

Bear Lake Stake Timeline

1863

Soda Springs: soldiers build a temporary fort on the Bear River and invite the Morrisites to build up the area. They settle in what is now Morristown, but the settlement never takes off. [MH]

August 23: In Logan, Brigham Young meets in council with general and local leaders.¹ “It was decided that Preston Thomas and others be at liberty to make a settlement on the other side of Cub River.” *This is the public story*

August 23: In the actual account of this meeting:² Present are “Presidents Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Daniel H. Wells, of the Twelve Apostles, John Taylor, George A. Smith, Ezra T. Benson, Charles C. Rich and Franklin D. Richards. President Joseph Young and Elders Peter Maughan, Amos ?, Orson Arnold, John Y Long. Bishop John Rowberry [Tooee]”, they consider and decide to settle Bear Lake Valley. “President Young stated the object of the meeting to be the consideration of taking immediate (?) [prospecting?] of Bear Lake Valley by sending a company of men there this fall. He further remarked that in a conversation with brother Benson he had understood that bro. Rich would like to take charge of such a company and he would like to know Elder Rich’s mind upon the subject. C.C. Rich then remarked that he did not feel like volunteering, but was willing to do whatever the President said. President Young then spoke as follows: The Twelve have been rised up, they are tried out with hard labor, and now the time has come that they can do more good at home then they can by going abroad to preach the gospel. The again, the Twelve should sustain themselves as far as possible, or with as little help as they can get along with. I am pretty well satisfied that I put more to the big pile than I have taken away, but this is for example. It is our privilege to live and be sustained by the tithing, for the tithing is to sustain the priesthood, to build Temples and feed the poor, this is not a good policy so far as we are concerned; I think it is much better for us to sustain ourselves. Now what I am about to say you will do well to keep to yourselves. We have it in our minds to settle Bear River Lake Valley; I for one, would like to have a settlement there. As yet I have said nothing to anyone except to brother Benson. Now if you will keep this matter to yourselves nobody will know anything about it, but otherwise it will be telegraphed to old Abe Lincoln by some of ? officers, and then it will be made a preservation of immediately to prevent us getting it. Now you may excuse me or not, but he is a damned old scamp and villain, and I don’t believe that Pharaoh of old was any worse, or any wickedder....President Young to C. C. Rich: Brother Benson thought you would like to go there. I never had a feeling about it, but brother Benson and me had a talk on the subject and he thought you would be pleased to go. Elder Charles C. Rich: So far as pulling up stakes and moving my entire family, I would rather not

¹ *Historian’s Office Journal*, V.27 1863-1864, p.116, Church History Library CR 100 1, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c480ff1c-d38f-4aca-9aa0-79c3e06a29c2/0/120>

² Logan, Ezra T. Benson house, 1863 August 23, *General Church Minutes*, 1863 April-November, Church History Library CR 100 318. <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e23d3410-b968-4be4-a33c-ae6ff5b9a1b3/0/15>

do it. President Brigham Young: I will tell what I would do; I would rather have my family all together...President Joseph Young wished to know if the valley under contemplation was in this Territory. The President: All I have to say is that I don't know, neither do I care... “

September 14th: Calls are begun to be issued for people to go and settle the valley. Thomas Sleight records his call in his diary. [Sleight, Thomas. Thomas Sleight diaries. Microfilm MS 9406.]

September 26th: **Paris**: First settlers arrive at Paris and in the Bear Lake Valley. Robert H Williams “appointed to preside under President Charles C. Rich” as President Rich “ returned in December to Salt Lake for the winter...” along with Alonzo Bingham. .1 Robert Williams, a former bishop in Cache Valley, Providence Ward, appoints men to visit families and has church service every Sunday. About 48 men, 40 women and 30-40 children arrive that year. [EH, Paris MH, Paris Stake MH][Sleight]

1864

More settlers arrive in the valley during the year. Settlements of Bloomington, Ovid, St. Charles, Montpelier, Fish Haven, Liberty, and Bennington founded. Elder Charles C. Rich brings his family to the valley. President Young visits the valley.

Meadowville: settlers, led by Joseph W. Moore (PE?), arrive in Round Valley near Chimney Town, which is close to Meadowville. The settlement is soon abandoned and some go to Mud Town (Meadowville) and Sly Go. [MH]

Spring: **Bennington**: First settlers arrive in Bennington area. Initially no meetings occur. [EH 58][MH]

Spring: **Fish Haven**: First settlers arrive. Preston Thomas called as the Presiding Elder and meetings held in private homes for the first winter. [EH251-252, MH]

Spring: **Paris**: Paris organized as a branch. Alonzo Bingham begins to act as Presiding Elder of the settlement. [MH]

April: **New Haven [St. Charles]**: First settled in 1864 by Robert Poe and Geo. M. Pugmere. [EH724-725, MH]

April: **Liberty**: First settlers arrive. Levi Hammond called as first Presiding Elder by Elder Rich. [EH443][MH][Sleight]

April: **Montpelier**: first settled, “no one had been delegated to preside or assume charge of affairs, so the Saints met in Council and without a dissenting vote decided on John Cozzens to preside over them. The matter was later submitted to Apostle Rich who approved the choice of John Cozzens and ordained him a Priest and set him apart to preside...” 1 Settlement was known first as Clover Creek and then Bellevue.[EH528-529][MH][History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 159][Sleight]

April 23rd: President Rich returns back to the Bear Lake Valley after crossing the mountains on snowshoes to attend the SLC general conference. [MH, Sleight][Rich, Russell R. Land of the Sky-Blue Water: A History of the LDS Settlement of the Bear Lake Valley (Provo; Brigham Young University Press, 1963). Accessed on 3/10/2018.

<http://www.myfamilyonline.com/histories/Land%20of%20sky-blue%20water%20by%20Dr%20Russell%20R%20Rich.pdf>

April 24th: **Bloomington**: first settlers arrive in Bloomington area. David B. Dillie is called as the First Presiding Officer of the branch by Apostle Charles C. Rich. He acted without counselors. James H Hart called later in the year as Presiding Elder to replace David B Dille.[EH, MH]

April 28: first settlers on North Creek (Ovid).³ Robert H. Williams presides at first [EH625-626][MH][Sleight]1 [History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 320]

May ~~20th~~-22nd: President Brigham Young and other leaders visit Bear Lake Valley, looking at settlement sites.⁴ President Young suggests New Haven be renamed St. Charles, and for it to be the county seat rather than Paris. "Elder Charles C. Rich, one of the Twelve Apostles, has been appointed to dictate the settlement of this valley...the business of the valley will be done at St. Charles whether Brother Rich lives here or there, or whether the High Council is held here or there..." "As to whether we are in Utah Territory or Idaho Territory, I think we are now in Idaho, I have no doubt of it, and the greater part of those who settle in this valley will be in that territory; the snow lays too low on the mountains there for Utah." They visit the new settlements in Paris, Three Mile Creek [Bloomington], St. Charles, Fish Haven.⁵

Summer: St. Charles: Wm. G. Young was called by President Charles C. Rich as first Presiding Elder. [MH]

July: Religious meetings start in Liberty. [MH]

September 14th: Bloomington: ~~President Young visits Bloomington.~~[MH] *There is no record of Brigham Young coming to Bear Lake Valley at this time; he does visit on this date in 1867.*

1865

~~Brigham Young visits the valley.~~ [We cannot find any record of Brigham Young coming to Bear Lake Valley in 1865.]

Name of Bellevue changed to **Montpelier** at the suggestion of President Brigham Young. [MH]

Ovid: Henry Gasman called as Presiding Elder⁶ [EH625-626, MH]

Jan 16: Charles C. Rich writes Brigham Young on the state of the settlement mission.⁷
Mentions "the principle settlements:" St. Charles, Bloomington (schoolhouse almost

³ Ovid Ward History, *Ovid Ward general minutes*, V.10 p.13, Church History Library LR 6641 11. This is not a contemporary record, but a history written about 1890.

