

The Library Gymnasium Movement

By Howard R. Driggs, Secretary
Utah Library-Gymnasium Commission

WHEN Utah adopted the library-gymnasium movement, she not only put herself right in line with the leading thought of the nation in such matters, but she became a leader among the states in a great cause. Some of the older states have developed the public library system far more effectively than have we; but in promoting the gymnasium with the library, Utah has made a new mark for her sister states to measure up to.

The library ministers to the mental side of man alone. The library-gymnasium provides for both body and brain. The two should go together. And they are fast being brought together as the work develops.

ENCOURAGING WORDS.

In a letter to the Utah commission,

pointed by the state board of education, consists of Dr. William M. Stewart, president; Dr. George Thomas, vice president; Dr. E. G. Gowan, assistant superintendent; John S. Welch and Supt. John M. Mills, members, with Howard R. Driggs as secretary.

The commission entered into active service about May 1. Its main work since that time has been the visiting of various cities to promote the work and guide the activities of the people as they have begun to establish these institutions.

WHAT MOST IS NEEDED.

The commission, in a state convention held in Salt Lake, Oct. 7, last, proposed "the organization of a state league to promote the work." Such an association is greatly needed. Each community is willing to work; but all need definite guidance. There should be a

Since the beginning of the movement, some three years ago, a great deal has been accomplished. Not only has the soil been prepared and the seeds sown, but some of the harvest is now being gathered. The first commission, appointed by the state superintendent to carry the burden till the state should assume it, is deserving a large share in the credit for the accomplishments up to date. Under its leadership the library-gymnasium gospel has been preached and published in practically every county and in most of the cities of the state. Several progressive communities during that time voted the maintenance tax; and several libraries and gymnasiums have been brought into being as a result. Among the foremost cities to act are:

EUREKA.

On Oct. 13, of this year, this progres-

John S. Woodbury, chairman, W. R. Palmer, secretary, Willard Coray, Myron Higbee, Kate Bell, Kate Palmer and Mayhew H. Dalley are in charge of the work.

MANTI.

The people of this energetic city have also come to the front in the movement. Under the lead of L. R. Anderson, who, by the way, first suggested the combining of the gymnasium with the library, and Representative Dyreng, Mayor Lowry, Isaac Voorhees, Warren Snow and others, there has been erected a magnificent gymnasium-armory and opera house. The structure has already cost fully \$30,000. It is one of the finest in the state. The gymnasium will be opened to the public as well as used by the schools. The building is so arranged that the three parts—gymnasium, opera house, and armory—can be used independently of one another.

In addition to this, the citizens of Manti are working for a \$10,000 library. Mr. Carnegie has been asked to assist in this. If he cannot see his way clear to give the building, the people there are undoubtedly doing the work themselves; for the city seems determined not to lose the honor of being the leader in the great cause.

VERNAL.

For about two years this bright and coming city on our eastern frontier has maintained a public library. And the work has been done out of the generosity of the people. By means of concerts, by public subscription, and in various other ways, funds have been gathered, a librarian employed to keep open the library daily. Books and magazines have been purchased and the work carried forward with surprising success.

An average of 25 visitors daily; and more than 6,000 books distributed was the report for the first year. These results made the people ready this fall to vote 1½ mills as a permanent fund to carry on the work. A fine library site has been offered to the people by Mr. Calder of Vernal, and it will probably be accepted and a library building erected soon.

Bishop Davis of Vernal who represented Uintah county in the legislature last session says that the city will soon have a gymnasium also. The committee of library workers who have carried on the good work are Charles De Moisy, Supt. F. M. Young, President Donahue, Culton, Roy, Thompson and some others whose names we have not learned.

TOOELE CITY.

Architect Dallas of Salt Lake is now at work on the plans for the \$5,000 Carnegie library to be given to this booming town. Just as soon as these plans are approved by Mr. Carnegie, the building will be pushed to completion. A most favorable site very close to the center of the city has been given by the city. The gymnasium work will undoubtedly be added very soon as the people are wide awake to the need of doing something to take care of their young people. Presidents Gowan and McBride have taken a leading part in these achievements, and their efforts have been ably seconded by Mrs. Barbara Bowen, and others.

