

WHAT THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF UTAH ARE DOING FOR EDUCATION.

WHAT relative position the schools of Salt Lake City occupy to those of other important cities of the Union has been decided by the judges of the educational exhibit at the late international exposition. That the highest award attainable (a gold medal) is now the property of the local elementary department; and that a silver medal has been presented to the Salt Lake High school by the educational commissioner, is, to the most conservative, prima facie evidence of great superiority and merit of the local institution.

It must be remembered that undue haste was demanded from the schools in the preparation and arrangement of their exhibit. They were advised that no representation would be made, and not until a few days preceding the close of the school year of 1903-4 did the commissioners notify the schools that space would be accorded them. The innumerable details naturally connected with the termination of a school year added immensely to the difficulty of making a desirable presentation. Superintendent, supervisors, principals, and teachers hastily resolved themselves into committees on execution, arrangement, selection, and mounting of material, with the result that a large collection was made, consisting of written exercises in bound volumes; special pieces of art from the West Side High school; written work representative of primary and grammar grade matter and method; an exhaustive collection of geographical charts showing in a systematic way the plan of prosecuting geography studies in the primary grades; one large bound volume, a treatise on vocal music; a graded collection of drawing from all the grades; and a representative exhibit from the manual training and sewing departments. The fact that schools of long established and fully recognized reputation were competing for the coveted prizes has won for Salt Lake schools merited prestige. Press comments have been exceptionally flattering. The "Elementary Teacher," published by the University of Chicago, paid its compliments to the Salt Lake schools, and recognized in their exhibit the excellent correlation of school studies.

The High school, which has made unprecedented strides in recent years, comes in for an enviable share of honors. Other secondary institutions of even greater pretensions, high schools that boasted of an existence before the word "Utah" was coined, were at the exposition, nevertheless their display failed to detract from the uniqueness and general excellence of the West Side High school exhibit. Bound volumes of work from the physics, chemistry and biology departments, and products of the English division, together with the highly praised art exhibit comprised its display.

AT THE WORLD'S FAIR. An eminent German critic volunteered the statement, that such an exhibit would grace any exposition in the world. In making this sweeping declaration, he was not ignorant of the proximity of German and French gymnasia, which have been held up to the new world as ideals. The modest claims of the local schools are that as a result of their exhibit, they have gained rank and distinction and have acquired confidence in their ability to manipulate the abundant resources, which this section of country affords.

Regarding the educational department at the Utah state fair, nothing need be added to the statement, that Salt Lake schools were the sole representatives. The splendid showing made the previous year was eclipsed by them in their last attempt. The anticipation that last year's work would mark a decided improvement over that of the preceding year, was fully realized. No more substantial evidence of the fact could have been even suggested, than the one presented at the imposing scenes at the Salt Lake Theater on the occasion of the commencement exercises. The junior class of the High school proved to represent little talent in composition and song, and promised an exceptionally strong graduating class of '04. Then the seniors appeared before an appreciative audience, bearing the stamp of culture, refinement, and intellectual vigor. On this occasion 66 were awarded diplomas.

The final gathering was that of the graduating classes of the eighth grades throughout the city. On this occasion 10 students received certificates of promotion from the grades. To this list the names of the 100 special graduates of the preceding mid year must be added, thus placing the entire product of the year at 609 eligible candidates for High school work.

Special and apart from the above mentioned graduating classes was the commercial class of the High school. This course, which provides for two years' work, had been completed by 32 boys and girls, nearly all of whom have since secured positions in business offices in this city.

The superintendent's annual report of 1903-4 was in part a forecast of the consummation of the current year. The plan to reduce the number of years in the grades from eight and one-half to eight, has been successfully wrought out. The elimination from the curriculum of certain phases of fifth grade work made possible this progressive change. The non-necessity of the lowest grade has been modified to read "First" instead of "Beginners." Graduating classes in the eighth grade at mid-year will continue, but will claim as members those only who enter at the close of the first half year, or such students whose individual mental and physical conditions demand special promotion or demotion from the regular graduating class at the close of the year.

The policy of the present administration is to reach the corps of teachers through the principal, whose personality has proved to meet and mould the character of the school.

The principals' meetings, therefore, are mediums of communicating proposed initiatory methods and matter from the superintendent's office to the respective heads of school buildings. Eminent lecturers have added interest to such gatherings by presenting views on subjects of vital importance to the care of a growing school system. Grade teachers pride themselves in the excellent department meetings, which furnish them with abundant material in the several branches of the curriculum, and which are rightly termed, "The Teachers' Training Course."