⁴ *General Church Minutes*, 1864 May 16-26, Church History Library CR 100 318 box 3 folder 36, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=413d3090-f796-453a-abc4-2c7fdf02934d>

⁵ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1860-1865*, p.305, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/801702bf-e607-4f0d-82d0-e0f84b8c2406/0/311>

⁶ Ovid Ward History, *Ovid Ward general minutes*, V.10 p.13, Church History Library LR 6641 11. This is not a contemporary record, but a history written about 1890.

⁷ Rich, Charles C., Letter to Brigham Young, 16 Jan 1865, Brigham Young office files, Incoming Correspondence, Charles C Rich, Church History Library CR 1234 1, box 41 folder 15, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/22d8b6cc-02d9-4577-b04e-938e8c74ee4a/0/0>

complete), Paris, Ovid, Mont Peler (has a new schoolhouse), about 1100 inhabitants total.

Fall: **Preston (Wardboro)**: Nathaniel and Moroni Green are the first settlers to arrive in area.

[EH921][MH]

September 10th: “Bishop W.G. Young [**St. Charles**] called a council meeting composed of W.G.

Young, E.M. Greene, John Crozzens, Robt. Pope, J.C. Rich, R.R. Hopkins, A. Bingham, J.H. Hunt...” where the leaders discuss the need for grain and write a petition asking for Salt Lake to send grain to help them. They also discuss their determination to stay in the valley.

[Greene, Evan M. Greene minutes, 1865 Sep. 10, Paris, Idaho. Digital Image CR 1234 1.

Accessed 6/6/18.

https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE3961014]

1866

Bennington: Evan M. Greene appointed Presiding Elder, but was replaced later that year by Dudley J. Merrill. (Some uncertainty when Evan M. Greene was appointed as Presiding Elder, it could be between 1864-1866) [MH]

Fish Haven: Preston Thomas moves to Preston (Wardboro) and Joseph W. Moore called as the Presiding Elder [EH251-252, MH]

Ovid: Niels Chr. Edlefsen succeeded Henry Gasman as Presiding Elder⁸ [MH]

April 5: General bishops meeting resumes after a few years hiatus.⁹ Ward reps include “bishop” of “Richland.”

May: **Bloomington**: “President Edward Haddock resigned his office as President of the Elders Quorum. Moved by Bishop J.H. Hart that Bro. E Haddock’s resignation be accepted...” Isaac Dunford is called and accepted as new President. [Paris Idaho Stake Melchizedek Priesthood minutes and records. Microfilm LR583 13.]

Summer: First Sunday School organized in Paris, Idaho. Evan A. Williams called as superintendent, with Thos. Sleight and Keziah Davis as counselors. [MH]

Nov 19: Brigham Young writes to “President Charles C. Rich”¹⁰

December 7th: **Liberty**: Edwin N. Austin called to be the bishop of the Liberty Ward by Charles C. Rich. [EH443, MH][History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 39-41]

December 16th: **St. Charles**: “Meeting called by President W.G. Young...being bishop” in which the teacher’s quorum was organized and John A. Hunt was called as its president. [Saint Charles Ward general minutes. Microfilm LR 7742]

⁸ Ovid Ward History, *Ovid Ward general minutes*, V.10 p.13, Church History Library LR 6641 11. This is not a contemporary record, but a history written about 1890.

⁹ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.94, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

¹⁰ Brigham Young, letter to Charles C. Rich, 19 Nov 1866, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.9, p.242, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 7, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=954ebbd5-0620-40f5-86f3-97fa7dbab8f6>

1867

Saint Charles: First Sunday School organized. [MH]

Spring: Laketown: first settlers arrive. First church meetings are officially held. John Oldfield is chosen by people to run meetings. [EH412-413][MH]

April 7th: "We have been favored with the minutes of a Conference held, on the 7th of April, in Montpelier Richland CO, a notice of which should have appeared earlier, but our home mails are not at all seasons of the year prompt to schedule time, any more than the mails from the east. Pres. CC Rich having been at the General Conference, Elder James H. Hart presided over the meetings, at which interesting and instructive discourses were delivered and remarks made, by Elder Hart, Bishop WG Young, Elders William Allred, Alonzo Bingham, John Cozzens, John Stock, Edwin A. Austin, Dudley J. Merrill and others of the brethren...we are indebted to Br. Alonzo Bingham [for] the report." [Bingham, Alonzo. *Deseret News*. May 29, 1867. Digital image. Accessed 5/29/18. <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2599515#contents>]

August 12th: **St. Charles**: In Teachers Quorum meeting, President CC Rich comes to settle a dispute between President W.G. Young and Bro. Pugmire. He chastises both for the contention, especially since both previously had been bishops. W.G Young resigns as President. President CC Rich calls John Alexander Hunt 1 as branch president.[EH724-725] [MH] [Saint Charles Ward general minutes. Microfilm LR 7742][Saint Charles Ward financial accounts. Manuscript LR 7742 21.]

September 11-14: President Brigham Young visits the Bear Lake Valley and holds meetings in Paris, Bloomington, and St. Charles.¹¹

1868

Evanston: Built by Union Pacific workers [EH238-239]

Ovid: Ovid Ward Relief society organized. [MH]

February 17th: Charles C. Bridges records, "...I was appointed president of the Teachers Quorum by John Cozzens..." [Bridges, Charles H. *Charles H. Bridges journal*. Microfilm MS 14570]

April 25: In first of a series of published Church directories, the following are listed:¹²

- Charles C. Rich, "County President" of Rich County
- *No wards or bishops listed*

Spring: **Laketown**: Sly Go (Round Valley) is abandoned and settlers move to Laketown [MH].

Spring: meetings start in Preston [Wardsboro], presided over by Preston Thomas (appointed by Charles C. Rich) [MH]

May 26th: Paris: Elder Charles C. Rich organizes the first Relief Society in Paris with Keziah Davis as President, with Eliza Ann Rich and Maria Rich as counselors. [MH]

¹¹ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.89, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/95>

¹² Church Directory, *Salt Lake Daily Telegraph*, V.4 #253 (25 April 1868) p.4

July: **Bloomington**: Relief Society organized.[MH][Bloomington Ward Relief Society minutes and records. Microfilm LR 789 14]

August 31st: **St. Charles**: President Charles C. Rich organizes the Relief Society.[MH] [Saint Charles Ward Relief Society minutes and records. Microfilm LR 7742 14]

September 20th: **Montpelier**: Sunday School organized [MH]

1869

Laketown: Ira Nebeker called as Presiding Elder and sent by Elder Charles C. Rich to preside over settlement.[EH, MH]

Garden City: Cub Johnson settles along Swan Creek and more settlers arrive in the present spot of Garden City. [MH]

Soda Springs: first permanent settler (non-LDS) arrives in Soda Springs.

June 16: On their way to Paris, BY and company pass through Round Valley [south end of Bear Lake] and “the settlement called Last Chance.”¹³ *Laketown? Meadowville?*

June 19-20: In Paris, Bear Lake Valley Stake (and school of the prophets) organized by President Brigham Young and other general authorities.¹⁴ David Patten Kimball sustained as President of the Stake. “a High Council was organized for “Rich County”. Brigham Young and Daniel H. Wells were in attendance as well as John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, Ezra T. Benson, C.C. Rich, George Q. Cannon, and Brigham Young Jr of the Twelve. Pres Young nominated David P. Kimball as president of “this stake of Zion” . High councilors were “selected and ordained, by the first presidency and the quorum of the twelve and set apart.” The men were: G.W. Sirrine, James H. Hart, John A. Hunt, Nels C Edlefsen, Harley Mowrey, Thomas Sleight, Joseph C. Rich, Lewis Ricks, W.W. Sterrett, E. N. Austin, Miner Wilcox, Alonzo Bingham. Alonzo Bingham was not present at the meeting and was not ordained that day. George W. Sirrine, “being the oldest member was appointed president of the twelve councillors.” The benediction was offered by George Q. Cannon .” This was also the first meeting of the Rich County School of the Prophets and was the beginning of the High Council meetings, which would continue actively up till the Reorganization of 1877.