GARLAND.

This city was among the first to vote the library-gymnasium tax. There has been a site donated by a generous-minded citizen of the place. The sugar company has expressed its faith in the cause by offering substantially to increase the yearly maintenance fund, and the committee in charge is now working to bring the results that have been hoped for. Mrs. Lucy R. Clark, Burdette Smith, Mosiah Evans and others are leading in the work at Garland.

ST. GEORGE.

St. George expressed her faith in the cause by voting favorably upon the tax. The city, however, was struggling to keep its splendid high school up to a high standard and could not spare funds for the gymnasium, so no further steps were taken at the time. We do not doubt, however, that St. George will resume the work soon to reinforce its high educational standard, and in her action in this matter she revealed the spirit of appreciation of a great cause. The city is always kept a high school of good news from this live city in the sunny south.

OTHER PLACES ALSO ACTIVE.

The cities already cited are pioneers in the movement; but their lead is being rapidly followed by various other communities throughout the state. This year has seen many more towns and cities take up the movement with an enthusiasm that promises success. Among these are:

PRICE.

This stirring city showed its progressive spirit by voting a four-mill tax at the recent election to provide this center of culture for its people. Supt. Carl Maresen, Rev. Nichols, Prest. R. G. Miller and others have done good work for the movement in their city. There is no doubt now that a library-gymnasium will soon be going in Price.

RICHFIELD.

Richfield also responded quickly and decisively to the work this year. After Secy. Driggs of the commission had laid the matter before the people of this place, a meeting of the leading officials and business men was held; and in just an hour and a half they decided to call for a vote on the proposition. The petition was circulated, and 50 signatures obtained that evening; and on election day the vote carried at the rate of more than two to one. Among those who led in bringing about this result were: H. N. Hayes, Mayor Christensen, Prest. Seegmiller, State Senator Willis Johnson, Earl Thompson and some other boosters whose names we fail to have at hand.

LOGAN.

Logan also is moving with definite steps to achieve both a Carnegie library and an adequate gymnasium. Dr. Geo. Thomas of the board, and the others in charge, are doing some good work in stirring the leaders in this city to action. Committees appointed by the council are now dealing with the proposition.

RICHMOND.

Richmond, too, is keeping up the good name of Cache county by taking the cause. Under the lead of her Commercial club, this city is now taking steps to give her youth a better place than street corners and saloons in which to spend their leisure time.

PROVO.

Provo is also moving upon the project. The latest reports are that the citizens of the Garden city, have started out for a \$50,000 gymnasium. And what Provo starts out for she usually gets.

Her Carnegie library is doing splendid service under the direction of Mrs. Partridge, librarian. Dr. Taylor, president of the board, and the others in charge, are doing some good work in stirring the leaders in this city to action. Committees appointed by the council are now dealing with the proposition.

KNIGHTVILLE.

Knightsville, Juab Co., the little mining camp in the mountain tops—has also done things recently that are very commendable. The people there were given a large building by Jesse Knight; and each of the miners of the camp gave one day's wages to help in remodeling the building into an amusement

hall, gymnasium and reading rooms. Some \$1,200 has already been expended with most pleasing results. The people there are very proud of their work in this line. Much good will surely come of their efforts.

OAK CITY.

Oak City, Millard Co., has also taken another lead. In the plans for their new meetinghouse—a \$40,000 structure—provision has been made to make it strictly up-to-date by giving the basement over to library-gymnasium purposes.

PAYSON.

Payson, through Supt. Wilson, reports: We had a plank put in the platform of the Prohibition party at the recent election favoring the establishment of the library-gymnasium. The prohibition ticket won out. The mayor, Joseph Rees, who is an ardent supporter of the movement, is again to be mayor for the next two years. He and I met the other day and partly selected

Lake did take this step.

In Ogden, the people under the lead of Supt. Mills, Rev. Elderkin and others, are taking vigorous steps now to increase the efficiency of the Carnegie library by bringing its benefits through branch libraries and other means within closer reach of the people. This is not to say that the library there is not doing a great work. Its reports show that it is splendidly reinforcing the educational work of the city; but the people want more of the good it gives to go forth. They are stirring up the library habit among those who have not yet acquired it.

