

COMMERCIAL CLUB AT ANNUAL FEAST

Speeches Were Eloquent and
Point to Great Future For
City and State.

NEW CLUB HOME PROMISED.

Judge Powers Presides Over Beautifully Decorated Club Rooms, and
Introduces Talented Speakers.

The business men of Utah and Salt Lake who are members of the Commercial club gathered at the club rooms last night to talk of Salt Lake and Utah, and found much more of promise, and much more of facts pointing to future greatness, than at any previous annual gathering. The occasion was the fourth banquet of the club, and it was attended by about 250 members and guests. The theme of the evening was "A Greater Utah," and in devising ways to reach it, the "See America First" idea, the "busy all the time in Utah" idea, and the "permanent home for the Commercial club" idea were featured.

Judge O. W. Powers was toastmaster in the absence of President Heber M. Wells, who was unable to be present. He was introduced by Vice President C. A. Quigley, who also chairman of the banquet committee.

The decorations were elaborate, and were unique in the history of the club's attempts at decorating the dining room. The toastmaster was seated in the south side of the room, instead of at the west end, as heretofore, and could consequently be heard to greater advantage.

During the banquet Christmas's orchestra rendered a program of selections, many of which called for impromptu choruses. When "Mr. Dooley" was played the demand for a speech by the Salt Lake gentleman of that name was so pronounced that he had to arise and bow his acknowledgments. The entire affair was voted a huge success by those present, and the promise was made that next year the club would see the club in a home of its own, in a new building that would be a credit to the city and the state.

JUDGE POWERS' SPEECH.
In accepting the position of toastmaster, Judge O. W. Powers said:

"I express my sense of obligation at being called upon to preside at this annual banquet of the Commercial club, and social organization of Utah. I appreciate the fact that I am a member of an association that exercises a marked influence upon the social life of the state and that it has been in all that pertains to the well being of our people. The work that is being done by this club encourages and up-buils our industries, and constantly points out to capital and labor new avenues leading to profit and success. From the day of its organization, it has advanced in usefulness until it has become a permanent and most beneficial institution.

"I have not time, nor is it needful for me to review the work that has been accomplished. This club has been the leader of the people in all that has been for the people's benefit. Its members have unitedly labored with an unselfish and patriotic spirit. Looking beyond the confines of the state, it now sends its greetings to the mountains and uplands of the world, and to the people of the Old World to learn how vast in extent, how magnificent in scenery, how varied in climate, how wonderful in resources our own land is, and to 'See America First.'

PLAN WILL SUCCEED.
"In this, as in all its efforts, the Commercial club will succeed, and in time the tide of travel will turn toward the mountains with their lofty granite peaks; toward the valleys nestling far below, gift with rocky walls and unpopulated; toward the fertile fields of the north; toward the blue arch, toward the fertile soil of the golden west; toward the land where rolls the great Columbia; toward the wonderful signs of the wonderful north; toward the men more profitable labor? Can you do better than to see the attainment of a purpose that will cause your fellow countrymen, gazing upon the map, to declare that the west have to offer to declare that 'This is my own, my native land.'

"This annual banquet is a gathering of the earnest business men of Utah, when they take stock and place the year's work before them. It is a place where they address you upon the subjects that have been chosen, the most serious thought of each and all. These annual banquets have usually attracted thousands of the best thought of some of our best business men, we can unitefully plan for the future.

"The year that will soon dawn gives promise of great activity in this state and of great prosperity to our citizens. Salt Lake is the 'City of Opportunities.' It is the state that will reward industry and enterprise more lavishly than any other part of the Union. The Commercial club is the organization that will aid to unite discordant factions, encourage intelligent investment, point the way to prosperity, and develop our manifold resources. Here is to the health of our club, to its officers and to its members. May it and they live long and prosper."

SCHRAMM ON NEW HOME.

Judge Powers introduced the second speaker, F. C. Schramm, as the "man who made the cars stop, and called upon him to tell of the new home of the Commercial club. He accepted the situation, taking as his subject "The Commercial club in Its New Home." He said:

"The Commercial club was organized nearly four years ago with 55 members and an intention to spend \$3,000 on equipments. It had to win its way to public confidence and its organization was regarded as a doubtful experiment.

