DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, March 12, 1895.

FIRE AND POLICE BOARD.

Chief Pratt Instructed to Enforce the Ordinance Requiring Street Cars to Stop at Crossings.

The board of police and fire commissioners at its meeting last night instructed Chief Pratt to enforce the ordinance requiring street cars to stop at street crossings, at least at the intersection of East Temple with First and Second South streets.

Chief Pratt asked if he should enforce the smoke ordinance, and after some talk it was decided to consult Judge Judd on the matter, inasmuch as the grand jury had returned indictments against those who had violated it, and had not when there would be pushed to trial.

Chief Pratt called attention to the fact that certificates were required of members of the department when they were sick, lest people might drive their selves, and that the city physician was charging for it. Chief Dotson said the same thing called for in the fire department, and the matter was referred to the two chiefs to get the sentiment of the men with reference to engaging a department physician.

Thomas Wenk, the driver of the chemical engine who was laid off by Chief Dotson, and was afterwards rehired, presented a bill for $99.75, due for the time he was off, and $36.50 for services as a volunteer last spring. The matter was referred to the city attorney.

Bills amounting to $26.13 from the fire department and $65.35 from the police department were counted cash, also the following bills: Bill of Eddy, $9, after which the commission adjourned until Monday night next.

NATURAL GAS MEETING.

An Executive Committee of Five Appointed to Arrange for the Celebration.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Chamber of Commerce held last night, an executive committee of five was selected to take hold of and arrange for the natural gas celebration.

There was a very small attendance at the opening of the meeting, and the outlook for the celebration was rather gloomy, but later in the evening others arrived, and before the meeting closed steps were taken that will no doubt result in a grand gas display.

President Dixon made a few opening remarks, in the course of which he said frankly: "I begin to wake up surprised at the enthusiasm manifested here tonight in connection with the proposition to celebrate probably the greatest single event which has ever happened in the city of Salt Lake."

Secretary Colburn, who had been delegated by the board of directors to present the proposition to the meeting, then made a strong speech, in which he said it was useless to try to disguise the disappointment which the directors felt over the meager attendance at the meeting. "The situation," he said, "seems plainly, that in a city of 60,000 people there have but one out of 1,000 come to attend this meeting. There is not a place in the world where natural gas is that there is not a city. It has been the most potent constituent of cities in modern history, the most potent accumulator of population. And there is not a jot of it heating in any other city west of Indiana.

"Here we are, with 24,000,000 feet of it per day, waiting to rejuvenate this city, and when we are called upon to conduct a public rejoicing over it, there is not one in ten thousand of our citizens who will attend a mass meeting for the purpose. Why, it will lift every mortgage in the city, and will make Salt Lake the manufacturing center of the West. Yet we do not display the gratitude to God for so mighty for us the blessing He has given us."

President Hall, of the gas company, said whatever should be done, the company would do their part.

After a few remarks by Rev. T. C. Hall, President Dixon again took the floor and said he did not think because there were only a few present they ought to lay down on the proposition, but felt that they must take a reservation.

Mr. M. H. Walker inverted the appointing of a big committee to test the temper of the community on the natural question.

A motion was carried to the effect that a committee of five be appointed to select a committee of twenty-five who should go to work and determine the possibility of raising money for the celebration, and President Dixon named as the committee, M. H. Walker, chairman, Spencer Clawson, H. G. Cummings, Edward F. Colburn, and, by the terms of the motion, himself.

General Manager Hayward explained the relationship of the gas company to the celebration and the future of the use of gas in this city. He said every house would be tested for leaks before turning the natural gas into the mains, and that the cost of the natural gas would be cheaper than the artificial gas, so that leaks could be more readily discovered. In Chicago, where they have to use more than half of what it does here, they pump up 22,000,000 feet per day at 40 cents per thousand.

Mr. Frank Shenler, of Pittsburg, said he had paid 25 cents for gas in Pennsylvania, where coal was only $1.50 per ton, and thought 10 cents for gas here would be reasonable.