The able supervisor, Miss Rosalie Pollock, is to be credited with the introduction of a systematic, graded plan

for geography study, one which has received favorable recognition from eminent sources.

THE HIGHER GRADES.

Teachers of the seventh and eighth grades who have given evidence of possessing extraordinary ability in certain lines have been given substantial encouragement to emphasize such branches, wherein they excel. This condition has given rise to departmental work which last year had reached only the experimental stage, but since 19 or 20 of the largest school buildings today regard the system as being fully established, its continuance is no longer problematical. To the success which has attended departmental work is added the pedagogical reason, why it should be considered an indispensable feature of the school, i. e., that the special fitness, inclination, and pleasure of the teacher in any special labor reflects advantageously upon the pupil. In accordance with this plan, three or four teachers act as the corps of instructors in the department and follow the system of receiving, teaching and dismissing the divisions, as it is in vogue in secondary institutions.

"OUTDOOR" EDUCATION.

No effort has yet been made to extend departmental work beyond the seventh and eighth grades. The elementary branches have received attention commensurate with their importance, and to these, experiments in gardening have been profitably prosecuted in some of the schools. At the close of the last school year, the superintendent was the recipient of an almost endless variety of school-garden products, which had been planted, cultivated and harvested by the boys and girls. When the school grounds are offered no spots suitable for a garden, the benevolent spirit of neighbors demonstrated itself in invitations to the little gardeners to accept the freedom of choice plots. Among the schools, whose persistence in this new departure has not stopped short of success, are to be mentioned the Riverside and the Fremont. The utilitarian value of manual training has been so generally recognized that the superintendent and school board have acceded to the demands of the schools, to increase the facilities in this department, and have included one hundred and twenty new benches and extra equipment in ten buildings. As the resources have improved, so also have the number of grades who may participate in wood-work, been increased. In some buildings, instruction in sewing has been given, including the fifth grade. The opportunity of personal inspection of similar work in Swedish and German schools has recently been embraced by Supervisor Dosey, under whose able management the department is flourishing.

SEWING CLASSES.

After one year's furlough, Miss Corbett has again assumed charge of the sewing classes in the seventh and eighth grades. Teachers of lower grades have the option, whether or not this feature be introduced to their classes. Indications point to the early adoption of sewing as a requirement in even the fifth and sixth grades. While pursuing regular prescribed courses, whose purpose is plainly the development of the practical side, the pupil is not permitted to lose sight of aesthetic culture. Machines with military precision is an inspiring scene, which any building in the city offers. Music is claiming an important place in the day's course of study. General supervision in the theory and the practice of this art has brought the entire thirteen thousand five hundred pupils to an appreciable degree of proficiency therein.

"BANDS OF MERCY."

The recent organization of "Bands of Mercy" bespeaks the altruistic tendency of the system. These purpose to co-operate with the local societies for the "Prevention of cruelty to animals," and themselves to initiate movements that might result in arousing sentiments in favor of all living creatures.

The night school problem has been facing the administration for years past, but sentiments and financial conditions have not effected a desirable solution. It is no longer premature to prognosticate the establishment of evening classes next year, as a feature of the public school system in this city. To this, another hope of Salt Lake's most representative people is soon to be realized. Undoubtedly by the leader organizations throughout the city have labored for the advancement of kindergarten work. They may now accept the assurance that the public schools will relieve them of this responsibility, which they have so generously assumed. The next year will mark the addition of kindergarten instruction in at least one or two buildings.

OUR CITY HIGH SCHOOL.