In the time stated it has increased its membership to 550 and has expended \$20,000 on furnishings for its quarters. It has won the confidence of the whole population regardless of creed or political allegiance, and here is the only place in the state of Utah where all classes of our fellow citizens, without regard to outside affiliations, meet on common ground and plan for the general welfare.

VARIED IN MEMBERSHIP.

Its membership is made up of rich and poor men, bankers and clear up through the various strata of our municipal life to druggists. It represents nearly all the wealth of the state, and practically every industry, and it has carried out the purposes of the men who established it, and has made good to a greater extent than ever was hoped for by its most enthusiastic friends. Those of you who are familiar with the history of the state in the past four years, are also necessarily familiar with the history of the Commercial club—

the two are one. The club has ever stood for an elevated type of citizenship, and its policies have in every instance been marked by breadth of thought and honesty of purpose. The schools which it kept open when the schools were closed, the consumers of coal whom it saved from unfair charges owe it a debt of gratitude. The jobs, movements and consumers are all under obligation to it for the great victory it won by the continuous and persistent fight it waged for the revision of local freight schedules. The whole world owes it thanks for the wonders of native scenery it revealed by its famous exploration of the San Juan country.

ARE GENEROUS HOSTS.

To its efforts are due the warm feeling of friendship existing between this city and Los Angeles. The remarkable celebration occurring in the spring of this year marked a new record in wholesale entertaining and won for our people a reputation for generous hospitality that is without equal elsewhere.

The inauguration of the "Seeing America" movement has placed it high up among the great commercial organizations of the United States, and made it famous wherever the English language is spoken. It has become in short years the intellectual and industrial clearing house of the Intermountain states, and yet it lives in rented quarters, and it has been in the way it has made money and fame for Utah and yet it pays annual tribute to a landlord. It has entertained almost every distinguished man who has during its lifetime visited Utah, and yet it has no home to call its own. Other clubs in our city with only social interests at heart, with a smaller and less membership, are comfortably housed in beautiful structures of their own.

NEW HOME NEXT YEAR.

This club has been alert, vigilant and patriotic in its service to the people, but in its activity for the general good it has neglected its own comfort. It deserves and should have an elegant home in keeping with its public accomplishments. It must have, and in four years, a building which will be a credit to the city and one to which its members can point with pride. Let us determine that when the fifth annual banquet is given it shall be under cover of its own roof. And that that roof shall cover a structure located in the heart of the business district of the city that will cost less than three-quarters of a million dollars.

Charles N. Strevel was called upon to talk on the business situation in Salt Lake, and was introduced as "a conservative yet enterprising business man, thoroughly acquainted with the business interests of the state." He said:

In November, 1903, Samuel Benner, the Utah farmer who has been predicting the future of the country, said: "I predict that prices for pig iron, railroad stocks and many commodities will be lower in 1904 than in 1903. I predict that after the year 1904 there will be a revival of better times and that higher prices will prevail until the year 1911. The present down cycle in prices and in general business conditions in 1904. After the year 1904 we enter upon a new cycle for better times and for long continued prosperity in general business, lasting until the next commercial recession, which will occur in 1917. The coming opportunity to catch business and prices at their lowest levels of depression will not happen again for 20 years. It is estimated by financial experts that the average value of securities during the last two years amount to \$4,000,000,000. It is possible that the loss of this vast sum of money will be recouped by the year 1917. The more of inflated values during the coming six years of prosperity."

PREDICTION ON PRICES.

In December, 1904, Mr. Benner said: "I predict that prices for pig iron will advance and be higher in 1905 than in 1904. I predict that prices for railroad stocks and industrial securities will be higher in 1905 than in 1904. I predict that there will be a revival in business and that the volume of trade will exceed that of 1904 many millions of dollars. I predict that there will be moderate good times for the next four years. Looking backward from the standpoint of the month of May, 1905, when general business will be plunging ahead with leaps and bounds, when prices for iron, railroad stocks, industrial securities and various products and commodities will be many times higher than they were in the spring of 1904, we can then see the valley of depression and contraction in business during the first half of that year, when the New York stock exchange was a desolate place. The steel shares 8 1/2 for common, 5 1/4 preferred; when general business was at a low ebb, railroads curtailing expenses, and when pig iron warrants were 39 ton. This backward view of the commencement of the upturn in the markets is to record the preliminary stages of the coming good times. Pig iron is the barometer of trade. When the iron trade is prosperous it signifies prosperity for railroads, for manufacturers, for merchants, for farmers and for general business in every department of trade. The trend of general trade in this country follows the pig iron cycle as persistently as does the magnetic needle point to the poles of the earth."

