Excerpts from the history of Riverton
and
Lives of Some of Its People

Volume 2 – Newspaper Articles

Deseret News (Weekly) p. 197

19 June 1867

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY,
June 10th, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

Having visited West Jordan Ward on Sunday, the 9th, I thought a few items from that direction would be welcomed by some of your numerous readers. West Jordan Ward is situated 13 miles southwest of G. S. L. City, and is divided into four districts, each of which has a meeting and school house, where they assemble every Sabbath, except on the second Sabbath of each month, when they meet at Jordan Mills under the direction of Bishop Archibald Gardner, in a splendid stone edifice, 30x60, including vestry, which cost ten thousand dollars.

The total number of inhabitants is about 600, principally settled seven miles up and five miles down Jordan River, from Jordan Mills, cultivating mostly the river bottoms which have been seriously affected both the present and past years by high water. Much of the land and grain is at this time under water. Bishop Gardner says the water is one inch higher than he ever saw it previous to this time, and I must say that it is by his perseverence that the bridge and crossing have been preserved.

He has spent 300 dollars besides considerable poll tax, during the present week, forming an embankment which extends one quarter of a mile. The material for it has been carted in, and has been mostly obtained by cutting 10 or 21 feet from the top of a steep hill, making a much better road.

Many places along this levee leading to the bridges would swim a horse. The levee is two feet above water, so that this crossing is secure, which is quite essential, both for home travel and the western emigrant.

The former and latter rains and high waters, as well as increasing demand, have called the attention of the Ward to the importance of laying off a new town on the bench.

Twenty-two lots of two and a half acres each are laid off, fenced, and mostly planted; and in passing over the plot I saw apple, peach, pear and plum trees, some of the peach trees bearing although set out this spring. To this town is attached a new survey of 1,000 acres, 120 of which is fenced and in grain, and the water already brought on to the plot. People in the ward tell me they have been cramped in the agricultural line; but now that Utah Lake is likely to be brought over the barren land, the prefer the apple, peach, pear and grain, in lieu of so much herd ground. The Bishop tells me the Ward has 10,000 head of sheep on the range, and considerable stock, by which, and cañon work, they have sustained themselves.

I saw twelve acres of land that have borne twelve successive wheat crops, and each succeeding crop has been the most productive. This is accounted for by the land being watered from the muddy water from Utah Lake, which deposits considerable richness on the soil.

We held meeting at 11 o'clock, which was attended by about 300 souls from the different districts, feeling thankful to God for the privilege of being instructed by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as in ancient times, showing that God is no respecter of persons to those who serve Him in an acceptable manner. On returning to the city, I attended meeting in the 4th Ward, which was well attended, a good spirit prevailing.

In conclusion I can say from 22 years acquaintance with Bishop Gardner that I find him, as at first, just from Canada, energetic, full of faith, determined to see the end; and his name is likely to continue, as he tells me he is the father of 35 children and he is laying a foundation to feed them, as he has just completed a splendid grist mill on Mill Creek, the carpenter's work of which cost $4,000; total cost $17,000, and he has some other mills in different places.

Your brother,

EDWARD STEVENSON.

THE SELECTMEN in and for Great Salt Lake County will meet at the house of Orrin Jeffords, on the Jordan River, west of Draperville, on Saturday the 22d inst., at 10 a. m., to receive proposals and contract for building a bridge across the Jordan River, on the County Road leading from Draperville to Fort Harriman. Plan and particulars will be made known at said time and place of meeting.

By order of the County Court

E. W. EAST, County Clerk.

County Clerks' Office,
G. S. L. City, July 10, 1865. 41-2t

DEC. EVE. NEWS Dec. 27, 1879

Irrigation Matters.—The directors of the South Jordan Irrigation Company held a meeting at West Jordan yesterday, at which it was decided that no should be allowed to use water the coming year from the South Jordan Canal, unless he had paid for and obtained a certificate of water right, and then only according to the amount paid; also that certificates of water right be issued to the persons entitled to them between the 1st of January and 1st of March, 1880.

The Secretary, Jesse W. Fox, Jr., will issue the certificates when called upon for them, and it is desirable that all transfers of water right, from one person to another, that are contemplated, be made before the certificates are issued, to save trouble and expense. The nominal sum of 25 cents will be charged for the making out of each certificate.

As considerable work is to be done on the canal, in making and repairing flumes, boxes, etc., there will be a chance for those desiring to purchase water right, to do so, by paying in lumber, if they apply to the Superintendent, Jesse W. Fox, immediately.

It should be distinctly understood that only those persons who pay for the water right, and secure their certificates before the 1st of March, will be entitled to water during the coming season.

Shot While Hunting Rabbits.—Last Monday seven men went out as a rabbit hunting party, near South Jordan. They ranged themselves in a line about a mile long, in order to insure the bagging of game. When about two miles south of the settlement one of the hunters saw two rabbits jump up on the top of a ridge near him, and he took aim and fired, not supposing any of his companions were within range. At the instant of firing, however, another of the hunters named Samuel H. Beckstead stepped in line with the shooter's aim and received a wound in the breast above the right nipple which it was at first feared would be fatal. But the patient is improving, and will probably recover. No blame is attached to anyone. We have been furnished with the foregoing particulars by Henry B. Beckstead.

Des Et Mews Nov. 4, 1886

Tr. Eve. News Dec. 28, 1889

The Hydraulic Canal Company.

The articles of incorporation of the Hydraulic Canal Company have been filed with the county clerk.

The object of the company, as set forth in the articles, is for the purpose of the construction and maintenance of a canal through which to convey water for agricultural purposes, and the purchase and erection of hydraulic machinery for the raising of water out of the Jordan River into said canal, to be constructed and operated by the corporation from a point at or near a dam in the River Jordan, at or near the southern boundary of Salt Lake County, and running in a northerly direction to the intersecting line running between section 16 and 21 and 17 and 20 in township 2 south, range 1 west, Salt Lake meridian; said water to be sold, distributed and used annually under the direction and supervision of this corporation for irrigating purposes, and to this end said company is to construct and maintain necessary dams, flumes, headgates, conduits, etc. The principal place of business Salt Lake City. The capital stock is $150,000.

10 Nov 1887

NOTICE.

[illegible] Salt Lake Canal Company.

No. 121 W., NORTH TEMPLE ST., SALT LAKE CITY.

[illegible] ARE DELINQUENT [illegible] following described stock, on account of assessment levied on the 5th day of [illegible], the several amounts set opposite the names of the respective shareholders [illegible] in accordance with law, [illegible] of each parcel of said stock [illegible] will be sold at the office [illegible] No. 121 W., North Temple, Salt Lake City, on Saturday, the [illegible] November, 1887, at 1 o'clock p. m., [illegible] delinquent assessment thereon, [illegible] the costs of advertising and [illegible] sale.

[illegible] E. SMITH, Secretary.

Name.	No. of Shares.	Am't.
[illegible] John D.	3	6 [illegible]
"	1	[illegible]
[illegible]sen, A.	7	1[illegible]
[illegible]son, Jens	3	10 [illegible]
"	3	10 [illegible]
"	3	6 [illegible]
[illegible]sen, Neils	1	[illegible]
[illegible]son, Joshua	25	50 [illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]er, Frederic L.	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] William H.	[illegible]	58 [illegible]
[illegible] Adolph	11	22 [illegible]
[illegible] Samuel	59	118 [illegible]
[illegible] Wm. A. Jun.	10	[illegible]
[illegible] William A.	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] William A.	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Joseph	[illegible]	16 [illegible]
[illegible] Joseph H.	17	34 [illegible]
[illegible]s, John S.	15	[illegible]