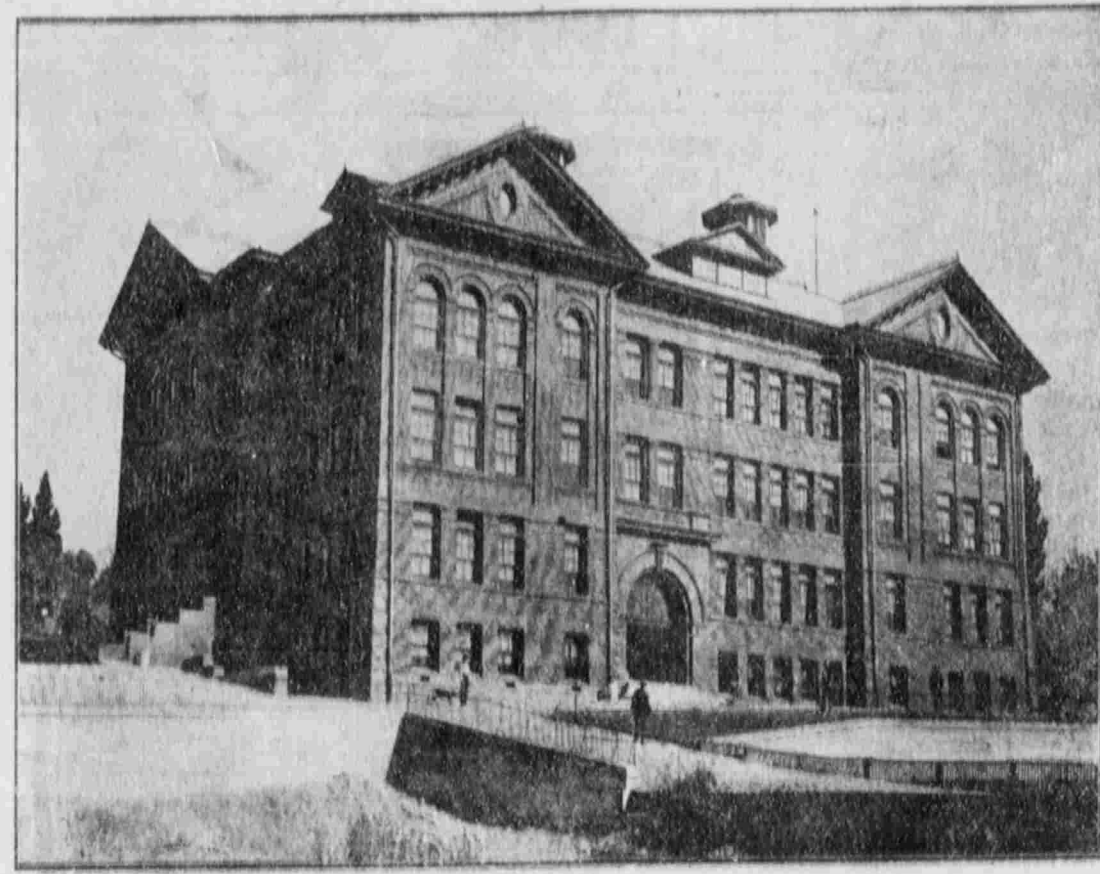
From the consideration of the fruitful efforts in grade work, the attention of the public is called to the rapid progress in High school, the fame of which has spread beyond the borders of the state. The numerical and intellectual strength of this institution, whose existence began but eight years ago, is the pride of the city. Under the wise supervision of Principal George A. Eaton, whose tact, scholarship and personality have so impressed themselves upon the school, the present high standard has been reached. To the English, classical, scientific and commercial departments the normal course has been added. Students finishing this course, will receive special recognition at the U. of U. training school. The commodious quarters occupied by the art division, under the direction of J. T. Harwood, is a splendid acquisition of the year. Mr. Harwood, who has spent two years in the art galleries of Paris, returned with a valuable collection of casts, which he was authorized to purchase for use in his department. Six hundred students are enrolled at the West Side high school, the largest attendance in its history.

THE ATHLETIC SPIRIT.

The athletic spirit has been fostered, as a result of which, a permanent athletic association has been formed. The glorious successes of its present football team recall the old "Invincibles" of '98 and '99. A movement is now on foot to secure the girls athletic training. Rooms and paraphernalia are to be secured, for their convenience.

The school claims an able corps of instructors, some of whom entered upon their duties this year. A pleasing feature of modern language work has been the French and German dramatic presentations, which have given practical demonstrations of the pupils' ability to handle these foreign tongues. The East Side high school now offers a two years' course. Two hundred students are in attendance, and competent teachers have been employed. Since the U. of U. has signified its determination to eliminate the preparation for entrance to the institution, next year's attendance of the high schools will be augmented by at least 300, since this number of eligible high school students from this city are at the U. of U. this year. This condition seems to favor the three years' course at the East Side, and may necessitate its introduction.