PROPHET WAS CORRECT.

Having Mr. Benner's predictions before us, it is pertinent for us to inquire whether we may place confidence in him as a prophet. In 1875 Mr. Benner published his first prophecy, giving facts and figures from 1837 to 1875. Reading in December, 1905, his predictions for this year, made in 1904, one year ahead, we cannot but admit their correctness. Pig iron, which was then \$2.50, is now \$15 per ton. The record of the New York clearing house shows that for the year ending September, 1905, the transactions aggregated approximately \$98,000,000,000. The greatest record prior to this was in 1901, when the transactions aggregated \$77,000,000,000. U. S. Steel common is now 35 1/2, preferred 5 1/4, and this condition affects nearly all stocks, including our own mining stocks, a condition well known to you all.

I have quoted freely from "Benner's Prophecies," and whether we believe in them or not, we must admit that the general business conditions all over our country are better than ever before, and that prospects for a continuance of "good times" seem very bright.

SITUATION AT HOME.

Having glanced at conditions in the country at large, let us now consider the "business outlook" in the Intermountain country, which more directly affects us. Has it ever been more favorable? Our mines are producing as never before, and the product is being sold at high prices. Our mines and mining men have an enviable reputation the world over. Our smelters are working night and day, and with the new ones building will make this the smelting center of the United States. Agriculture is doing wonders in all directions; thousands of acres are being brought under cultivation. Immense irrigation projects are being carried forward by government aid and private funds. The dry farms are producing wonderful crops. Our live stock inter-

ests are in fine condition; our sugar industry is expanding rapidly. Desirable immigrants are coming into our borders.

RAILROADS COMING.

The railroad situation is very satisfactory. One road to the coast is already completed and one of the finest and fastest trains in the west run through our city; another road is building to the coast as rapidly as men and money can do it, and a third is completed will put us on a through line from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Two lines from the east are soon to enter our gates in addition to the splendid systems already existing. Who can say that Salt Lake City will not soon be the greatest railroad center of the west? Our magnificent railroad stations seem to be built with a "long felt want." We are building churches, schoolhouses, public buildings of all kinds, factories, office buildings, stores, warehouses and homes until our architects and mechanics are overworked.

BANK CLEARINGS.

Our bank clearings show enormous strides. One road to the coast is already completed and one of the finest and fastest trains in the west run through our city; another road is building to the coast as rapidly as men and money can do it, and a third is completed will put us on a through line from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Two lines from the east are soon to enter our gates in addition to the splendid systems already existing. Who can say that Salt Lake City will not soon be the greatest railroad center of the west? Our magnificent railroad stations seem to be built with a "long felt want." We are building churches, schoolhouses, public buildings of all kinds, factories, office buildings, stores, warehouses and homes until our architects and mechanics are overworked.

EASTERN MONEY WANTED.

When general business conditions are good there is always plenty of eastern money seeking investment, and with our numberless undeveloped resources we may look confidently for a steady flow of eastern business. Socialists do not settle new countries, open mines, build railroads, cities and towns, and if we are to go out and take possession of what is rightfully ours, we need more optimism, as well as their capital.

In view of the fact that the surrounding country is growing so rapidly, building so substantially, and with favorable business conditions, we need, if we all work together for the up-building of the Intermountain country our business will continue to expand, and we will prove even more satisfactory to us than the country we are building to a close. I believe Salt Lake City will grow more in the next five years than it has in the past 20.

Let us enter the new year with the determination to utilize all former efforts, and the "business outlook" will be more than satisfactory to us, and Salt Lake City will soon be crowned the queen of an inland empire.

BENNER X ON THE PRESS.

Benner X. Smith was called upon to respond to "The Press, An Appreciation," on the theory Judge Power said, "that the press is the most powerful factor in the world, and that it is our duty to make it familiar with our work."