Ogden too, has begun to take an interest in the gymnasium side of the work. We certainly expect the Junction city to "do things" in this line shortly.

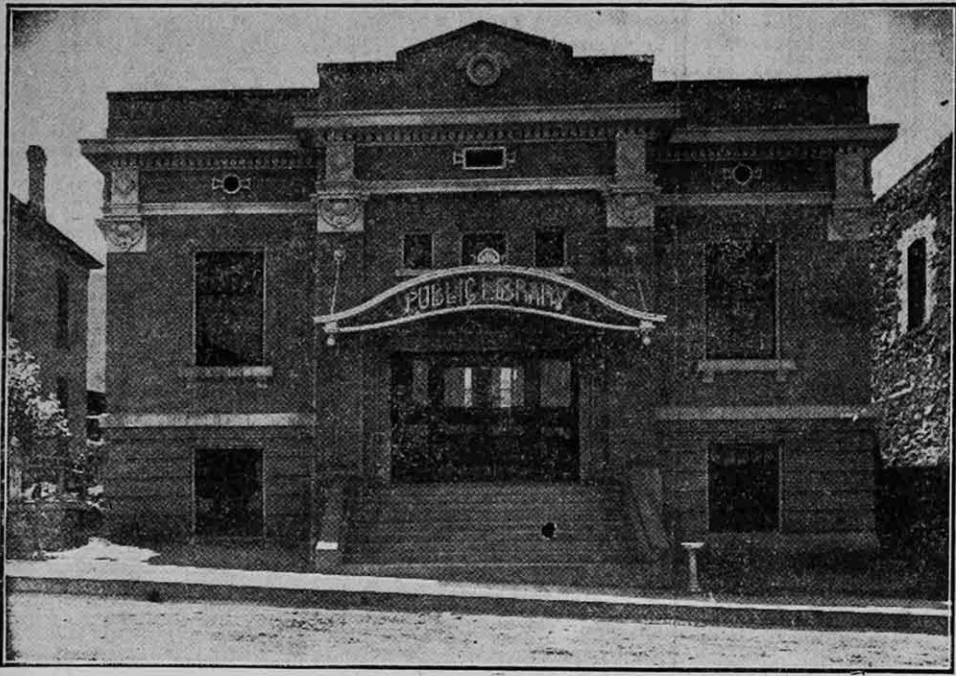
A FINAL WORD.

It is possible that we may have overlooked some cities that are doing things. We have reported as faithfully as we could the progress, as we

have received it. In a large sense, all parts of the state are at work. Scarcely a hamlet is there that has not in some degree felt the moving impulse for better books, cleaner sports, more wisely directed pastimes for young and old.

RELATION TO PROHIBITION.

The great prohibition wave that is sweeping over our state has reinforced the library-gymnasium movement greatly. "Add substitution to prohibition if you wish to make prohibition effective," is the cry that has been caught up. And whether a prohibitionist or not, every citizen is readily converted to the cause that offers better pastimes than street loafing and the saloon course for the people of our state. The library-gymnasium has come to stay. It will go on, till in some form or other it is developed into a great institution, reinforcing the schools, the church and the home in their efforts to redeem the waste places among our youth.



EUREKA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Mr. Braucher, secretary of the National Playground association, says:

"I was very much interested in your pamphlet on library-gymnasiums. It seems to me to be well gotten up. I was extremely pleased this summer in visiting a number of different playgrounds, to see the number that had libraries on the grounds. The reason for arranging libraries in connection with the playgrounds is the one put forward in your pamphlet. A great many of the children using the library upon the playground would not go to a regular library.

"Your aims are so similar to those of the National Association that we certainly ought to be in close touch with each other."

Such words give us even more faith in our great cause. The library-gymnasium movement has come to stay. There seems to be little doubt about that. Gradually the various cities of our state have seized upon it as the best way of supplanting the saloon evil and other loathing habits, until now nearly half of the cities of our state are working in various ways to realize the institution in their midst.

THE STATE COMMISSION.

