

# Business, Banks, City, County and State Affairs.

IN a recent talk with Manager Rust of the R. G. Dun & Co. mercantile agency in this city, as to commercial conditions obtaining during the year, Mr. Rust said: "As this is not the end of the year, it is impossible to give definite figures or estimates, which are only made up after the business returns for the last month of the year are in. It is not too early to give a very fair and substantial review of the local business situation for the current 12 months. The wholesale and jobbing business of the year has been on the whole fairly satisfactory; although there has been little snap or vigor to the same. Business has been to a large extent in the nature of necessary needs, retail merchants evidencing a disposition, in most instances, to buy only about what was actually demanded; and transactions were largely the small order variety. However, the volume of trade, as far as can be determined at this writing, before houses have finally figured up for the year, compares fairly well with the business of previous years."

tion by withdrawal of a large jobbing house. Building has been unusually active and lumber interests have been benefited. Mining improvements and developing, while not especially extensive, appear to have been steady and it is thought that the prospects for marked activity in this line are very good. The prospects for the coming year look very favorable in all lines of endeavor. Aside from the advent of projected railroads, several other ventures of magnitude are in contemplation and their completion should result in a very marked and gratifying improvement in conditions generally.

R. N. YOUNG.

## High Prices and Good Wool Year.

AT the close of 1904 the outlook for the sheep industry in Utah is decidedly bright and in every respect better than it has been for some years past. Owing to the demand for coarse wools for the manufacture of rough suitings which are the prevailing fashion there has been a lively competition for next season's clip with the result that eastern buyers have been in the field for the past two months contracting for this class of wool. Today, although the shearing season is yet nearly six months removed, there is about 90 per cent of this class of wool contracted for at prices varying from 17 to 20 cents. Some few contracts were closed up upon a basis of 10 cents, but as competition became keen the price was raised until the last of the contracts were closed at 20.

This condition has never before prevailed in Utah and growers are feeling jubilant over the outlook. The price on fine wools, such as are raised on the desert in southern Utah, however, has not materially advanced and practically none of this class has been contracted for.

The outlook for a raise in the price of mutton also is encouraging. Sheep are now in good condition and are in a position to stand the rigors of the delayed winter without any big losses. The past season has been fairly successful though the profits have not been large. According to the report of Mr. M. Smith, the state sheep inspector, the sheep wintered well and the losses were only nominal. Mr. Smith says, "There has been good feed on the summer ranges, and the sheep are in good condition, a greater percentage being marketable as killers than there were a year ago. The sheep are going on to the winter range in excellent shape as to flesh and cleanliness from disease. The spring inspection showed a reduction in the number of about 200,000. The inspection during the spring of 1903 showed a little over 2,000,000, and the inspection of the spring of this year showed a little over 1,800,000 sheep in the State of Utah."

The wool clip this year was distinctly heavier than that of a year ago. The sheep were better and fuller fleeced on account of their wintering well and being free from disease. The ranges are in excellent shape and the sheep are thought to do well this winter. On account of the less number of sheep and a shorter wool supply the future market for both wool and mutton looks very encouraging.

"In the matter of failures, there have been 44 business failures in Utah up to the 7th inst., as against 60 for the year previous. In southern Idaho there have been 34 failures against 25 for last year."

## The Dairy and Poultry Trade.

IN a talk on the conditions obtaining in the butter, cheese and egg markets during the current year, H. J. Faunt, Jr., said: "The year just past has not been prosperous for the creameries in this state. They tried to maintain prices that were higher than conditions warranted, and the attempt was not as profitable as had been expected. Our creameries supply a great deal of butter to coast points and north and northwest states, and prices there are governed by the national market, which necessarily affects us."

"Last year, prices east were high, as well as in the local market, and speculators who bought butter for storage, lost money. This made them conservative this year in buying for cold storage, and so, in the summer months when a great deal of butter is put into cold storage, the price was about three cents lower than in the year previous, as one extreme always follows another; but the national market has been satisfactory to speculators. Butter east and west, in July, was between 17 and 18 cents, while 20 cents was maintained here. As a consequence there was an accumulation of butter here, which was put into cold storage, and the owners of the same experienced difficulty in unloading it. There is yet a considerable quantity of cold storage butter at the same time. Our cold storage butter will have to be sent east to be disposed of, and likely, the amount not sent east will have an influence on prices during the coming months of January and February."