When I was requested to respond to this sentiment, I was very courteously reminded that the commercial club had planned to have one on the program assigned a subject with which he was unfamiliar, and I have only to glance at this list of toasts to realize that the commercial club had carried out its plan to the letter.

But, inasmuch as the newspaper has and exercises daily the right of free speech upon a wide variety of subjects, it seems to me that the newspaper is the way that we should be permitted occasionally to express our sentiments of that great educational institution, the press. Do we realize its importance to our daily life, its power of influence as it may use it for good or evil? The individual can express his sentiments to a limited few, while the editor of a great paper reaches and influences thousands of people. Men are inclined to believe in and be impressed by printed words, when, if spoken, they would attract less attention, so it is here we find news, the newspaper, the favorite paper; its news items are true; its reasoning is accepted upon all subjects; its policy upon public questions becomes the policy of the reader. It becomes his bible, for it contains his creed.

HAS A MISSION.

Our public schools and colleges furnish the basis of an education, but without something to supplement it—without the newspaper to inform us of current events—the education of able editors and public men upon the five topics of the time, we would be poor indeed. It supplies something which the public school and university cannot give, and if the press be untrammelled, free, honest and brave, it becomes a mighty power for the education and well-being of the whole people. It would not be the business of this gathering by attempting to discuss what is or is not news—what should or should not be placed before the people. I desire to call your attention to the newspaper as an educator. Men are of different opinions as to what should appear in the public press, and as to whether it is good or bad for public morals, for such a great power to be lessened, in my opinion, is an injury to the publication of private scandal is not for me to discuss.

SERVES THE PUBLIC.

Without schools the newspapers would be without readers. Without the press, scholarship would fall of half its uses. The newspaper is a public agent. It offers to the people for pay certain services, and in its service of advertising agent and public herald it depends for its support—but to consider it alone as a financial enterprise would make it a public enemy. It is much as it would trifle with public interests and public rights. In its public character the press enters the ranks of the world's teachers; an honest, free press is a moral force, and it affects public sentiment. The teacher of elements of an education are culture or discipline, and knowledge. The first comes by proper exercise or training, the latter by observation and reflection—by whatever furnishes information, and most of all by reading. With all our schools and universities we could never be an intelligent people without newspapers, they are the libraries of the people; the encyclopedia of the millions. Students and professional men must read books, but books must be supplemented by the press, or their education is sadly neglected. I could not advocate the newspaper as a substitute for our schools, but as a complement to them. With the basic principles of education we take up the American press, directed by honest, fearless, educated men, and it talks to men of their business, their political party, their church, themselves, the men it describes are their contemporaries, their friends, their neighbors, and it thus adds something of dignity to their daily lives.

CENSOR OF MORALS.

What is its office, what its authority? What should be its ruling motives, its higher accomplishments? If it has a mission greater than that of a mere newspaper, it should be the education and protection of the people; it should aid the weak and defend the defenseless; it should attack

and expose vice, dishonesty and corruption, both in high and low places; it should arouse the public mind that the administrative and judicial officers should do their whole duty. Private life should be and is usually sacred, but public life has no such right. The press is the public conscience, and it is municipal morals and official life. By its tremendous power, men and things are tremed and unmade; it arouses the people from their lethargy to an honest, noble sentiment, and it is the voice of public duty; it seeks out the graffer, hoodler, briber and corrupt official and exposes him and his true character to an outraged public.

The press of today tells us of the movements of thought, as well as those of men and nations; all find a place in the schools and text books of popular learning. But our land proves the educating power of the newspaper; other things being equal the man or family who takes and reads a good newspaper will be more intelligent than neighbors who do not. If you have taken from the American people the non-reading foreign element, the remainder is the best read and most intelligent people of the globe.

Let the gigantic force of the press be turned to the work of popular education and the protection of the people. These are times when we need a free press—directed by wise heads, honest hands; men who know the right from wrong; independent men; men who are brave enough to publish the truth; men who will strike at public scandal and public corruption irrespective of political affiliation or personal friendship.

Well did the poet sing:

"God give us men; times like these demand
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith
and ready hand."