Name.	No. of Shares.	Am't.
Leak, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Leak, William	[illegible]	1[illegible]
LeCheminant, Peter	5	1[illegible]
"	1	2 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	3	[illegible]
LeCheminant, Bros.	30	[illegible]
LeCheminant, Sarah	11	22 [illegible]
LeCheminant, O.	35	[illegible]
Lovendahl, N. M.	10	[illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
Margetts, Lorenzo	10	[illegible]
Merrell, Samuel	7	14 [illegible]
"	3	6 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	5	10 [illegible]
Merrill, W. W.	2	4 [illegible]
Malstrom, John	67	112 [illegible]
Miller, William	3	6 [illegible]
Moore, Henry	1	[illegible]
"	12	24 [illegible]
Moore, John	3	6 [illegible]
Morgan, John W.	14	28 [illegible]
Morgan, Edward W.	25	50 [illegible]
Morris, George V.	3	[illegible]
Nelcher, John I.	11	22 [illegible]
"	10	[illegible]
Neilson, Neil	6	12 [illegible]
Neilson, Benata	54	108 [illegible]
Noakes, Charles M.	14	28 [illegible]
"	13	[illegible]
"	16	[illegible]
Ohlson, Hans	20	40 [illegible]
"	10	20 [illegible]
"	3	6 [illegible]
Orgill, Edward	5	10 [illegible]
Player, Charles Ed.	21	42 [illegible]
"	1	2 [illegible]
Perkins, David, & Co.	6	12 [illegible]
"	12	24 [illegible]
Peterson, Neils	3	6 [illegible]
Peterson, Frances	21	42 [illegible]
"	19	38 [illegible]
Perkins, G. W.	6	1[illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	5	10 [illegible]
Peterson, James	[illegible]	24 [illegible]
"	[illegible]	[illegible]
Peterson, H. H.	15	31 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	6	12 [illegible]
"	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pratt, Milando	11	[illegible]
"	6	12 [illegible]
"	[illegible]	[illegible]
Preece, Alde	6	[illegible]
"	[illegible]	16 [illegible]
"	5	[illegible]
Price, Edmund	[illegible]	1[illegible]
Price, Wm	1	[illegible]
"	1	[illegible]
Petitt, Brewer	[illegible]	16 [illegible]
"	3	6 [illegible]
Rasmussen, Peter	33	6[illegible]
Reece, John H.	14	28 [illegible]
"	6	12 [illegible]
Rushton, Edward	16	[illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
Rolfe, Benjamin W.	4	[illegible]
"	1	2 [illegible]
Rolfe, Samuel A. estate	25	5[illegible]
"	11	22 [illegible]
Rolfe, Gideon D.	8	16 [illegible]
"	4	[illegible]
"	14	2[illegible]
Rushton, Edward	25	5[illegible]
"	30	60 [illegible]
Sellers, Brigham	8	16 [illegible]
Spencer, Samuel G.	1	2 [illegible]
"	3	6 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	3	6 [illegible]
"	3	6 [illegible]
Svenson, Anderson	16	32 [illegible]
"	4	[illegible]
Smith, Daniel	43	[illegible]
Smith, Hanseeh	41	[illegible]
Smith, Ephraim	13	26 [illegible]
Steniblom, A. P.	1	[illegible]
Speer, William	12	24 [illegible]
"	8	16 [illegible]
"	14	28 [illegible]
Tanner, M. H.	8	16 [illegible]
Tanner, Stewart	5	10 [illegible]
"	4	8 [illegible]
"	6	[illegible]
Taylor, Samuel H.	14	28 [illegible]
"	4	8 [illegible]
"	16	32 [illegible]
Thomas, Benjamin	19	38 [illegible]
Thompson, P. C.	4	8 [illegible]
"	4	8 [illegible]
"	5	10 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
Vaughn, David	21	42 [illegible]
Vaughn, Henry A.	11	22 [illegible]
"	1	2 [illegible]
"	5	10 [illegible]
Vincent, Jesse H.	3	6 [illegible]
"	7	14 [illegible]
Vincent, Nephi	7	14 [illegible]
Watson, William	8	16 [illegible]
"	2	4 [illegible]
"	11	22 [illegible]
"	1	2 [illegible]
Watson, Hugh	1	2 [illegible]
"	35	70 [illegible]
"	[illegible]	11 [illegible]
"	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wells, Junius F.	22	[illegible]
Williams, J[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Name.	No. of Shares.	Am't.
Bradford, Roswell	2	4 00
"	1	2 00
Brough, Henry	8	16 00
Brown, Austin M.	9	18 00
Brown, John	8	16 00
Brown, Wm	7	14 00
Carter, Charles S.	10	20 00
"	8	16 00
Casper, Jedediah	9	18 00
Cailo, John	11	22 00
Chamberlain, Thomas	6	12 00
"	12	24 00
Chambers, N. G.	30	60 00
"	9	18 00
Cocrell, Antony	22	44 00
"	8	16 00
"	15	30 00
Calder D. O. Estate	30	60 00
"	5	10 00
"	1	2 00
"	1	2 00
"	2	4 00
"	1	2 00
"	1	2 00
"	6	12 00
"	1	2 00
"	1	2 00
"	1	2 00
"	3	6 00
"	1	2 00
"	10	20 00
"	20	40 00
"	8	16 00
"	1	2 00
"	11	22 00
"	9	18 00
"	6	12 00
"	1	2 00
Chamie's Brothers	24	48 00
"	5	10 00
"	3	6 00
"	1	2 00
"	7	14 00
"	23	46 00
Cram, Jacob, Estate	20	40 00
"	3	6 00
"	1	2 00
"	6	12 00
Cram, John A.	4	8 00
"	1	2 00
"	1	2 00
Day, Lorenzo	3	6 00
"	16	32 00
Dearden, Joseph	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eddington, Willis	[illegible]	1[illegible]
"	5	10 00
"	62	124 00
Egbert, Samuel W.	7	14 00
"	3	6 00
"	2	4 00
"	5	10 00
"	1	2 00
"	8	16 00
"	4	8 00
Egbert, Samuel A.	20	40 00
Fowler, W. H. & Son	11	22 00
"	1	2 00
"	1	2 00
"	6	12 00
Green, Thomas	2	4 00
Halverson, John A. estate	15	30 00
"	5	10 00
"	3	6 00
Hamilton, James C.	9	18 00
"	30	60 00
"	4	8 00
"	14	28 00
Hamilton, John C.	14	28 00
"	2	4 00
"	9	18 00
Hamilton, Joseph C.	13	26 00
"	5	10 00
"	1	2 00
[illegible], J. J.	4	8 00
Hansen, Andrew	5	10 00
"	4	8 00
Hansen, Hans	15	30 00
"	6	12 00
"	1	2 00
Heline, Peter	4	8 00
Hjelte, Elias O.	6	12 00
"	1	2 00
Hill, John A.	30	120 00
Hirst, John	21	42 00
Holt, Albert	1	2 00
"	27	54 00
"	10	20 00
"	1	2 00
"	5	10 00
Holt, Edward D.	22	44 00
"	16	32 00
"	3	6 00
Holt, Thomas M.	5	10 00
Jenkins, Wm. P.	16	32 00
Jeremy, John	8	16 00
Johnson, Joseph S.	16	32 00
Johnson, Charles A.	[illegible]	61 00
Jones, William X.	66	132 00
"	16	32 00
"	7	14 00
Jones Thomas	15	3[illegible]
"	16	32 00
Jones, David Jr.	2	4 00
"	1	2 00
Jones, Philip	13	26 00
Johnson, Annie C.	33	66 00
Larsen, C. A.	32	64 00
"	1	2 00
"	1	2 00
Larsen, Peter P. C.	25	50 00
"	15	30 00

Name.	No. of Shares.	Am't.
Williams, J. J., Jr.	11	22 00
"	3	16 00
"	5	10 00
"	1	2 00
Williamson, Jas.	2	4 00
"	2	4 00
"	2	4 00
Winward, Alexander	15	30 00
"	5	10 00
Winward, John W., Jr.	1	2 00
Wallace, George B.	14	28 00
"	65	130 00
"	35	70 00
Wallace Samuel D.	11	22 00
Wallace, Howe	6	12 00
"	3	6 00
Wallace John K.	6	12 00
"	8	16 00
Young, Edward	8	16 00
"	13	26 00

Salt Lake City, Nov. 3, 1887.
d for all.

Mar. 27, 1892

UTAH & SALT LAKE CANAL.

Historical Sketch of a Valuable Public Improvement.

When the Pioneers arrived in Salt Lake Valley forty years ago last July they found the conditions of the soil and climate such as to require the adoption of a new system of agriculture—new at least to that valiant vanguard of the early settlers of this region, who had never before lived in a country where irrigation was necessary; and in fact, differing in some respects from any at that time in vogue elsewhere. The fact that the system of irrigation adopted at that early day has thus far proved to be the best yet discovered for this region is a strong proof that its inauguration was prompted by inspiration.

The streams issuing from the Wasatch range and running westward into the valley were the first to be utilized in irrigating the parched and barren soil, but at a very early day the idea was conceived of conveying the water from Utah Lake out upon the western side of the valley, to

BRING UNDER CULTIVATION

the many thousands of acres of fine land there situated, instead of allowing it to flow to waste down the Jordan. As early as January, 1854, an act was passed by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory, providing for the construction of a canal which was to extend from the point above the rapids in the Jordan, near the southern extremity of Salt Lake County, around the western side of the valley as near the base of the Oquirrh Mountains as possible to the Salt Lake. Little more was done, however, than surveying and estimating the cost until the year 1857, when a new survey was made, bending considerably lower down the Jordan, at the point where the dam of the Utah & Salt Lake Canal is now located. The ground for a canal broken by President Young and his aids dedicated by President Jedediah M. Grant. Some grading at the head of the canal was done during that same year under the direction of [illegible] Wimmer, who

[illegible] U. S. Army and the removal of the Saints southward. However, during the following year, but a stop to the work, and although spasmodic efforts were made to renew it at various times during succeeding years, but little practical headway was made until the year 1872, when the Salt Lake County officials took charge of the canal and pushed its construction. In the meantime other canals had been constructed from points lower down the stream and utilized several years prior to the completion of the pioneer canal mentioned, which after being known by various names was

FINALLY INCORPORATED

in the year 1880 under the name of the Utah & Salt Lake Canal and used for the first time the following year.

It was a long time in course of construction, but this is not to be wondered at when it is considered that it is about 30 miles in length and has cost about $170,000. Indeed it may be said that it is not yet completed, and probably will not be for some time hence, so that all those interested in it will share alike its benefits, but the improvements made during the past few months involving an expenditure of nearly, if not quite, $30,000, will go a long way towards securing that desired end. It is now 30 feet wide at the bottom at the upper end and tapers gradually to 8 feet in width at the lower end. When it is considered that for a long distance the canal is located on a steep hill side, its success is almost wonderful.

A few breaks from freshets have occurred and some damage resulted, but the main difficulty thus far in the management of the canal has been found in regulating the water so as to make an equal distribution of it all along its entire length. This was formerly attempted by means of weirs situated at various points along the canal, but which were not found to answer the purpose well. One reason for this was that, extending across the canal, and not being set on a regular grade, some were raised considerably above its surface and tended to

DIVERT THE FLOW

of the water; besides it was by no means easy to gauge the volume of the streams which flowed therefrom.

