MAYOR SCOTT'S MESSAGE.

A Voluminous Report On Municipal Affairs for 1890.

FIGURES FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

An Apology for Enormous Expenditures of Public Money.

To the City Council, Salt Lake City:

GENTLEMEN—In compliance with the provisions of the city ordinances, I submit my first annual message and the reports of the heads of the various departments of the city government.

These reports in detail show the operations, receipts and expenditures of the several departments during the past year. Neither time nor ability allowed to me to prepare a message, nor its proper sequel, to review these reports in detail, but they afford each one of the specific statements of the business of the various departments, that I recommend that the reports or a summary of them be published for the information of the people, in order that all may have the means of knowing how and for what the revenue of the city has been expended. In some of these reports, recommendations are made for changes in the methods of adjusting and collecting the city revenues, and for a special report require changes in some of our ordinances. These matters I recommend be referred to the proper committees, so as to bring them before the Council through the proper channels for their consideration.

I call your attention to the recommendation of the city treasurer that a large amount and for a longer time be required for figure license in advance, as a means of building the revenue, equalizing and the amount of liquor sold. It is well worthy your consideration, as well as the other recommendations made by him.

When this Council came into power there were sixty-six electric street lights at a cost of $15 each; there are now 119 at the cheaper rate of $12.50 each.

The reports of the auditor and treasurer, show the total income of the city in the year 1890 was $[illegible], which with a balance on hand of $54,579.29, January 1st, 1890, makes a total of $[illegible], 21. And the total expenditures $[illegible], leaving a balance in the treasury January 1st, 1891, of $[illegible]. The report of the auditor for 1890, showed the total income for that year was $155,75[illegible], and the expenditure $[illegible], 86; there was a balance in the treasury January 1st, 1890, of $54,579.29, which resulted from the credit balance of $[illegible] on the 1st of January, 1889. The increase of both income and expenditure for 1890 seems large, but a careful examination of the reports herewith submitted, in connection with the valuable information afforded by the reports for 1889, will show the increase to be due proportionate to the increase of the city inwards and population, or to the needs for a larger revenue to make necessary improvements and meet the demands of the increased volume of business. We assumed the government of the city February 19th, 1889, and we have no official report for the fraction of the year ending on that day, but a comparison of the reports for the two whole years shows approximately the comparative rate of expenditure of extra income from January 1st, 1890, to February 19th, 1890, and from the last date to the end of the year 1890, which make respective periods of 18½ and 10½ months. The ordinary income of the city from taxation, license and other regular sources, should meet and be adjusted to meet the ordinary yearly expenses of the city government and interest on its public debt. As the city grows and its volume of business increases there will be an increase in this kind of revenue and also in the annual expenses. This has been the case in 1890. The growth of the city has made it necessary to increase the number of departments, the street force, the police force, to enlarge the fire department, practically to establish an engineer's department, to establish a board of public works and a board of health; to expend large sums in the opening of streets and in developing and increasing the water supply in City Creek and Emigration Canyon, and in many ways to increase the expenses of the city government. From some of the departments no income is received or expected. From some the income is not expected to be sufficient for its maintenance, while from others a considerable revenue is received. On the other hand, the ordinary revenues of the city have increased largely, and will hereafter increase in proportion to the expenses, as will appear from the reports submitted. When bonds and property are sold to meet a deficiency in the money received cannot be called ordinary revenue, but the proceeds should be used for permanent improvements, unless the ordinary revenue of the city is deficient for ordinary expenses.

A comparison of the reports for the years 1889 and 1890 shows the Council in 1889 found the necessity for extra revenue to make improvements and carry on the business of the city, and had wisely provided for it. Without that extra revenue there would have been no money for public improvements, and a deficit in the ordinary expenses. The expenditure of this extra revenue from January 1, 1890, to February 19, 1890, is about the same rate as from the last date to January 1, 1891. Counting the whole of the first period of thirteen and two-third months, we find a corresponding expenditure, though in fact a large increase in expenditures did not really begin until late in 1889.