Men who in the land of office does not kill,
Men who the spoils of office cannot buy,
Men who possess opinions and a will,
Men who have honor, men who will not lie,
Men who can stand before a demagogue,
And without winking
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the clouds,
In public duty and in private thinking.

For, while the rabble with their thumb-worn creeds,
Their large professions and their little deeds,
Might selfish strife, to freedom weeps,
Wrong rules the land and waiting justice sleeps."

MINES AND SMELTERS.

Col. E. A. Wall was loudly applauded when he arose to respond to the toast on "Mines and Smelters." Col. Wall was introduced as one who wanted to make his home town better. He said:

In my effort to respond to the subject to which I have been assigned I shall assume that allusion to the production of coal, although essential to the successful operation of the precious metal mines and smelters, was not contemplated, and I am glad that this is true, because the conspicuous absence of anything like an adequate supply of that essential article at all times during the past few weeks calls for language more forcible than I am able to command. It is gratifying to know, however, that the government has made vigorous efforts to improve conditions and have received at least the usual assurance that the matter will receive due consideration—and I am not without hope that the government will be able to do so.

We are assured by the head of one of the great coal supply departments that like conditions will not recur again, and that we will have to do in the future to avoid a recurrence of a coal famine in the winter months will be to buy our coal in summer time. This seems easy, and although it is a somewhat similar undertaking to profit by the suggestion they would discover that comparatively little coal is mined in the summer months, and that the coal is sold at a higher price in the winter, and therefore the larger quantities are dug in the winter, when wages are low and the price of coal is comparatively higher. Nevertheless, the country-wide coal famine in the present emergency is not without merit for future consideration, especially to those who have the where-withal to pay for the coal in summer, and also a place to store it for winter use.

THE STREET CARS.

Discussing this proposed relief remedy leads me to conclude that another evil, which is of daily occurrence, and which is more or less affects the comfort and convenience of the people, is caused by the application of a similar rule; I refer now to the very rude, and almost unseemly habit into which many of our people have fallen—when they cause their daily, between the hours of 5 and 6:30 in the evening to monopolize all of the standing room in the aisles of the streetcars, as well as the seats on the platforms, and this habit is often carried to such extremes as to render it impossible for our wives and children to secure the more safe and desirable positions on the outside steps. Then, again, I have noticed that between the hours of 5 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon the same cars make frequent stops with many of the seats entirely unoccupied, and the promptness to remark that if our people would exercise sufficient prudence to go home during earlier hours of the day, many of them could and comfortable seats, as well as ample room for their baggage and merchandise, and then they would not need so much coal, because they could go to bed earlier.

But I am not speaking of "Mines and Smelters." The subject in its relation to the industrial economy of the city and state is of first importance, and in more able hands would afford a more profitable and interesting discussion. But I must be brief, and will therefore confine my observations chiefly to the present developed status of the industry, besides, for many years the daily press of the city have at least once a year, about the holidays, published exhaustive reviews, covering in minute and accurate details every phase of the subject of discovery and development of the mines, as well as the subject of discovery and development of the mines, as well as the progress in metallurgical and mechanical devices, and the precious and valuable metals and minerals are extracted from the crude ores so that all that could now be said along these lines is already familiar history.

GREAT INDUSTRIES.

That the development of many valuable mines has been long delayed or attended with serious hardships, due to the merciless disposition of the operator to smelter to absorb all there was of value in the ore, is true, but it is also true that the smelter has often found himself at his "wit's end" in his efforts to compound from the meagre variety of available ores a "charge" that would profitably flux.

But those industries are inseparable, and from their origin have been of necessity hand maidens, though never obedient slaves. The rag-doll girl who built the fire and roasted the ore has never been lavish in her devotion of the gray. She always has a "chinch," and she used it until a rival came into the field, and then she was a double "chinch." But after all, the relations between the ore producer and the smelters—especially when there was more than one smelter in the field—have been more or less friendly, and what shall we say of the future? When all the smelters and all the means of reduction of all the precious metal ores of the world are in the hands of Mexico and British Columbia, and directed from one office by one head? For such a consummation is inevitable;

in fact, it is almost here now. Does this forebode evil to the miner? I hope not, in fact, I think not; for those industries are now passing through a most radical transition.

