

WYOMING'S INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS IN 1903.

Special Correspondence.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 24.—There were no important industrial events in Wyoming during the year just closing, but material progress was made in the development of the state's wonderful natural resources. Mining and stock raising were Wyoming's leading industries during the year, and promise to remain in the lead for many years to come. Compared with the previous year the records for 1903 were not so flattering, for there was a slight falling off in the tonnage of coal mined, the production of gold, silver, copper and iron, and a reduction in the clip of wool and the shipments of cattle, but when the conditions are considered the results are highly satisfactory to the people of the state, and nothing but the brightest prospects open with the dawn of the new year.

The condition of the state institutions was never more satisfactory than at present. All were conducted during the year along economic lines, all were productive of much good, and with the carrying out of numerous plans for new buildings, enlargement of old ones and for the increase in the scope of work performed the year now closing will be a memorable period.

HEAVY LIVE STOCK LOSSES.

Wyoming did not escape the conditions that caused heavy losses to the livestock interests in every state in the union, and especially was the loss in the production of wool and mutton in Wyoming marked. For 10 years the production of wool in this state increased steadily until the year 1902, when Wyoming led all other states and territories in the number of her sheep and the tonnage of her wool clip. In that year the state produced in excess of 34,000,000 pounds of wool, of a total valuation of \$5,692,345. During 1903 the clip fell to 28,700,000 pounds, valued at \$4,509,160, a loss in 12 months of \$1,183,185.

SHEEP MEN HIT HARD.

This loss to the flockmasters of the state was not without its good results, however, and it is doubtful if under similar conditions as prevailed during the past 12 months the sheep owners would ever again lose more than one-

tenth of the above amount. A year ago last fall the sheepmen were unable to get sufficient cars to market their sheep until prices became so unsatisfactory that owners as a rule preferred to keep their flocks and run the risk of pulling through the winter. The ranges were in bad condition, the flocks were diseased and there were few owners that did not anticipate heavy losses. The same feeling prevailed in every state in the range region. A severe winter prevailed and with the shortage of feed hundreds of thousands of sheep perished on the plains. A cold, wet spring interfered materially with the lambing, and the increase was short as a result. With greatly depleted flocks the owners shored and again suffered losses, for the fleeces were from one to two pounds lighter than during the previous year.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE.

The flockmasters determined to correct the evils of the past and the result has been that the flocks have been cut down, more hay has been put up to feed during the winter months, dipping has been general, and while disease has not been entirely eradicated, such inroads have been made that one or two more seasons of activity will accomplish the desired result and Wyoming flocks will be entirely free from infection.

In the cattle industry the same adverse conditions were encountered. Shortage of range feed and a severe winter depleted the herds and affected the condition of the marketable stuff. No accurate figures are obtainable, but a conservative estimate places the value of the cattle of the state at about a million dollars less than one year ago.