Jan. 1, 1890, there was a balance in the treasury	$ 54,579 29
In 1890 there was received from the regular sources	100,414 86
In 1890 there was received from the extra revenue	55,360 25
In the period in January 1890, there was received from the sale of land	22,000 72
Total	$232,355 12
Deduct amount in treasury Jan. 1, 1891	206,[illegible]
Balance for expenditures and two-third months	$[illegible]
The ordinary expenses received in February, 1890	104,[illegible]
Add back to 1890	104,[illegible]
Total	$[illegible]
Deduct balance in treasury January 1, 1891	27,[illegible]
Extra revenue expended for six and one-third months	$[illegible]

This statement is only an approximation, but certainly not too favorable for the ten and a third months of 1890, for an equal rate of expenditure is allowed for the whole of the preceding thirteen and two-third months, when it is known that at least during the first half of the year 1889 no considerable increase in the rate of expenditure was made.

In changing governments not at the end of a fiscal year, the amount in the treasury does not represent the true balance between administrations. Claims and accounts were outstanding which would have reduced the amount in the treasury at the last date, February 19th.

If we assume we have expended the entire sum of $[illegible] of extra revenue, the report is a very few items show permanent improvements to have been much more than that sum, as can be seen by the following expenditures:

Sewers	$[illegible]	$[illegible]
Streets	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fire department, engine, etc.		[illegible]
Land purchase		[illegible]
City and County Building		[illegible]
Sidewalks and crossings on Brick		[illegible]
Engineer Canyon pipe		[illegible]
Total		$[illegible]
Capital Bill Receipts		[illegible]
Total		[illegible]

I have no statement of the work done on sewers from January 1st, 1890, to February 19th, 1890, and the figures given are a low estimate. From January 1st, 1890, to March 15th, 1890, the expenditure on sewer work was $[illegible], and from March 15th to January 1st, 1891, $[illegible].

The items above mentioned account for all the money for which no vouchers have received and the reports of the various departments will show there are many other expenditures which would be properly called permanent improvements.

These statements are not made with a view to attribute our predecessors or any one else, but to show plainly the statements which have been made to the effect that the large sum of $[illegible] for all the bills allowed by the members of the former Council and rendered expended by us are not true. The contrary is clearly shown by the facts and reports. We have only had about one proportion of the extra revenue and have made permanent improvements to account for it.

The ordinary revenue has met ordinary expenses and helped to make some improvements which should be classed as permanent. While there has been a large increase of ordinary revenue, there has been nearly a corresponding increase in ordinary expenses to meet the demands of growth of the city, and we may justly claim there has been a diligent and economical administration of the affairs of the city.

WATER.

City Creek is the sole source for supplying water through our pipe system for use and fire. Special pipes have been taken during the past season to straighten and to pave it in places to prevent seepage. Tunnels have been made to develop the springs which are the feeders to the main stream, and a considerable increase in the flow has been made.

It is desirable that the city should own all the land on the water shed of City Creek and Emigration canyons, and steps to that direction was taken by your honorable body last fall by the purchase of the Union Pacific Railroad lands, 8641 acres. As an additional protection to the purity of the water from Emigration canyon, purchase was made of 120 acres of land near the mouth of the canyon, where the springs are located, and of all the land having water right on the creek above. The water shed of Emigration canyon is much larger than that of City Creek, but the conditions for holding the supply of water until late in the season are unfavorable. Sufficient developments have been made to determine the fact that a considerable flow of water is passing off under ground through the strata of sand, gravel and slate and on the bed rock. Our efforts are now directed to intercept this supply and to determine the lowest point of the bed rock, and when that is done to run a drain tunnel so as to carry the water by gravity into the pipes laid to receive it. The pipe line is complete to a point near the reservoir, corner First South and Third Twelfth East streets, and has a capacity of 3,500,000 gallons per day. The water is of excellent quality and will be a valuable addition to our present supply. Though next season should prove a wet one and there should be an abundant flow of water in City Creek, it will largely be made up by the supply from Emigration canyon.

