

SOME LIGHT ON THE SCHOOL BONDS

**Proposition is to Issue \$250,000
In Securities For Addition-
al Buildings.**

INTERVIEWS ON THE SUBJECT

**James T. Hammond Sets Forth
The Situation With Decidedly
Interesting Statistics**

Object Lessons in the Need of New Structures to Take Care of Growing Population.

On April 29, a week from Saturday, the people of Salt Lake will have an opportunity to express with their votes, their attitude towards the public schools. Specifically they will have a chance to say whether the present crowded conditions in many congested districts shall remain indefinitely, or whether through the issuance of \$250,000 in school bonds, funds shall be provided with which to build two or three

In order to ascertain just what need

For these bonds exists, the "News" today asked members of the school board to state why the bonds are asked for, to just what purpose the money will be spent, and why the regular funds cannot be used to expand the system sufficiently to meet the growing demands. Their answers indicate that Salt Lake has grown beyond the school revenues, and that that is all there is to the present emergency.

There is a building fund which brings in \$60,000 a year, enough to build one

new building, it being equipped with revenue from a tax of 1½ mills. Over and above the number of children the one building provides for there has accumulated a surplus in certain districts which overcrowds several school-houses, forces the renting of "annexes" poorly lighted and ventilated, and in some cases, the building of recitation rooms in basements which were never intended for school purposes.

MR. HAMMOND'S VIEWS.
James T. Hammond, well known as one of the most conservative members of the school board, and a man close in touch with the general revenue of the city, and the increased burden a bond issue will bring to the community, expressed this view of the present school situation: "The proposition is to issue \$250,000 in bonds for the purpose of building additional schoolhouses. The present situation is that there is a revenue of 1 1/2 mills, providing \$80,000 annually for new buildings. In 1906

we will need all of this fund to complete buildings now in process of construction, and the same conditions will prevail in 1908, so that the first building we may hope for from this fund will come in 1909. The rate of increase in school children is 1,566 a year, which requires one new building of from 15 to 24 rooms. At the present time many schools are overcrowded, while we have rented annexes near the Grant

summer, Hamilton and Franklin schools. In some schools we have partitioned off schoolrooms in the basements, which were never intended for rooms. This congestion is most severe in the southern part of the city, and in the northeastern. To relieve the situation, and provide for the next year's increase, it is absolutely necessary to have two or three new buildings. As no

"In conclusion I should like to say that while I regret the necessity which compels us to go outside of the regular funds, and submit this question to the people, still I believe it is the duty of the people to furnish ample school buildings to comfortably house all our

school children, and I believe the majority of the people are of the same opinion."

CONDITIONS AT GRANT.

Another view from a member of the school board is furnished by Mathoniah Thomas, a member of the buildings committee. "If you want to know what the need for these buildings is," he declared, "just go down and visit the Grant school any day. The rooms are overcrowded and I think you will conclude that you would

crowded in upon those now there, and even a child in whom you were interested remain under present conditions longer than necessary. In buildings with more rooms in the basement, it is the babies and little tots that have the more poorly lighted rooms, although in as many cases as possible we have put in manual training quarters in the basement, and brought the bigger boys and girls down for their work, thus allowing the little tots to go up stairs for a few periods each day. Every new child of school year

The board of education is now preparing for the election, which will be held a week from Saturday. In the past the vote on the issuance of bonds has usually been very light, showing a lack of general interest. In this case, however, the board looks for a larger than normal vote as it considers an increase in cost for books for teachers, and for school rooms. This makes a drain on our maintenance fund, and there is no hope of getting additional buildings so badly needed, except through the issuance of bonds."

considers the question at issue one in which general interest will be maintained.

ANGLO-SPANISH ALLIANCE.

It Causes Much Comment in Berlin And Paris.

Berlin, April 11.—According to the Tageblatt it is reported in diplomatic circles here that an Anglo-Spanish alliance

Paris, April 11.—The Madrid correspondent of the *Examiner* says that he has knowledge that one of the main points of the Anglo-Spanish understanding will be discussed by King Edward and King Alfonso at Cartagena, England. He says will help Spain in the reconstruction of her fleet, and Spain will see to it that

fall into the hands of any other power.