The year 1909 first of all brought to the movement state recognition. The legislature responded to the request of those who had promoted the cause through its beginning stages; and created a state commission to carry on the work. This state commission, ap-

close-knit organization which will bring all parts of the state nearer in the movement. This organization could discuss freely the needs of the movement as they arise. Librarians and gymnasium directors and trustees of the institutions will all have many problems which a mutual exchange of ideas would help greatly to solve. Already in many communities, the first steps towards such an association have been taken. Local committees have been appointed in many places to promote the cause. It has been suggested, by resolution in the convention, that each mayor be asked to appoint such a local committee to co-operate with the commission in its work. Wherever such committees have been appointed, the community is making good progress towards a library-gymnasium. Later, the representatives from such committees, with the librarians and gymnasium directors, will undoubtedly get together in some state organization. When such a step is taken, the movement will receive the reinforcement that co-operation alone can bring. Unless such an organization is soon effected the work will go on in a haphazard fashion and much needless waste of time, money and effort will result. There should be state conventions of this league at least twice a year to begin with, and each county might have its league meet oftener to promote the work within it.

place dedicated its library, which has cost some \$15,000 to build and furnish—the funds having been provided by Mr. Carnegie, and the generous donors, have taken a leading part in these achievements, and their efforts have been ably seconded by Mrs. Barbara Bowen, and others.

FOREST DALE.

This town was among the first to vote the library fund, and it has been maintaining a modest but effective library ever since. The committee in charge—George Woolley, president of town board, Profs. Bennion and Coray of the University, T. Albert Hooper, and Mr. Cope, have administered the affairs in a thorough-going business-like way. A very choice collection of books has been gathered, and they have gone far and wide about the community. The secretary of the board of trustees reports that the applications for books is rapidly increasing.

CEDAR CITY.

The gymnasium side of the work was first taken up here. This city by co-operating temporarily with the normal school, has been able to offer its young people the advantages of a good gymnasium under a trained director. And the boys, especially those that have not become habituated in the street corner and worse habits, are getting the gymnasium habit. The mayor reports encouraging success in this phase of the work.

The library and reading room has also now been opened in Cedar City with good promise of effective work. A live committee consisting of Mayor

a new committee. We are going to work now, I believe, in earnest."

MT. PLEASANT.

Mr. Pleasant has also begun an active campaign for the library-gymnasium. At a meeting held there recently one citizen subscribed \$100, another \$20, to start things going. The indications are that this city will soon have a library-gymnasium. It is taking the lead in carrying into effect a resolution recently passed by the M. I. A. members of North Sanpete to work at once for the establishment of a library-gymnasium in all parts of the state. As a committee to promote the work, the following were chosen:

George Christensen, P. M. Nielson, A. Mertz, James G. Blain, Heber Olsen.

EPHRAIM.

Ephraim is another Sanpete city that has taken up the work with a vigor that spells success. The plans there are reported to be, the remodeling of a commodious schoolhouse to be devoted to library-gymnasium and armory purposes.

OTHER CITIES IN LINE.

Bountiful, under the lead of Charles R. Mabey and Leo J. Muir, is now working earnestly for a Carnegie library.

Farmington has taken some steps already to gather a fund to provide for the young the advantages of reading room and gymnasium. Mayor Amasa Clark and Horace Van Fleet are stirring things here.

Kaysville has also expressed her desire to be in line. The citizens there are converted. And just so soon as certain local burdens are lifted they will no doubt take the matter up. Sandy has established a reading room and is preparing for work.

Pleasant Grove has already a live committee at work on the proposition of opening a reading room this winter. Supt. J. H. Walker, Representative W. L. Hayes, C. B. Harper, S. H. Smith, Rose B. Hayes, Helen Harper, Guy Robison are members of the committee named to push the work there.

American Fork got ready the petition for the tax this year, but owing to a misunderstanding of the law it was presented too late to be voted upon. Mayor Gardner is a warm supporter of the movement; and with the able assistance of Supt. Justesen, Bernard Christensen, Mr. Greenwood and others the outlook is good for at least a reading room in this city very soon.