Another plan has now been devised which it is believed will produce better results. A series of boxes are to be seen in the street near the Taylor, Romney & Armstrong planing mill in this city which are so peculiar in their construction as to attract the attention of every passer by. Twenty-seven or more of these boxes are to be placed in the lower bank of the canal at the various points where it is necessary to take streams from it and it is located on a level accordingly. [illegible] made to regulate certainty. The boxes are constructed of red pine plank, two inches thick, and are 18 feet in length, 20 inches wide in the clear and two and two-and-a-half feet in height, according to the location along the canal at which they are to be placed. In each end of every box a gate is arranged, which, by means of a mill screw, can be raised or lowered as desired, regulated to the sixteenth of an inch and so fastened at any desired height by means of a padlock that no person except the holder of the key can change them. The gate in the end of the box next the canal is intended to regulate the pressure on the delivery gate of the other end, and, as before intimated, the outflow can be measured to a nicety. The boxes were constructed under the supervision of Brother Peter Reid, the president of the company, to whom, by the way, is due the principal credit for designing them, and if they succeed as expected they will doubtless soon become

VERY POPULAR

for the use for which they are intended.

Salt Lake County is a long way ahead of any other county in the Territory in the number and costliness of its canals, and it is only proper that she should take the lead in the matter of inaugurating a perfect system of distributing the irrigating fluid, which is to be hoped the project mentioned will prove to be.

There are six large irrigating canals leading from the river Jordan, four on the west side and two on the east, and the probability is that they will completely drain the river bed during the present year, and it is doubtful whether even then nearly enough water can be obtained from the river to irrigate the land located under the canals, as the Utah Lake is said to be very low and [illegible] less snow in the mountains than usual. It is a pity that the water now flowing to waste down the river can not be held back in the Utah Lake until the season for irrigating arrives. The Utah Lake is a natural reservoir with sufficient capacity to irrigate the whole of Salt Lake County lying below its level, and it is to be hoped some amicable arrangement may yet be made between the two counties to secure this desirable end.

Des Eve News 14 Mar 1888

San Luis Valley.

G. M. Beckstead, of Riverton, this county, left home about a month ago, in company with Brother James Blake, of Idaho, on a visit to the San Luis Valley, Colorado. They traveled by way of the D. & R. G., and a ride of two hours took them to Manassah. The people in the settlement of the Saints were doing well, and appeared to be in a very prosperous condition. They were making good homes rapidly.

San Luis Valley is very fertile, has a splendid climate, and is attracting there numbers of immigrants from the east. The valley affords room for many thousands more people, is well watered and timbered, and produces raised there brings good prices.

Des. Eve. News 18 Oct. 1888

C. M. Nolan Sentenced.

Today Charles M. Nolan appeared in the Third District Court for sentence on a charge of unlawful cohabitation, to which he had pleaded guilty. The judgment of the court was that he be imprisoned in the penitentiary 60 days and pay a fine of $100.

A NOBLE RESPONSE FROM THE CHILDREN.

LAST Christmas morning, it being Sunday, the Sabbath school children of the little town of Riverton, in Salt Lake County, were reminded by the superintendent of the school that the Presidency of the Church desired to have the Salt Lake temple completed ready for dedication next April. It was explained to them that means were required to finish the beautiful structure, and they were invited to help towards completing the work.

The next Sunday, New Year's day, was appointed as the time to receive what the students had to give to aid in this noble cause. On that occasion the amount of $15.35 was handed in by the children of the school as a free-will offering to the temple.

When the children were told the object of building the temple, and learned that it was possible for them to help in such a great work, they became interested, and very willingly gave their little savings toward that building. There are many little things children can do towards building up the kingdom of God; and they cannot begin too early in life to learn to be useful.

Little friends, look about you, and see if you cannot find something to do that will be a benefit to some one. You will find many opportunities to do good deeds if you will only look for them.

Des. Eve. News May 4, 1892

A New Post Office.

The application of the residents of Riverton, Salt Lake County, for a post office at that place endorsed by Postmaster Benton and Governor Thomas has been secured by Hon. John T. Caine, Utah's delegate to Congress, and Arthur Bate has been appointed to fill the newly created office.

April 15, 1893
THE DESERET WEEKLY.

RIVERTON TO THE FRONT.

RIVERTON, Salt Lake county, March 31.—Although lying in a rural district, this place is keeping abreast with the times in improvement and enterprise.

Last December a fine two-story brick school house was completed at a cost of about $5000. At present there are two schools running, and next year it is thought there will be three.

Last Wednesday night the Riverton Commercial company was organized. The capital was put at $40,000, $20,000 to be paid up. A two-story brick building is to be built at a cost of about $5000. The first floor is to be used for store, warehouse and bank; the second floor for an amusement hall.

A short time since a $42,000 deal took place here. The chief contractors in the transaction were Messrs. C. N. Double and Daniel Dunsley, Jr., the latter having sold sheep to the former totaling the amount above mentioned.

Affairs in the ward are in a prosperous condition. Our bishop is a live, wide-awake man, working in the present and planning for the future; he directs with an almost unerring aim the affairs under his supervision to that elevated plane where progress and true religion meet in friendly embrace. J.

Deseret Semi-Weekly News Oct. 18, 1892

Sad Bereavement.

Three weeks ago Brother Edwin A. Walker, of Riverton, was called to mourn the loss of his daughter and only child, Olive May. On the 12th inst. he buried his wife. She was a faithful Latter-day Saint, and at the time of her demise held the position of second counselor to the president of the Primary Association, was an active teacher in the Sunday school, and a prominent member of the Riverton choir.

Sister Walker was sick only four days, and attended the recent Conference in Salt Lake City.

Des. Semi-Weekly News June 13, 1893

Diphtheria in Riverton.

RIVERTON, Salt Lake county, June 8.—Jens Nielsen and wife have had a sad experience in the last year. Some twelve months ago they lost a son about 17 years old; he died of Bright's disease. Last week they lost two of their children, girls, one was about 13 years old and the other about 17. This time it was diphtheria which got into the family. No one knows how it came but the doctor declared the disease to be of the worst type. The two girls when taken were in the bloom of health. One was ill only four days before her death. The other one took sick and died within five days after the first. They were good nd intelligent girls.

A brother of the deceased, aged about 24, had just arrived from the B. Y. academy at Provo. He has been taken down with the same disease, and it is a question whether he will survive or not, as he is very low at present.

Brother Nielson and wife have the sympathy of all the people in Riverton ward. So far as can be learned the disease has not spread any further as yet, and it is hoped it will not do so.

N. J. C.

Des. Semi-Weekly News June 16, 1893

Case Dismissed.

The case of Alex Bills, of South Jordan, on the charge of permitting the carcasses of sheep about his premises, came up before U. S. Commissioner Norrell yesterday afternoon. The hearing was not proceeded with, as it was ascertained that Mr. Bills had removed the carcasses when directed to by the health officer. The case was consequently dismissed. The circumstances connected with the case had been greatly exaggerated.

Deseret Semi-Weekly News Feb. 13, 1894

ITS OWN SHARP MORAL.

Fast Riding, Fall of a Horse, and a Broken Leg.

RIVERTON, Salt Lake County.—Will you please insert the following in your valuable paper and at the same time give warning to the young men?

An accident happened at above-named place Sunday, February 4th, 1894. The oldest son of N. J. Christiansen, a boy of about 15, was sent on an errand by his father. Before he started off his father gave him warning not to go too fast as the road was not very safe on account of snow and ice. But somehow the boy seems to have forgotten all about the advice given, and coming back at a break-neck speed the horse struck a glassy place and the consequence was, a fall for the horse, a broken leg for the boy and a doctor's bill to the father, besides pain and sorrow to himself and the whole family.

N. J. C.

May 29 1894

Found In the Canal.

On the afternoon of Saturday, Sam-
uel H. Bockstead was crossing the
bridge over the South Jordan canal in
South Jordan, Salt Lake County, when
he discovered below a flour sack filled
with various articles. These were
examined and revealed neckties, books,
scarves, collar and cuff buttons, watch-
chains, spoons, pocketknives, rings,
gloves, combs, hairpins, handkerchiefs,
pens, ink bottles and other articles.
The whole easily might be taken for a
collection of stolen goods, though it
might be the property of one individu-
al. If so the owner can get it by ap-
plying to a justice of the peace of South
Jordan precinct.

It may be that the property is that
stolen by some boys arrested at River-
ton. Nine boys were taken into
custody, and their examination closed
Friday night. One was held to the
grand jury, three were fined, and the
[illegible]

Des. Semi-Wkly. N. Mar. 13 1894

A Pleasant Surprise.

A correspondent writes: Riverton, Salt Lake county, has been the scene of a half dozen or more pleasant surprises this last winter. There was a similar event at that place on Wednesday night last. This one was in honor of an old and highly respected widow, Mrs. Peterson, who was made to rejoice by the manifestations of kindness. The lady's main support is her son Charles, now on a three years' mission to New Zealand. The affair was under the auspices of the officers of the Relief Society.

After the tables were set and the people gathered around them to partake of the goodness, a splendid piece of prose, composed for the occasion, was read, after which a well filled purse was laid on the table in front of the old lady. The token of goodwill brought tears to her eyes. After the repast, the time was spent in singing, recitations, etc., and concluded with speeches by the Bishop and one of his counselors.

N. J. C.

Des. Semi-Weekly N. A Pleasant Party. Mar. 20 1894

Sisters N. T. Silcock, S. L. Howard and J. Hansen, the presidency of the Relief society in Riverton ward, Salt Lake county, were the guests of a very pleasant party on Friday evening. A week ago these sisters gave a surprise party on an aged lady in the ward, as reported in the NEWS, and the party Friday evening was arranged by the lady teachers in the society. The large hall in the upper story of the Riverton school house was filled with a happy gathering, which included most of the ward. The program consisted of speeches, songs, recitations, music and dancing. There was a bounteous repast provided, showing that there is plenty of the best of edibles in Riverton. Everybody enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The Relief society presidency were not aware of the nature of the proceedings until they entered the hall and found everything arranged to thoroughly surprise them.

