

On the subject of Pacific railways the attorney general says that the report of Hon. George H. Hoadley, special counsel for the United States, shows that there is a substantial change in the state of the litigation about the Union Pacific railway and its branches, and he continues: "I have grave doubts as to the ability of the government to preserve the situation much longer. I am advised that an attempt will be made to enforce the government's appearance in the foreclosure case with a view of giving a complete title to the purchaser at the foreclosure sale. While I believe the position heretofore taken and still maintained for the government is the true one, namely, that its appearance cannot be compelled, it must be confessed that the contention of opposing counsel is at least debatable, viz: That while the government cannot be sued with a view to recovery against it, it may properly be made a party to a suit in equity brought by the holders of bonds issued by its express consent upon property upon which it has itself reserved a lien.

"Many complaints having from time to time been made by private citizens and others of combinations in restraint of trade and commerce and of alleged monopolies, I have caused to be investigated as well as the means and force at my command permitted each of them as seemed likely to come within the scope of official authority over interstate commerce and trade, to which alone it extends. The only case, however, in which sufficient evidence was discovered to justify action was the joint traffic association of trunk line railways against which a bill was filed by the United States January 9, 1896, in the circuit court for the southern district of New York.

"The court, Judge Wheeler presiding, dismissed the bill holding that the articles of agreement of the association were not in violation of the law. The case is now pending in the circuit court of appeals for the second circuit and will soon be argued.

"The case of the United States against the trans-Missouri freight association consisting of eighteen railways west of the Missouri river, which was brought in the district of Kansas to enjoin a contract and combination among these companies to maintain rates of freight, was decided against the government in both the circuit court and the circuit court of appeals, one judge of the latter court dissenting.

The case is now pending on appeal in the Supreme Court of the United States and will be argued about the time Congress assembles."

#### DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

It was the design of the great founder of the Brigham Young Academy that it should be a school of practical as well as theoretical education. An education that should fit the possessor for a practical, independent and benevolent life. Attempts have been made from time to time to establish industries, sloyd work shop practice, carpenter work, which have under various teachers flourished for a time, and a few young men with a natural aptitude for the work have taken away valuable knowledge

in these branches. For the girls there has been a sewing and fancy work department in which there have been good instructions given to a few who would attend long enough to make it of worth to them. This current year there has been a department established called Domestic Economy department where the young women of the Academy irrespective of age may attend and take practical lessons in cooking and many other coordinate studies. The teacher of this department, Mrs. Susan Young Gates, is authority for the following statements regarding this branch of the Brigham Young Academy:

"Come down and see the room," she said. "I am sorry the class is not in session. You see we fitted up this room in the basement at our own, and not at the Academy's expense. We had the walls kalsomined this lovely salmon pink tint and put up this watercotting of oil cloth, put in the cupboards, tables, carpets, etc., and borrowed the cook stove. Today we were making jelly. See! This is made of fruit, lots of gelatine. The exact recipe is there on the blackboard. Isn't it nice?" and the visitor was obliged to confess that the specimens submitted were as good as her own make.

"This being near the end of the first semester we have already completed the greater part of our program for the first half-year. The class of about fifty members is divided into sections "I" and "II," partly because so large a class was unwieldy, and also to accommodate those whose other studies came at an hour to interfere. We began with the building of the fire, one lesson was enough on that; then we had nine lessons on bread making—all kinds of bread—beginning with yeast of various kinds and ending with the baking. Prof. Stanley lectured to us on the chemistry of yeast. Then we had eight lessons on cooking vegetables, two on milk—its care and the theory of butter making, though we are so situated that we could not go through the process. Next on our list was fruits, four lessons; eggs and their possibilities, three lessons; soups, six lessons; fish, three lessons; and we have salads yet to consider during this semester."

"This must be quite expensive to the Academy," returned the visitor. "The buying of all this material to experiment on."

"So far," said Mrs. Gates, "I have borne all this expense myself. You see I have always been very much interested in seeing just such a class of instruction given to our young women, and now I am willing to make some sacrifice to see it a success. The aim is to give our girls a class of instruction that will make them better citizens, better wives and better mothers. Besides what I have already told you, we had lectures from various members of the faculty on many subjects related to the demonstrated lessons. Some of these were order, system and cleanliness in the home; economy of time, economy of means, home furnishings; books and beauty in the home; hospitality, friendship, the children, the mother and the father, each considered as separate topics. Also we have given some consideration to the vexed ques-

tion of domestic help, for we do not believe in 'servants' and have talked a good deal about 'shopping' bargains and auctions. We have also had a number of lectures on physiology and chemistry."

"But are not these studies part of your regular curriculum?" asked the visitor.

"Oh, yes, and again no. You see we only take up those branches that apply directly to girls and their peculiar line of work. We had in physiology, for instance, digestion, assimilation, circulation, ventilation, food, the Word of Wisdom, physical culture, sleep, clothing, dress for girls, care and clothing of infants, the correct. In the line of chemistry we had the chemistry of yeast and bread, and the chemistry of water, air, vegetables, acids and salts."

During the remaining weeks of this semester Professor Keeler will deliver three lectures on domestic accounts or bookkeeping in the household.

"That is all admirable and in the right direction, if you are able to enlist the earnest efforts of the girls," remarked the visitor. "Is that the complete program for the first semester?"

"Oh, no. We make our special Sunday religious exercises help on the good work; and our lectures on ethics and religion have been, of human rights, honesty of purpose and action, charity, chastity, truthfulness, usefulness, humility, tithing, Sabbath day, faith, fasting and prayer, perseverance, courage, kindness and contentment, all applied strongly to woman in her stronghold—the home."

"Now I said all grades of students could enter this class, and so they can, but you will readily see that those under a certain grade of scholarship will not be able to profit greatly by these lectures on advanced subjects. We wish to be the means of giving girls just what the greater number can profitably use all their lives."

The visitor left the pretty room with a very favorable impression of this new and interesting department of our most popular educational institution the Brigham Young Academy.

ELLEN JAKEMAN.

#### SNOWFLAKE CONFERENCE.

WOODRUFF, Navajo county, Arizona, Dec. 6, 1896.—At 2 p. m. on Sunday, Nov. 29, 1896, the quarterly conference of the Snowflake Stake of Zion convened in the meeting house at Taylor, Navajo Co., Arizona. The presidency of the Stake were all present, also most of the High Council, Bishops of wards, and other leading men. The meeting house was crowded to its utmost capacity by anxious listeners, and all seemed to be enjoying the good Spirit.

There were three meetings of the conference—one on Sunday afternoon, and two on Monday the 30th, besides a Priesthood meeting on Sunday night.

There was a very good feeling among the Saints, and all felt to rejoice in each other's society. Secret and family prayer, the cultivation of faith and exemplary conduct, the payment of tithes and offerings, the proper observance of the Sabbath, and the careful instruction of the youth