June 19: BY announces plans to organize a School of the Prophets and stake at a priesthood meeting in Paris and they the elders vote approval.¹⁵ High council sustained and ordained.

June 19: At first meeting of Paris School of the Prophets,¹⁶ “Bro. David P. Kimball was then ordained an high priest and was set apart as the President of this Stake of Zion under the

¹³ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.186, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/192>

¹⁴ Editorial Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.18 #22 (July 7 1869) p.253, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2603358>; *Bear Lake Stake general minutes*, Church History Library LR 583 11; Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.196, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/195>

¹⁵ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.188, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/194>

¹⁶ *School of the Prophets Paris Record Book*, p.1, Church History Library CR 390 3, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c8aa2ed0-5f20-4cf9-ba15-4a597a2452b5/0/4>

hands of President B. Young (he being mouth), President DH Wells, Elders Wilford Woodruff, Ezra T. Benson, C.C. Rich, George Q. Cannon, Brigham Young Jr.”
 June 20: C.C. Rich chosen as president of SotP, David P. Kimball as VP and President of the stake; he is asked to choose his own counselors “at his leisure”.¹⁷
 July: 100 families called to go strengthen the Bear Lake Valley. [Meadowville MH]
 August 1st: Montpelier Relief Society organized. [MH]
 August 6th: Meadowville: Settlers arrive in valley. [EH486, MH]
 August 29th: First minutes of the High Council recorded. Council met in the Paris meeting house. [Harts. Hart family papers. Microfilm MS 15333]

1870

Alonzo Bingham called as Presiding Elder or acting Bishop of **Bennington** by President David P. Kimball. However, meetings occur less frequently due to tensions between the people and the President. [EH, Bennington MH]
Evanston: Becomes an official railroad town [EH 238-239]
 Josiah Tufts appointed by Elder Rich as first Presiding Elder of **Meadowville**. And as one historian wrote, “ prior to [the] ward organization Josiah Tuft was looked up to as the leader and oft times called “Bishop”... “even though no one knew he didn’t actually have the priesthood.”¹⁸
Montpelier: “Augustus Bingham appointed [to teacher’s quorum president] by acting bishop John Cozzen...”¹⁹
Woodruff: George Eastman, the first settler, arrives with others. Town named in honor of Elder Woodruff by Bishop William H. Lee. [EH 963, Woodruff MH]
 February 13th: Joseph C. Rich called as a counselor to President David Patten Kimball [EH 47, Stake MH][Harts. Hart family papers. Microfilm MS 15333]
 March 14th: **Randolph**: Randolph Hochaday Stewart and company arrived from St. Charles at “Big Creek”²⁰
 Summer: **Almy**: founded by non-Mormons when coal was discovered, LDS members arrive to help in the mines and begin meeting in Old Wyoming Camp No. 1 and by common consent appointed John Jolley as presiding Elder, which action was reported to and approved by Elder Charles C. Rich. James McBride and John E. Stones were called as counselors. [EH13-14][MH]
 June: **Ovid**: President Edlefsen leaves on a mission to Scandinavia and Peter Jensen takes charge as acting Presiding Elder.²¹ [Ovid MH]

¹⁷ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.188, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/194>

¹⁸ Weston, Grace Leon Eldredge. *History of Meadowville*. Church History Library MS 4375

¹⁹ *Montpelier Ward Aaronic Priesthood minutes and records*, Church History Library LR 5736 12

²⁰ *Randolph Ward General Minutes*, V.12 p.32, Church History Library LR 7326 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c51b91dd-3915-46c4-8b43-675f82d4595c/0/10>. This is part of a history that is not contemporary, but a reminiscence written about 1890.

²¹ Ovid Ward History, *Ovid Ward general minutes*, V.10 p.13, Church History Library LR 6641 11. This is not a contemporary record, but a history written about 1890.

12 June: President Brigham Young and other leaders visited Soda Springs (unsettled) and constructs a log house to stay at.²²

June 13th-18th: President Brigham Young visits the Bear Lake Stake and spoke in Montpelier ("Bishop Cozzens"), Paris, St. Charles, and Bloomington.²³

June 13th: Paris: Formed into a regular ward, President Brigham Young calls Henry D. Horne as Bishop due to Alonso Bingham having moved to Bennington. Robert Price and George B. Spencer were called as counselors after the Bishop had acted without counselors for a time. [Paris MH] *WW and FDR journals do not mention this event any time during their visit*

17 June: BY and Church leaders, hold meetings at "Ithica - Laketown or Last Chance."²⁴ "Ira Nebeker presides at Ithica"

19 June: Apostle FD Richards (part of BY's company) visits Liberty at "Ed. Austin's the Bishop"²⁵

June 24th: William Budge called by President Brigham Young via letter to be "Presiding Bishop of Rich County."²⁶ He also sends a corresponding letter to "Presidents C.C. Rich and D.P. Kimball"²⁷

July 8th: "Bishop Tufts, of Round Valley..." reports the state of the Valley to the Deseret Evening News. ["Local and Other Matters". Deseret Evening News (July 8, 1870). 3. <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23156618>.]

July 27th: Woodruff: William Lee, who had been called by Elder Rich, arrives in the settlement and is appointed by President David P. Kimball and Bishop William Budge as acting Bishop or Presiding Elder with no counselors. [MH]

August 19: BY writes "Bishop John A. Hunt, St. Charles"²⁸

Fall: Almy: Elder Charles C. Rich visits the Saints. James McBride and John E. Stones called as counselors. [MH]

October: Soda Springs: In the October Conference a number of Saints are called to go to the Soda Springs area with their families as missionaries. [Georgetown, Soda Springs MH]

November: Soda Springs: some settlers arrive and begin constructing homes, but return with the coming of winter. [MH]

²² Franklin D. Richards, *Journal*, V.18 (1870) p.179, Church History Library MS 1215, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1573a522-d4df-415d-a5db-a39eb319f058/0/178>

²³ Richards, *Journal*, V.18 p.184, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1573a522-d4df-415d-a5db-a39eb319f058/0/183>

²⁴ Richards, *Journal*, V.18 p.184, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1573a522-d4df-415d-a5db-a39eb319f058/0/183>

²⁵ Richards, *Journal*, V.18 p.186, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1573a522-d4df-415d-a5db-a39eb319f058/0/185>

²⁶ Brigham Young, letter to William Budge June 24 1870, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.12*, p.229-230, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c91a2db1-a2f0-470d-ac3a-324c44e06cd1>

²⁷ Brigham Young, letter to Charles C. Rich and David P. Kimball, June 24 1870, *Charles C. Rich Collection, Incoming Correspondence 1870-1872*, Church History Library MS 889, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f672b211-163b-4bd8-bb65-57e3a6343fa0/0/12>

²⁸ Brigham Young, letter to John A. Hunt, August 19 1870, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.12*, p.315, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c91a2db1-a2f0-470d-ac3a-324c44e06cd1>

1871

Almy: both counselors move and Samuel L Pike and John Crowther are called as counselors. [MH]

Dingle: William L. Lee first settler to arrive in area. [EH195]

Paris: Walter Hodge appointed as Sunday School superintendent. [MH]

January 1st: "Bishop Budge preached an excellent discourse in the evening..."²⁹

February 23rd: Letter arrives from President Young, " Pres. David P. Kimball, Paris Rich Co. We should be pleased to have you give some attention to the settlement of Soda Springs as it is a very important point with us and as such should be kept a vigilant eye on. " ³⁰ *In other letters in 1871, BY addresses "President Rich" and "Elder Kimball."*

Feb 26: First meeting of **Randolph** teachers quorum.³¹ Frequently refers to "Bishop" [*Randolph Stewart not named*]

Spring: **Randolph:** Wm. Howard and Archibald Mckinnon called as counselors to Bishop Stewart. [MH]

April 1st: President Rich and Bishop Budge leave for Salt Lake City to attend General Conference.³²

March 2: First record of teachers quorum in Liberty, Bishop E.N. Austin present.³³

April 10: BY writes "W.P. Nebeker, Laketown, Rich Co." approving the new name of the settlement.³⁴ *Formerly Ithica*

April 22: Wilford Woodruff visits Woodruff (Bishop Lee), Randolph (Bishop Randolph Stewart), where he has a house.³⁵

April 29th: **Georgetown:** first settlers arrive in settlement and name it in honor of George Q. Cannon. *EH 278*; Georgetown Ward manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm LR 3160 2.