It was on the point of supreme excitement that Dr. Price's Baking Powder received the highest honors at the World's and Midwinter Fairs.

REPORT FROM WEST VIRGINIA.

Elders Allen and Bells Give Some of Their Experiences.

RESIDENCE OF B. G. CARTER,
Philippi, Barbour county, W. Va.,
February 15, 1895.

Editor Deseret News:

We, the undersigned missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, have been laboring in this field since October 24, 1894, with our headquarters at Mr. Philip G. Hilliard's, Preston county. Mr. Hill and family have been very kind friends to the Elders ever since the mission opened up in this part. They never turn a stranger away from their door. We have enjoyed good health and the blessings of the Lord in our labors, only few exceptions have received kind treatment among the people. We have held meetings wherever we could get a house, either private or public, and have exhausted the tracts in the localities we have visited that were willing to listen to us. We find a great deal of prejudice existing in the minds of the people against our Church. They have read and heard so many lies about the Mormons that it is hard to get them to listen to the truth. Yet we find some honest inquirers with them and they will listen to us, they seem to like to get their advice in regard to the Mormons. They cannot find any fault with our Bible doctrine, yet when we bear our testimony to them that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God they cannot believe that. Quite a number have said to us that if we would move Joseph Smith out of our doctrine we would get lots of people to join the Church.

There are two ministers in this field that are firm in the faith and several others that are investigating that we believe will join in the near future. Quite a few have heard and investigated and joined the Church in May, 1893, and emigrated to Utah in November the same year, leaving us with a few other called home. We first located at Kanab, Kane Co., on his arrival there we met Jacob L. Bunting, he being a stranger to him. Brother Bunting had time to come home and make his home with him. Brother Carter accepted this kind offer and he has been good to us during since then. He stayed with Brother Bunting about two months and was treated very kindly. He also spended very highly of Brothers Bunting and Chas. Ward at the Lodge-der Saints that he met. He remained at Kanab four months, then went to Grassville, Kane Co., where he stayed two months and remained there till the 25th of November, when he returned to his home in West Virginia to visit his family and friends and to sell his property preparatory to his coming to Utah. Brother Carter gives such a good report of Utah and the Saints that live there, that part of his family and the other families that belong to the Church say they will go back with him if they can sell their places here, and some of the friends that do not belong to the Church say they will go if they can sell." Brother Carter is a man that is well known all over this county, and a great many of his old friends and acquaintances have to get some information in regard to Utah and our people. He tells them that all the tales that they have read and heard about Utah and the Mormons are false and are without foundation. He says the people of Utah are far better than he ever expected to find them, when he went there, and that the latter-day Saints have got something that the world have not got or know anything about; he says he would rather live among them and be poor than to live here and be rich. He is strong in the faith of the Gospel and bears a faithful testimony to all that will listen to him. He has always been a kind friend to the Elders that have labored here. His wife also is very kind to the Elders, they never turn anybody away. Brother Carter has been the means of asking a great deal of prejudice in this part of our field, for which we feel to thank the Lord.

This is a very rough, mountainous country, there being no level land except a little strip of bottom land. The mountains are covered with timber except where they have been cleared for farming and other purposes. The people live in a scattered condition except in the railroad towns and a few other places. Some live on top of the mountains, some on the sides and some in the bottoms. Most all of them are sleek, winter and summer. Some of the mountains are so steep that they have to roughlock a sled to get down. Very few of the farmers have any farming machinery. The harvesting is done by hand. When they clear their farms they lay no attention to the points of the compass but cut down to any and every shape and turn up the timber and waste it. Most of the timber is pine, oak and walnut and would be valuable in Utah. They have been farms with the old fashioned rail fence. When we are on top of some of the highest mountains we can see them dotted with farms that have been cleared in every shape for miles in every direction. The school houses are scattered somewhere about the centre of the districts, and they have school in them but a few months in the year and that in the fall and winter when it is impossible for some of the children to attend regular that live a long way off from the building. The teachers are paid from $25 to $35 a month according to their quality. They have a free school system here a little different to that in Utah; the appropriation is divided up among the districts according to the taxes paid and not according to the number of children in the district. That is the reason they only have three or five months school in some of the districts as that is as far as their appropriations will reach. We have met with much hardship of children that could neither read nor write.