The initial meeting of city principals and teachers at the Lafayette at the commencement of school showed no significant changes in the personnel of the teaching force. A very striking feature of the occasion was the vigor-



THE LAFAYETTE SCHOOL, ONE OF THE BUILDINGS OF 1904.
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UTAH HAS LARGER PER CAPITA SCHOOL ENROLLMENT THAN ANY OTHER STATE.

The excellence of the schools of Utah has long been recognized by the thinking men and women of the country; by educational people from other lands. To be officially informed by a man of reputation and veracity—one who has made careful inquiry into the educational status of the United States and other nations, that we are foremost in upholding the public school system; that we actually surpass all other peoples and countries, with but a single exception, is no small honor for Utah. But that is precisely what the records disclose. On October 7th of the present year, Vice-President-Elect Fairbanks and Congressman Walter Ingelwood Smith and Jonathan Prentiss Dilliver of Iowa, visited Salt Lake, and all spoke to an immense audience at the Theater. During the course of his remarks Congressman Smith referred in glowing terms to the loyalty of Utah to the public school system and how her people had sacrificed much in the interest of education. He concluded his reference to this matter in the following language:

"Others may praise you for one thing and for another but to my mind the HIGHEST COMPLIMENT THAT CAN BE TRUTHFULLY PAID TO UTAH IS THE SIMPLE TRUTH THAT YOU HAVE ENROLLED IN YOUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS A LARGER PERCENTAGE OF YOUR WHOLE POPULATION THAN HAS ANY OTHER STATE OR TERRITORY IN THE UNION. THERE IS NO EMPIRE, NO KINGDOM, NO PROVINCE IN THE WORLD, WITH THE SINGLE EXCEPTION OF THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA, BRITISH AMERICA, THAT MAKES THE SPLENDID SHOWING IN THIS REGARD THAT UTAH DOES."

ous, healthy, intelligent and well-dressed audience, whom Supt. Christensen addressed as "Fellow teachers."

Salt Lake City lays claim to a present school population of 16,000, and can account for 13,500 of that number in her public schools. Of this number, from 98 to 98 per cent are in regular attendance, and of the number enrolled, 99 per cent present themselves daily on schedule time.

Throughout the entire system complete unanimity prevails; the school room atmosphere is that of advancement, culture, and refinement; and to the present administration belongs the enviable honor of having built so admirably upon the foundation, laid by its predecessors, and of having gained for Salt Lake City schools that national reputation, to which their patrons point with commendable pride and satisfaction.

Salt Lake City's School Children.

THE total school population of Salt Lake City for the year 1904 is 16,849, as compared to 15,987 for 1903, an increase this year over last of 862 children of school age. This is almost double the increase of 1903 over that of the year 1902, and is an unusual gain. The following comparative table shows the population by school wards in the city for the years 1903 and 1904:

Wards.	1903.	1904.
First.....	421	405
Second.....	525	586
Third.....	430	457
Fourth.....	238	349
Fifth.....	422	453
Sixth.....	377	373
Seventh.....	493	585
Eighth.....	444	572
Ninth.....	506	525
Tenth.....	608	714
Eleventh.....	111	1,092
Twelfth.....	492	556
Thirteenth.....	374	373
Fourteenth.....	412	542
Fifteenth.....	488	567
Sixteenth.....	814	722
Seventeenth.....	431	542
Eighteenth.....	549	651
Nineteenth.....	619	687
Twentieth.....	585	630
Twenty-first.....	592	597
Twenty-second.....	535	551
Twenty-third.....	157	152
Twenty-fourth.....	617	div.
Center.....	97	106
Annex and Thirty-first.....	819	906
Thirty-second.....	380	390
Thirty-third.....	164	207
Thirty-fourth.....	677	582
Thirty-fifth.....	286	377
Thirty-sixth.....	168	203
Thirty-seventh.....	153	156
Over River West.....	454	465
Cannon Ward.....	35	37
Part of Tenth and First Ward.....	256	267
Totals.....	15,987	16,849