Des. Eve. News Jan. 12, 1895

Notes From Riverton.

RIVERTON, Salt Lake County,
January 10, 1895.

Editor Deseret News:

An infantry company of the Utah militia has been organized here, with N. J. Christensen as captain, William Soelberg as first lieutenant, and Thos. P. Page as second lieutenant. Captain Christensen went to Salt Lake City today for the purpose of obtaining equipments for the company. He was informed by General Ottinger that the uniforms could not be furnished as there were not enough to supply them, but that the guns and other equipments would be provided in the near future.

The Riverton Dramatic association will present "The Social Glass" at the Draper hall on Friday evening, January 18. The proceeds will go to assist Elder Charles Jensen, who is now laboring as a missionary in Samoa. The following characters will take part in the play: W. H. Bowlden, John Hansen Jr., Wm. Silcock, F. W. Webb, N. J. Christensen, E. A. Walker, Edith Miller, Mrs. Bowlden and Dora Peterson. The company made a great success of this play at the opening of the Riverton theater on January 3rd, and the people have requested that it be reproduced here.

C.

Deseret News — Mar. 27, 1895

Serious Mistakes in Names.

RIVERTON, Utah,

March 26, 1895.

Editor Deseret News:

In your paper of Friday, March 22, you said that Sheriff Hardy and Assistant County Attorney Harrington went to Riverton to take part in the hearing of the case before the justice of the peace of that precinct in which Bates, Henderson and two others are charged with petit larceny. Your informant seems to have got things somewhat mixed in regard to names and dates. About one year ago Earnest and John Bates were arrested on a charge of petit larceny and discharged, there being no evidence against them whatever. Mr. Henderson has never been arrested and brought before this court on any charge whatever at any time.

Mr. Harrington and Mr. Hardy came to Riverton on March 20 to be present at the hearing of one Heber Thorne charged with burglary.

I wish you would set the matter right before the public as the parties interested think that an injustice has been done them.

CHARLES E. MILLER,
Justice of the Peace, Riverton Precinct.

A letter to the same purport as the above has been received from Mr. Henderson himself. The NEWS truly regrets the error, which was caused through imperfect chirography and perhaps poor proof-reading. [EDITOR DESERET NEWS.]

Eve News — May 22, 1895

TOTAL COUNTY POPULATION.

Exclusive of the City It Is 20,106 and With It 68,086—The Returns in Detail.

The Salt Lake county bureau of statistics has completed its labors and the census returns of all the precincts of the county exclusive of the city show a population of 20,106, as follows:

Big Cottonwood	1,000
Bingham	1,313
Bluff Dale	258
Brighton	148
Butler	475
Draper	937
East Mill Creek	404
Farmers	1,005
Fort Herriman	278
Granger	606
Granite	189
Hunter	339
Little Cottonwood	8
Mill Creek	2,878
Mountain Dell	168
North Jordan	846
Pine Forest	93
Pleasant Green	396
Pleasant View	394
Riverton	636
Sandy	1,193
Silver	33
South Cottonwood	2,510
South Jordan	821
Sugar House	1,412
Union	700
West Jordan	1,561
Penitentiary	181
Total	20,106
Population of Salt Lake City	47,980
Total population of entire Salt Lake county	68,086

These 20,106 residents of the county precincts comprise 6,828 parents, 2,467 unmarried persons and 11,802 chil-

Deseret News 24 Aug 1896

IN CITY AND COUNTY

Big Cottonwood Power Company Petitions for a Franchise.

THE BRIDGE CONTRACT APPROVED

Building Permits—The Week's Health Report—Complainants Must Sign —Poll Tax Collections.

The board of county county commissioners met at 2 o'clock this afternoon, pursuant to adjournment from Monday's meeting. All the commissioners were present, as were County Attorney Whittemore and County Collector Spencer.

The county clerk was authorized to have printed 500 copies of the rules of the Third district court.

The bond and contract of Willard & Stewart for the construction of a 43-foot span highway combination bridge across the Jordan river between Sandy and Riverton for $900, the work to be completed by October 10, was presented and approved.

DES EVE NEWS Jan. 12, 1897

CAUSE OF COMPLAINT.

Is Jordan River Being Used for Dumping Refuse?

BLUFF DALE, Jan. 11, 1897.

To the Editor:

It is of rare occurrence when the people of this little burg are aroused to the point of making complaints, but the past few weeks they have had to breathe air which, to say the least, is just simply awful. The odor arising from the Jordan river at times being such as to be almost unbearable. It is not only rich in smell but in taste also, and people living adjacent to it have had to stop using its waters entirely for domestic purposes. Conjectures are many as to the cause, but none have assigned it to natural consequences, believing that the river or lake is being used as a dumping ground for all manner of refuse. If this is the case the fact should be called to the attention of those whose duty it is to attend to such matters, that this probable cause of disease and death may be removed.

Trusting this may find a small space in your valuable columns, I am

A SUBSCRIBER.

DES EVE NEWS Feb. 24, 1897

Riverton News.

RIVERTON, Salt Lake County, Feb. 22.—A fine creamery has been under erection for some time and is now about ready for the machinery. It is a new enterprise in this rapidly growing ward, and it owes its erection to Mr. Charles M. Nokes, a well to do farmer of Riverton, on whose ground it will be in operation, also to Mr. William Schoott of Sandy, the latter being well known among the railroad fraternity as one of the station agents on the Union Pacific from the time the branch of the road here was the Utah Central. It is hoped that the creamery will be a success and will give good satisfaction to the consumers of its product.

A new organization has also sprung up of late in the form of a string band lately organized and which introduced itself on Valentine day by tuning the fiddle to the light fantastics in the Riverton Opera hall. It is hoped it will give full satisfaction to the lovers of the terpsichorean art. The president of the new organization is Mr. F. W. Webb, who also has the management of the Riverton Opera hall, with Mr. E. A. Walker as stage and floor manager. These gentlemen kindly invite their friends and also dramatic associations to visit them and receive fair treatment.

With the new organization we now have two string bands and one brass band. We also have three stores in full operation.

Eve News Mar. 10, 1897

THE RIVERTON CO-OP

File Articles of Incorporation with the County Clerk.

Articles of incorporation of the Riverton Co-op. were filed with County Clerk Dunbar this afternoon.

The incorporators are Thomas H. Nott, Salt Lake City, William E. Bate, Ernest T. Bate, Henry Brown, Samuel H. Green, and Edward Orsill, all of Riverton, Salt Lake county.

The capitalization is fixed at $4,000 divided into shares of the par value of $100.

Thomas H. Nott is president, Wm. E. Bate, vice president and director, Ernest T. Bate, secretary and manager.

Deseret News. Nov. 23, 1897.

Southern Salt Lake County Notes.

Riverton, Salt Lake County,
Nov. 22, 1897.

To the Editor:

John Kone died on November 12th from typhoid fever, thought to be due to a severe cold contracted a few weeks ago when working on the railroad at the point of the mountain. The deceased was only sick in bed about two weeks; he leaves a dear young wife about 18 years old, and two small children, one a little over 2 years and the other about 5 weeks old. Funeral services were held on the 12th and the whole people feel to sympathize with the young widow in her bereavement.

Brother and Sister James Madsen of Bluff Dale were called to mourn the loss of their infant baby daughter on November 10th. Funeral services were held from the ward house November 12th.

Thomas Blake of South Jordan is preparing to leave on a mission for Great Britain December 4th. He has just completed a nice addition to his dwelling, and is leaving his family well provided for.

The delay in resuming the courses of study at the South Jordan school has been due to an addition to the building which the district was sadly in need of and which has just been completed. This is a great comfort both to the teachers and pupils and a credit to the district.

We are pleased to report the improvement of the young men who some time ago became victims of accidents—one with a broken leg, the other with a fractured skull. They are able to be around and partly attend to their duties again.

W. W. Beckstead of Riverton has moved into his new residence. It is hardly yet completed—just enough to accommodate his family for the present. When finished it will no doubt be one of the finest in the vicinity. We want to see a few more such residences erected by our better able townsmen in the near future, as it adds greatly to the appearance of our settlement and displays the faith of its inhabitants in its future prosperity.

N. J. C.

... A FARMERS' INSTITUTE

... Wednesday. ... program is as follows:

Sugar Beet Culture..........
..............Prof. Luther Foster
The Private Dairy, its profitable care and management......
..............Prof. F. B. Linfield
Fruit Culture...............John Boyle
Care of Milk on the Farm..........
..............Prof. Linfield
Crop Rotation, as applied to Utah farm conditions... Prof. L. Foster
What to Read.....Mrs L. C. Foster

The Taylorsville program consists of a discussion of the following subjects:

Dry Farming....Prof. ...
Fruit on the Farm, its care ... and profit.........Dr. ...
Dairy Farming....Prof. ...
Feeding Problems...
Improving the ...
Intellectual Culture for our daughters.........

This is the Riverton program:

Crop Rotation, as applied to Utah farm conditions...Prof. L. Foster
The Private Dairy, its profitable care and management........
..............Prof. F. B. Linfield
Fruit on the Farm, its care, culture and profit.......Dr. ...
Care of Milk on the Farm..........
..............Prof. Linfield
...ters.............Mrs. L. C. Foster
Intellectual Culture for our daughters.............Mrs. L. C. Foster

Each subject will be open for questions and discussion at all of the

DEFENDANT

A FIREBUG'S BIG FAILURE.

