

ways being clean, clear and cool, with no instances of sickness following its use, such as come from wells open to drainage from the surrounding soil.

NOTICE TO STAKE AND WARD OFFICERS OF Y. M. M. I. A.

At the officers' meeting of the General Conference of Young Men's Mutual Improvement associations, held May 30, 1896, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"That the fourth week in November be adopted and known as 'Collection Week' in the Young Men's Mutual Improvement associations throughout all the Stakes in Zion; that during that week each association appoint one or more collectors to see, and personally solicit from, each member of the association the annual fee agreed upon—fifty cents—to meet the local and general expense of mutual improvement work; that after deducting ten per cent of the collections, to meet the expenses of the local association, the president shall see to it that the treasurer shall forward the remainder to the Stake treasurer, who, after deducting fifteen per cent of the total collections, shall immediately report the balance of the receipts from the Stake, to the general treasurer."

We urge upon the officers that they give this matter earnest and immediate attention, and see to it that the collectors contemplated in the resolution are appointed at once, and the amounts collected forwarded to the general treasurer as early as possible.

Earnestly praying for the success of Mutual Improvement, we are your brethren,

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
JOS. F. SMITH,
HEBER J. GRANT,
General Superintendency.

THE SALOON QUESTION.

The crime and wretchedness which attend the existence of liquor saloons are destined to keep the question of their regulation prominently before the public, at least until it is settled in a way that the general public will not be seriously molested in their peace and property as a result of drinking resorts. In Salt Lake City and other municipalities in the State the saloon nuisance is a painful infliction upon the people which is being extended each year in its injurious influence. There are laws to regulate the liquor business, but these are practically a dead letter in many respects, both by reason of the difficulty of their enforcement and the disinclination of officers to offend the saloon element; for officers who depend on political emergencies do not care to invoke the antagonism of that element, and the mass of voters have not been awakened to the necessity of their special action in this regard, not on behalf of prohibition, but in the interest of demanding an enforcement of the laws toward all classes alike.

Utah is not the only place, or the most seriously puzzled on this question. Elsewhere the citizens are being awakened to the necessity of settling this saloon business on mod-

fied lines, so that those who favor the continuance of drinking resorts may be given their way under restrictions that will preserve more temperate people from the injury they are now compelled to bear. Owing to this condition several eastern cities, among which Boston is taking the lead, are seriously contemplating adopting the Minneapolis reservation system as a solution for the problem. There is a very strong prohibition sentiment in Boston, yet the conservatism of public leaders there is against such radical measures as the complete suppression of the saloon would make necessary, hence the recourse to the other system, which would locate all the drinking resorts in one quarter of the city, and mainly away from schools and the resident portion.

As for the Minneapolis system of saloon reservation, it seems to have given the greatest satisfaction of anything yet attempted; and so gratifying have been the results to the anti-liquor people that the Boston Total Abstinence society, after a careful investigation, has given full endorsement to the plan, while the people of Minneapolis will not listen to any proposition to change, and even the saloon men say it is more pleasing to them than was the old system, which operated much as affairs now go in this city.

The "saloon reservation" scheme was adopted in Minneapolis in 1884, when the city had 523 saloons to a population of less than 120,000. Being scattered throughout the city, the saloons drew hoodlums and criminals to the very thresholds of the reputable citizens. The police force, which had to cover a total area of 53.38 square miles, was utterly inadequate to control the saloons, and to enforce the prescribed closing hours was out of the question. An increase of police was not practicable in the financial condition of the municipality, and Mayor George A. Pillsbury recommended establishing restrictive limits. The idea was taken up enthusiastically by Judson N. Crose, city attorney, who is known by citizens here as an able lawyer and broadminded in his philanthropic views. He drafted a resolution providing that the saloon reservation cover about four square miles, outside of which saloons were forbidden. This ordinance was passed by the Minneapolis city council in April, 1884.

As was to be expected, the saloon men made a great fight against it, and lawyers declared that it could not be upheld. Test cases were at once brought before the district courts and from there carried to the supreme court of the state. The agitation was immense. The saloonkeepers of Minneapolis held large meetings every day during the four weeks while the case rested with the courts. Threats were made and all available influence used to defeat the measure, which had the full sympathy of the respectable element of the community. A big array of lawyers assailed the ordinance, but Judge Crose won the battle, and the saloon men submitted to the inevitable; at the same time the saloon license was raised from \$100 per year to \$500.

The effect of this in 1884 was that the saloons located outside of the patrol limits were at once closed, and in

a few weeks the number of saloons decreased from 523 to 230. Since that time the population of the city has almost doubled, being now over 200,000, but the number of saloons has increased only about 15 per cent. Last year 266 licenses were issued. The police force, which includes four captains, four lieutenants, fourteen sergeants and one hundred and forty-six patrolmen, is a little less now than it was before the establishment of the patrol limits. Out of the force four captains, four lieutenants, thirteen sergeants and one hundred and ten patrolmen are located within the patrol limits, while the immense outside area is taken care of by thirty-eight men. Yet the inhabitants make no complaint, as they seem to have ample protection. As an official remarked a few days since, "The system has proved so satisfactory that no one wants it abolished, not even the saloon men." No mayor has dared to run since 1884 on a platform including the abolition of the patrol limits. In 1891 an attempt was made in the legislature to extend the limit two blocks, but the citizens rose against it, indignation meetings were held, and the legislature defeated the proposed amendment. The license was raised to \$1,000 per year.

The Minneapolis system has stood the test twelve years, and from all the reports made it is the best method yet adopted to keep the saloon element and patrons in control. It combines the high license, local option and restrictive ideas in a modified form, and, where saloons are to be allowed at all, seems to be the best plan yet devised for minimizing the evils of the liquor traffic and the consequent friction between prohibitionists and devotees of the wine glass. From its practical results where it has been tested thoroughly, it is clear that the Minneapolis system is generally preferable to methods now in vogue in Utah and other western states, where saloons are allowed at all.

SHEEP AND WOOL.

The man who is now a sheep owner has some reason for self congratulation. The value of stock sheep has taken a bound upward, and so has the price of wool—an item that should prove of considerable importance. There are many sheep owners of the State who now have their wool stored in Boston and Philadelphia warehouses, awaiting a rise in price, and the setting in of a marked upward tendency and a good demand is most opportune for them. For months past the price has been so low that a sale meant insufficient returns to pay expense; but the advance is so strong now that the wool grower who has been careful and who still has his clip to sell will net a profit. And where the wool-grower is benefited in that way the State is consequently benefited.

As to the sheep market, the falling off in supply has been very heavy, and the advance in price quite strong. A reason for this is that those in the sheep business see a better prospect ahead, and stock sheep are not being thrown on the market. In fact, there are intending buyers in this State