"One factor in the butter business

## Comparative Statement of Bank Clearings in Salt Lake City.

Month.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
January	\$ 14,156,992.58	\$ 13,509,572	\$ 15,212,649	\$ 14,383,039
February	11,745,221.32	10,978,982	12,121,527	10,317,867
March	10,992,669.08	10,258,815	14,740,918	11,779,605
April	10,524,093.13	11,595,945	14,324,028	11,997,216
May	11,077,885.11	14,801,202	13,663,620	11,883,698
June	12,391,834.56	17,619,707	12,002,650	12,839,426
July	11,804,634.52	22,960,133	15,424,366	12,054,214
August	11,801,123.60	14,419,340	15,249,325	11,205,159
September	11,568,861.38	14,112,912	12,496,126	12,255,010
October	13,738,364.27	18,283,131	15,591,495	13,299,107
November	18,630,367.04	17,628,262	14,537,217	17,060,333
*December	16,569,000.00	16,004,790	16,000,000	15,000,000
Totals	\$155,650,538.68	\$182,087,807	\$172,233,846	\$154,074,674
*Estimated.				

## Total Assessment in Utah for 1904.

COUNTY.	Real Estate.	Improvements.	Personal Property.	Railway and Depot Co's.	Telephone Companies.	Telephone Companies.	GRAND TOTAL.
Beaver	\$ 337,930	\$ 293,910	\$ 399,968	\$ 351,463	\$ 2,159	\$ 17,688	\$ 1,403,116
Box Elder	2,358,104	870,253	1,330,488	3,888,638	30,631	17,465	8,495,579
Cache	3,442,850	1,187,864	1,595,319	622,335	6,050	26,332	6,880,850
Carbon	432,870	232,063	694,623	90,437	5,712	387	2,583,092
Davis	2,145,899	644,686	543,030	905,675	9,531	17,339	4,266,162
Emery	332,722	148,920	361,591	667,855	6,495	1,236	1,518,819
Garfield	197,010	97,740	348,405				643,155
Grand	90,586	60,650	196,491	787,307	8,733		1,144,267
Iron	410,769	251,407	384,752	383,984		6,871	1,437,783
Kane	483,595	873,046	1,274,429	976,281	7,744	13,085	3,828,544
Millard	113,569	108,659	179,385				401,633
Morgan	423,931	120,600	172,508	334,945	5,563	3,868	1,628,017
Piute	189,869	157,557	356,011	44,754	294	1,039	749,525
Rich	443,671	93,416	379,656			2,916	919,659
Salt Lake	20,954,679	12,176,782	13,060,020	2,591,245	13,345	326,833	49,663,004
San Juan	11,395	39,840	263,356				314,591
Snapeta	1,622,493	880,670	1,185,566	717,275	4,141	15,701	4,605,846
Snyder	886,313	364,840	676,484	561,579	2,941	15,802	2,507,959
Summit	1,193,336	957,668	3,566,152	962,012	11,672	24,212	6,705,052
Tooele	586,401	346,755	868,537	682,708	5,100	9,846	2,444,407
Utah	4,412,625	2,480,590	2,338,041	2,657,162	20,849	41,474	11,950,741
Uintah	360,650	213,410	586,874				1,160,934
Wasatch	592,230	262,230	510,905	144,346	1,057	3,081	1,513,849
Wayne	108,217	60,919	206,463				375,599
Washington	291,130	238,215	243,410				773,333
Weber	5,531,399	3,452,889	2,943,661	1,552,914	11,719	66,430	13,559,012
Total	\$48,761,787	\$27,336,031	\$35,219,108	\$20,440,820	\$160,565	\$612,633	\$132,530,944

## The Year's Fire Losses, Changes and Betterments.

THIS year, as last year, Salt Lake City's fire department consists of 41 paid men. With the exception of hours off for meals and every 10th day, these men put in their entire time at the various stations where they are in service.

While no new equipment has been purchased, the old truck has been re-modelled and Chief Bywater is desirous of putting it into service at the earliest possible moment. During the past year there have been some changes in the personnel of the department. W. H. Bywater succeeded James Devine as

chief, and Harry T. Cowburn succeeded M. W. Earl as secretary. C. E. Wood, former assistant chief is now in Idaho, and his successor has not yet been appointed.