1 Apr 1899

Attempted to Burn Out the Pioneer Co-op. at Riverton.

REPORTED BURGLARY CASE

Sheriff Howell Goes Home to Investigate—Government Inspector Required Into Post Office Matter.

[SPECIAL TO THE "NEWS."]

Riverton, April 1.—There was considerable excitement here last night owing to the discovery of attempted incendiarism at the Pioneer Co-op. store. A dancing party was in progress in the Bates's pavilion when the flames broke out. For a while they promised to develop into a conflagration of large size. But so many persons being present by reason of the dance and the nearness of a stream of water prevented much damage being done.

Investigation showed that the roof had been saturated with kerosene; that a hole had been bored through the roof and a rope also saturated with kerosene and let down on to the coal oil tank below. The rope had been ignited and thus the flames were communicated to the oil on the outside of the tank. Strange to say, that the roof and rope burned as did also the oil on the outside of the tank but that on the inside amounting to 25 to 40 gallons, did not, neither did it explode. The tank was so hot that it could scarcely be rolled into the street. The damage is confined to a hole in the roof and a burned door. The insurance on the building was carried by the Home Fire of Utah and aggregated but $250. That on the goods reached $2,000 and was carried with McCormick & Cook of this city. The company sent an adjuster to the scene of the fire today. Mr. Nott of Nott and Langton of the Equitable Co-op., this city, has a half interest in the stock. Mr. Langton, it is said, is not personally interested in the enterprise. Mr. Bates says some evil-minded fire bug, evidently attempted to burn him out.

The constable discovered that the back door of the Riverton Commercial store was opened about the time of the fire, which gave rise to the report that this store had been burglarized. A careful investigation today, however, discloses the fact that nothing is missing from the store and that the door was negligently left ajar.

Sheriff Howells of Salt Lake came out here this morning on hearing the report of the robbery and to make inquiry into a further report which has it that the postoffice had been robbed of $26 in stamps. The government postoffice inspector, also came down here to inquire into the alleged robbery. The result of his findings has not yet been announced.

THE WORK OF AN INCENDIARY

SL Herald 2 Apr 1899

PIONEER CO-OP AT RIVERTON HAS A NARROW ESCAPE.

Claim That the Postoffice, Which Was In the Building, Was Robbed —Shrouded In Mystery.

A fire which appears to have been of incendiary origin broke out about midnight on Friday in the Pioneer Co-op. store at Riverton. It happened that a dance was in progress in a pavilion near the store, and the dancers turned out in force and subdued the incipient blaze before any damage of consequence was done. The postoffice is kept in the store and as the postmaster, Ernest Bate, reported the loss of $30 worth of stamps, it was concluded that a robber had entered the place and after securing what valuables he could, set fire to the place. Another theory was that the fire had been started by some one on the outside by suspending a rope, saturated with coal oil, through the roof, with the lower end dangling in a coal oil tank, and then setting fire to the rope.

Sheriff Howells, Deputy Sheriff Cumnock and Postoffice Inspector Sutton went out to Riverton yesterday morning and made a thorough investigation, coming to the conclusion that the fire was of incendiary origin and that it had been started on the inside of a small storeroom in the rear end of the main store. In one corner they found a quantity of paper, saturated with coal oil, and a short piece of candle, and the floor was saturated with coal oil. In this corner the fire started and burnt and scorched the inside of the door and woodwork around. The paper, owing to being thoroughly saturated with oil, adhered to the floor so firmly that it was only partially burnt. The theory is that the oiled paper was placed on the floor near the oil tank and close by a shelf on which were several cases of matches, and that the candle was lighted and placed on the paper so that when the candle burnt down it ignited the paper, thus giving the incendiary plenty of time to get away before any evidences of his work became visible.

There was no evidence of the store having been broken into. The doors and windows were all intact and the whole affair seems shrouded in mystery.

T. H. Nott of Salt Lake is the principal owner in the Pioneer Co-op. at Riverton, which is managed by Ernest Bate, who is also postmaster and an owner in the store. Mr. Bate was out and in the store several times during the evening. He left for the last time, he told the sheriff, at about 11:30, and all was right then. Mr. Bate told the postoffice inspector that he had placed $30 worth of 1-cent and 2-cent stamps in a small envelope in a desk in the postoffice department, and they were gone, without any clue to the thief. The other stamps and valuables of the postoffice Mr. Bate took home for safe keeping, according to his custom.

The Home Fire of Utah had a risk of $250 on the building, and the goods are insured for $2,000 with McCornick & Cook of this city.

FIRE IN RIVERTON STORE.

Apr. 2, 1899 — St Trib.

SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN THE WORK OF AN INCENDIARY.

Blaze Discovered and Put Out Before Much Damage Had Been Done—Postoffice in the Building.

A small blaze in the Pioneer Co-op store at Riverton, which is also used as the postoffice, and the door of the Riverton commercial store being accidentally left open, caused rumor of arson and burglary to reach Sheriff Howells yesterday morning early. Investigation by the Sheriff showed that a pile of paper, saturated with coal oil, had been placed in a corner of the room of the Pioneer Co-op store and set on fire. But little damage was done, however, to the building, as the blaze was early discovered by some dancers in Bates's hall, adjoining. The alarm was turned in about midnight.

Ernest Bates, who is postmaster at Riverton, is a half-owner in the store where the blaze occurred. The other half is owned by Thomas H. Nott of this city. The store is insured with Heber J. Grant & Co. for $250, and the stock for $2000 with McCornick & Cook.

Sheriff Howells said last evening that he had no doubt but the fire was the work of an incendiary and it was started by some one who had access to the building by means of keys.

"The theory was advanced," said the Sheriff, "that the fire originated on the outside of the building, but this was quickly disproved by Deputy Cummock and myself. That it was done for the purpose of robbery is not to be considered, as all that Bates claims to be missing is a No. 5 envelope containing $30 worth of stamps of the denomination of 1 cent and 2 cents. Personally, I do not believe that it is possible to crowd that number of stamps into such a space; neither does Postoffice Inspector Sutton, who went down from Ogden to investigate. The insurance was renewed on March 9th last. Deputy Sheriff Cummock directly charged Bates with being the incendiary, but he indignantly denied it."

The actual loss will be small. Fred Grant of Heber J. Grant & Co. went down to investigate the origin of the blaze and make the adjustment.

ARRAIGNED FOR ARSON.

3 Apr 1899
35 E 16 Nov 5

Pleads Not Guilty and Is Bound Over by Justice McMaster.

TRIAL COMES UP THURSDAY.

[illegible] Night in the County Jail, Having Failed to Give Bail in the Sum of $1,500 Bonds.

The charge of arson has been preferred against Ernest T. Bate, the postmaster of Riverton, in whose store an incendiary fire occurred about a week [illegible] chronicled in the "News" at the time. As a consequence Mr. Bate [illegible] last night in the county jail. At o'clock this morning he was taken [illegible] before Justice McMaster, where he [illegible] not guilty. He was unaccompanied by counsel. His case was set [illegible] for preliminary hearing at 2 o'clock on Thursday next. In the [illegible] he will enjoy his liberty on [illegible] strength of a $1,500 bond furnished [illegible] Bradley Jr., of Riverton, and [illegible] of this city.

[illegible] THICKSTOTED.

[illegible] Deputy Sheriff Eastmond when [illegible] knew brought to Salt Lake.

[SPECIAL TO THE "NEWS."]

[illegible] 3.—Ernest T. Bate [illegible] arrested here last night by Deputy [illegible] Eastmond, and taken to Salt [illegible] on the charge of having attempted to set fire to the postoffice, which is located in the store where he has been [illegible] business. The arrest created considerable excitement here, although it [illegible] expected for days past as it is [illegible] that the federal postoffice [illegible] certain officers have [illegible] watching into the case.

[illegible] Deputy Sheriff Deputy Jr. the [illegible] went to Salt Lake for the [illegible] bookkeeper, son of Bate's [illegible] Young Bate's father is [illegible] Bate with his son today. [illegible] of the accused are exceedingly [illegible] for the trouble in which he has [illegible] involved. He is about twenty-[illegible] years of age and has a wife and [illegible] children. He came here from [illegible] about some years ago, and [illegible] has endeared himself by treating a [illegible] square and acting as postmaster. [illegible] has been drinking considerably of late. It is the hope of all that he will be able to prove himself innocent of [illegible] charged against him.

ARSON AT RIVERTON

S L Herald ——— 8 Apr 1899

Postmaster Bate Charged With a Serious Crime.

NOW BEHIND THE BARS

ACCUSED OF SETTING FIRE TO CO-OP STORE.

Arrested by Sheriff Howells and Deputy Cummock and Brought to the City Last Night—Some Strong Circumstantial Evidence Against the Accused.

With the serious charge of arson hanging over him, Ernest T. Bate, postmaster at Riverton, a small village about twenty miles southwest of the city, was brought to Salt Lake at midnight last night by Deputy Sheriff Cummock and lodged in the county jail.

The crime with which Bate is charged is that of setting fire to the Pioneer Co-op store at Riverton at midnight last Friday night. The Co-op store is managed by the accused man, and the postoffice is situated in the store. A dance was in progress in a pavilion adjacent to the store when the fire was discovered, and had it not been for prompt work on the part of the dancers the entire structure would have been quickly consumed. As it was the blaze was extinguished without much damage to the building or its contents.

