

Our esteemed young friend, Brother Lashbrook Laker Jr., expects to start on a mission in about a week. He goes with the best of wishes from the people of the ward. He has taught school the last two winters at Garden City, Utah. May success attend his labors abroad.

The first religion class in the Stake was organized here some time since with Brothers L. P. Green and W. H. Michaelson and Miss Anna G. Keetch as teachers.

District school commences tomorrow morning; Miss Sarah J. Rich, teacher. Orson Williamson returned a week ago from Logan where he has been attending school at the Agricultural College. E.

FROM THE FAR NORTH.

STOCKHOLM, May 15.—(Special to the NEWS.)—The Scandinavian and Russian exposition was opened here today by King Oscar in the presence of the royal family, commissioners and officials of the exposition, the whole diplomatic corps and a multitude estimated at over 100,000 people among whom were noted many American tourists and a large number of Swedish-Americans.

The program was carried out in every detail as scheduled a few weeks ago. The cannon thundering from the Skeppsholmen battery his majesty reached the ground about fifteen minutes before 12 o'clock, noon. He was lustily cheered all along the route and seemed to be in the best of spirits. After a few minutes conversation with the commissioners of the fair he made one of his characteristic and eloquent speeches, which was eagerly listened to. He dwelt especially upon the fact that no countries in the world, taking in consideration the number of inhabitants, could show such progress in science and industry during the present century as Sweden and Norway were capable of. Thanking God for the more than eighty years of peace, which had made this development possible and paying a special compliment to Russia for its participation, he pressed the electric button, starting the big machinery of the fair at exactly 12 o'clock m. A sky-rocket gave the signal, and immediately the flags of all nations were hoisted on the various buildings, the blue and yellow cross of Sweden being especially conspicuous on the dome of the great industrial hall, which rises from the ground 325 feet, being 60 feet higher than the Manufacturers' building at the Chicago World's Fair.

Accompanied by the directors of the Exposition, his majesty made a tour over the grounds, visiting the principal buildings and seeming to be highly pleased with the exhibits. He thereupon returned to the castle.

From an international point of view the art palace is the most interesting building. Artists of all nations, among these many Americans, are represented here by some of the most famous of their works. The best accommodations are provided for the representatives of the press. The Press Pavilion bears a splendid witness to what an extent the telephone is used in the Swedish capital. Telephones are placed on every writing-desk, and he-

sides a great number of isolated apparatuses.

The city is gaily decorated, the magnificent palace on the Strandvägen boulevard making a display of flags and bunting never to be forgotten. The gala banquet, which takes place tonight at the famous Hesselbacken restaurant, is given by the directors of the fair in honor of the foreign commissioners and will be attended by the princes.

The first congress of importance to be held in connection with the exposition will be the International Congress of the Press. At least two hundred foreign journalists are expected to be present. The congress which takes place in June, will be immediately followed by an international regatta, which will assume great dimensions. The German emperor will be represented.

At the September celebration of King Oscar's twenty-five years jubilee as a ruler of Sweden and Norway, the German emperor, the Russian czar, the Prince of Wales and probably the whole royal Danish family will be present. The festivities to take place on that occasion will undoubtedly surpass anything ever beheld in this part of the world.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Elder Charles W. Penrose (of the Stake Presidency) presided at the services in the Tabernacle Sunday afternoon May 16, 1897.

The choir sang the hymn:

Zion stands with hills surrounded,
Zion kept by power divine.

Prayer was offered by Elder John R. Murdock.

The choir further sang:

Captain of Israel's host, and Guide
Of all who seek the land above.

Elder Theodore Tobiason a returned missionary from Scandinavia, was introduced to the congregation as the first speaker. He said he had been laboring for a little over two years in the country of Sweden, where there were many good, honest-hearted people, who were sincerely seeking to do the will of God and keep His commandments. The harvest was truly great, but the laborers were few, as sufficient Elders to cover the field could not be secured. The indications were that in future time a number of the Swedish people would become members of the Church. There was a class of people in Sweden who were dissatisfied with their present religion because of the strife and contention which it brought about, and with these people the Mormon missionaries were doing a good work. The Elders were faithful in their labors and went forth trusting in God, and in this manner their ministrations were bearing fruit, even to the gathering out of the honest in heart.

In the outside world, said the speaker, it was a cause for wonderment why the Latter-day Saint Elders traveled to such distant lands to promulgate the Gospel. We have the Gospel, they say, and have no need of further teachings; but when held down to the teachings of Christ, they were found to be wanting in their allegiance to that Being whom they professed to believe in and worship. They did not adhere to His

principles and commandments, but thought that the exercise of faith, as they called it, was sufficient to show their sincerity in following in His footsteps and showing a loyalty to His Gospel. Faith was not the only essential, however. There were other principles and ordinances that had to be lived up to, a great many of which the religious world of the day had no use for; they were not tenets of their faith, although all of them were comprised in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In conclusion Elder Tobiason bore testimony to the divinity of the work in which the Latter-day Saints were engaged and urged those not having a testimony to sincerely seek for one and they would receive it.

Elder David McKenzie was the next speaker. The Latter-day Saints, said he, were a people of very high pretensions. They stood upon an exalted platform, and when they assailed the religious world as having a religion with a form of Godliness and denying the power thereof were they able to vindicate it? They had done so contending the speaker, and were ready, able and willing to do so again and again, whenever occasion required. That Gospel restored to the earth through the boy Prophet, Joseph Smith, had been shown beyond a doubt to be the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. The restoration of the Gospel was part and parcel of the great program devised afore the creation of the earth. Jesus came as the great High Priest and later would come as King of kings and Lord of lords to rule and reign a thousand years upon the earth.

The coming forth of the Book of Mormon and its authenticity, was testified to by twelve witnesses who declared it to be a work entrusted to earthly beings by heavenly messengers. Facts were established in all ages of the world's history only through the credibility of witnesses and in this way was the divinity of the Book of Mormon attested to. Some of those witnesses had fallen away from the Church, but never did they deny their testimonies to the divine coming forth of the book to which they had been witnesses.

Elder McKenzie bore a powerful testimony to the work of God, as practiced by the Latter-day Saints. The restoration of the Gospel awakened the human family and opposition sprang up on every side. God had so shaped conditions in the earth, however, as to benefit His people and to cause His work to grow and prosper in spite of all opposition.

Through the courtesy of Madame Genevra Johnstone Bishop, that accomplished lady rendered in a highly pleasing manner the solo, Jerusalem, after which the choir sang the anthem: Glory be to the Lord, our deliverer.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder G. G. Bywater.

Charles H. Hare, a printer of Alameda, Cal., claims to have made a remarkable discovery. While at breakfast on hard-boiled eggs Saturday morning, he cut the yolk of one of them in two and was surprised to see two large leaden buckshot drop out. He is trying to solve the problem of how they got inside the egg.