

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT.

SALT LAKE CITY, July 10, 1891.

To the President and Board of Education of the City of Salt Lake:

Gentlemen—In accordance with the requirement of section 107, article 15, of the general school law, approved March 13, 1890, your committee on finance at this first meeting of the board after the first Monday in July, present the annual report of the business entrusted to it.

First—As the territory comprising Salt Lake City was, by the terms of the school law, made one school district, the auditing committee (which was afterward consolidated with this committee) was authorized to settle with the trustees of the old school districts and receive the balances reported on hand at the close of the school year ending June 30, 1890.

The total balances of eighteen school districts reported on hand amounted to \$10,863.26. The other three districts, Sixth, Seventh and Twentieth, had no balance to report.

Fifteen of the eighteen districts paid over to the Board the sum of \$8933.54, the remaining \$1929.72 having been paid out by the trustees of old districts for compensation of trustees and various other expenses incurred under their administration.

Section 116 required this Board to pay all outstanding debts and obligations of the old school districts.

All of these obligations that have been presented, certified and verified have been allowed and ordered paid, and amount in the aggregate, including the completion of the Fourteenth and purchase of the Nineteenth buildings, to \$38,644.45.

Special Taxes.—For the purpose of paying these obligations, furnishing additional school buildings, etc., the old districts levied taxes in 1889, which amounted in the aggregate to about \$150,000. At the time these taxes were due and should have been paid and turned over to the Board suits were instituted to restrain the collector from collecting the same, and only \$85,000 was ever paid into the treasury of the Board on this account.

The Supreme court of the Territory having decided against the collector, it is not likely that any further sum will be realized on this assessment. At the conclusion of this report we offer a recommendation in regard to this matter.

Appropriation.—Under the Territorial 3 mill tax we have received the sum of \$390,663.74 on account of the amount due Salt Lake City school district; what the balance due the districts, or when it will be paid, we do not know, as the Territorial auditor, we are informed, has not as yet been able to make settlement with all the county collectors.

Receipts and Disbursements.—At the beginning of the school year your committee were of the opinion that, with the balances on hand, the special taxes assessed, and the amount that would be derived from the 3 mill Territorial tax under the high valuation of property, the board would have ample funds to meet current expenses of the schools, finish Fourteenth building, pay old obligations, purchase some necessary furniture and apparatus, and have a sufficient balance on hand with which to commence the schools the coming year, instead of having a deficiency at present of \$23,390.06, as shown by the report of the clerk; and there are other expenses yet to be paid before the board will be in possession of funds from the regular channels. To enable the board to pay teachers, janitors and other expenses, your committee have been successful in making arrangements with some of the banks of this city, who have kindly consented to take up the warrants of the board and hold them until such time as the treasurer shall have funds with which to pay them.

The report of the clerk shows the total expenditures to have been—\$159,887 37  
While the receipts from all sources are only—133,497 31  
Showing a deficiency as before stated of—23,390 06

There have been numerous extraordinary expenditures arising from uncompleted contracts that came to us from the old districts from indebtedness of the same and from repairs, rents, etc. It is these expenses that have swelled the aggregate cost for the year. The actual current expense proper has been but \$94,234.73.

## ESTIMATE FOR 1891-92.—

Your committee prepared estimates last December and reported to the board that in their judgment it would require about \$115,000 to conduct the schools the coming year (contemplating to provide for the purchase of sites, the erection of buildings, furnishing and improving the same, by asking the people of the district to vote in favor of issuing bonds for that purpose).

To raise this \$115,000 the levy made by the Board of 5 mill on the dollar on all the property in the city was estimated to raise about—\$ 25,000  
Our proportion of the 1½ mills levied by Salt Lake county would be about—50,000  
Territorial appropriation on 3 mill tax estimated about—40,000

Total—\$115,000

We have also a recommendation to make in regard to the manner of making assessments for school purposes.