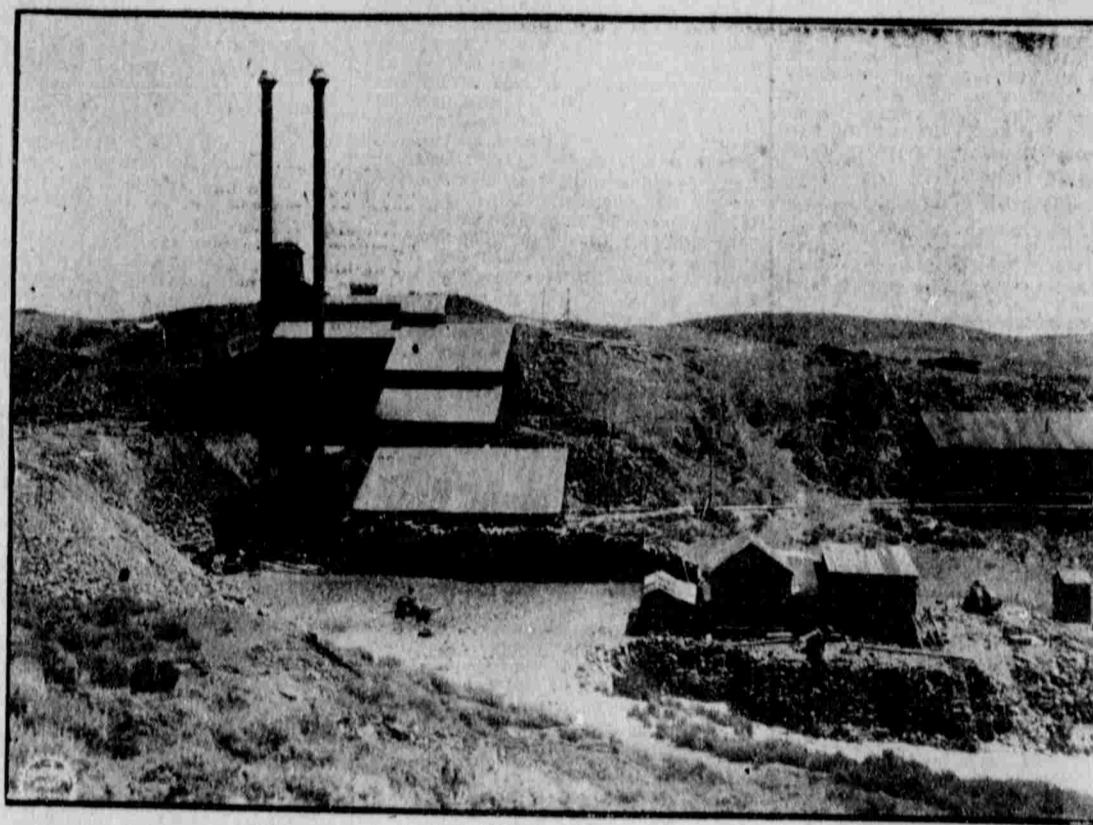
Horse raising thrived during the year, and Wyoming is now looked upon as one of the foremost states in the union in the production of horses for all uses from the heavy draft animal to the polo pony. During the year no less than 15,000 horses were shipped to the eastern markets, while buyers at home made heavy demands upon the raiser of good stock.

Irrigated farming in Wyoming, with its never failing crops, abundant yields and heavy tonnage, both of grains, hay and vegetables, is attracting widespread attention among homesteaders throughout the east and middle west, and during the year just closing thousands of people came to this young state and are now herdinghunting comfortable homes for themselves. The land and water laws of the state are uniformly the best of any of the arid and semi-arid states, and these advantages have not been overlooked by the prospective home builder.

BIG HORN ACTIVITY.

The sections of the state that are at present the most active in the big horn are Big Horn county, Sheridan county, portions of Laramie, Albany, Fremont

Falling off in Wool Clip and in Shipments of Live Stock. There is Also a Decrease in the Production of Coal and the Precious Metals—Nevertheless Conditions are Regarded as Satisfactory—Era of Canal Building—What the Mormons are Doing in the Big Horn.



CARRISSA MINE, FREMONT COUNTY, OWNED BY SALT LAKE AND DENVER MEN.

and Uinta counties, while there has been a general settling up in all parts of the state. In the first three named counties the abundance of water and the cheapness of the rich land have been the attractive features. In Big Horn county the "Mormon" settlers have transformed their localities into veritable Gardens of Eden, and the old

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facts for all time to come. The colonies at Cowley, Lovell, Burlington, Cody and other points are now prospering, and all this while the settlers were building canals of great length, building homes for their families and barns and corrals for their stock, breaking the ground, transforming meadows and uplands into productive hay fields, con-

structing churches, schoolhouses, business blocks, etc., etc.

The "Mormon" colonies in Uinta county in the vicinity of Arden and Fort Bridger have also done well during the year just closing and the settlers have added materially to their stores of wealth.

The coming year promises to be the banner year in irrigated agriculture, for not only are there a number of large irrigation enterprises that will be pushed to a successful end by private means, but the general government will undoubtedly do something in the way of construction also.

HUGE IRRIGATING CANALS.