The conditions of the store aroused the suspicion of many of those who went into it after the fire had been put out, and by telephone Sheriff Howells and Deputy Sheriff Cummock were summoned the next morning to investigate the case.

STRONG EVIDENCE.

They found strong evidence that the fire was of incendiary origin. Just beside a door leading into a storeroom in the rear of the store they found a quantity of paper saturated with coal oil, and in the midst of this was a piece of half burnt candle. It was here that the fire started, and it is supposed that the saturated paper was placed on the floor and the candle end lighted and placed in the midst. When the candle burned out it would ignite the paper, giving the incendiary in the meanwhile plenty of time to get away before the fire got well started.

Suspicion was first directed to Bate, owing to conflicting statements which, it is alleged, he made about a quantity of stamps, $30 worth in all, which he claimed he had left in a drawer in the postoffice. This drawer was found burst open and the stamps were gone, but there was not the slightest evidence that any of the doors or windows to the store had been tampered with, or that forcible access had been obtained to it in any other way. This went to show that someone who had a key to the store had been guilty of the crime.

Bate was, from the accounts of several witnesses, in the store less than half an hour before the fire was discovered. A man who was in attendance at the dance purchased some candy of him and left him at the store shortly before midnight. A half hour later the fire broke out.

There were other suspicious circumstances in connection with the matter which tended to point to Bate's guilt, and after Sheriff Howells and Deputy Sheriff Cummock had thoroughly looked into the case they decided to arrest Bate.

When brought to the city last evening Bate had very little to say about the charge against him. He was locked up at the county jail over night, and today he will be taken before Justice McMaster to enter a plea to the charge of arson.

It is understood that there may be other charges of nearly as serious a character brought against Bate, but as to these little could be learned last evening.

BATE ON TRIAL FOR ARSON.

Des Evo News
13 Apr 1899

Charged with Attempting to Burn a Store at Riverton.

DEFENDED BY C. S. VARIAN.

Case Stood Up Before Justice Timmony This Afternoon—Is Attracting Much Attention.

The Riverton arson case came up for preliminary hearing in Justice Timmony's court room at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Samuel T. Bate appeared to answer the charge of having attempted to set fire to the Riverton Pioneer Co-op store on the night of March 31st. The defendant, who is a clean shaven young man, was accompanied by his elderly father, who sat beside him during the hearing, and listened to the evidence as given by Deputy Sheriff Cummock. Attorney C. S. Varian represented the defense while Attorney Gunter fulfilled a similar office for the State. Among those present were B. F. Grant, on behalf of the Home Fire Insurance company, with Attorney James E. Moyle. Messrs. Langton and Nott, who are said to have an interest in the Riverton store were also present.

Deputy Sheriff John D. Cummock was the first witness called; he testified that upon hearing the news of the alleged arson at the Riverton Pioneer Co-op on April 1st, at the instance of Sheriff Howells, he proceeded to the scene. On arriving there someone, he believed it was Mr Bate's father, called his attention to the roof of the store, where there was a hole burned in the roof of the "lean-to." Mr. Bate Sr. made the statement that someone had bored a hole in the shingles apparently with an auger. When he investigated the interior of the lean-to he found the evidence of fire in the form of a charred rope that lay beside a coal oil tank set inside the building; further he found a pile of papers beside the main building that had been saturated with coal oil and partially consumed by fire. The lower panel of the door leading from the "lean-to" to the main building was burned completely out; the upper panel of the door was partially burned and the paint was considerably blistered; the casings were charred in a similar manner, especially at the top. The west side of the shelving in the store was also considerably charred by the fire.

Returning to the subject of the burned roof of the "lean-to" Mr. Cummock stated that there was an appearance of about three feet by one burned through the shingles and the joists were scorched. In the portomine part of the building he noticed that the drawer had been forced out of sliding and was hanging down. Mr. Bate stated that $36 worth of stamps were missing.

At this point of the evidence Attorney Varian raised objections to the introduction of any testimony that did not directly have a bearing upon the case in question. The hearing will probably be concluded this evening.

last 7 o'clock. 15 Apr 1899
DEN

ARSON CASE GOES OVER.

Preliminary Hearing of Ernest Hale Continued Until Next Tuesday.

When the examination of witnesses in the case of Ernest Hale of Riverton, charged with arson, was concluded for the day an adjournment was taken until 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning next, at which time Justice Timmony will listen to the remainder of the evidence.

William Langton called at the "News" office today and disclaimed having been excited in court yesterday. What was construed to be excitement on his part was merely an earnest exhibition of maintaining his own rights in the case. He was also misunderstood, he says, with reference to his statement that Mr. Nott was not upon Mr Hale's bond. He likewise reiterates that he is in no way connected with the Riverton store in which the fire occurred. He says Mr. Nott is the man.

HEARING OF ARSON CASE.

Apr. 14, 1899 SLTrib

RIVERTON POSTMASTER BEFORE JUDGE TIMMONY.

E. F. Grant Tried to Get a Confession from Bate in a Dark Cell—Deputy Sheriff Cummock's Testimony.

There is every promise of a hot time before Judge Timmony this morning in the case of Ernest T. Bate, the young Riverton postmaster and merchant, who is charged with attempting to burn Riverton Pioneer Co-op on the early morning of April 1st.

From the statements of the young man it appears that the prosecution has been diligent in endeavoring to procure a confession from him.

Bate was arrested on the night of April 5th, and brought to the county jail. After his incarceration in a dark cell, he says, another man was unceremoniously hustled into the same compartment, and for two hours did everything in his power to wring a confession from him. The man, Bate further says, pretended that he was also under arrest, but the young man learned later that his companion was none other than B. F. Grant of the Home Fire Insurance company, who, by the aid of Sheriff Howells, had secured admission to the cell for the purpose of pumping him.

The preliminary hearing of Bate began before Justice Timmony at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and continued until 5, when adjournment was taken until 9:30 this morning. The State was represented by W. T. Gunter and the defense by C. S. Varian. J. H. Moyle was also present and sat with the prosecution.

CUMMOCK THINKS HIM GUILTY.

Deputy Sheriff Cummock testified to his examination of the premises the morning after the fire. He was confident, he said, from the interior appearance that the building had been set on fire, and subsequent investigations convinced him that Bate was the guilty man.

Ernest T. Bate, the Defendant.

Ernest T. Bate, the Defendant.

He also testified concerning a conversation between B. F. Grant and Bate on the night of April 5th, at Riverton. Cummock explained that he was in hiding behind a crate and could distinctly hear the conversation. Grant, he said, first talked to Bate about the repayment of $18.35 which the Home Fire Insurance company had paid of was to pay the elder Bate for damage to the building, and the young man agreed to pay the money to the company in sixty days.

Grant then reminded Bate that he needn't tell his wife, his mother, or his father that he had set the building on fire, and Bate, so Cummock said, replied that he wouldn't.

The cross-examination of Mr. Cummock by C. S. Varian was very long and very searching. Cummock admitted that he knew of Grant's visit to Bate's cell in the county jail, and that Sheriff Howells took part in it. With reference to his own actions in the matter Cummock said that he believed Bate was guilty, and told him so, at the same time urging him to tell who put him up to it. Cummock had heard, he said, of an unknown man prowling about Riverton on the night of the fire, but didn't think the unknown had anything to do with it. Cummock admitted in conclusion that if the fire started on the roof of the frame addition to the store, his theory would fall.

DANSIE AT THE DANCE.

The next witness was Moroni Dansie, a young man who was attending a ball given by the Bate family in a pavilion near the store on the night in question. He went into the store with Bate at about 11:50, he said, to get some candy and a letter, and they left the store together. Bate locked the door as they came out, but he didn't see Bate again until the alarm was given. During the evening, he further testified, Bate, together with his father, brother and sister had been playing for the dance.

On cross-examination Dansie said that Bate ran into the addition after the fire was discovered and dragged out a coal oil can that was very close to the fire. He also carried goods out of the store.

When asked why he had purchased the candy for Dansie replied that it was for himself.

"Well, then," Mr. Varian asked, "where did you come in there any way?" referring to the dance.

"I don't know as I was in it," Dansie replied.

Court then adjourned.

...NT ADMITS LYING

...15 1899

...rance Agent Testifies in ... Bate Arson Case.

...ORT TO GET CONFESSION

...er to Persuade Young Bate to ...mit that He Set His Store on ..., B. F. Grant Says He Told the ...isoner a Series of Falsehoods—Riverton Witnesses Sworn for the ...fense—Their Testimony Tended ... Prove that Bate was at the ...ce when Crime was Committed.

...pecial Agent B. F. Grant of the ...ne Fire Insurance company does ... believe it sinful to tell a deliberate ...ehood under certain conditions; at least, ... Grant so testified under oath, in ... Bate arson case before Justice Tim... yesterday. This confession was ...ng from Grant by C. S. Varian on ...s-examination after the attorney ...forced the insurance man to ad... that he had deliberately lied to ... T. Bate, the defendant, in or... to extort a confession of guilt from ... young man.

...ior compelling Grant to make these ...essions, Mr. Varian tossed the fol... ...point at him:

..., if you didn't hesitate about telling ...se falsehoods then, how do I know ...re telling the truth now?"

"... I was not before a court of jus...," Grant answered.

"... draw the line there?"

"... I draw the line."

"... is all right to tell falsehoods in ...ary life then, according to your ...?"

"... I don't think that; this was an ...ordinary matter."

...N LYING IS JUSTIFIABLE.

"... it is in extraordinary matters ... you believe it all right to tell a ...hood; you believe in drawing a ... between testimony in a court of ...ce and stating things outside?"

"..., sir."

"... account of penalties imposed by ... I suppose?"