## BONDS.

By authority of this board a meeting of the voters of the district was ordered held to submit the question of issuing bonds, and this committee was charged with the duty of attending to all matters pertaining to the election, all of which has been done and fully reported to the board, showing that a majority of all the votes cast were in favor of issuing bonds to the amount of \$600,000, interest at 5 per cent per annum, \$450,000 payable in twenty years and \$150,000 payable in ten years, after which the board instructed this committee to prepare a form of bond, and all papers pertaining to said election for school bonds necessary to be filed with the county clerk. The form of bond and papers has been prepared, reported to, and approved by the board, the papers filed with the clerk of the county court. We were further instructed to have the bonds printed and \$300,000 twenty-year bonds were ordered sold, and we were authorized to advertise for bids for that amount.

Your committee have authorized short notices to be inserted in two New York papers, one each in Boston, Philadelphia and Hartford, Connecticut. Bids to be addressed to Board of Education, and to be opened at noon, August 10th, 1891. We here recommend that the board order \$150,000, the balance of the twenty-year bonds, to be held in reserve, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the special purpose of refunding to the taxpayers of this district all special school taxes paid by them in 1890 that have been or may hereafter be paid to this board, as soon as the Governor and Legislative Assembly shall authorize this board to do so, and that the \$150,000 ten-year bonds be also held in reserve and not sold for at least one year from date.

In conclusion, permit us to congratulate the board and the people of the district that the first year of free schools for this Territory has shown a much larger attendance than heretofore, as will appear from the reports of the different officers and committees, and although the buildings and facilities at the command of the board were insufficient to meet requirements, yet additional have been rented at great cost, while the taxes collected and the actual expenses of conducting the schools have been much less than in other cities

of like population that have better and more extended facilities at their command, also that the prospect of the schools in this city in the future are so cheering and encouraging, this satisfactory outlook, resulting from the laudable act of its citizens of different political and religious beliefs, uniting in voting for the issuance of school bonds, thereby showing their harmony with and support of this board in its efforts to secure the necessary school buildings and accommodations.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

We respectfully recommend: First—That the board as early as possible authorize the purchase of additional sites, the erection of buildings suitable for the different localities where mostly needed, and the enlargement of present buildings where the sites are sufficiently large, or where more land can be procured to enlarge them.

Second—We recommend that the legislature be petitioned to grant authority to this board to refund to taxpayers the amount of taxes levied in 1889, and which have been or may hereafter be paid to this board; and that the law be amended, to require trustees to state the amount necessary for the school year instead of naming the rate per cent, and thereby avoid the collecting of greater or less amounts than necessary as heretofore.

Third—That the board appoint a meeting in the near future to consider these and such other amendments as they consider necessary for the more perfect interpretation and operation of the school law, and that they invite other districts to co-operate with them to accomplish this desirable end, and that all unite in a petition to the legislature for the needed changes as soon as possible after the organization of that body. Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM NELSON, Chairman.  
JOHN N. PIKE,  
H. C. LETT,  
HARRY S. DUKE.

To the President and Hon. Members of the Board of Education:

Gentlemen—In connection with the two semi-annual reports in which the receipts and disbursements of the Board of Education are set forth in detail as required by law, permit me to present the following, as a yearly report compiled from the totals of the two semi-annual reports:

Received special school tax from I. G. Hardy.....	\$85,000 00
Territorial apportionment.....	39,063 74
Received from 1st district.....	303 33
Received from 2nd district.....	3 40
Received from 3rd district.....	9 82
Received from 4th district.....	112 90
Received from 5th district.....	1,106 06
Received from 6th district.....	307 49
Received from 7th district.....	215 23
Received from 8th district.....	3 80
Received from 9th district.....	38 84
Received from 10th district.....	182 60
Received from Fourteenth district.....	5,464 39
Received from Sixteenth district.....	97 86
Received from Seventeenth district.....	135 70
Received from Nineteenth district.....	961 62
Received from Twenty-first district.....	65
Total receipts from old districts.....	8,033 54
Received rent Hooper barn.....	22 50
Received from sale of old furniture.....	467 78
Received from J. H. Baldwin rebate on insurance Fourteenth ward school building.....	9 75
Total receipts for school year ending June 30, 1891.....	\$133,497 31
Overdrafts in outstanding warrants.....	26,390 06
Total.....	\$159,887 37
DISBURSEMENTS.	
General expense.....	\$ 10,125 65