DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1903.

O SALT LAKE ROUTE'S HUGE VIADUCT. O

feature on the system which can be reproduced on paper and scat-

land. Bometimes, in fact generally, the subject depicted is a scrap of striking scenery that can be seen from the car window, while again it is some artificial attraction that has been devised by the hand of man and the brain of the engineer. In the west the Denver & Rio Grande has its Royal Gorge and hanging bridge, that are known the civilized world over; the Union Pacific has its Echo canyon and Fish Springs cut; the Rio Grande Western, the Salt Lake Temple and Castle Gate; the Oregon Short Line, the Bear River canyon and the accompanying steel trestlework; the Southern Pacific, its snow sheds and soon the Ogden-Lucin cut-off, and the O. R. & N. the Pillars of Hercules and the Columbia river.

## BIGGEST CONCRETE BRIDGE.

Not to be outdone the San Pedro Not to be outcome the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Ralt Lake, or as it is now called for short." The Salt Lake Route," proposes to have the biggest concrete bridge in America, if not in the world, as its star attraction. It has already adopted the natural and scenic feature, the San Bernardino Arrow, for its trademark. Some Eastern roads would deem that glory enough. Not so the Salt Lake Route. It is going to have the biggest concrete proposition so the Sait Lake Route. It is going to have the biggest concrete proposition extant and is going to have everyone talking about it. President W. A. Clark and his associates on the directorate are putting in over half a million dol-lars on that viaduct. As an advertising and a business proposition it will be a "standing ad" that will pay dollar for dollar invested every year. The San Bernardino Arrow and the Santa Ana bridge will be, to use a popular phrase, a hot combination.

## HANDSOME DEPOTS.

But not only in the direction of expensive vladucts is the San Pedro branching out. All the depots that have been erected in California are along the same lines—neat structures built of concrete and roofed with red tiling. There are no such shacks that grace, or otherwise, such towns as Negrace, or otherwise, such towns as Ne-phi, Milford, and Provo along the western end of the Sait Lake Route. The accompanying illustration of the depot at Pomona gives some idea of what may be expected in Utah when the main line through to California is completed and the Utah division re-cently acquired from the Oregon Short Line, is overhauled and brought up to date along the lines instituted on the line now building in California. line now building in California.

# NEARLY 1,000 FEET IN LENGTH.

While considerable has been printwhile considerate the laymen ed on the subject few laymen in Utah, or for that matter in Call-fornia, are aware of the engineering wonders that are under way at vari-ous points of the Salt Lake Route. The bus points of the sait Lake Route. The star feature is the concrete bridge which spans the Santa Ana river at a point about five miles southwest of the town of Riversde, Cal. This arched yighter which is post arched viaduct which is now practically com-pleted, is 984 feet in length. The struc-ture is 17 feet wide and about 55 feet high above low water. There are eight arches of 86 feet span, having a radius of 43½ feet, and a rise of 36.9. At each end are retaining wall approaches con-necting with the abutment plers by means of 38½ feet arches.

T IS THE AIM and object of the passenger department of every up-to-date raifroad to have at least one striking advertising in the approaches, goes to make up a huge eight-span viaduct that would stretch from the McCornick block down tered broadcust throughout the to the entrance to the Kenyon hotel and under each and every arch could be placed the McCornick building, pro-viding the cornica were knocked off. 14,000 COBIC YARDS.

This bridge is being constructed of

One of the Biggest Concrete Bridges in the World Today, Now R apidly Nearing Completion On the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Pailroad-Something Regarding the Difficulties Encountered and the Work Accomplished-The Handsome Standard Depots to Be Erected at Principal Points Along the Entire Main Line From California to Utah-Model Roadbed and Upsto-Date Methods Instituted on the Clark Road.

concrete and will contain about 14,000 cubic yards of this material, weighing approximately one and one-half tons to the cubic yard. Concrete, like old wine, improves with age. The longer the concrete stands the harder it gets. There will be no painting to be done or frequent repairs, as is the case with steel bridges. The longer the viaduct the concrete stands the harder it gets. There will be no painting to be done or frequent repairs, as is the case with steel bridges. The longer the viaduct stands the more substantial it will become. Hence the cost of mainten-ance will be reduced to that of an or-dinary roadbed.

CARE MUST BE TAKEN. Much care has to be taken in the

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED.

Each pier of this viaduct rests on a Each pier of this viaduct rests on a 14x28 foot concrete base, which extends down to bedrock itself, thus making the foundation absolutely secure. This whole work would have been finished and, undoubtedly, entrance into River-side effected long before this time had not greater difficulties been encountered in trying to reach bedrock for the base of the eighth pier.

THE CONSTRUCTION.

THE CONSTRUCTION. In constructing the foundations for the piers sheet pilling was first driven and then the sand and gravel excavat-ed by means of suction dredge pumps. Bedrock was encountered at from 10 to 50 feet below water level. All piers are founded on the granite bed rock. At the springing line the piers are 9x 21 feet. Above the springing line of the arch the piers are cored out in the center to save material and weight. The outer spandrel walls are three feet thick and rise 2½ feet above the crown of the arch. Above this height there is a 15-in coping and a three foot para-pet wall. The main arches are 42 inches thick at the crown. There are two inner spandrel walls connected by a cross wall, and upon this is laid a 10 linch foor to receive the covering of 3½ feet of balaat."

## CONCRETE MIXERS.

A battery of three Ransome concrete mixers was used in mixing the con-crete. The mixing plant was located at the west end of the viaduct and the mixed concrete transported in half yard cars out over the viaduct. This yard cars out over the viaduct. This work was in the hands of the E. B. & A. L. Stone company of Oakland, Cal.

#### CONTRACTORS DESPAIR.

This whole work would have been finished a couple of months ago but for the difficulties encountered in trying to reach bed rock for the base of the eighth pier. It seems that at the position of the first pier bedrock was en-countered at 12 feet below the surface, As work progressed towards the east, for each successive pler, bedrock was found at a greater depth until No. 8 had to be sunk 35 feet for a firm foun-dation. On one occasion it was thought dation. On one occasion it was thought that bottom had been reached and work was commenced, but it proved to be a huge boulder which gave way and sank as soon as operations were fairly underway. Ultimately at the depth of 35 feet the contractors had to admit that they were beaten. Water and grav-el settled back in the hole as fast as it could be taken out. could be taken out.

FINISHED THIS MONTH.

The work of completing the viaduct was then undertaken by the Empire Construction company. As there was no way of getting the water and gravel no way of getting the water and gravel out satisfactorily the workers deter-mined to grout it. Grouting consists of utilizing enough pumps to keep all surplus water out of the way and forc-ing with other pumps sufficient cement down into the gravel to change it into a substantial concrete. Six, eight and ten inch Worthington pumps are now placed and the work is progressing with the result that it will be ready for traffic this month. When finished the road-way over the bridge will be ballasted way over the bridge will be balasted with the same decomposed granite that is being used over the entire west end of the line, making it impossible for one to determine, unless looking from the window of the car, whether he is on the bridge or on terra firma. It is anticipated that trains will be running into Riverside over the con-crete viaduct by the first of the year. crete viaduct by the first of the year.



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OVER A BLOCK IN LENGTH. To bring this huge affair down to every day Salt Lake objects, perhaps



