

ing states. The other colleges, academies and young ladies' seminaries of the city are favored with an increased attendance, all of which clearly indicates that Salt Lake has already assumed a commanding position as an educational center.

A fair start has been made in street paving and large contracts have been let to cover the remainder of the business district, work upon which was commenced late in the year, which will be renewed and carried to completion as soon as the frost disappears. This paving is all to be of Utah material, thus providing an excellent test of the value of Utah asphaltum for paving purposes. A large factory is being erected in the city for the manipulation of the asphaltum, and if it proves to be a success as anticipated by the owners, doubtless a large and profitable trade will spring up for this material in the paving of this and other cities between the Missouri river and the Pacific.

Our new city hall and county court house, which when completed, will have cost a half million dollars, has been pushed with commendable energy and the structure is sufficiently advanced to show what a magnificent building it will be.

Good progress has been made during the year in grading of streets, extension of water service and the sewers. It is to be hoped that the new gravity sewer system proposed by the city engineer, may be adopted by the City Council, and that means may be found to commence the work.

It is time that the city adopted some intelligent and harmonious system of public parks and connecting boulevards. The city owns a number of ten acre blocks, besides Liberty park it also owns large tracts on the bench and up City Creek canyon. The city cemetery is improperly located from a sanitary standpoint, being on a hill side immediately above the most densely populated and most beautiful residence portion of the city. The surface drainage of storm water as well as the underground seepage from the cemetery, flows down through this densely populated section. There should be a cessation of burials in the cemetery. A new one should be established several miles from the city, where easily accessible by railroad, and the remains removed from the present burial ground and the cemetery converted into a public park. The plans for this park and boulevard system should be adopted at once, and the policy pursued hereafter of expending a certain amount in their improvement each year. This city has been destined by nature to become a great health and pleasure resort. Its numerous hot mineral springs, its excellent and health-giving potable mineral waters that are unsurpassed for table use: its great inland salt sea bathing; its majestic scenery; its numerous mountain resorts; its broad and shaded avenues, and above all its pure and invigorating air give it a unique position among the health resorts of the world. These alone, coupled with the fact that this is one of the most charming home places of the west, and that it is the social, political, religious and business center of a vast region of country, are sufficient to maintain a

population here of 100,000 people. In this connection attention is called to the remarkable diminution in the death rate, as reported by the board of health, since sewerage and sanitary regulations have been established. If the mortality throughout the year could be maintained at the figures reported for last month it would be absolutely the healthiest city in the world.

In view of the foregoing it seems to me that Salt Lake City is progressing—that its people are alive and very wide awake, and that the record of the year refutes the charges of the "croakers" and "calamity howlers." I do not think that anything is gained by predicting all sorts of disasters—by insisting, for instance, that railroad shops are to be removed to some other place, notwithstanding the denials of the officials in charge, and it is especially injudicious to publish in the daily papers this and other anticipated evils which may never happen, thus giving aid and comfort to our enemies and would-be rivals, and tending to weaken the confidence of the more timid of our own people as to the future of the city.

Considering the great question that is agitating the financial world—what is the future of silver as a money metal?—it behooves us to look around us and see how we can keep our people employed and how we can maintain the progress of our city in the event of the total cessation of silver mining. Personally I have no fear that such an event will happen. I feel sure that American statesmanship will yet solve the silver problem and will restore to it its functions of a full legal tender debt paying money. But if the worst should happen, a careful perusal of that masterly and surprising compilation of Utah's varied resources contained in *Salt Lake Tribune* of January 1st will show that there are few places in this broad land so favored as this city is in natural sources of wealth and prosperity. Utah is the largest producer of lead of any of the states and territories. Many of the lead mines of the Territory are worked. Some of the very highest grade silver mines will of course continue to be worked, especially those containing considerable quantities of gold. There are many gold mines in the Territory. Gold occurs in paying quantities near Camp Floyd, near the western border, at Osceola, Nev. The Post gold mill is now being profitably worked in the Deep Creek country. Gold is found in the Marysvale district, on Indian creek, in Beaver county, near Piche, in the Monkey Wrench district, just over the border in Nevada, in the Henry Mountains and on the San Juan, the Colorado and Green rivers. Large copper mines have been opened near St. George and in the Deep Creek country. The finer qualities of asphaltum—pure hydro carbon—are now being mined extensively and shipped east, and are largely used in the manufacture of fine varnishes for electrical appliances, etc. Our coal measures are extensive and varied. Some coking coal has been found, and our iron deposits are unsurpassed in extent and quality. Some of our coal now finds a market on the Pacific coast, and if we had a railroad of easy grade to the Pacific our coal would become our chief article of ex-

port. Plaster of Paris is now extensively manufactured and shipped all over the Pacific Northwest. Cement and lime are also largely manufactured and exported. We grow and manufacture sugar and cotton to a limited extent at present. Our manufactures of boots and shoes, overalls, etc., find a market in all the surrounding states, going as far east as Denver. The same is true of our blankets, hosiery and all kinds of woolen goods. The Great Salt Lake will yet prove a mine of wealth to this city. We should have here one of the largest chemical works in the country, employing thousands of operatives. The occurrence of cheap salt, cheap sulphur and limestone, with natural gas for fuel, give us all the elements for the economic production of hydro-chloric acid, sulphuric acid, caustic soda, carbonate and sulphate of soda to supply the demand of all the country between Chicago and the Pacific ocean with the above articles. With natural gas, sand, cheap soda and limestone all kinds of glass could be manufactured here profitably.

The different articles produced from plastic and fire-clay should be manufactured here, such as pottery, fire-brick, crucibles, drain and sewer pipe, and tile for fire-proof buildings.

If the Big Cottonwood river coursed through the heart of the city, with a fall of say 300 feet to the mile, it would be freely considered to be an important and valuable factor as a means of power in estimating the future importance of the city. Yet it cuts through the Wasatch mountains at its canyon twelve miles from town with as great a fall as above mentioned, and it is quite as valuable for power purposes as if it were within the city limits, there being only twelve miles of copper wire required to transmit the power to the city. I am pleased to note that R. M. Jones is now engaged in the preliminary work of a great electric plant, the power to be generated by the water of that stream. He calculates on obtaining 1200 horse power with once using the water at the lowest winter stage. By going up the river a few miles and repeatedly using the water, the power can be increased to several thousand horsepower. This will give cheap electric power in the city for all kinds of small manufacturing, such as running machines, clothing and shoe factories, glove factories, etc. It will also furnish electricity for the electric railways, the light plant, etc., cheaper than can be produced with coal. It will also tend to abate the smoke nuisance. Mr. Jones thinks that his scheme offers a very promising investment to capitalists. He estimates the cost of a plant complete at \$250,000, and he has some assurance of the necessary capital from the east.

One of the crying needs of the city is cheap fuel, both for domestic and manufacturing purposes, and there has been considerable agitation during the past few months upon the question. Much talk has been indulged in about building a railroad to the mines near Coalville. There is in my opinion one feasible project for reaching these coal fields with a railroad. The Great Salt Lake and Hot Springs railroad company has a very perfect and comprehensive organization; its