In the recommendation of the superintendent of waterworks that the reservoir on First South and Third-twelfth East streets be enlarged and put in condition to store water, also that a storage reservoir of 1,500,000 gallons be constructed in City Creek, will it carried out would either utilize the water from those sources. To further protect our city from a scarcity of water next season and for a permanent supply in the future, there are two sources to which we can look, viz: Parley's Canyon and the wells and springs near Liberty Park. The city has a right to the former was obtained by a contract with the farmers owning the water rights, by which the city is to furnish irrigating water from the Jordan and Salt Lake Canal in place of 82 per cent of the water from Parley's Canyon. The other 18 per cent is principally owned by parties living in Salt Lake and it is expected can be obtained on fair terms. Though there was a difficulty in the dry season of last year of getting the water from the canal to carry the farmers for the water in Parley's Canyon, the conditions have since changed and there will be no difficulty in securing that in the future the city can satisfactorily fulfill the terms of the contract. This is from two sources, first, by taking water means to hold the water in Utah Lake back during the fall and winter, so that it will be up to comfortable point when turned into the Jordan at the spring, and second by repair made in the Jordan and Salt Lake Canal, by which the amount of water delivered at Sugar House Ward has increased from 25 per cent in 1889 to 40 per cent in 1890, by doing needed work on the canal the same increase of gain will increase from year to year. The Parley's Canyon water can be brought to the city by gravity, by building a flume which is an estimated cost of $[illegible]. The other source of supply is on land owned by the city, near Liberty Park. The amount of water available from springs and springs is 2,500,000 gallons daily. To avail ourselves of this supply it is proposed to put in a pumping plant, at an estimated cost of $[illegible], with a capacity to raise 3,000,000 gallons per day, 285 feet, the height of our lower reservoir. The pump, boiler and buildings are estimated to cost $[illegible], and the pipe $[illegible], a large part of the pipe being from mains, as recommended by the water commissioner, and nightly should be deducted from the cost of the plant. The city engineer, in his full and comprehensive report, recommends that the Parley's Canyon scheme, or gravity scheme, be adopted, and that steps be taken at once to bring the water into the city. While I agree with him, things being equal, that a gravity supply is most desirable, and fully approve of his recommendation, still, to provide for a possible insufficiency of supply from Parley's Canyon, as indicated by the scarcity of rainfall up to the present time, and the absence of the usual amount of snow in the mountains, I recommend that the pumping plant be put in as a further guarantee against a repetition of the scarcity of 1889. A pump of the capacity of five million gallons per day should be put in, as in the opinion of men of good judgment that amount can be raised by sinking more wells. The Water Commission of 1889 stated: "We desire to impress the fact that a daily supply of 3,000,000 gallons can be obtained in the vicinity of Liberty Park by sinking twenty-four wells at a cost of $20,000. While it is right to put in a pump with a capacity to raise the water to the upper reservoir, 285 feet, it would be needed but seldom, as the lower part of the city could be cut off by reservoir, the city water system and be supplied from this source. The cost of running the pump is estimated at $10 per day to raise water 285 feet, if it was used to raise water, say 100 feet, to supply a lower system, the cost per day will be proportionately reduced. It is not expected that the water company will run the pump the whole year means shall our population shall be fully aware what it is and what it means, by a few months in the summer and fall, or when the supply from other sources would begin to diminish. It tells the exhibit and pumping plant, which I have set forth fully that I believe will enable us to do away with that part of the Jordan Canal which is the city's, which is a large property to sustain, will require an outlay of $100,000, according to the estimate of our City Engineer, a sum which would be a great saving in the pumping plant. The pump could be made to supply water through the pipes for drinking and culinary purposes, and the canal would supply water for irrigation and take the place of the old canal which could be filled, and the Deseret News, at least is now a menace to the health of the people.

As our city lots are divided and subdivided and extensions of city limits are made, and water service through pipes is given to the greater part of the city, less water will be required to be taken from the canal for use, when the farmers in the vicinity of Liberty Park will be required to take one of the gardens, trees, shrubbery and lawns.

There is an abundance of water within reach of this city, to supply it after it has substituted a growth the most sanguine anticipations.

