

In the interim, before you reach the consideration of appropriations for State institutions, an appropriation for maintenance of, say, \$5,000, should be made at once, as it will be found unprofitable to attempt the conduct of the prison on credit.

The University of Utah is the oldest educational institution in the State. It is located at Salt Lake City, and was established by act of the Legislature in February, 1860. The total value of buildings and grounds is estimated at \$250,000. Originally the terrace block, or square, upon which the University is situated, was donated by Salt Lake City, under certain conditions, which required that, in case the ground should cease to be used for the main buildings of the University, title to the land would revert to the city. In March, 1895, however, the City Council of said city removed the conditions of the original deed of transfer, and the only requisite remaining is that the State university be located within or contiguous to Salt Lake City. In 1894 the United States government granted to the University a sixty-acre tract of land on the Fort Douglas reservation, in Salt Lake county. A condition of the gift requires that the institution shall occupy the site within five years from the date of the grant. Nearly two years of this time have already passed, and thus far nothing has been done toward meeting the requirement of occupancy. The tract forms one of the most beautiful and suitable locations for the University campus to be found in the State, and certainly, within the time provided, measures should be taken for the permanent location of the University there. Under the depressed condition of our finances, I cannot recommend any appropriation at this session for the purpose of improving the new site, unless it might be a small one for the planting of trees; but, in my opinion, an effort should be made as soon as there is an appreciable rise in real estate values, to dispose of the block whereon the buildings are now located, and with the proceeds of such sale, erect the necessary buildings upon the Fort Douglas site.

The report of the chancellor of the board of regents is very complete, and shows the past two years to have been very successful, the total number of students registered for the years 1895-96 having been 503, coming from all parts of the State.

The financial affairs of the University are far from satisfactory, and much that has been gained will be lost, and the progress of the University seriously impeded, unless some better plan for maintenance can be devised. The appropriation of \$45,000 for the past two years seems to have been inadequate, and the financial difficulties have been aggravated by the non-payment of warrants drawn for appropriations. A warrant drawn for the last quarter of 1893, \$10,250, has not yet been paid, so that the real value of the warrant, considering the interest necessarily paid upon it, is not more than \$5,712.50. The institution has been made to suffer the same proportionate discount upon all the warrants received during the past two years, as none of them have been paid, but are used as collateral security upon which to borrow money. To reduce the interest, the land fund

belonging to the University has been deposited against the overdraft at the bank, on maintenance account. Referring to the enforced use of this fund, the chancellor and board of regents have this to say:

"This has deprived the University of interest on the land fund, but this use of that fund has stopped interest at a higher rate than could be obtained on a long, safe investment of the fund, and as we are authorized to use the interest on the land fund for maintenance, this was the best use to which the fund could be put. We have also borrowed from the land fund the sum of \$16,000, and this practically represents our deficit."

I am in hearty accord with the aims and purposes of the University of Utah, and believe that it is wisely and economically managed. I recommend that the suggestion of the chancellor and board of regents be given careful consideration, especially with reference to a permanent special tax for maintenance, and that the appropriations asked for be made, viz.:

To pay deficiency.....	\$13,950
Maintenance to end of school year, June 30, 1896.....	17,500
Maintenance for school year 1896-97.....	35,000
Total.....	\$66,450

The Agricultural College, located at Logan, Cache county, established by act of the Legislative Assembly in 1888, is a department of the public school system, made so by Constitutional enactment. Its cost, including buildings and grounds, has been \$211,947. It is supported from two sources: the State fund and the government fund. The State fund supplies the plant, the land, buildings and ordinary appliances, and must be used also for the current ordinary expenses of the institution, the salaries of instructors in any branches not designated in the Congressional law, and for the salaries of the treasurer, secretary, bookkeeper, janitor, firemen, etc. The expenditure of the past two years, justly chargeable to the State, was \$21,861.90. The trustees state that they know of no method by which the institution can be conducted upon an expenditure of less than \$10,000 annually. The amount donated by the United States government is \$25,000 per year and according to national law, is for the sole purpose of providing instruction in the branches named in the law and can be used only for the payment of teachers, and the purchase of a specified kind and amount of apparatus. The estimate made by the trustees of the expenses to be borne by the State fund for the coming year is as follows:

Current ordinary expense.....	\$10,000 00
Deficit.....	8,830 00
Extension of shops.....	2,000 00
Electric lighting plant and incidentals.....	1,070 00
Total.....	\$22,000 00

The enrollment of students the first term of the present year was 400, an increase since the college year of 1893-94 of 134.

The courses taught are, agriculture, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, commercial science and domestic arts.

The Agricultural college is an institution of which the citizens may well be proud. The student is taught the branches of learning that will enable him to perform the practical duties of

life, and every year it is turning out young men and women "with educated brains and skilled hands, ready and willing to work in whatever vocation they are best fitted to perform the duties of life."

I have pleasure in commending the college and its needs to your consideration.

The State Reform school is located at Ogden, Weber county, and consists of fifty-seven acres of ground, upon which have been erected two large buildings, at a cost of over \$100,000.

The appropriation for maintenance, made two years ago, was \$15,042.92. I have not the financial report for 1895 at hand, but I am informed there will be a deficiency of at least \$6,000.

After an inspection of the school and upon such consideration as I have been able to give the subject, it is my opinion that the benefits to the children do not justify the expenditure made. From members of the retiring board, I learn that with the most careful economy they have found it difficult to conduct the institution for less than \$1,000 per month for the past year, which amount includes insurance, water, taxes, etc. It may be urged that expense ought not to be considered where the reformation of a child is concerned, that otherwise would continue a charge upon the State, and a menace to the morals of the community; but when the fact is considered, that not more than one in four of the children are actually reformed, the advantages of the school may very pertinently be questioned. The present buildings are much too large for the needs of the school. While not wishing to reflect upon former Legislatures, it is understood there was absolutely no necessity for the building last erected, at a cost of over \$35,000. If an appropriation of \$10,000, or less, had been made at that time to improve the heating apparatus of the first building erected, and for the purchase of a library and other educational features, I think it would have been productive of better results than those obtained from the erection of the useless building. The erection of the extra building imposed upon the Territory the cost of the maintenance of an unnecessary building, while the first building was amply sufficient to accommodate at least four times the number of children ever confined in the school at one time.

I therefore suggest that either a radical change be made regarding the Reform school, or that the school be removed to some other location in Weber county, where it may be conducted at less expense, and that the present buildings be put to other uses.

Under all the circumstances I recommend an appropriation to meet the deficiency, and the appointment of a committee from the Legislature to ascertain if the State cannot make more advantageous use of these buildings. In this connection, I submit for your consideration the fact that the military academy building, north of Ogden city, which is said to have cost about \$37,000, and is situated upon ten acres of ground eligibly located, with a perpetual free water right, can be secured for the State at a very low price. If in your wisdom, you deem it proper to place the deaf and dumb and blind asylum in the building now occupied