Park City also is laying plans to do something for the youth. The school board is working for a high school building and the citizens feel ready. It seems to be co-operate and make the basement of this building a splendid library-gymnasium. The Atheneum Ladies' club is giving good assistance to the move. It certainly seems that if any place deserves such an institution Park City is that place. If only a tiny share of the mighty millions that have been taken from this great camp could be returned for the benefit of the good people who hold the fort there, it would bring the richest returns to the donors. Surely some generous soul who owes much to Park City will see to it that this city is soon equipped with an attractive and wholesome home for its street boys.

Salt Lake, too, deserves mention. This city has its splendid library with branches in various schools. And it is doing a great work under the lead of Miss Sprague, the librarian. The schools, too, are reinforcing the work by stimulating and guiding the children in their miscellaneous reading. The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., the high school gymnasium and the university gymnasium, and other like institutions afford much good chance for such activities in this city.

And the Deseret gymnasium now being completed will add to the city one of the best gyms in all the west.

THE PLAYGROUND MOVEMENT.

There is also a movement already on foot to line Salt Lake up with the other great cities of the country in the playground movement. Miss Rosalie Pollock of the city schools has led out in this cause, and an organization has been effected to bring about results. Play grounds are certainly greatly needed in this city. To delay in securing grounds for them is to multiply the cost, as well as to deprive our children of the direction and moral guidance which well regulated play grounds give. It is high time that Salt

ELEVATING THE STAGE IN AMERICA

Now for a long line of edifying court proceedings in New York city regarding the morality and the wholesomeness of the plays produced on the metropolitan stage. Gov. Hughes yesterday signed a bill recently enacted by the legislature declaring it to be a misdemeanor to advertise, present or participate in any immoral, impure drama, play or exhibition "which would tend to the corruption of the morals of youth or others." It is left to the courts to ascertain whether a particular performance or production falls within the definition and to lay down rules and standards of purity and morality beyond which managers and actors must not pass. The initiative may be taken by any citizen with the nerve to swear out a warrant, and it is easy to foresee that there will be no loss of time in the institution of proceedings. Nor is it difficult to believe that in some cases managers will be willing to hale themselves to court, under cover of proxies, for the sake of the incidental advertising. And there may be evolved a new skill in playwriting, to cure defects pointed out by the court so as to render an obnoxious situation or speech or plot innocuous enough to pass muster and yet wicked enough to draw full houses. The advertising possibilities of the new law, in short, are infinite.

But it is nevertheless to be hoped that this innovation of legislative enactment will have a good effect. Or

late years the stage has run to putridity unlimited. Tales have been told of a shocking nature, situations developed so suggestive as to cause innocent auditors to feel ashamed. The broadest allusions have been made with perfect freedom. And in the main, to no good purpose. Occasionally a play may have been produced which has justified itself as a powerful moral lesson, despite or possibly because of the challenge to the finer sensibilities. But the average theatrical manager has cared nothing for the play as a missionary agent and everything for its drawing powers. His chief ambition has been to get his production discussed, if possible denounced by ministers as improper, and he has then rested content with the assurance that his box office would be besieged with ticket seekers as soon as the word spread that the performance was in any degree "naughty."