Pupils in State Nearly 100,000

ACCORDING to the reports of a school census for the year 1904 filed in the office of State Supt. of Schools Nelson, the total school population of the state is 91,682, as compared to 89,729 for 1903, an increase of 1,957 children of school age this year over last year. Salt Lake City shows the greatest increase, it having 862 more pupils this year than last. Ogden shows an increase of 122 pupils this year, while in the year 1903 it only had an increase of four over the year 1902. Provo shows

an increase of 163 over last year, while Logan only shows an increase of 83. Salt Lake county makes a great gain this year, it having 418 more pupils than last year. Weber county shows a remarkable decrease, it having 208 less pupils than it had last year. Utah county makes a gain of 52 this year, while last year it had a decrease of 132 as compared to the year 1902. The counties which show a gain in school population this year are: Boxer, Carbon, Cache, Emery, Grand, Iron, Juab, Kane, Millard, Morgan, Piute, Rich, Salt Lake, San Juan, Sevier, Uintah and Utah. The counties showing a decrease are: Beaver, Davis, Garfield, Sanpete, Summit, Tooele, Wasatch, Washington, Wayne and Weber.

	1903.	1904.
Beaver.....	1,215	1,194
Boxer.....	2,572	2,371
Carbon.....	1,655	1,780
Cache.....	4,691	4,757
Davis.....	2,868	2,845
Emery.....	1,722	1,709
Grand.....	1,493	1,416
Iron.....	392	302
Juab.....	1,175	1,210
Kane.....	2,416	2,545
Millard.....	649	574
Morgan.....	1,733	1,753
Piute.....	647	644
Rich.....	644	656
Salt Lake.....	8,321	8,739
San Juan.....	158	163
Sanpete.....	4,990	4,879
Sevier.....	2,988	2,991
Summit.....	2,798	2,761
Tooele.....	1,593	1,675
Utah.....	1,913	1,885
Wasatch.....	1,956	1,857
Washington.....	1,579	1,546
Wayne.....	1,653	1,611
Weber.....	705	651
Utah.....	3,483	3,375
Salt Lake City.....	15,987	16,849
Ogden.....	5,328	5,450
Provo.....	2,316	2,379
Logan.....	2,029	2,112
Totals.....	89,729	91,682

State Money For Public Schools

STATE SUPT. NELSON'S office has compiled the following figures for the Deseret News, showing the amount of revenues for the current school year, ending June 30, by counties, including the four leading cities of the state; the receipts from the counties being given in the left hand and those from the cities in the right hand column:

	\$ 17,505.57	\$ 586.92
Beaver.....	120,583.89	2,060.97
Boxer.....	77,014.01	2,107.65
Carbon.....	45,577.28	1,079.99
Davis.....	53,719.38	1,691.70
Emery.....	24,355.41	721.65
Garfield.....	16,463.67	758.20
Grand.....	15,616.76	1,097.47
Iron.....	24,327.30	774.69
Juab.....	52,438.97	653.85
Kane.....	8,953.96	265.65
Millard.....	20,102.77	606.59
Morgan.....	17,922.46	649.47
Piute.....	14,331.44	591.45
Rich.....	171,117.65	3,075.84
San Juan.....	3,474.39	310.45
Sanpete.....	71,304.45	2,089.20
Sevier.....	48,182.37	1,057.40
Summit.....	80,170.41	1,887.04
Tooele.....	34,997.39	672.68
Utah.....	25,999.62	828.90
Wasatch.....	45,886.62	774.69
Washington.....	20,853.06	660.89
Wayne.....	9,650.88	310.20
Weber.....	59,149.02	1,722.63
Utah.....	440,441.90	2,828.90
Ogden.....	110,168.98	1,097.47
Provo.....	29,096.48	774.69
Logan.....	36,956.93	653.85

Progress of the County Schools.

THE combined school population of Salt Lake City and Salt Lake county in 1891, before the city was separated from the county was 15,288. The population in 1904 is 25,588; an increase of 10,300.

In 1891 there were 28 male and 73 female teachers, a total of 101. In 1904 there are in Salt Lake county alone 64 male and 97 female, making a total of 161.

The school population of the county exclusive of Salt Lake City is 8,739. Taking this as against the population of 1891 it would seem that 151 teachers to 8,739 school population is extravagant if 101 teachers could supply the teaching energy for a population of 15,588 in 1891. This increase in teachers is mainly due to the increased per cent of attendance. There is about twice the per cent of attendance now that there was in 1891, and the aim is not to crowd too many pupils into a room, about 40 pupils being considered a reasonable quota for each teacher.

The amount expended for teachers in 1891 was, female, \$40,768.26, and male, \$25,483.25; total, \$66,251.50. The average yearly pay of males being \$910.12; of females, \$558.46. The salaries of male teachers for 1903 amounted to \$38,806.99; of female, \$41,905.54; total, \$79,712.50, the average yearly pay of males being \$660, the average yearly pay of females being \$456.