May: settlers arrive to settle **Soda Springs**. Philemon Christopher Merrill called as Presiding Elder of the Soda Springs Mission or settlements. *Encyclopedic History*, 306; Soda Springs Ward. *Soda Springs Ward manuscript history and historical reports*. Microfilm LR 8735; *History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition*. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 450

²⁹ Sleight, Thomas. *Thomas Sleight diaries*. Church History Library MS 9406

³⁰ Brigham Young, letter to David P. Kimball, 23 Feb 1871, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.12, p.542, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c91a2db1-a2f0-470d-ac3a-324c44e06cd1>

³¹ Randolph Teachers Quorum minutes, *Randolph Ward general minutes*, V.24 p.5, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1e26ab6b-abdc-43ac-b229-59f575667e0e/0/3>

³² Sleight, Thomas. *Thomas Sleight diaries*. Church History Library MS 9406

³³ Liberty Teachers Quorum Minutes, *Liberty Ward general minutes*, V.21 p.44, Church History Library LR 4881 11

³⁴ Brigham Young, letter to W.P. Nebeker 10 April 1871, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.12, p.650, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c91a2db1-a2f0-470d-ac3a-324c44e06cd1>

³⁵ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.288, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/296>

Summer: **Almy**: President Jolley moves and Samuel Pike succeeds him and calls John Crowther and John Hopkins as counselors. [Almy Ward Manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm LR 10591 2][EH13-14]

June 26: Brigham Young holds meetings in Randolph; organizes the ward, R.H. Stewart set apart as Bishop.³⁶

June 26-July 16: President Young and party visit Bear Lake Stake (via the train to Evanston for the first time). In Evanston meet "Pres. David P. Kimball and Bp Wm. Budge with a party of men from Bear Lake..." and join "Elder C.C. Rich" in Woodruff.³⁷ Hold meetings in Randolph (Bp. "Randolph Stewards"), Laketown ("Bp. Nebiker"), Meadowville, St. Charles,³⁸ Paris, Montpelier ("Bp. Cousins"), Twin Creek/Georgetown, Soda Springs (recently arrived pioneers are still in wagons).³⁹ In Soda Springs, they are accompanied by "Prest. C.C. Rich," "Prest. David P. Kimball," Bp. William Budge, Bp. Henry Horn [Paris], Bp. James H. Hart [Bloomington], Bp. John Cozzens [Montpelier].⁴⁰ They return to Paris to meet with the School of the Prophets.⁴¹

July 27th: **Woodruff**: William H. Lee arrives after having been called to settle there by Apostle Charles C. Rich. Later Bishop William Budge and President David P. Kimball visit and appointed him as acting Bishop or presiding Elder with no counselors. *This conflicts with Wilford Woodruff visiting Lee in Woodruff in April and other sources saying this happened in 1870.* [MH]

November: **Ovid**: Niels Edlefsen returns from his mission and resumes his duties as Presiding Elder.⁴² [MH]

1872

James H. Hart called as the 2nd counselor to President David Patten Kimball. [EH 47, Stake MH]

Almy: First Sunday School organized and the ward includes 125 members. [MH]

Bloomington: George Osmond called as Presiding Elder after James H. Hart, the Presiding Elder, moved. [EH72-73][MH]

Fish Haven: President Joseph W. Moore moves to Bennington and Hugh Findlay was called as Presiding Elder of the branch. [EH251-252][MH]

³⁶ *Randolph Ward General Minutes*, V.12 p.32, Church History Library LR 7326 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c51b91dd-3915-46c4-8b43-675f82d4595c/0/10>. This is part of a history that is not contemporary, but a reminiscence written about 1890.

³⁷ Smith, George A. *Journal, 1870 November-1874 March*. Church History Library MS 1322. <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f37436ec-bea7-458f-a660-eeeb01b403ef/0/45>

³⁸ Sleight, Thomas. *Thomas Sleight diaries*. Church History Library MS 9406; Young, Brigham Heber. *Brigham Heber Young diary*. Church History Library MS 26622

³⁹ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.293, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/301>

⁴⁰ Smith, George A. *Journal, 1870 November-1874 March*. Church History Library MS 1322. <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f37436ec-bea7-458f-a660-eeeb01b403ef/0/52>

⁴¹ Smith, Joseph F. *Journal 1871 July 5-1871 November 1*, p.1. Digital Image MS 1325. <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93af1fa4-6311-45ed-82a3-e697109ffac/0/8>

⁴² Ovid Ward History, *Ovid Ward general minutes*, V.10 p.14, Church History Library LR 6641 11. This is not a contemporary record, but a history written about 1890.

July 28th: Georgetown: Philemon C. Merrill (Soda Springs Mission President) visits to organize a branch on Twin Creek and calls Henry A Lewis to preside over the branch.

[EH278][MH][CC 88][History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 450]

22 August: First Presidency announces "Elder Brigham Young Jr. has been appointed to preside over the settlements in Cache County, Bear River Valley, and that portion of the country including Soda Springs."⁴³ *How does this relate to D.P. Kimball?*

Fall: Evanston: branch of the church organized by Bear Lake Stake Presidency. William G. Burton called as Branch President by Bishop Budge, who was sent to Evanston at the request of President Young to organize a Branch. Joseph Pugmire and James Kinnersley were called as counselors. [EH238-239][MH]

1873

Bennington: Alonzo Bingham resigns and Joseph William Moore called as Presiding Elder (was the former presiding Elder of Fish Haven), but with no counselors. [EH58][MH]
First settlers in **Dingle** area [MH]

January 5th: **Montpelier:** Bishop John Cozzens is mentioned assaulting John Astle in Montpelier meeting house. [MH]

January 6th: **St. Charles:** Elder Woodruff visits St. Charles. [Sleight, Thomas. Thomas Sleight diaries. Microfilm MS 9406.] *In Woodruff's journal, he is nowhere near this area. Wrong year?*

January 8th-9th: **Paris/Bloomington:** Elder Woodruff stops and visits Paris and Bloomington and holds meetings. [Sleight, Thomas. Thomas Sleight diaries. Microfilm MS 9406.]

January 25th-26th: Bear Lake Stake conference is held. [Sleight, Thomas. Thomas Sleight diaries. Microfilm MS 9406.]

March: **Preston:** Pres. David P. Kimball calls Henry Harrison Dalrymple of Paris to move to Preston and be the Presiding Elder. [MH] Preston Thomas has moved away.

March 19: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops lists:⁴⁴ mp:700282

- William Budge, Presiding Bishop of:
 - **Bennington**, J.W. Moore
 - **Montpelier**, John Cozzens
 - **Ovid**, N.C. Edlefson
 - **Liberty**, E.N. Austin
 - **Paris**, H.N. Horne
 - **Bloomington**, George Asmond [Osmond]
 - **St. Charles**, John A. Hunt

⁴³ Brigham Young, open letter 22 August 1872, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.13*, p.194, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93fd7376-7e4a-4d1a-a011-b5966c6fd559>

⁴⁴ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.22 #7 (March 19 1873) p.103, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2622070>

- **Fish Haven**, Hugh Findley
- **Lake Town** alias Ithica, Ira Nebeker
- **Meadowville**, Josiah Tufts
- **Randolph**, Randolph Stewart
- **Woodruff**, Henry Lee
- **Evanston** alias Alma, Samuel Pike

March 25th: In a letter to President Young, Elder Rich states, "DP Kimball returned from the city he has been before the High Council and been reinstated, has carried himself straight since, has been sick but is now better." ⁴⁵

March 27: BY writes "Elder Samuel Pike, Almy near Evanston" about an ecclesiastical matter, suggesting that he is still a branch president. ⁴⁶

May 12th-28th: Elder Wilford Woodruff travels throughout the Bear Lake Stake organizing branches of the United Order throughout the settlements and also conducting meetings with the Saints. ⁴⁷

May 14th: List of presiding bishops printed in the Deseret News, ⁴⁸ mp:800723 same as March 19, except.