If the plans Chief Bywater has under consideration are carried out, the efficiency of the department will be greatly enhanced before long. "In my annual report," said Chief Bywater to the "News," "I shall ask for 15 additional men to put the re-modelled truck into service and equip a new station in the southeast part of the city. I shall also ask for another Metropolitan engine of from 1,100 to 1,200 gallons per minute capacity, to be

stationed at headquarters. The increase of men has become absolutely necessary by reason of the increase of residences in the southeastern part of the city. It is necessary to have a service truck at the west side station for the reason that we have two hospitals and many schools there without ladder protection."

The following figures, showing the cost of maintaining the department, the number of fires, the loss, the value of property exposed and the insurance paid, and other items of interest, were furnished especially for this issue of the "News" by Chief Bywater and Secretary Harry T. Cowburn:

MONTH.	Cost of Salaries.	Cost of Supplies.	Number of Fires.	Value of property exposed to fire.	Insurance involved.	Actual loss.	Loss over and above insurance paid.
January	\$ 4,850.00	\$ 422.36	10	216,960	\$ 137,875.00	\$ 84,260.00	\$ 6,078.05
February	4,850.00	861.27	11	33,180	62,165.00	49,060.00	7,215.40
March	4,850.00	507.90	9	15,140	78,400.00	89,700.00	1,740.00
April	4,875.10	862.78	17	175,170	276,195.00	185,600.00	90,595.00
May	5,359.99	259.81	12	215,140	324,882.00	182,100.00	78,000.00
June	5,877.00	285.58	24	484,400	50,350.00	51,890.00	1,610.00
July	5,859.15	390.74	36	694,600	122,195.00	95,100.00	7,448.25
August	5,561.25	478.22	18	324,700	139,600.00	4,890.00	4,465.00
September	5,573.80	248.66	13	2,760	19,500.00	1,088.10	2,308.00
October	5,514.80	198.69	22	294,300	146,850.00	74,700.00	5,265.00
November	5,401.40	219.62	18	344,200	133,485.00	94,850.00	751.90
Totals	\$35,610.76	\$4,808.68	183	3,571,650	\$662,154	\$1,257,000.00	\$7,292.70

this year has been the condensed milk factories in Cache valley. They utilized enough milk to make 500 pounds of butter daily, and they are finding a market for their condensed milk, not only in Utah, but in adjoining states, some quantities going as far as the Pacific coast. It is likely this branch of the dairy business will prove to be of considerable importance from now on. There have been some shipments of sweet cream from Cache to northwest points, as far as Portland, and it is likely that during the winter months these shipments will be increased. The railroad to Los Angeles will open up that market to Utah producers, and as that is one of the best markets in the United States, considerable Utah butter ought to find its way there. On account of lower prices this year, the production has not been as large as it was during the latter part of last year, and indications are that good prices will prevail.

"The cheese business is now so closely connected with the butter trade that

what affects one affects the other, and the same conditions have prevailed in cheese as in butter. In the past our five years there has been considerable Utah cheese shipped to coast points; but low prices this year have largely curtailed such shipments. This fall, little or no eastern cheese has come into the Utah market, although in former years eastern cheese has been shipped in here during the fall months."

"The egg business in this state has not suffered with the same depression as nationally. Higher prices prevailed all the year without marked fluctuations. There has been a shortage of eggs in this market of late which has been supplied by eastern cold storage eggs. In fact, for the last few months, nearly all our eggs have come from the east."

"The total production of the dairy industry in this state for the year now closing, including butter, milk and cheese, may be roughly valued at \$5,000,000."

## Greater Receipts For Year 1904

THE receipts of the city treasurer's office for the 11 months of this year were \$149,187.79 greater than for the same 11 months in 1903, and the disbursements were \$137,114.42 less this year than in 11 months last year. The following tables show the comparative receipts and disbursements for the first 11 months of 1903 and 1904.