PROGRESS IN MINING.

The mines of today are not the mines of a quarter of a century—not even of a few short years ago. The so-called "free milling" gold ores, and simple carbonates, oxides and galenas, which by the efforts of the foreigner yielded their precious contents to the most crude metallurgical devices—have all or nearly all disappeared, whilst instead we find only complex masses of complex sulphides absolutely unyielding to all former methods of treatment, or so degenerated in values as to render them worthless without the aid of improved methods and of technical skill of high order, and then only when handled in volumes that are absolutely bewildering to the miner of former days. The situation was further complicated by the fluctuations in the market price of the metals—lead and copper—and the almost complete destruction of the value of silver as a money metal.

Permanent and profitable solution of the problem thus presented was possible only by aid of vast aggregations of capital, wisely directed by intellectual masters of science—industry and statecraft. I use the term statecraft advisedly.

The refined metals must be placed in the hands of the manufacturer at prices freed from ruinous daily fluctuations, before dependent industries could be established upon safe and firm foundations.

WORK OF STANDARD OIL.

H. H. Rogers and associates of the Standard Oil Company of New York were first to enter the field with a plan to control the world's copper market. The result was the formation of the Amalgamated Copper company, the story of which has been too widely and fairly told by Thomas W. Lawson. In brief, the purpose was to consolidate all important producing copper mines, copper smelters and refineries under one management—together with an auxiliary organization or adjunct which should market all products and fix the price at which they should be sold.

For a time the producers of the copper, together with the owners of heavy copper producing mines in Arizona, refused coalition. Then followed wild fluctuations in the market shares, as well as that of the metals. The French syndicate, which had but recently failed in a somewhat similar venture, was made to unload its hoarded stocks of the metal, and for a time confusion and disaster followed thick and fast, but the purpose was pursued steadily on, until with the exception of Henze's United Copper company, practically the entire copper production of the United States was sold upon a price dictated by the Amalgamated Copper company. And thus has been established a system which though enormously profitable to its promoters, will, I believe, result in the highest benefit to the independent small producer, as well as to the manufacturer of the finished product.

AMERICAN SMELTING CO.

This gigantic enterprise was soon followed by another and still more stupendous undertaking—the American Smelting & Refining company, which in a similar manner has combined practically all important silver-lead ore reducing plants in the United States and the republic of Mexico.

In order that this enterprise should succeed it was necessary that the price of lead and silver be established upon a higher and more stable basis. This could be accomplished only by extending the use of the metals and by controlling and restricting their production. This seemed impossible at first, but was brought about by simple and effective means, though not without much thought and intelligent effort. In order to secure favorable rates of treatment for their ores mine owners were required to sign long-term contracts wherein they agreed to deliver to the smelter, it being understood that any curtailment in the quantity of ore produced should be apportioned fairly among the various producers. Under this arrangement for some three or more years the capacity of the large producers was reduced from 30 to 40 per cent. The price of lead was low, and there was no market for the metal, much of it the product of British Columbia and Mexican mines, and held in bond awaiting a market that would justify payment of duty. This had to be disposed of before full production

could be resumed. It was accomplished, however, and for a year or more last past the amount of production has been at the option of the producer, and the capacity of the mines, in the meantime the price of lead has been steadily advancing until it is now above any mark made during the last 25 years, whilst the smelter treatment charge is lower than at any time in the history of the industry. And this is not all; by the same methods, and having control of the greater portion of all silver in the foreign market in the United States, the price has been forced up from about 48 cents an ounce to 65 cents, the price of today.

PHILIPPINE DOLLARS.

This advance in the price of silver was made possible only by the absorption by the government of \$50,000,000 in the coinage of the Philippine dollar, which is equal in value to about 64 cents on the basis of our coinage, and I happen to know personally that the adoption of the measure authorizing this coinage was brought about wholly by the efforts of the managing head of the American Smelting & Refining Co., the late E. W. Nash, and his able assistant, Mr. Brush, and hence I used the term "statesmanship" in an earlier review of these matters.

But this is not all, for, not yet satisfied with its achievements, this company is now pushing to completion under the very shadow of the temple the largest and most complete copper smelter in the world.