"..., on account of conditions."

"... in a case like this?"

"..., sir."

...e ramifications of the case are also ... to involve B. F. Grant in a slan... suit, William Langton having de... ...d his intention yesterday of insti... ...g civil proceedings against Grant ... conclusion of the present hear... upon the ground that Grant has ...ential, at least, charged him ... complicity in the alleged crime. ...hen the hearing was resumed at ...yesterday morning B. F. Grant ... the stand and detailed the various ...ersations which he claims to have ...with Bate.

TESTIMONY OF GRANT.

Grant's testimony was to the general effect that the young man tacitly admitted his guilt, and that he (Grant) urged him to confess. With respect to the missing stamps, Grant said that he offered to buy half the amount for *him if he would come to town.* Bate told him later, he further testified, that he had seen Nott and that Nott advised him not to accept Grant's proposition.

On cross-examination Grant said that he knew on the morning of April 2nd that Bate had set fire to the building, but that he didn't tell the post-office inspector or Sheriff because he wanted to learn more. Grant also admitted that he believed the boy had a double motive and that somebody was behind him in the matter. In answer to further questions, Grant said that he thought Nott might have known something about it. He might also have mentioned Langton in the same connection, he said.

It was at this juncture that Grant confessed that he had lied to the boy and that he believed it was justifiable under the circumstances.

THE CELL INTERVIEW.

Respecting his visit to Bate in a cell at the county jail, Grant admitted that he might have said to Bate, that Heber J. Grant was good for $50,000 and that the apostle would go bail for him (the witness). He also admitted that in representing to Bate that he was also under arrest, he was running a bluff. When put into the cell, Grant said, he told Bate that he had been arrested for promising to procure stamps for Bate to replace those that were missing, and that they were both in the same fix. A couple of officers, Grant explained, were within earshot so that they could hear the conversation.

"A new peep-hole brigade, eh?" Mr. Varian suggested.

"Just as you please," Grant answered.

"So the Sheriff, the jailer, two officers and yourself were in the scheme to extort a confession from this boy Bate?" Mr. Varian asked.

Grant admitted that this was a fact but that Bate would not talk.

EFFORT TO DECEIVE BATE.

A recess was then taken until 2 o'clock in the afternoon. At the hour Grant again took the stand.

"Did you tell Bate that you wanted to help him out?" Mr. Varian asked.

"Yes," Grant replied.

"Did you say that you had been in the reform school?"

"Yes."

"And that it cost you $50 to get him"

"No."

"You advised him to get stamps?"

"Yes."

"And you told him that your firm bought stamps $50 worth at a time and that you could get them there?"

"I talked to him about stamps."

"You wasn't going to get them from the office?"

"No, we didn't have them."

"That was another falsehood?"

"Yes."

This concluded Grant's examination and Deputy Sheriff Cummock was recalled for further cross-examination. Cummock denied that he told Langton that Bate protested his innocence when Grant was talking to him in the jail.

WITNESSES FOR DEFENSE.

The prosecution announced that it would rest at this time and a large part of the population of Riverton was sworn for the defense.

The witnesses examined during the afternoon were Elizabeth Bate, wife of the defendant; Edith Nichols, Edward Orgill, father-in-law of the defendant; Mrs. Hannah Bate, mother of the defendant; Eusilda Orgill, Bate's sister-in-law; Edith Bate, a sister, and Lars and Edgar Beckstead.

The bulk of the testimony tended to show that Bate went to the store with Moroni Dansie, some little time before the fire was discovered, and that he and Dansie returned to the dancing pavilion together, after which Bate resumed his place at the piano and played for a waltz and then for a quadrille, before the alarm of fire was given. Various witnesses also testified that Bate rendered assistance in remoing goods from the store, and that a strange man was seen prowling about the premises before the fire.

OIL ON THE ROOF.

The Beckstead boys, Lars and Edgar, testified that they climbed upon the roof of the "lean-to" after the fire was discovered. Lars said that he found a rag saturated with coal oil on the roof, almost directly over the door between the main building and the lean-to, and both Lars and Edgar testified that there was coal oil on the roof where it was burning.

At 5:30 in the afternoon the further hearing of the case was postponed until Tuesday morning next at 9 o'clock.

Witnesses in the Bate Arson Case.

SEQUEL TO RIVERTON CASE

Herald, ——— 16 Apr 1899

LANGTON WANTS THE BISHOP TO INVESTIGATE.

Bishop Solomon to Inquire Into the Acts of B. F. Grant—Testimony of Postmaster Bate.

It is stated upon good authority that the testimony of defendant Bate in the sensational Riverton arson case next Tuesday will be of a character that will lead up to and draw out a full clearing of the circumstances upon which Special Agent Grant based his conclusion that William Langton knew something of the Riverton fire, and to which effect he testified Friday. Bate will testify, it is stated, that Mr. Grant used Langton's name in the interview in the jail, and that he asked the postmaster direct if it was not Langton or Nott who put him up to firing the building. It is practically upon this interview at the jail that Langton rests his will rest his threatened case against Mr. Grant for slander.

IN THE BISHOP'S COURT.

Pending civil action it now leaks out that Mr. Grant's alleged criticism of Langton is to be the subject of a bishop's court trial. It seems that very soon after the fire at Riverton, Langton wrote to Bishop Solomon of Grant's visit, the Twenty-third, and accused the special agent of acting in an unchristianlike manner towards him. He asked that Grant be called to account, that the bishop's court instigate a full and complete investigation of what Grant had said and done, and to further by determining what right Grant may, Grant had for bringing his brother's name into the case. The complainant urged that it be done at once and, it is said, Grant was at once cited to appear, but flatly refused to do so until the Riverton case had been disposed of in a court of justice. The case is still pending with Bishop Solomon, and it is understood, will be heard later. This evidently is the "action" between the two men, of which mention has heretofore been made.

RIVERTON ARSON CASE RESUMED.

Des Eve News
18 Apr 1899

Defense Wants to Know About Kerosene Saturated Rags.

DISCOVERED YESTERDAY.

Found by a Carpenter of the Insurance Company While Repairing the Building.

The hearing in the Riverton arson case that went over from Friday afternoon, was resumed in Justice Timmony's court at 9:15 this morning. At that time there were very few spectators present outside of the friends of the accused, Ernest Bate.

Attorney Jas. H. Moyle, accompanied by a stenographer, watched the case as heretofore for the Home Fire Insurance company.

The morning's session was practically devoid of interest, being devoted to descriptions of the state of the store buildings, both before and after the night of the fire, on the part of supersensitive and excessively deliberate witnesses with a decided weakness for minute detail. The only new point brought out was the testimony of Mr. George Hackett, the carpenter employed by the insurance company to repair the building, to the effect that he failed to locate a certain bundle of charred rags that he produced in court this morning, at the same time claiming that he found them yesterday morning reposing on the floor of the "lean-to," near the site of the much advertised coal oil tank. At present there is a decided speculation as to what aim and object the defense have in introducing this evidence. The opinion was ventured sotto voce, that possibly the defense may launch the suggestion that some evilly disposed Salt Laker with malice aforethought placed them in that position; although those in "the know" affirm that the theory will be advanced later that the mysterious "tramp" "seen prowling around" the little settlement on the night of the blaze placed the oil saturated rags in the roof, from whence, during the course of repairs, the charred portions fell to the floor unnoticed.

This Morning's Proceedings.

Samuel Hyrum Green of Bluffdale, a farrier by occupation, testified that he was playing the bass viol at the dance on the night of March 31st at Riverton. He said that the defendant Bate was playing the piano in conjunction with the orchestra, except for some few minutes about 10 p.m. Bate returned, and subsequently an alarm of fire was raised. He, together with the dancers, rushed out into the street, where they saw that the store was on fire. As soon as he could collect his scattered senses he noticed the defendant Bate energetically engaged in carrying property out of the postoffice. Then the witness said he joined the bucket brigade and assisted in putting out the fire. He stated that he noticed a man-hole in the ceiling of the store that was covered over with a sack. Witness pulled the sack out and found it to be alight; then the defendant Bate, he said, climbed up into the hole and after a bucket of water had been passed up to him, he put out the blaze; witness in the meantime carried the blazing sack to the east door and threw it into the street.

The examination of the witness, who was very deliberate in his answers, occupied fully forty minutes, the major portion of the time being taken up by descriptions of the interior and exterior of the store where the fire occurred.

LEFT THE HALL TWICE.

John Bate, a brother of the defendant, and one of the musicians at the dance on the night in question, was then called; he stated that his brother left the pavilion about 10 p.m. and returned shortly afterwards with a piece of pasteboard to tear up into tickets for a drawing for partners. Witness stated that his brother Ernest again left the hall at about 11:40 in company with a young man named Dansie; a few minutes afterward the latter returned closely followed by the defendant. After the alarm of fire he rushed into the store and his brother went into the "lean-to" and rolled out the coal oil can. The rest of his testimony was in corroboration of that of the previous witness.

On cross-examination the witness stated the interval between the dances during the time that the defendant was absent from the piano with Dansie, extended over a period of twenty minutes or so. When witness entered the store the door leading into the "lean-to" was burning briskly. It was bolted from the inside. When he entered the "lean-to" there was practically no fire apparent; he noticed that the top of the coal oil tank had become unsoldered owing to the action of the heat. He told Green to pull out the sack that covered the manhole in the main store, although there were no signs that the same was alight until it had been torn away.

Mr. Varian again took the witness and elicited the information that the defendant was present part of the time during the interval, that he estimated to extend over a period "of 15 or 20 minutes." It further developed that Ernest Bate and a Mr. Silcock left the dance hall for about five minutes, thus showing that the defendant left the dance three times in all, and not twice, as previously testified.

