

## LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM WEDNESDAY'S DAILY, JANUARY 12.

On Saturday last, the 8th inst., Edwin Bodily, son of Edwin Bodily of Fairview, Idaho, while unloading coal at Cannon station, had his left thumb badly mashed by a lump of coal falling on it. He was obliged to go to Preston for surgical treatment.

Miss Lillie K. Thomas, sister of R. K. Thomas, the well known dry goods merchant, died at the Holy Cross hospital in this city shortly after 9 o'clock this forenoon after a protracted illness.

Eight days ago Miss Thomas was compelled to undergo a surgical operation. The operation while skillfully performed was very severe and the patient, owing to her weakened condition, never thoroughly recovered from the shock. Miss Thomas was a native of England and 51 years of age. She leaves two brothers and three sisters to mourn her demise.

The Salt Lake Literary and Scientific association has formally transferred to the Utah University, through the regents of that institution, the Laboratory building on First North street. This transfer was made as the remainder of the endowment fund conferred by the association on the University for the establishment of a chair of geology. The apparatus of the association, accepted at a value of \$15,000, was transferred previously. The price agreed upon for the building and grounds is \$47,000, or a total of \$62,000.

The members of the board of regents who were present were James Sharp, Frank Pierce, Waldemar Van Cott, J. T. Kingsbury, Mrs. Little and Thomas Outler. Resolutions were adopted requesting Utah's congressional representatives to secure from Congress an unconditional grant of sixty acres of land, calculated for university purposes, on the Fort Douglas reservation.

New York, Jan. 12.—It was announced on Wall street today that the Union Pacific re-organization committee had obtained a controlling interest in the Oregon Short Line.

It is also said that through this they would soon take control also of the Oregon Railway & Navigation company.

The news contained in the above dispatch, while fraught with considerable importance to the West and Western interests, was not unexpected here. For months it has been known that the Union Pacific re-organization committee was bending every possible effort to accomplish a deal by which it could secure the control which it now seems to have obtained. A "News" representative late this afternoon made an effort to find and interview Manager Bancroft of the Short Line, but was unsuccessful in locating him. It is, however, stated on good authority that the officials of the latter road—of both roads in fact—knew what was coming in this particular. It is not believed that local offices will be effected particularly by the change. The movement is almost entirely one of finance.

As announced in last evening's "News," the election of boards of directors of the national banks of this city was in progress at press time. All of the old directors were re-elected except in the case of the Deseret National bank, where David Eccles of Ogden was chosen to succeed Henry Dinwoodey of this city. The list is as follows:

Deseret National—L. S. Hills, Moses Thatcher, George Romney, James Sharp, Wm. H. McIntyre, E. R. Eldredge, James T. Little, John R.

Barnes, Wm. W. Riter, John C. Cutler, D. H. Perry, John R. Winder, David Eccles.

Utah National—James M. Stoutt, George Y. Wallace, P. L. Williams, H. W. Brown, Dr. A. C. Ewing, Elmer B. Jones, Boyd Park, Joseph Baumgarten, Gil S. Peyton, Wm. H. Roy, W. H. H. Spafford.

Commercial National—Dr. Theo. Meyer, John J. Daly, O. J. Salisbury, Moylan C. Fox, Thomas Marshall, W. P. Noble, George M. Downey, John W. Donnellan, Newell Beeman.

The National Bank of the Republic did not elect directors yesterday. The meeting was adjourned until this afternoon on account of the absence of three of the directors.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, JANUARY 13.

Richfield Advocate: Among our horticulturists it is fast coming to be realized that Sevier is a county of magnificent fruit possibilities. Her climate, soil and irrigation are all well adapted to the growth and yield of all but tropical fruit trees. Last spring 20,000 budded and grafted trees were planted and a wonderful percentage of them are thriving. Half were prunes and that is more than were ever planted in Sevier before. Last year Monroe raised 1,500 bushels of peaches. Richfield had 10,000 bushels of apples and the county 25,000 bushels. Ten tons of fine grapes ripened in the vineyards of Glenwood and Monroe. In the county grew 2,500 bushels of plums and hundreds of bushels of cherries, apricots, pears and all kinds of small fruits. Next spring orchardists of Sevier will set out about 20,000 apple trees, mostly Ben Davis, and possibly the end of the year may see arrangements completed for a drying process to save the big surplus that went to waste last year.