During the past summer large corps of engineers have been making surveys and investigating projects on the Platte river near Casper and also on the Shoshone river, in Big Horn county. In the Shoshone project the water at a high elevation and carried to something like 200,000 acres of choice agricultural land lying along that stream and some of its tributaries. The most of the land lies at an elevation of less than 4,500 feet and will therefore raise any kind of an agricultural crop known to such latitudes as that of northern Wyoming. All kinds of cereals grow there in the most prolific manner possible and fruits of many varieties will in time be cultivated. From practically worthless land these desert tracts will in a few years, by the co-operation of the general government with private enterprise, be transformed into well cultivated farms worth not less than \$75 per acre.

BIG RESERVOIR SITES.

Reports of a most favorable nature are now being made by the experts that investigated the reservoir site in the grand canyon of the North Platte river, in the vicinity of Alcova, where the general government proposes to construct what will surpass the great Aswan reservoir in Egypt, which is now the largest in the world. This site is some distance below the mouth of the Sweetwater river and would therefore conserve all the water of that stream. The Devil's Gate site was abandoned during the year. The Alcova site is an unusually favorable one, the walls of the narrow canyon through which the river flows being of clear granite, 200 feet high, the chasm being but 80 feet wide, and the bedrock being solid granite, exposed. The reservoir to be created by the dam will have a capacity of 1,000,000 acre-feet and is expected to be sufficient to water 750,000 acres of tillable land. It is expected that the Alcova reservoir will have fully 14,000 acre-feet more capacity than the famous Aswan project of Egypt.

AWAITING WATER'S TOUCH.

Lying between the reservoir site and the Nebraska line are fully 300,000

acres of land that can be reclaimed, and across the line in Nebraska there is as much more awaiting the magic touch of water. As the North Platte river flows about 2,000,000 acre-feet per annum, and as the cost of the reservoir and canals, gigantic though the enterprise may be, will not exceed \$1 for each acre-foot of water saved and distributed, and as it takes only two acre-feet to irrigate through one sea-son the cost would be only \$2 per acre per year, a very reasonable price.

GOVERNMENT WORK.

There is every reason to believe that the government will begin construction during the year on both of the proposed projects, but in the mean time private capital is going ahead, and plans have already been formed for the expenditure of upwards of \$1,000,000 during the year in irrigation enterprises in the state. Among these may be mentioned three or four big canals, either under construction or planned, located in the Big Horn basin and which will be extended, and now Col. Cody has applied for water rights for several hundred thousand acres more land which will be watered by a new canal. There are numerous other small projects for the Big Horn country. In northern Laramie county a large concern will build a big reservoir and canals to reclaim 100,000 acres of land. Senator Charles A. Guernsey is promoting another gigantic irrigation and reservoir scheme for northern Wyoming, and numerous projects of more or less importance have been started or are to be started in various portions of the state.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

The mining industry of Wyoming is a subject that needs many pages of descriptive matter to do justice, but in a few words it may be said that coal mining, copper mining, iron mining and the search for the more precious metals keeps a large army of men constantly employed. Coal mining has always been the leading industry in this state, and the year just closing was no exception. Reports have not been received from all mines in the state, but the reports in hand tell of flattering conditions. The production of coal during 1903 was about the same as in the preceding year, and this in spite of the fact that an awful accident in the Hanna mine early in the year cut off the heavy production of that colliery, and also the fact that there were few if any mines that worked their full complements of men.

A Frightened Horse.

Running like mad down the street dumping the occupants, or a hundred other accidents, are every day occurrences. It behooves everybody to have a reliable Salve handy and there's none as good as Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Burns, Cuts, Sores, Eczema and Piles, disappear quickly under its soothing effect. See at Z. C. M. I. Drug Store.

IN THE LAND OF MORMONDOM

Visitor from West Virginia Describes the Wonderful Fruits of "A Strange Religion"—How "Mormonism" Has prospered in Spite of Bitter and Hostile Persecution.