The people as a rule are kind-hearted and hospitable, especially the poorer class. The wealthy are few among the rich. In one part of our field where all of the people are well off we could scarcely get a place to stay over night, but the poor Saints in Doddridge we were compelled to stay in an old deserted house that we found inside the wall, because we could find none that would keep us while for love nor money. We were kin enough to get a house to hold meeting in among them, so we concluded that the time had not yet arrived for the Saints to receive the Gospel and make our way to Zion's park. One man told us that if we were preachers of any other denomination they would all be present, but they had no use for us our doctrine is that part of the country. Another told us to go back into the mountains where the people didn't know any better and maybe we could get them to listen to us. Another told us that they had enough religion now to save all of the people if they wanted to be saved, and had no use for our doctrine. We met the mayor of the city of missionary life. In leaving we have mountains we are often reminded of one of the testimonies of Jedediah Grant's songs, "Also I will send for many hunters and they shall hunt them all from every mountain and off from every hill and out of the holes of the rocks." We found out on our first tour the last part of the prophecy was going to be fulfilled, for when we were holding for a man the day that we left the house we left behind him in a cool noise then we could see where part of the holes of the rocks" came.

The people say that this is the hardest winter they have had for years. Some of their outhouses have "cut the little" and a lot of them have frozen to death. Two men that were out hunting deer to death a deer in the snow. We were out traveling in the same second time today, didn't freeze, but it was the worst storm that either of us was ever out in. The roads are drifted full to the top of the fences in many places which makes traveling very hard.

Most of the school houses are closed against us and all of the churches except one to our field, that is what they call the Union church, we have held one meeting in it, but very few came out to listen to us and most of them were school children. This field has been going well everywhere in the last two or three years by Brothers Johnson, Hunter, Harmon, Crosslow, Hardy and others. These brethren have left good many friends in this field who would be pleased to hear from them once in a while. The above named brethren are the laborers in this field and they if it is so will that we have not been able to glean any fat, but we think that our labors will be blessed and expanded in the near by future. We have spoken very plainly to the people in regard to the Gospel and made our testimony to them that we know that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, that he established the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the last days, and that the Book of Mormon is a true record of the ancient inhabitants of this land, and that the Bible and Book of Mormon are the word of God to this generation. We have borne our testimony to them that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, they cannot believe that. Quite a number have said to us that if we would move Joseph Smith out of our doctrine we would get lots of people to join the Church.

There are two ministers in this field that are firm in the faith and several others that are investigating that we believe will join in the near future. Quite a few have heard and investigated and joined the Church in May, 1893, and emigrated to Utah in November the same year, leaving us with a few other called home. We first located at Kanab, Kane Co., on his arrival there we met Jacob L. Bunting, he being a stranger to him. Brother Bunting had time to come home and make his home with him. Brother Carter accepted this kind offer and he has been good to us during since then. He stayed with Brother Bunting about two months and was treated very kindly. He also spended very highly of Brothers Bunting and Chas. Ward at the Lodge-der Saints that he met. He remained at Kanab four months, then went to Grassville, Kane Co., where he stayed two months and remained there till the 25th of November, when he returned to his home in West Virginia to visit his family and friends and to sell his property preparatory to his coming to Utah. Brother Carter gives such a good report of Utah and the Saints that live there, that part of his family and the other families that belong to the Church say they will go back with him if they can sell their places here, and some of the friends that do not belong to the Church say they will go if they can sell."