It is officially estimated that there are not less than one thousand people in the city at the present time who are out of employment and in absolute distress on that account. These figures are even increased and the condition of the city's poor more emphatically stated by the county commissioners who are appealed to beyond their power of assistance.

These officials, in this connection, have suggested a means of ready relief in cases where sickness and other disabilities do not prevent their being carried out—that is in the way of giving employment. They state the case like this: The distress is unprecedented and people are living from hand to mouth. This is in part on account of the protracted cold spell which has prevented any building, excavation, ditch digging or work that common and unskilled labor can do. As a result large numbers of families are without food and fuel and the suffering is very severe. These represent a class who are willing to work, who are, in fact, begging for it, but without ability to obtain it.

As to the method of relief, it is suggested that there are very many families who are able to give some poor man a day or a few days' work of some kind. The work may not be absolutely necessary but it will help many suffering poor. As to the work, it is pointed out that yards, barns, cellars, garrets or other places may be cleaned out and repaired. Then there is some work that men cannot do. In that case it is suggested that some indoor employment be found for women, in the line of sewing, mending, laundry or other work.

Persons who can furnish relief as

indicated herein will confer a favor upon the public by communicating such information to the county commissioners.

Ogden Standard, Jan. 13.—This morning at 12:25, fire was discovered in the engine room of the Reed Hotel, just at the mouth of the air shaft, on the south side of the building. A telephone alarm was turned in by Wilson, the night elevator boy, and almost at the same time the flames were seen breaking from the roof, and an alarm was turned in from the corner of Twenty-fifth and Washington. The flames from the roof attracted a large crowd, which gathered almost as soon as the fire department arrived, and which was on hand almost as soon as the regular alarm rang out.

The fire, when discovered, had worked its way from the engine room through the air shaft to the roof, and the upper floors, the fifth and sixth were already filled with smoke. Two lines of hose were laid from the corner of Twenty-fifth and Washington, and the chemical line was pulled up through the court. Water was also turned from the standpipe from the dining room floor, and hose laid up to the roof. Chief Binford was fighting the fire from four floors; the fire was very quickly placed under control and by 2:30 it was all over. One or two lines of linen hose from the hotel supply were filled with water but leaked, and it was impossible to make headway with them without causing much damage by water.

The damage, according to Chief Binford, will be about \$3000. The use of the chemical engine and Babcock hand grenades prevented a more serious loss from water.

In addition to the loss to the hotel company, several traveling men had their samples damaged by smoke and water, one of them representing a millinery firm of Chicago claiming that his loss would reach \$1,200.

New York, Jan. 13.—The control of the Oregon Railway & Navigation Co. having been obtained by the reorganization committee of the Union Pacific Railroad, the Vanderbilts are now in virtual possession of a through transcontinental line. The New York Central is the first road in the combination from this point. At Buffalo it connects with the Lake Shore for Chicago, at which point the chain is carried on to Omaha by the Chicago & Northwestern, and from there the Union Pacific, the Oregon Short Line and the Oregon Railway & Navigation company complete the line to Portland, Oregon, and to Tacoma on Puget Sound. All these roads are Vanderbilt roads, and the total mileage is 13,420.

This achievement by the Vanderbilts is considered one of the biggest railway deals that has been accomplished in recent years. It gives one company or set of financial interests an absolutely transcontinental road. For years this has been hoped for, struggled for and dreamed of, but never before have conditions been favorable for such a consummation. Not only do the Vanderbilts now control the Short Line and the Oregon Railway & Navigation company, but the Union Pacific as well. What the future may bring to Utah and the West as a result of the transaction is still a matter of conjecture.

W. H. Bancroft, general manager and vice president of the Oregon Short Line, was seen in his office by a representative of the "News" and asked what he knew of the consummation of the gigantic deal, and he pleasantly and emphatically replied, "Absolutely nothing. The newspaper dispatches state all and more than I know of the matter."

Asked as to what effect the transaction would have on Utah and other Western interests, he declared that he