

efforts are handicapped and rendered almost abortive by the opposition, cupidity, ignorance and selfishness of the scavenger branch and its affinity in the city government.

It is a matter of common report that the scavenger imagines he has a councilmanic bee buzzing around his head and that previous to his canvass he is devoting large blocks of his gains to the extending of his influence and reputation, and that he is largely remunerating his chum from Green River for much needed instructions in statesmanship and councilmanic lore. But it is possible that William is mistaken, it may be that an Evanston hayseed has got into his bonnet. X.

A DISASTROUS FIRE.

The most destructive conflagration of the kind that ever visited this Territory burst forth with terrible fury shortly after 3 o'clock this morning in the lumber and building material yard of Morrison, Merrill & Co., at No. 241 north Third West street.

The origin of the fire further than that it was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary is completely shrouded in mystery. At 3 o'clock everything so far as could be seen was perfectly quiet about the yard. In a remarkably short space of time thereafter two rows of lumber twenty feet high with numerous intervening piles of building material, extending completely across the block from east to west, were in a seething, sputtering sea of flames the tongues of which shot high into the night air, dispelling darkness and rendering it as light as day for blocks around.

The fire bells rang out loud and long and steam whistles blew their shrill, harsh and horrifying blasts until the people in all parts of the city rushed pell mell from their beds to ascertain the cause of the disturbance. Soon the four streets surrounding the block on which the fire was rapidly destroying tens of thousands of dollars' worth of valuable property were filled with people while hundreds of persons rushed wildly on all approaching thoroughfares until the crowd was so great that it was only with the greatest difficulty that locomotion could be carried on.

A News reporter was among the first on the ground and witnessed the operations of the fire fiend almost from the commencement. For a time it appeared that every house on the block was doomed, and doubtless the most of them would have been destroyed had the wind been blowing, but fortunately the air was perfectly quiet.

It is thought and said by some that the fire originated in a barn somewhat to the west of the office. Others declare that this is merely a matter of conjecture and that flames were seen shooting up simultaneously in at least a dozen different places, and that they spread towards each other with lightning-like velocity until their forms were emerged in one immense sheet of flame. During the progress of the fire there was the greatest excitement among the residents of the block and they devoted their entire energies to preventing the devouring element from reaching their homes.

The West Side department and a

portion of the main brigade were present from the earliest moment they were able and fought the fire to the best of their ability.

It was nearly noon before the fire was completely extinguished. As to its origin Mr. George E. Bennett, foreman of the yard, said to a News reporter this afternoon:

"I was sleeping in my room over the office when I was aroused by the roar of the flames, which were shooting high into the air on the north side of the building about 15 or 20 feet away. I jumped out of bed and rushed down stairs and telephoned for the department which showed up in good time. I then hurried back upstairs to dress and when I came out again the whole yard was a blaze."

"Where, in your opinion, did the fire start and how?" asked the reporter.

"I believe it started in the barn near the office and I am quite certain it was set on fire."

All the books and book accounts were saved. The loss is estimated at from \$35,000 to \$40,000 with insurance as follows:

H. P. Windsor and company with the Royal Exchange.....	\$ 1500
Sprague & Sharp with the People's Insurance company.....	2500
Moore & Thomas with Underwriter Insurance company.....	2000
Chas. Link with Glenn Falls Insurance company.....	2000
Donnellan and ——— Atlas and National.....	1500
Saginaw.....	2500
Total.....	\$12,000

The work of adjusting the losses will commence in a few days.

CHURCH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The Church school teachers' convention, under the direction of Dr. Karl G. Maeser, met in the B. Y. Academy building at Provo at 10 a. m. on Monday, Aug. 14, 1893.

On the stand were Dr. Karl G. Maeser, Dr. J. E. Talmage Prof. B. Cluff, and Elder F. M. Lyman.

The roll call showed representatives from the following states: Alberta, Bannock, Bear Lake, Beaver, Box Elder, Cassia, Davis, Emery, Iron, Juab, Moigai, Malad, Maricopa, Mexico, Millard, Oneida, Parowan, Panguitch, Rich, Sanpete, Salt Lake, Sevier, St. George, St. Joseph, Snowflake, Utah, Uintah, Weber, and Wasatch.

Dr. Maeser delivered an address of welcome. He referred to the excellence of the Church schools, and gave explanations on reports, quarterly and special meetings, district conventions, faculty meetings, minutes, records, etc.

The speaker pleaded for uniformity in organization, grading, management, etc. He knew some schools, below academic grades, which needed instructions on the following points:

1. Incidental questions.
2. Nomenclature of departments and classes.
3. Monitorial system.
4. Diagramming and analysis in grammar and arithmetic.
5. Hand, ticket, rotation and promiscuous methods of recitation.

A vote was taken in favor of an explanation from the general superintendent of the difficulties he had found involved in these points. This request was complied with.

The first point discussed was incidental questions. Most teachers pres-

ent approved of allowing students to ask questions germane to the subject in hand, to be answered at the time or later.

Dr. Talmage advised having other students answer as many as possible.

Prof. Brimhall formulated the following motion, and explained that he wished it to be understood as a recommendation only, not a binding law: "I move that incidental questions bearing on the subject in hand be permitted to the extent of subordinate relationship only."

On the subject of class nomenclature the superintendent stated that in some schools class A is the highest, and in some it is the lowest. It makes no difference, one is as good as the other, but this is a case in which uniformity is not only desirable but necessary. He who audits all the reports has a right to know what they mean. Do not grade classes too closely for convenience.

A motion was carried that the convention refers the naming and numbering of classes to the board of education.

It was also agreed, upon motion, that "it is the sense of this convention that in the eight grades the monitorial system be considered a part of the Church school system; and that for the benefit of the students and not for the benefit of the teachers." Also, "that it is the sense of this convention that diagrams should be considered a means and not an end."

Prof. Cluff moved that it be the sense of this convention, "That in methods of teaching each teacher should cultivate variety; but in school tactics he should have uniformity." Carried.

Professors Cluff and Brimhall, Dr. Talmage and Prof. Done assisted in the discussion. This closed the regular business of the convention; was then addressed by Dr. Talmage and Dr. Maeser, and the convention adjourned.

NOTES.

The queen celebrated her fifty-seventh birthday.

A new regiment will probably be added to the Swedish army.

A railroad is to be built between Orsa and Herjeaadal.

Mrs. Katarina Jonasson, of Bjorko, celebrated her 105th birthday. She is in very good health.

Twelve houses were burned to the ground in the Bærvik village, the parish of Faringe, near Norrtelge.

Carl Edward Lidberg, a thirty-five-year old citizen of Gefle, has disappeared mysteriously.

A. G. Soderman, a prominent vessel owner of Oregund, was drowned not far from Iggesund, Norrland.

Ed. Frisk, a prominent manufacturer of Hudiksvall, died at the age of seventy-four years.

A farmer named Olund, of Lilla Sylt-vik, the parish of Sryt, was kicked to death by an ox.

The large Smith distillery in Karls-hamn will probably be changed to a sugar factory.

A committee appointed by the Storting unanimously declares itself against the contract system.