impress all with the far-reaching effects, and the beautiful results following a strict observance and maintenance of virtue.

On Saturday, Sept. 11th, the Relief Society conference was held, and it is conceded by all that it was one of the best and most successful held since the organization of this Stake.

Thus once more we inscribe upon the record of our Stake a brief history of an interesting event, and future recollections of it will call to mind an occasion where all were fed with a spiritual

feast, and where were taught to them the truths that should prove of great value to them in the struggles and trials of the future.

J. C. RUSHTON,
Stake Clerk.

BRANCH IN INDEPENDENCE

Independence, Jackson Co., Missouri,
Aug. 1, 1897.

Sixty-four years have passed since the Saints, regardless of any principle of right, were driven from their homes in Jackson county, Missouri. Caldwell county afforded a temporary resting place for the Saints, who were destined to become a light to the world.

After many a fruitless appeal to justice to restore to them their homes in Jackson county, and instead of being assisted by the administrators of the law, they were compelled by an edict issued in 1838 by Governor Boggs to leave the state.

When I arrived in the Northern States mission twenty-one months ago, there were only four Elders laboring in the state of Missouri. We now have seventeen Elders in the Missouri conference, who report that many are laying aside their former prejudice and are investigating the principles of the Gospel with unbiased minds.

In connection with Elders B. F. Duffin, Thos. Loynd and T. H. Ingram I arrived in Jackson county three months ago. Elder Duffin and I took up a labor in and around Independence, while Elders Loynd and Ingram made a canvass of the southwestern part of the county.

We were successful in holding a number of meetings, some of which were in private houses. We found some who were willing to obey the truth, and consequently we had the privilege of leading thirteen honest souls into the waters of baptism.

Elders Loynd and Ingram have baptized eight, making twenty-one who have been baptized in Jackson county in less than three months.

Others are investigating, and although we are slandered on every side, the work goes steadily on. Many are beginning to think with the Prophet Hosea (10: 12) "that it is time to seek the Lord."

We organized a branch of the Church at Independence on the 6th of June with Brother Richard Preator as branch president and Sunday school superintendent. The Saints take great interest in Sunday school work. In my travels through the county I have visited the places where some of the houses of the Saints stood in 1831-2. In Karr township, on the banks of the Big Blue, where the Colesville branch of the Church located, can be seen the foundations of what old settlers say were "Mormon" houses.

While taking a trip in the southwestern part of the county we visited the grave of James Bridger who 50 years ago was a trapper in Salt Lake valley.

The temple lot presents a beautiful picture, as everything is nice and green. Many who are no kin to "Mormonism" marvel that that spot of ground should remain as it does today with no improvements, only a small frame building in which the Hedrikites hold their services.

I would advise the young men to prepare themselves to enter into the missionary field, for truly the harvest is great and the laborers few; and should any be fortunate enough to be assigned to labor in the Missouri conference they should esteem it a special favor. Our Elders are all enjoying good health and are laboring as follows:

B. W. Dixon, Independence, Mo.
Alex Watson and E. J. Liddle, Nevada, Vernon Co., Mo.

B. F. Duffin and T. H. Ingram, Independence, Mo.

C. H. Owen and A. Reiser, Willow Springs, Howell Co., Mo.

Daniel Bodily and J. L. Mortensen, California, Montian Co., Mo.

J. G. Evans and F. H. Nalder, Louisiana, Pike Co., Mo.

Ebeneser Tanner and Thos. Loynd, Bevier, Macon Co., Mo.

J. W. Kay and M. N. Mathinsen, Milan, Sullivan Co., Mo.

Geo. Done and S. S. Humphreys, Burlington, Nodanay Co., Mo.

Any person having friends living in the above named counties, whom they desire the Elders to visit, will please inform them of their whereabouts.

B. W. DIXON,
Conference President.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE

And now another try at the "Great American Problem," and doubtless the time of its solution is near at hand—for the scene is Boston.

The Women's Educational and Industrial Union has the matter in charge, and under their efficient direction its managers, with Miss Maria Daniell at the helm, they will doubtless steer clear of both Scylla and Charybdis. Miss Daniell has not only theory but practice to aid her, having done most efficient work in Chicago University, Pratt Institute, and at Greenacre. The association has leased two houses, one of which will be occupied by the family, which will consist of a limited number of boarders, while the other will be for classes and demonstrative work. The aim of the school, succinctly stated, is to increase the number of skilled workers in domestic service, and at the same time put this vocation for women on a higher plane. As preliminary to this end, the old terms, "mistress" and "servant" are to be abandoned, while "housekeeper" and "houseworker" are to take their places.

No woman will be received as a pupil who is less than 16 or more than 30 years of age. She must come well recommended, and must be able to read and write. She may take a general course in housework or some special line—cook, chambermaid, nurse, laundress or waitress. Upon graduation she will receive a diploma which will insure her a position through the "Domestic Reform League." Beside the practical work done under Miss Daniell's direct supervision, the students will receive demonstrative lectures on domestic service, its economies and ethics, home sanitation, the philosophy of cleaning, practical housekeeping and the chemistry of foods.

Allowing that the "Cricket on the Hearth" is a merry and desirable comrade in many respects, it must be confessed that a cricket making himself entirely to home to the extent of dining immediately upon the choicest Turkish rugs is not provocative of merriment on the part of the careful householder. His discriminating taste for the very best may be attributed not so much to a cultivated eye as to a fondness for the vegetable dyes with which all fine Oriental rugs are colored. As his ravages are well-nigh irreparable, either the cricket or the rugs should be removed at the first strident note that heralds his appearance.

Now is the time to prepare leaves and berries for winter table decorations when it is so difficult to find appropriate garnishings. Holly branches, barberry vines and berries, grape, maple and pear leaves, and the small wood fern are all suitable for the purpose. Dip in a thin solution of glue-water, allowing one tablespoonful of