Hon. William Seymour Edwards who recently visited this city, contributes a very interesting article to a recent issue of the Charleston, W. Va., Daily Mail. After describing his pilgrimage through California and Nevada Mr. Edwards tells of his arrival in Utah, of which he says:

We were in the land of "Mormondom" and beheld their works. Now the whole country became green, irrigated ditches everywhere, substantial farm houses, large well built barns and out houses, and not a few thrifty Lombardy poplars, marking the roadways and the boundaries of the fields.

At Ogden, where we were three hours late, our sleeper was taken off the through train to Cheyenne and attached to the express for Salt Lake City. We made no further stops, but for an hour whirled through a green, fruitful, patently irrigated landscape whose fertility and productivity delighted eye and brain. Many orchards, large comfortable farmsteads, rolling meadows, green and abundant as in Holland, with cattle and horses feeding upon them, stubble wheat fields with flocks of sheep, great beet fields and kitchen gardens in full crops, and water, water in a thousand ditches everywhere. Big farm wagons drawn by large strong horses we saw upon the highways, and farmers in well found vehicles returning from the city to their homes.

Then far away, towering above all else, loomed a group of gray spires, like the distant view of the dominating spires of the Minsters and cathedrals of England and France or of Cologne. They were the spires of the great towers of the "Mormon" temple, that strange, imposing and splendid creation of the brain of Brigham Young.

It was deep dusk when we reached the city. Electric lights were twinkling along the wide streets as we drove to our hotel. We were not yet in the city, except for a short stroll upon the glowing lights. But already it has made an indelible impression on our minds. Only two cities upon this continent—cities of magnitude—have ever been created and laid out by systematic forethought before being entered and occupied by men. One, Washington, laid out according to a comprehensive and well digested plan, the other, Salt Lake City, the creation—as all else here—of Brigham Young.

The streets of Salt Lake City are all as wide as Pennsylvania avenue. The blocks of 10 acres each, immense, are perfectly asphalted, running water flows in every gutter side; great trees along each planted—shade every wide side walk; the electric tram cars run throughfare, and the two wide free ways on either side are quite free from great blocks of fine buildings now rise along the business sections, and the stores present as sumptuous displays of goods and fabrics as anything we have seen, in San Francisco, Los Angeles or New York. The town bears the marks of a great city. Great in its plan, great in its development, great in its destiny. Truly a capital fit for the seat of power of the potent and comprehending "Mormon" Church.

TEMPLE AND TABERNACLE.

All the morning we have been viewing the sight has been most instructive. Higher above the buildings of the city tower the imposing spires and pinnacles of the Temple, the most immense ecclesiastical structure on the North American continent. Thirty years it was in building, all of native granite, and costing more than four millions of dollars. It stands in a central square of the city surrounded by a high adobe wall, and a gentle

may view only the exterior.

Then we visited the famous Tabernacle beneath whose turtle shaped roof worshippers may sit, and whose acoustic properties are unrivaled in the world. You can hear a whisper and a pin drop 200 feet away. In it is the immense organ possessing 520 pipes, which like the two great structures, were conceived and constructed by the genius and patience of their "Mormon" architects. We were shown about the grounds of the ecclesiastical enclosure—though not permitted to enter the Temple—by courteous Mormon ladies whose black eyes fired with religious enthusiasm as she explained the great buildings. "My son is a missionary in Japan, giving his life to the Lord. He preaches in Japanese, and is translating our holy books into the Japanese tongue," she said, turning to an intelligent Japanese tourist who was of our party.

We also bought some "Mormon" literature in the fine modern sky scraper building of the Deseret News and the bright young man, selling us the books, showed us and stored in the stores of elegantly printed and bound volumes all done here in Salt Lake City. They print their books in every modern tongue and their missionaries distribute them all over the world.

INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING.

Later, we viewed the fine college buildings where higher instruction is given to the "Mormon" youth. We also saw the famous "Lion House," over these portals lies a sleeping lion, once the office of Brigham Young, now occupied by the ecclesiastical managers of the Church. And also we viewed the "Beehive House" where once Brigham Young dwelt, the Tithing House where the members of the Church pay their tithing, and the great hall where the members of the Church assemble for their religious and social gatherings.