- Georgetown: Henry Lewis
- Preston: H. H. Dalrymple
- Almy: Samuel Pike
- Evanston: Wm. G. Burton.

May 22: ~~WW and Bishop Budge visits Ovid. ⁴⁹ Niels Chr. Edlofson resigns as president and Peter Jensen is appointed presiding elder pro tem. Also a U.O. is organized. Jensen is sometimes called an acting bishop after this. Wilford Woodruff is in Salt Lake City on this date. See 22 May 1874~~

Summer: President Brigham Young visits the valley. [Stake MH]

July 11th: **Evanston**: "Bishop Budg[e] preaches here tonight" [Broomhead family. Broomhead family correspondence. Microfilm MS 6851.]

July 16th: **Soda Springs**: Jeppe G. Folkman [Faulkman in Brigham Young Jr. letter] called as Presiding Elder by Brigham Young Jr. since Elder Merrill had moved to Nounan Valley as he was visiting the settlement with Bishops William B. Preston and William Hyde. ⁵⁰

August: **Bern**: settled by the Kunz family who move onto the ranch owned by Charles C. Rich. [MH]

⁴⁵ Rich, Charles C. Brigham Young office files. Charles C Rich 1871-1877. Digital Image CR 1234. Accessed 6/8/18. https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE3977139

⁴⁶ Brigham Young, letter to Samuel Pike 27 March 1873, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.13*, p.310, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93fd7376-7e4a-4d1a-a011-b5966c6fd559>

⁴⁷ Paris Idaho Stake manuscript history 1863-1955, microfilm LR 583 2; Sleight, Thomas. Thomas Sleight diaries. Microfilm MS 9406.

⁴⁸ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret Evening News*, V.6 #147 (May 14 1873) p.4, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23160976>

⁴⁹ Ovid Ward History, *Ovid Ward general minutes*, V.10 p.14, Church History Library LR 6641 11. This is not a contemporary record, but a history written about 1890.

⁵⁰ Brigham Young Jr. letter to Brigham Young 19 July 1873, *Brigham Young Office Files, General Correspondence Incoming*, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/3285c0b8-5d54-48cc-8df1-68235ca9a9da/0/0>

August 28-31: BY and apostles hold meetings in Paris.⁵¹ 28th: “we held a council in the evening upon the case of David P. Kimball. It was thought advisable to take his license from him as the President of that stake of Zion.” 30th: “A letter from David P. Kimball resigning his presidency over that stake of Zion.” “At the end of the speeches David P. Kimball was retained as President on Trial.” *What was the issue??* Also, 4 patriarchs are ordained.

September 1st: President Young and party “arrived via Bear Lake” in Soda Springs to visit his son Brigham Heber. [Young, Brigham Heber. Brigham Heber Young diary. Manuscript MS 26622.]

14 Sep: Wilford Woodruff holds meetings with 100 saints in Almy (“Brother Samuel Pike”) and a congregation in Evanston (in the Presbyterian meeting house)⁵²

20 Sep: A.M. Musser (BY’s traveling bishop) writes to “Dr. Bro. Bp. W.B. Preston, Logan.”⁵³ It concerns **Soda Springs**, where former acting bishop P.C. Merrell needs to transfer records and tithing goods to “Bp. Folkman.” Says “that place was in the diocese of Bp. Budge but ... you should see the people credited on your reports.” *Is Soda Springs now a ward? Was it hereby transferred from Bear Lake Stake to Cache Stake?*

November 3: Stake Conference at Paris.⁵⁴ Mp:700786 Sustain Charles C. Rich as “President of the Bear Lake and Bear River region,” Stake Pres. David P. Kimball with counselors, Presiding Bishop William Budge, high council, (unnamed) bishops of settlers, home missionaries. “The following wards were represented: Bloomington, Paris, Preston, Nounan Valley, Ovid, Liberty, Georgetown, Montpelier, Bennington.” Also (wards or branches?), Almy (“Elder Samuel Pike”), Evanston Branch, Randolph (“Elder Randolph Stewart”), Woodruff, Meadowville (“Bishop” absent), Ithaca (“Bishop” absent), Fish Haven (“Elder Hugh Findlay”), St. Charles (“Elder John A. Hunt”)

1874

President Kimball moves out of the Bear Lake Stake. Elder Charles C. Rich takes charge of stake as Stake President until the reorganization of the Bear Lake Stake in 1877. William Budge continues as Presiding Bishop of the Stake. EH 47; [Paris Idaho Stake MH]

Fish Haven: sometime between 1873-1874 Hugh Findley was released and Hyrum S. Rich took charge of the settlement. [MH]

Woodruff: A Sunday school is started. [MH]

⁵¹ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873-80*, p.40, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/50>

⁵² Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873-80*, p.43, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/53>

⁵³ A Milton Musser, letter to William B. Preston 20 Sep 1873, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.13, p.461, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93fd7376-7e4a-4d1a-a011-b5966c6fd559>

⁵⁴ Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.22 #42 (19 November 1873) p.666, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2620930>

March 6th: Charles C. Rich writes BY.⁵⁵ President Young having expressed he was, "...not satisfied with the way Bro. Cozzens at Mont Peeler took care of the tithing..." and President Rich responded, "...The Bishop here has found fault with him also on the same subject, now Bro. Cozzens is naturally a good man and that is all the fault that we have to find him with him, he is careless. There has been some suggestions I believe by Bro. Miesser to have a Bishop appointed at Mont Peeler who would take care of all the tithing on that side of the river under the direction of Bishop Budge. Now what you think about the matter is what will be satisfactory to us. If you should think to appoint one I will mention Charles Robison son of Lewis Robison. He lives at Georgetown he is a young man with a small family and appears to be a good young man, active and a good deal of energy. Probably you are more acquainted with him than I am he moved up here last fall but was called at the time of the Soda mission."

Subsequently, it is organized as a ward and Charles R. Robison, having moved from Georgetown, is called to act as Bishop with Frantz M Winters and Hyrum S. Phelps as counselors [EH528-529][MH]

April: Montpelier is made a ward [EH, CDOL]

May 12-14: Wilford Woodruff, with "Elder C.C. Rich and Bishop Wm. Budge" meets with the "Saints in Evanston," the "Randolph Branch," and "the saints in Laketown"⁵⁶

May 16-17: At Paris Woodruff "entered into the United Order and organization of the Bear Lake Stake of Zion by appointing the following officers: President, C.C. Rich, 1st Vice President, Wm Budge, ..." ⁵⁷ *David P. Kimball not mentioned; already gone?*

May 17: Wilford Woodruff: "we organized the Bear Lake Stake of Zion"⁵⁸ *Are they reorganizing the stake itself, only organizing the stake United Order, or in their minds is there not a difference at this point? The difference is often muddy during these months.*

May 18-: Woodruff, Rich, and Budge organize multiple "branches into the United Order"⁵⁹

- 18th: Montpelier "Branch," Pres. Chas E. Robinson
- 19th: Bennington "Branch," Pres. Jas. Moore; Soda Springs not organized
- 22nd: Liberty, Pres. "Bishop" Edwin Nelson Austin; Ovid, Pres. Peter Jensen. *Ovid MH says that at this meeting, Edlefsen resigns as Presiding Elder and acting Bishop, and Peter Jensen called as Presiding Elder; WW Journal doesn't mention this. See 22 May 1873, which could easily have been given the wrong year*
- 23rd: Bloomington, Pres. George Osmond