RECEIPTS.	1903.	1904.
January	\$ 39,753.01	\$ 35,253.00
February	24,976.01	23,919.94
March	27,206.69	45,894.13
April	28,535.39	60,257.12
May	42,703.23	56,521.71
June	75,127.47	50,519.76
July	33,874.40	50,519.76
August	45,054.34	38,449.83
September	46,632.34	68,840.88
October	60,359.69	73,109.73
November	131,622.12	226,195.45
Totals	\$550,562.70	\$926,700.49

DISBURSEMENTS.	1903.	1904.
January	\$ 68,739.75	\$ 74,734.23
February	41,690.96	45,702.82
March	32,929.10	41,526.68
April	56,519.73	61,185.39
May	25.00	34,098.34
June	102,489.92	102,489.92
July	21,759.92	72,796.41
August	29,941.35	40,428.89
September	56,011.49	61,099.62
October	61,194.74	48,855.37
November	111,467.23	190,234.64
Totals	\$676,698.52	\$863,285.16

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1904, \$152,978.54  
Balance on hand Dec. 1, 1904, \$21,258.23

## The County's Cash Amount on Hand.

THE receipts and disbursements of the office of County Treasurer Carbis for the 11 months of this year are as follows:

RE-Disbursements.	1903.	1904.
January	\$ 39,699.78	\$ 38,317.45
February	25,474.09	24,359.68
March	18,422.64	58,367.64
April	28,244.38	47,470.81
May	6,356.78	4,305.41
June	5,948.25	1,635.00
July	9,888.24	5,217.85
August	7,819.78	8,802.53
September	17,802.54	12,076.60
October	47,308.81	52,629.62
November	169,871.04	188,955.75

## Cash Revenues Of the State.

STATE TREASURER DIXON reports the following receipts and disbursements in his office from Jan. 1 to Dec. 6, 1904:

RECEIPTS.	1904.
January	\$ 149,821.94
February	146,430.62
March	38,273.93
April	60,000.00
May	60,000.00
June	67,061.49
July	50,000.00
August	47,811.70
September	67,907.71
October	28,410.47
November	58,000.00
December	9,927.14
January	50,000.00
February	50,000.00
March	50,000.00
April	50,000.00
May	50,000.00
June	50,000.00
July	50,000.00
August	50,000.00
September	50,000.00
October	50,000.00
November	50,000.00
December	50,000.00
Total	\$1,401,789.02

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1904, \$21,277.74

Grand total, \$1,423,066.76

DISBURSEMENTS.

January	\$ 507,083.14
February	77,700.96
March	57,072.71
April	156,931.03
May	148,739.50
June	145,477.01
July	28,000.00
August	107,216.82
September	56,456.33
October	25,000.00
November	49,881.02
December	64,308.95
January	87,712.21
February	50,000.00
March	50,000.00
April	50,000.00
May	50,000.00
June	50,000.00
July	50,000.00
August	50,000.00
September	50,000.00
October	50,000.00
November	50,000.00
December	50,000.00
Total	\$1,606,614.21

Balance on hand Dec. 6, 1904, \$162,405.55

Grand total, \$1,769,019.76

SCARING BURGLARS.

"I was away from home for three days last week. One night my wife heard burglars that she has been hearing ever since we were married. I'll make them think there's a man in the house," she decided. So she put on a pair of my shoes and tramped about on the hardwood floors for an hour to scare them away. My wife is a diplomat."

## Assessment of Personal Property for 1904.

Assessment of Persons			
COUNTY.	Livestock	Real Estate	Merchandise Trade Fixtures
Beaver	\$ 112,945	\$ 80	\$ 78,965
Box Elder	560,250	1,120	285,125
Cache	1,070,331	1,120	1,120
Carbon	197,631	235	119,000
Davis	242,240	105	82,000
Emery	208,176	5,430	53,726
Garfield	294,475	20	25,170
Grand	108,442	544	14,506
Iron	292,468	990	24,616
Utah	212,876	1,035	128,010
Millard	271,494	164	10,400
Morgan	96,744	321	23,642
Fruit	106,334	112	21,225
Rich	288,760	20	19,245
Salt Lake	409,821	51	4,022,313
San Juan	223,590	119	9,508
Sanpete	674,235	1,625	14,010
Sny	24,422	2,088	13,382
Summit	283,330	18	18,562
Tioga	273,512	992	60,270
Tooele	718,690	2,170	77,680
Utah	325,614	30,010	59,530
Wasatch	594,700	245	22,900
Wayne	169,140	300	13,320
Washington	135,385	800	58,352
Weber	384,312	1,490	104,181
Kane	130,260	568	10,280
Totals.	\$5,110,700	\$30,240	\$7,582,485