It is a question of money and how much the city is willing to pay for it, and for the necessary storage reservoirs. Sufficient should be left without to make the supply simple for all future necessities.

STREETS.

The report of the supervisor of streets shows there have expended by his department during the year the sum of $[illegible]. This includes the sum of $[illegible] in prison labor, which in early years was a great assistance to the city in the unwillingness of the farmers to let little value to the city. It also includes $[illegible] bill tax bills. Of the total expenses $[illegible] was expended under the former supervisor of streets, who resulted in office until March 15th, 1889, and $[illegible] was expended by the present supervisor, who has entered on his duties at the commencement of the fiscal year. The work done represents 11 67 miles of streets graded, which includes the grading of the north side of East Temple street, from Eagle Gate to Ninth East, at a cost of $[illegible]. Also 4 57 miles of streets graded and repaired. The amount expended on the streets in 1890 is about double the sum expended in 1889. The work of improvement has been confined to the south side where they would be best seen, but the prayers of the taxpayers and citizens generally have been for the north side. I intend to, and the grading and repairing has extended over all parts of the city, decline heretofore neglected streets and streets in need of improvement. Considering there are about 225 miles of unusually wide streets, and the condition they were in at the beginning of the year and the work actually done, I think the supervisor may be commended for the good showing made in his report, and for the economy of the money expended in his department. The sum total refer purchased 2nd spring use proved satisfactory. Though the condition of the streets, I do not think it possible to keep them in repair.

Since the completion of the sewers in District No. 1, property owners are being urged to make the connections with the sewers, so that no delay may occur when it is decided to pave the streets of such portions of the city. Paved streets are evidence of progress and enterprise, and tend greatly to the health and comfort of those who have to use them. I hope some of our principal streets can be paved this year and that the work may be commenced on the south side of the Deseret News, opinion exists as to the best pavement to adopt, considered with reference to cost, durability and comfort in its use. I recommend the subject to be taken up, thoroughly investigated, and some definite plan of action and selection of material be adopted.

SIDEWALKS.

Good sidewalks in a city are not only a convenience and ornament to the citizens, but add substantially to the adjoining property, and give the appearance of enterprise and progressive growth. The width of the sidewalks, the expense of construction and the lack of cheap home material, have been obstacles in the way of the much needed improvement in the reduction part of the city.

Some of these obstacles are so far removed that more rapid progress can now be made. A walk eight feet wide is sufficient outside of the business streets, and if the margins could be graded to conform to the adjoining lots, for which the city furnishes water free, the improved appearance of the streets would be assured, and a gratification to all. Sidewalks outside have been formed, taking in a most desirable portion of the city, and I trust there is public spirit and pride enough among our citizens and property owners, to see this system of public improvement is carried out. I recommend where made trees are destroyed in grading the streets and sidewalks, that the city furnish without charge trees from Liberty Park to replace them.

If other machinery will admit, I recommend that in our sidewalks and all other public improvements, home materials shall be used.

CITY ENGINEER.

The report of the city engineer is very full and complete and sets forth the work done in his department, and the receipts and expenses. The expenses are reported at $[illegible], and the receipts $[illegible]. The work of the city engineer is connected with nearly every important public improvement, such as water supply, streets, sidewalks, bridges, public and private sewers, etc., and is a very important department. He should will always be valuable for public and private use and the city was practically without records, maps, and such information as should be kept in the engineer's office. The time has also come when a complete and authoritative system of city surveys should be made, and should it may be some years before this work can be fully completed, the expenditures necessary to make them will be simply required in the future. Much valuable information is given regarding the water supply in Utah Lake, and other points in which the city has water rights.

SUPERINTENDENT OF WATERWORKS.

The superintendent of waterworks makes a very full report and sets out all the results of a long year's work in his department. The total expenditures in his department amount to $[illegible], of which $[illegible], 30 was expended by the city and $[illegible] under his management as over 60 per cent to the whole amount laid prior to January 1, 1890. He makes very important recommendations in his report, which the issue in the action of the Council or its committees, for the reasons previously stated.

WATERWORKS.

The waterworks repeats expenditures in his department amounting