⁵⁵ Charles C. Rich to Brigham Young 6 March 1874, *Brigham Young office files, General correspondence, incoming, Charles C. Rich 1871-1877*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 41 folder 16, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/27f73193-6cfd-49ee-8ab5-36d13a0d810f/0/2>

⁵⁶ Trip to Bear Lake County, *Deseret News*, V.23 #20 (June 17 1874) p.307, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2635533>; Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873-1880*, p.70, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/80>

⁵⁷ Trip to Bear Lake County, *Deseret News*, V.23 #20 (June 17 1874) p.307, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2635533>

⁵⁸ Woodruff, *Journal 1873-1880*, p.82, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/81>

⁵⁹ Trip to Bear Lake County, *Deseret News*, V.23 #20 (June 17 1874) p.307, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2635533>; Woodruff, *Journal 1873-1880*, p.71, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/81>

- 24th: St. Charles “Branch” not organized
- 26th: Fish Haven, Pres. Hyrum Rich
- 27th: Lake Town, Pres. Ira Nebeker
- 28th: Woodruff, Pres. Wm. Henry Lee; Randolph, Pres. Randolph H. Stewart
- June 3: Almy, Pres. Sam Pike

May 27: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as May 1873.⁶⁰

September 28th: **Woodruff**: A Relief Society is organized. [Woodruff Branch manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm 10277 2]

Oct 21: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as May 1873.⁶¹

1875

Almy: John Hopkins leaves for a mission and James Stoddard is called to replace him. John Crowther is placed in temporary charge of Almy Branch til Jan 24, 1877. [EH13-14][MH]

Dingle: “Dingle Dell” branch organized in Dingle as part of Paris Ward, PE William Passey [EH195][MH]

Georgetown: First Sunday School organized. [MH]

Jan 6: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as May 1873, except:⁶²

- **Montpelier**, Charles Robinson
- **Ovid**, Peter Jensen
- **Fish Haven**, Hyrum Rich

January 9th-10th: Stake conference at Paris.⁶³ Mp:700787 Leaders sustained:

- President C.C. Rich of the twelve Apostles and “President in that region”
- High Council
- Presiding Bishop W, Budge
- “Bishops in their several wards:”
 - Wm Burton, Evanston Ward
 - Samuel Pike, Almy
 - Wm H. Lee, Woodruff
 - Randolph H. Stewart, Randolph
 - Ira Nebeker, Lake Town
 - Josiah Tufts, Meadowville
 - Hyrum S. Rich, Fishhaven
 - John A. Hunt, St. Charles Ward

⁶⁰ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.23 #17 (May 27 1874) p.267, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2635244>

⁶¹ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.23 #38 (October 21 1874) p.603, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2613752>

⁶² Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.23 #49 (January 6 1875) p.782, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2614880>

⁶³ Conference at Paris, *Deseret News*, V.24 #1 (February 3 1875) p.10, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2641581>

- George Osmond, Bloomington Ward
- Henry J. Horne, Paris Ward
- Peter Jensen, Ovid Ward
- E.N. Austin, Liberty Ward
- H.H. Dalrymple, Preston
- Charles Robinson, Montpelier
- Joseph W. Moore, Bennington
- H.A. Lewis, Georgetown
- Home missionaries
- President Rich instructs Bishop Budge to organize priesthood quorums

January 18th-24th: Elder Woodruff visits the Bear Lake Valley,⁶⁴ holds meetings in Woodruff (Bishop Lee), Randolph (Bishop Stewart), Laketown (Bishop *Parry* Nebeker), Paris

January 23: Franklin D. Richards (apostle and Weber Stake president) visits with “Bp. John A. Hunt [St. Charles] and Bp. Austin [Liberty] of Bear Lake Valley,” consulting about their genealogy, nothing official⁶⁵

January 25: First record of **Fish Haven** “Ward” teachers quorum, “Pres. H.S. Rich” (not bishop)⁶⁶

February: **Paris**: Young Ladies Retrenchment Society organized with Pres. Rich and Bishop Budge there. [Paris 1st Ward Young Women’s Mutual Improvement Association minutes and records.]

Spring: **Nounan**: Brigham H Skimmer entered valley with Church livestock. [MH]

March 11th: Organization of the Bear Lake Stake High Priest Quorum. [*Bear Lake Stake Records. High Priest Record Book*. Hardcopy, Box 18, Folder 4. LR 583 49.]

March 21st: “President Rich and Bp Budge blessed and set apart bro Neils Wilhelmson to preside over the High Priest Quorum of this stake of Zion” and in the meeting was told to choose two counselors. [*Bear Lake Stake Records. High Priest Record Book*. Hardcopy, Box 18, Folder 4. LR 583 49.]

April 4th: Joseph C. Rich and John Nebeker called as counselors for the stake High Priest Quorum. [*Bear Lake Stake Records. High Priest Record Book*. Hardcopy, Box 18, Folder 4. LR 583 49.]

April 14th-15th: **Paris**: Elders Cannon, Taylor, Woodruff, and some others visit settlement and hold a meeting on Sunday. “ Reformation is the principal feature. Rebaptism is required of all that wished to live by the law of the Gospel. A number of leading men in this stake of Zion were baptized by G.Q. Cannon and confirmed at the waterside....” [Sleight, Thomas. Thomas Sleight diaries. Microfilm MS 9406.]

⁶⁴ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873-80*, p.102, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/112>

⁶⁵ Franklin D. Richards, *Journal*, V.23 p.39, Church History Library MS 1215, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/bb9586d0-592c-4022-8de0-e69849f1c172/0/0>

⁶⁶ Fish Haven Teachers Quorum minutes, *Fish Haven Ward general minutes*, V.1 p.3, Church History Library LR 2873 11

June 3rd: **Meadowville:** Young Ladies Retrenchment Society organized. [Meadowville Ward manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm LR 5431 2.]

June 9: List of Bishops and Presiding Elders, same as January 1875⁶⁷

July 13: In Soda Springs, Brigham Young Jr. rebaptizes “Bro. Jeppa Folkman” (not president nor bishop?), but hints that he is the local leader.⁶⁸

August 9-15: Church leaders hold several meetings in Bear Lake towns.⁶⁹ PB Edward Hunter holds a meeting with “20 bishops.” 20 people are rebaptized (a common practice that summer), “most of those who were baptized were officiating as bishops.” *This had to have included some from Cache Valley.*

Fall: **Nounan:** John Skimmer [Skinner in other sources] arrives as first permanent settler. [MH] [*History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition.* Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 760]

September 6th: **St. Charles:** Young Ladies Retrenchment Society organized and is presided over by the Relief Society President. [Saint Charles Ward Young Women’s Mutual Improvement Association minutes and records. Microfilm LR 7742 17]

November 20: First minutes of stake priesthood meeting.⁷⁰ Bishop Budge and Pres. C.C. Rich are present; the latter discusses the condition of “this Stake of Zion.”

November 28th: **Liberty:** First elder’s quorum organized. [Paris Idaho Stake Melchizedek Priesthood minutes and records. Microfilm LR583 13.]

Ovid: Branch of the elder’s quorum organized. [Paris Idaho Stake Melchizedek Priesthood minutes and records. Microfilm LR583 13.]

December 5th: **Bloomington:** Reorganization of the Elders Quorum. [Paris Idaho Stake Melchizedek Priesthood minutes and records. Microfilm LR583 13.]

Dec 29: New list of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as June.⁷¹

1876

Soda Springs: Daniel F. Lau called as Presiding Elder after Elder Folkman moving to Gentile Valley. [EH] [Soda Springs Ward. *Soda Springs Ward manuscript history and historical reports.* Microfilm LR 8735.]