The only remaining question is, I think, how will the producer fare in his dealings with this great monopoly, if such you choose to call it. My answer is: It is his salvation. This company cannot afford to oppress the miner with excessive charges. Its existence depends upon the justice and fairness of its dealings, and if it does not pay its earnings too great, let him buy of its shares and participate in its profits.

At all events, it is here to stay, and in its position to demand the business, and I think it the part of wisdom to say we like it.

Without disparaging the productive powers of the many other important mining districts of the state, I trust I shall be pardoned for the statement that the promoters of this stupendous new copper plant, expect to draw its chief supply of ore from the "Old Reliable" camp of Bingham, and more especially from the properties of the Utah Copper company and the Boston Consolidated Mining company. The other large producers of that camp being already provided for by the valley smelters, it is a somewhat surprising and treating some 2,000 tons per day of valuable cuprous sulphide.

"CLIMATE AN ASSET."

Fisher Harris met with an ovation when he arose to talk on "See America First." He told of the progress of the movement, and declared that while it would help Utah incidentally, its greatest purpose would be to help America. He said in part:

There is one thing that all the people are interested in—the welfare of the people of Utah first and the people of America second. There is \$5,000 square miles of surplus in the state of Utah and only 4 per cent is under cultivation and it is only possible by government aid and the use of government reclamation funds to cultivate 11 per cent. Political economists claim that the prosperity of a commonwealth comes from the ground. If that was true, Lord help Utah. But, fortunately, regardless of the conclusions of the political economists, the good Lord in His infinite wisdom has given to some countries level plains of inexhaustible richness, and to others, while he has limited their agricultural possibilities, he has filled the mountains with wealth. In Utah he has not only given us the small percentage of agricultural land, but has filled the hills with minerals, and we have only scraped them yet, but he has given us an asset worth more than all the products of the fields, mines and factories and that is the scenery and climate with which we are best.

"SEE AMERICA FIRST."

The board of governors of the Commercial club in September had their attention called to the enormous sum of money being expended each year by American sightseers in foreign lands, and they authorized the officials of the club to ascertain public sentiment in regard to a movement looking to a diversion of a part of this enormous sum into western channels. The reception with which this movement was met was general and generous from the great newspapers of the United States and from the commercial organizations

west of the Mississippi river, that it was determined to call a conference of western interests for the consideration of a movement looking to at least the partial change of the conditions of which complaint was made and to accomplish this end a conference will be held in the Commercial club here on Jan. 28, 1906.

CAPT. ELY FOR CANTEN.

Following the formal toasts, a number of inopportune responses were made by guests who were called upon by Judge Powers at random. The first man to be called was Capt. F. D. Ely of Fort Douglas, who was asked to discuss the army canteen.

He said that the light made upon it by the W. C. T. U. was based on slight information of the situation, and a failure to realize what the canteen was for, and what the result was when it was abolished. He said it was a department of the post exchange, which had existed since the post trader's store had gone out of existence in the nine-tenths of the army, and it was a store for the company fund, and saw to it that a soldier got only a good quality of drink. With the canteen abolished, the morals of the soldier suffered more than with it under control of the post authorities. The religious bodies making the war on the canteen have aroused much resentment among the men of the army who do not take well to having prohibitive measures placed on what they want to do, and can do easily enough of the reservation.

SENATOR SMOOT'S TOAST.

Senator Reed Smoot followed Captain Ely, and based his remarks on the subject already mentioned. He was introduced by Judge Powers to talk on the subject, "Shall We Remove the Capital to Salt Lake?" He assured the toastmaster that if he had the necessary number of votes, the capital would be moved to Salt Lake, and he mentioned the "Woman's Christian Temperance Union, referred to by Captain Ely.

"This organization seems to know more about my affairs than I do myself," he said. "They have been looking for something to find personally against me, and I'm going to give them something tonight. I hope to live to be in the senate and carry out my vote for the bringing back of the army canteen."

GOODWIN ON HARRIS.

Judge C. C. Goodwin was called upon to speak on "Fisher Harris, and in his usual witty manner, served the Commercial club secretary up on toast. He closed the banquet speeches with a glowing appeal for a better Americanism, and a better citizenship.

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