Since 1891 the following school districts have built school buildings: Union, Murray, East Jordan, Big Cottonwood, the five Mill Creeks, the two Brightons, Farmers Ward, Sandy, the two Bingham, Riverton, Hunter, Butteville, Granger, South Taylorsville, and West Taylorsville—24 in all. Every district in the county has its own school building. Nearly one-half of the school buildings are supplied with single desks.

The trustees of Salt Lake county are present alive to the school interests. They have shown a business tact in furnishing school apparatus and supplies. Special attention has been given to blackboards, and there are now but few districts not supplied with good blackboards. Slates are almost a thing of the past, their place being taken by note books and paper. Nearly every school is supplied with a neat teacher's desk, a clock, and a book case pretty well filled with books.

The schools are all graded and following closely the state course of study. Each month test questions are sent out from the county superintendent's office for the purpose of unifying the school work, and the principals of the various schools give oral tests in all the rooms under their special jurisdiction.

Our teachers have taken advantage of the summer school courses offered by the University of Utah, and in consequence many are receiving life diplomas in scholarship and teaching. Most of the teachers are banded into reading circles in their respective teaching localities, all studying a systematic course of pedagogical reading.

Out of the 151 teachers in the county, 86 come from normal training schools, most of them from the University of Utah. Thus skilful teaching is taking the place of the switch and the ferule, and the "whining schoolboy" is fast disappearing.

Music is taught in every school in the county, and in most of the schools drawing lessons are given. Parents' meetings have been held in many of the districts and their effect

on the school is noticeable in those districts.

Several districts furnish conveyances for hauling pupils to school. This helps the graduation of the schools, and improves the punctuality of the district. This was particularly noticeable in the Draper and Hunter districts. In one of the departments of the Hunter school

not one pupil was tardy during the entire school year, notwithstanding the fact that some children came about three miles to school.

The great need of the county now is the high school and the enlarging of a few of the smaller districts.

B. W. ASHTON,
County Superintendent.

State and Private Art Galleries.

SALT LAKE possesses two permanent art collections which promise to be a pride to the state. The first founded of these is the State Alice Art Collection which comprises paintings to which awards are given annually by the state in exhibitions of the work of local artists, and consists chiefly of their pictures.

Another is the collection in the private art gallery of Col. and Mrs. E. F. Holmes, which has been recently built adjoining their home on east South Temple street, and in which they have stored art treasures of various descriptions picked up in their travels abroad, and in the nearer precincts of Utah's home-studios. Among the former are paintings by European and American artists whose names rank with the highest in the modern art-world. They range from dainty pastorals to nature's most dramatic expression in landscape and marine, and amongst them also, are portraits and figure studies that show high achievement in that art. Sprinkled among the collection are the efforts of home artists of which the Holmes family are generous patrons. Facing the entrance on the south wall is a large painting by H. L. A. Culmer of Shoshone Falls, the canvas measuring 6x10 feet and showing a beautifully executed picture of America's western Niagara. There is a

beautiful and subtle blending of light and shade—of suggestions of light and color, and the ethereal treatment of effects of mist, spray and rainbow, mingled throughout with reflections and re-reflections of sky and sunset colors is especially fine. The artist has two other canvases, a pioneer scene and a bit of ocean and cliff scene taken from a spot near Cypress Point at Pacific Grove, which are among the best works yet done by the artist. Miss Rose Hartwell's salon picture is there, and Mr. George Tugart, though not a home artist is yet a familiar and popular painter represented in the collection. His famous "Old Couple" reading the letter from the absent son is there, and all Salt Lakers will be glad to have this bit of blended humor and pathos preserved in our midst. On the walls are seen several of the master-works of outside artists which have been brought to grace the local exhibitions of the art institute, and it is a matter of congratulation both to Col. Holmes and the state that these were not allowed to depart from our city.

Besides these are various art treasures in the way of bronzes, Japanese lacquer and other art-works, exquisite specimens of Cloisonne, amber and flagee in dainty bric-a-brac contained in cabinets, and a notable thing in wood and design is the grand piano, richly carved and painted which stands on the platform at the end of the hall. The gallery is a credit to the owners and the city and makes a notable nucleus and incentive for further attainments.

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