Fish Haven: a YMMIA was organized [MH]

Meadowville: President Tufts resigns and Joseph Kimball is called as Presiding Elder. [EH486]

Montpelier: YMMIA organized. [Montpelier Ward manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm LR 5737 2.]

⁶⁷ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.24 #19 (June 9 1875) p.295, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2640773>

⁶⁸ Brigham Young, Jr., *Journals*, V.15 (1872-1875) p.235, Church History Library MS 1236, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/5802005f-e23f-4658-99ef-4a4afd79e1d7/0/244>

⁶⁹ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873 Jan - 1880 Feb*, p.126, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/136>

⁷⁰ Priesthood meeting minutes, *Bear Lake Stake General Minutes*, V.1 p.10, Church History Library LR 583 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e4974cca-682c-484b-a1ce-cbb873dd5132/0/15>

⁷¹ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.24 #48 (December 29 1875) p.755, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2643418>

Nounan: John Skimmer called to preside over meetings by CC Rich. He was put under the direction of Bishop Horne [Paris]. [Nounan Ward manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm LR 6249 2]

January 12: List of Bishops and Presiding Elders, same as December 1875.⁷²

January 29th: Stake priesthood meeting.⁷³ Mp:700790 Reports from the "settlements:"

- George Town, Bp. Lewis
- Bennington, Elder Bendt Neilsen
- Montpelier, Bp. Robinson
- Ovid, Bp. Jensen
- Liberty, Bp. Austin
- Paris, Bp. H.J. Horne
- Bloomington, Bp. Osmond
- Preston, Bp. Dalrymple
- St. Charles, Bp. Hunt

Feb 12th: Stake conference is held.⁷⁴ Sustainings:

- Charles C. Rich, president of the **Bear Lake Stake of Zion**
- William Budge, Presiding Bishop
- High Council, Priesthood quorum presidencies, home missionaries, Sunday School leaders
- "Bishops of the Different Wards"
 - Henry T. Lewis, **Georgetown**
 - Joseph W. Moore, **Bennington**
 - Charles E. Robinson, **Montpelier**
 - Henry H. Dalrymple, **Preston**
 - Peter Jensen, **Ovid**
 - Edwin N. Austin, **Liberty**
 - Henry J. Horne, **Paris**
 - George Osmond, **Bloomington**
 - John A. Hunt, **St. Charles**
 - Hyrum S. Rich, **Fish Haven**
 - Isaiah Tufts, **Meadowville**
 - Ira Nebeker, **Lake Town**
 - Randolph H. Stewart, **Randolph**
 - Wm H. Lee, **Woodruff**
 - Samuel Pike, **Almy**
 - William Burton, **Evanston**

⁷² Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.24 #50 (January 12 1876) p.795, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2643628>

⁷³ Priesthood meeting minutes, *Bear Lake Stake General Minutes*, V.1 p.16, Church History Library LR 583 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e4974cca-682c-484b-a1ce-cbb873dd5132/0/25>

⁷⁴ Conference at Paris, *Deseret News*, V.25 #8 (March 22 1876) p.120, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2626104>

February 17th: Bloomington: Sister Horne comes at the request of President Brigham Young to instruct the sisters on how to run the Relief Society. [Bloomington Ward Relief Society minutes and records. Microfilm LR 789 14]

February 19th: Paris: Young Ladies Retrenchment Society "...organized by Apostle Chas. C. Rich and Bishop William Budge..." [Paris manuscript history and historical reports, 1863-1914, Paris (1870-1877) Ward, Bear Lake Stake, Call Number: LR 6747 2]

February 25: Last meeting of **Fish Haven** teachers quorum before reorganization, still (and consistently) "Pres. H.S. Rich" (not bishop)⁷⁵

Spring: Nounan: Paris Co-Op dairy established with Bishop Henry J Horne in charge [Nounan Ward manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm LR 6249 2]

March: Bloomington: Bloomington reaches a 104 ward members. [Bloomington Ward general minutes. Microfilm LR 789 11]

March 11: Stake Priesthood Meeting.⁷⁶ Reports from settlements have expected leaders, except that H.S. Rich of Fish Haven is not called "Bishop"

Sep 12: BY Jr. visits Soda Springs. ⁷⁷ Mentions Bro. Lau as being here but not Folkman. He then tours other Bear Lake Valley settlements

September 17th: **Paris:** Brigham Young Jr. and A.W. Musser preach to the Saints in Paris. [Sleight, Thomas. Thomas Sleight diaries. Microfilm MS 9406.]

September 26th: **Bern:** Sunday School organized in Bern so children wouldn't have to travel all the way to Ovid for meetings. [MH LR 669 2.]

October 29th: **Laketown:** YMMIA organized [MH][Laketown Ward Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association minutes and records. Microfilm LR4642 16]

November: **Paris:** R. Price, as "acting Bishop" calls together deacons in the ward to organize a quorum and calls as President Samuel Humpherys. [Paris 2nd Ward deacons quorum minutes, 1876-1882, hardcopy LR 6746 32]

December 22: Final published list of Bishops and Presiding Elders, no changes in 1876.⁷⁸

- William Budge, Presiding Bishop of:
 - **Georgetown**, Henry Lewis
 - **Bennington**, J.W. Moore
 - **Montpelier**, Charles Robinson
 - **Preston**, H.H. Dalrymple
 - **Ovid**, Peter Jensen
 - **Liberty**, E.N. Austin
 - **Paris**, H.N. Horne
 - **Bloomington**, George Osmond
 - **St. Charles**, John A. Hunt

⁷⁵ Fish Haven Teachers Quorum minutes, *Fish Haven Ward general minutes*, V.1 p.10, Church History Library LR 2873 11

⁷⁶ Priesthood meeting minutes, *Bear Lake Stake General Minutes*, V.1 p.20, Church History Library LR 583 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e4974cca-682c-484b-a1ce-cbb873dd5132/0/29>

⁷⁷ Brigham Young, Jr., *Journals*, V.17 (1875-1877) p.145, Church History Library MS 1236, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/8c2738f6-be3b-4c2d-95bd-10250dfd657d/0/0>

⁷⁸ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret Evening News*, V.10 #27 (December 22, 1876) p.4, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/det12536ails?id=23166497>

- **Fish Haven**, Hyrum Rich
- **Lake Town**, Ira Nebeker
- **Meadowville**, Josiah Tufts
- **Randolph**, Randolph Stewart
- **Woodruff**, Henry Lee
- **Almy**, Samuel Pike
- **Evanston**, Wm G. Burton

1877

Bern: Settlers arrive from Switzerland. [Bern Ward general minutes. Microfilm LR 669 11]

January: Woodruff: A YMMIA is organized. [Woodruff Branch manuscript history and historical reports. Microfilm 10277 2]

January 2nd: Ovid: Peter Jensen ordained a High Priest and Bishop of Ovid Ward. [Ovid MH]

January 16th: Paris: "Bishop Price" invites "young brethren" to be ordained as deacons (ordination of teenagers to the Aaronic Priesthood). [Paris 2nd Ward deacons quorum minutes, 1876-1882, hardcopy LR 6746 32]

January 27th-28th: Stake Conference is held.⁷⁹ Mp:700788

- President C.C. Rich, Bishop William Budge
- New settlements organized: **Eden**, President Thomas B. Nelson; **Berne**, President John Kunz; **Nounan**, President John Skinner

February: President Charles C. Rich and Bishop Budge visit Almy. [Almy MH]

February 6th: Laketown: Relief Society organized. [Laketown MH]

February 25th: Garden City: Wright Anderson Moore appointed to preside over the newly organized branch [CC][Garden City MH] [History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 470]

March 12th: Garden City: In a public meeting of settlement a letter was read from Pres. Rich and BP Budge asking Wright to preside over the new settlement until they returned. [Garden City MH] [History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974), 470]