I asked about "Mormonism" of a gentle stranger from another state and he replied in deferential tones: "No man in his senses now throws stones at the Mormons, they are among the most industrious, most thrifty and most respected people of the west." To wander along and view the residence section of the city is also a thing to surprise. Street after street of fine private houses, each mansion standing in its own garden, upon its own lawn. Many of them very modern, and very many of them far exceeding in cost and imposing elegance any residence Charleston, West Virginia, can boast—equal to the most sumptuous homes of Pittsburgh or St. Louis—more of them owned and lived in by cultivated families of the "Mormon" cult! And how the zeal and faith and religious ardor of this atmosphere even now today burns in the sphere of their Holy City! It is the same spirit that we meet in Holy Russia, Russia's sacred capital—but more enlightened, more practical.

And "Mormonism" is already a political as well as religious power in the West. In Idaho, in Colorado, in Nevada, in Arizona, the "Mormon" vote is to be considered and even catered to. In Alberta, the "Mormon" settlement is said to be the most prosperous in the province. In Mexico, the "Mormon" settlements, their astonishing productivity and fertility, are already teaching the wonderstruck Mexican what irrigated agriculture may do. And as I beheld this and the evident success of a religious sect which mixes fanatic zeal with astute practical management, I ask myself what is the real secret of their accomplishment and their power? Is it the theory and prac-

tise of polygamy? Did or does polygamy have anything to do with the unexplained success and prosperity of the Mormon people? I think not. Polygamy has been merely an incident, and the disappearance of polygamy has in nowise lessened the formidable enclosure—though not permitted to enter the Temple—by courteous Mormon ladies whose black eyes fired with religious enthusiasm as she explained the great buildings. "My son is a missionary in Japan, giving his life to the Lord. He preaches in Japanese, and is translating our holy books into the Japanese tongue," she said, turning to an intelligent Japanese tourist who was of our party.

The creed of the brotherhood of man, and of man within the Christian faith, has been the secret of Christianity where it has won success. The failure to heed it and obey it is the cause of failure to every religious movement that has come to naught. And so long as the Mormon Church adheres to the fundamental principle, just so long will it continue to be a power and a power of increasing weight.

And this cardinal principle is also the secret of their missionaries' success. All over the world there are, in every state, in every nation, in every land, and they serve without recompense, without pay even as did the early missionaries of the Christian Church.

There is and always has been a good deal of cleverness in the leadership of the "Mormon" Church. It is an old adage that "the seed of the church is the blood of her martyrs," and the "Mormon" leaders have comprehended this from the start. Not only have they cultivated the Christian socialism of the early Church, but they have also never fled from but they rather have greatly profited by a real good case of martyrdom. The buffets and kicks of the gentile world have helped, have been essential, in welding the "Mormon" believers into that political, religious and social solidarity so much sought by the leaders. They were driven from New York from Ohio, from Missouri, then from Nauvoo. They have been shot, stoned, murdered by scores. They have been imprisoned and harried by the federal laws (very justly perhaps). But the effect of all this has been only to make them stand together all the closer.

THE SMOOT CASE.

Just now the attack upon Senator Smoot is profiting them immensely. He sits by and smiles. He has only one wife. He is no more oath bound to his own Church than is every Roman or Greek archbishop vowed to his. A matter of conscience only. The effort to oust him will probably fail, but it's a good thing for the Church to have him hammered. The more martyrs the "Mormon" back-sliders. The faithful line up, stand pat, the Church grows.

On the streets of Salt Lake City we have noted the very few vehicles of fashion anywhere to be seen and, on the other hand, the many substantial farm wagons which generally seem to be driven by a woman accompanied by one or more children, more usually a half grown boy. The men would seem to be working on the farms, while the women come into town with the loads of produce. The faces, too, of these women were generally intelligent and contented, nor did they look brutal or depressed.

have come in with the railways, the younger "Mormon" of today finds that one woman is all that he can take care

of, and shows no disposition to load himself up with the burden of half a dozen.

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The Passing Of Xmas.

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