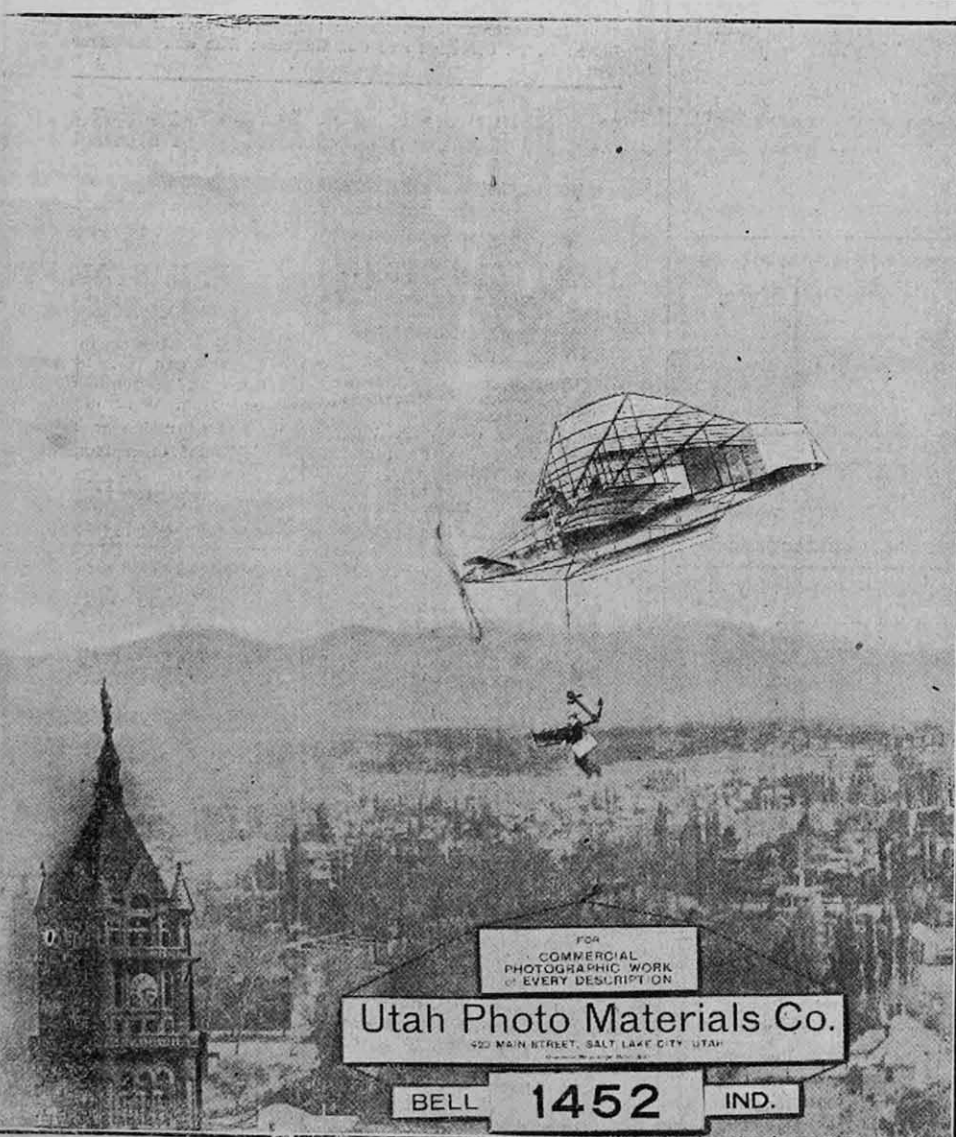
It will be in the interest of the people if the new law in New York state is utilized sensibly and carefully, not sensationally. If the managers are in earnest in their proclaimed determination to improve the morals of the stage, there will be little need to apply the statute. But reliance cannot be placed in any organization representing the first class theaters. They may seek to establish a decent standard, and there will remain scores of places where the vilest exhibitions are given twice daily. The chief difficulty is that there is no fixed scale of morality, and obviously the courts to which the cases are carried under the new section of the Penal Code will be hard put to lay down definite lines of guidance.—Washington Star.



One Drinking Man

becomes a confirmed inebriate sooner than another because his nervous system is more susceptible to the influence of alcohol. The less susceptible is progressing in the same direction and will overtake him in time. If you think you are still only a moderate drinker now is your time to quit. If you find this difficult, if without liquor you are at times nervous, depressed and feel that you need a drink to brace up, it is because you have taught your nervous cells to depend upon the stimulating effect of alcohol to enable them to perform their functions. You are a victim of the disease of inebriety, which Dr. Keeley describes as a condition where the nerve cells have become so accustomed to performing their duties and functions under the influence of alcohol that they are dependent upon it and will no longer perform these duties and functions properly and painlessly except when under its influence. An experience of thirty years and the cure of many thousands of cases of inebriety has proven beyond a possibility of doubt that the true Keeley treatment cures this disease. It cures by restoring the nerve cells to a normal condition. In a normal condition they need no stimulant and there is consequently no craving for liquor. The ONLY place in Utah, Idaho or Nevada where the true Keeley treatment is administered is

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