May 13th: Evanston: Organized as a ward by Bear Lake Stake Presidency, William G. Burton [KWJ7-3KL] called as bishop with Oswald Plume and Isaiah Cashmine as counselors. However, he was not officially ordained until Feb. 10, 1878. [EH238-239] [Evanston MH]

June 2: Stake Priesthood Meeting.⁸⁰ "Ward Reports:"

- Bennington, Bp. Moore
- **Nounan, Bp. Skinner**
- Ovid, Bp. P. Jensen

⁷⁹ Two Days' Conference, *Deseret News*, V.26 #2 (February 14, 1877) p.18, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2627080>

⁸⁰ Priesthood meeting minutes, *Bear Lake Stake General Minutes*, V.1 p.38, Church History Library LR 583 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e4974cca-682c-484b-a1ce-cbb873dd5132/0/47>

- Liberty, Bp. E.N. Austin
- Paris, Bp. Horne
- Bloomington, Bp. Geo Osmond
- St. Charles, Bp. Hunt

June 16th: Stake priesthood meeting.⁸¹ Ward reports, in addition to those from previous meeting:

- Georgetown, Bp. H.A. Lewis
- Preston, Bp. Dalrymple
- **Eden, Bp. Nelson**

Eden appears to have been located on the east side of Bear Lake, about half-way north along the Utah side of the lake) [*History of the Bear Lake Pioneers 2nd Edition*. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Bear Lake County, Idaho (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing Company, 1974) 272] [Rich, Charles C. "Monsters of Bear Lake". *Deseret News*. (August 5, 1868). Accessed 6/8/18.

https://news.google.com/newspapers?id=-60UAAAAIBAJ&sjid=_rUDAAAAIBAJ&pg=3876%2C1379807

June 27th: **Almy**: James Bowns called as Branch President [EH13-14]

July 3: Directory of presiding elders & bishops published as in 1876, with additions:⁸²

- *Nownnan Valley*, John Skinner
- *Bern*, John Kuntz
- *North Eden*, Thomas E. Nelson
- *Meadowville*, Joseph Kimball

July 9: Evanston and Almy transferred to new Summit Stake [EH]

August 25th-26th: Special conference held to reorganize the Bear Lake Stake, apostles Lorenzo Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Albert Carrington present.⁸³ Mp:700785 William Budge was called as Stake President, with James H. Hart and George Osmond as his counselors. High Council, priesthood quorum presidencies. Wards with Bishops:

- **Paris 1st Ward**, Henry J. Horne
- **2nd Ward**, Robert Price
- **Georgetown Ward**, Henry Lewis
- **Bennington**, Joseph Moore
- **Preston**, H.H. Dalrymple
- **Ovid**, Peter Jensen
- **Liberty**, Edwin N. Austin
- **St. Charles**, John A. Hunt
- **Montpelier**, Charles Robinson
- **Bloomington**, Wm. Hulme
- **Fish Haven**, Robert Pope

⁸¹ Priesthood meeting minutes, *Bear Lake Stake General Minutes*, V.1 p.41, Church History Library LR 583 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e4974cca-682c-484b-a1ce-cbb873dd5132/0/50>

⁸² Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret Evening News*, V.10 #189 (July 3, 1877) p.4, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23167307>

⁸³ Special Conference, *Deseret News*, September 5 1877, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2628089>; *Bear Lake Stake General Minutes*, V.3 p.1, Church History Library LR 583 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/73e1c726-1f55-4df2-8d00-939ddb46fac8/0/4>

- **Laketown**, Ira Nebeker
- **Meadowville**, Jos. Kimball
- **Randolph**, Randolph S. Stewart
- **Woodruff**, Wm. H. Lee
- **Eden, Berne, Soda Springs** (moved from Cache Stake?) not mentioned, to be organized by the presidency later

August 25: Franklin D. Richards and others ordain stake presidency "& some bishops" ⁸⁴ More ordained on the 26th.

August: Dingle Dell Branch attached to the Paris 1st Ward, still Pres. William Passey [EH195][MH]

August: Soda Springs: Organized as a Ward, Daniel F. Lau called as Bishop. However, this may have been after he reorganization as in one source it says "no appointments were made at that time for....Soda Springs wards." [EH806] [Paris Idaho Stake MH]

September 20: Peter Jensen ordained bishop of Ovid Ward by CC Rich and Pres. Budge. ⁸⁵

September: settlers applied to hold meetings in Bern and President William Budge granted them the privilege and set apart John Kunz Jeanim as Presiding Elder. [Bern MH]

November 10: Bear Lake Stake Conference. ⁸⁶ Reports from wards:

- Georgetown: Bishop H.B. Lewis, 14 families
- Bennington: Bishop Jos. Moore, 16 families
- Montpelier: Bishop Charles Robinson, 58 families
- Preston: Bishop H.H. Dalrymple
- Ovid: Bishop P. Jensen
- Liberty: Bishop E.N. Austin
- Paris, 1st Ward: Bishop H.J. Horne
- Paris, 2nd Ward: Bishop R. Price, 60 families
- Bloomington: Bishop Wm. Hulme, 412 members
- St. Charles: Bishop J.A. Hunt, 80 families
- Fish Haven: Bishop R. Pope
- Meadowville: Bishop Jos. Kimball
- Randolph: Bishop Stewart, 51 families
- Woodruff: Bishop W.H. Lee, 26 families
- Laketown: Bishop Nebeker
- Soda Springs: Acting bishop D.F. Lau
- *Nounan, Bern, Garden City, Almy, Evanston, Eden, Dingle not mentioned; Almy and Evanston are in Summit Stake, the rest are likely dependent branches*

December 9th: Almy organized as a ward and James Bowns called as Bishop [EH13-14, CC 101]

⁸⁴ Franklin D. Richards, *Journal*, V.25 (1877) p.271, Church History Library MS 1215, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7ff188c1-fd52-43ca-aac6-48bfc12ab138/0/270>

⁸⁵ Ovid Ward History, *Ovid Ward general minutes*, V.10 p.15, Church History Library LR 6641 11. This is not a contemporary record, but a history written about 1890.

⁸⁶ Bear Lake Stake Conference, *Deseret News*, V.26 #42 (November 21, 1877) p.668, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2629111>; *Bear Lake Stake General Minutes*, V.3 p.6

December 31: Dingle Dell reorganized as an independent branch [CC 101] (see August?)

1878

9 Jan: Published list of all stakes and wards, including Bear Lake Stake.⁸⁷

- Henry A. Lewis, George Town
- Joseph E. Moore, Bennington
- Chas W. Robison, Montpelier
- H H Dalrymple, Preston
- P Jensen, Ovid
- Edwin N Austin, Liberty
- Henry J Horne, 1st Ward, Paris
- Robert Price, 2^d Ward, Paris
- Wm Hulme, Bloomington
- John A Hunt, St Charles
- Robert Pope, Fish Haven
- Joseph Kimball, Meadowville
- Randolph H Stewart, Randolph
- W H Lee, Woodruff
- D F Lau, acting, Soda Spring
- *Not listed: Almy, Evanston, Nounan, Eden Wards. These aren't in any contemporary lists; did they exist?*

Feb 10: At Summit Stake conference, Franklin D. Richards ordains Wm G. Burton bishop of Evanston and James Bownes bishop of Almy Ward⁸⁸

1879

German branch: “under the direction of Pres. William Budge, a German meeting was organized with John Henry Stocker president, with Conrad Vaterlaus and John Hasenfratz as his assistants...”

[Paris manuscript history and historical reports, 1863-1914, Paris (1870-1877) Ward, Bear Lake Stake, Call Number: LR 6747 2]

June

President William Budge leaves to serve as mission president in England.

⁸⁷ Names of Presidents and Bishops of the Organized Stakes of Zion, *Deseret Evening News*, V.11 #40 (January 9, 1878), p.4, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23168097>

⁸⁸ Franklin D. Richards, Journal V.26 p.69, *Richards family collection*, Church History Library MS 1215, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e8acfb49-5bec-4054-a799-58194e6b09b1/0/68>