CONDITION OF BUILDING.

George Hackett, a carpenter and millwright residing at Riverton, was then called to the stand. He stated that he did some repair work to the store at the instigation of Mr. B. F. Grant, for the Home Fire Insurance company after the fire had occurred; after describing the construction of the building he proceeded to state the condition of the store when he went to proceed with the repairs.

Witness stated that there was a space of three feet that ran up the roof that had been burned; also there was a similar hole directly over the spot where the coal oil tank stood in the "lean-to;" the hole in the roof was immediately over the connecting door into the store, the upper panels of which had been completely burned through; witness also noticed traces of flames on the west side of the roof.

Immediately over the same hole in the store there was a hole burned through the shingles and sheathing of the roof. On the floor of the "lean-to" there were evidences, the witness stated, as though the fire had followed some coal-oil that had been upon the floor." There were also evidences in the "lean-to" as though someone had entered from the store and pulled the door to, leaving a discernable trail. The door at the bottom, directly over the floor, was also considerably charred. After a demonstration on the courtroom door to illustrate the course of the fire the witness proceeded to state that on Monday (yesterday) morning he found a piece of charred rag that was lying against the brick wall close to where the coal oil tank stood. The rag was produced in court, and after the court had taken a smell at the same it went on record that the rag still had the odor of coal-oil lingering in its charred folds.

STORY OF A RAG.

On cross examination witness said he expected to be called as a witness today and he "just happened on the rag;" he said he made the first examination of the premises on the Monday after the fire; he had heard that other parties had looked into the cause of the fire and he thought he would do a little private detective work just for his "own private satisfaction." He further made the admission that he had examined the premises on three separate occasions and also had scraped the floor of the "lean-to" but until yesterday he had not noticed the rag in question. Further on in the course of cross examination by Attorney Hunter he stated that he found evidences of coal oil upon the roof of the store; also inside of the main building about six inches inside of the door of the main building there was a bunch of charred newspapers that had been saturated with oil, there was also another little pile of paper on the floor lying some distance away that showed traces of oil, but it had not been ignited.

The court then adjourned until 2:15 p. m.

BATE ARSON CASE RESUMED.

SL Trib, 19 Apr 1899

FIVE WITNESSES EXAMINED FOR DEFENSE.

Testimony Largely Cumulative—Defendant's Father on Stand—Young Bate May be Heard Today.

The Bate arson case occupied Justice Timmony's attention again yesterday, beginning at 9 o'clock in the morning and continuing with more or less vigor until 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The testimony was mainly corroborative of that given for the defense on Friday last, and those who visited the courtroom in the hope of hearing something sensational, went away feeling that they hadn't got their money's worth.

Ernest T. Bate, the young defendant, will probably be upon the stand today, and it is predicted that the story of his experiences with B. F. Grant, special agent of the Home Fire Insurance company, will be of unusual interest.

WITNESS FOR DEFENSE.

Samuel Henry Green, John Bate and George Hackett were the only witnesses examined during the forenoon. Green and Bate testified as to Ernest T. Bate, the defendant, having left the dancing pavilion and returned to his place in the hand some time before the fire broke out.

George Hackett testified that he repaired the roof of the "lean-to" after the fire. The day after the fire, Hackett said he saw some paper saturated with coal oil near the door between the "lean-to" and main building. On the Monday following, he then said, he found a charred rag near the same door. He was confident that the rag was not there when he first examined the premises.

The theory of the defense is that the building was fired from the outside of the roof by tramps, and that the piece of rag found by Hackett was used for that purpose, and that it stuck to the rafters and dropped down some time after the fire.

At the afternoon session, George Hackett testified that the actual damage to the building was $1.25 and while there had been no damage to the door, he had added $1 to that amount, because Mr. Grant had suggested that he do so.

William Beckstead said that he saw the defendant endeavoring to save things from the burning building, and had assisted him in his efforts.

BATE'S FATHER TESTIFIES.

W. E. Bate, father of the defendant, was on the stand for over two hours, and told the story of his life and other things that seemed to have little to do with the case. Mr. Bate's testimony concerning the defendant's departure and return to the pavilion was substantially the same as that given by preceding witnesses. Bate further said in part:

"I told Sheriff Howells that I believed the man who set the building on fire must have a key, but I also asked at the same time whether it was not a fact that many men had been arrested who had keys that could open almost any door in the United States. There were papers on the floor near where the fire is supposed to have originated, that smelled strongly of coal oil. I objected to being interviewed alone by Grant and Sutton and others and a stenographer, because I did not want to make it possible for them to make me say anything I did not want to. I don't understand shorthand, and I wanted to see what was written down. I did not like what Grant said to Ernest about having to replace the stamps, and told the boy that I did not think it made any difference to the Government what became of the stamps, as long as the Government got the money for them."

Several more witnesses are yet to be heard, and the examination will be taken up again this morning at 9 o'clock.

YOUNG BATE [illegible]
ON THE STAND.

19 Apr 1899 Des Evo. News

Point Blank Denial that He Ever Confessed His Guilt.

HE TELLS OF HIS ARREST.

Also of Advances Made with the Hope of Having Him Tell Who Was Responsible.

The interest in the preliminary hearing of the Bate case centered this morning around the examination of the defendant who occupied the stand during the entire session. The usual quota of spectators were present including Mr. Nott, who in the absence of his partner, Langton, evinced a lively interest in the proceedings owing to the frequent mention of the latter's name. The witness proceeded to detail at length the circumstances surrounding his arrest and subsequent conversations with Deputy Sheriff Cummock and Mr. B. F. Grant, both of whom according to the accused promised leniency provided he would divulge the names of the "other parties" who were supposed to have used the young man as a cat's paw.

Ernest Bate, who is an intelligent young man of twenty-two, told his story in a straightforward manner without contradiction or hesitancy.

At the afternoon session George Hackett testified that the actual damage to the building by fire amounted to $14.15.

Wallace Brckstead, a young man resident of Riverton, was the next witness called, but as no new developments were unearthed he was allowed to step down without the formality of a cross-examination.

W. E. Bate, father of the defendant, was on the stand for over two hours. During the course of the testimony he stated that the store was owned by himself while the stock was held jointly by Messrs. T. H. Nott, S. Green, F. Barton, his son Ernest and himself. The buildings immediately adjacent to the store were owned by his son and himself who carried no insurance on any of them, neither was there any insurance upon their residences or furniture. His son Ernest was manager and treasurer of the corporation. Mr. Bate's testimony concerning the departure and return of the defendant from the dance hall was practically the same as that given by preceding witnesses. In answer to a query by Mr. Varian, Mr. Bate stated that Mr. Langton had no interest whatever in the store. Bate further said in part: "I told Sheriff Hewitt that I believed the man who set the building on fire must have a key, but I also asked at the same time whether it was not a fact that many men had been arrested who had keys that could open almost any door in the United States.

"There were papers on the floor near where the fire is supposed to have originated, that smelled strongly of coal oil. I objected to being interviewed alone by Grant and Sutton and others and a stenographer, because I did not want to make it possible for them to make me say anything I did not want to. I don't understand shorthand, and I wanted to see what was written down. I did not like what Grant said to Ernest about having to replace the stamps, and told the boy that I did not think it made any difference to the government what became of the stamps, as long as the government got its money for them."

This Morning's Proceedings.

The court convened at 9:30 this morning, when Mr. W. E. Bate was recalled in answer to a question bearing upon his testimony given yesterday afternoon and then the defense put Ernest Bate, the defendant, upon the stand. He stated that he had been operating the Riverton store for some years past, with the assistance of his father and Mr. Nott. Defendant stated that he owned a fourth interest in the enterprise, was a married man and had two children. Before the present corporation was inaugurated Bate stated that the store was operated as a branch of the Salt Lake Equitable Co-op., "during the time that there was a fire there," he added by way of fixing the date. Witness said he had not taken stock of the goods in the store for more than a year past, and consequently he was unable to fix the amount of merchandise that there was in the structure on March 21st; he further added that the goods in the building had been insured for $1,000 for some two years past. Coming down to the night of the fire witness said he entered the store previous to the dance, at about 9 p.m. to get a small show case that contained chewing gum in order to sell some of the contents to the prospective dancers in the pavilion. He was only in the store for a few minutes. After the dance commenced the defendant stated that he left the hall where he was playing the piano three times.

WHY HE LEFT THE DANCE.

The first time he left the pavilion he went across to the store to get a piece of pasteboard from off the counter to cut up for tickets for a drawing for a cap and apron dance, he stated that he did not stay in the store above a minute. The second time that he left the dance he went out in company with the local constable to see whether they could run across a couple of tramps who were said to be hanging around outside. He and constable Silcock separated as soon as they got outside, defendant stating that he went over to his own home to see whether the children were asleep and "take a general look around." Witness said he came straight back and went on playing with the band. The last time he left the store prior to the fire was about half an hour previous to the alarm. He was accompanied by a young man named Moroni Dansie, who wanted some candy; he got the sweets and then went into the postoffice to get a letter for a young lady. "Dansie and I left the store together," said the witness. Witness, continuing, stated that when he returned to the pavilion he resumed his duties on the band stand until the cry of fire was raised, when he rushed across the street, opened the store door and rescued the postoffice cabinet; he then returned and carried out a show case from the store proper.

STAMPS IN THE DRAWER.

Coming down to the stamp question, witness, continuing, stated that he usually only kept a couple of dollars worth of stamps in the drawer in the office but on the night of the fire he had considerable [illegible] ing up his quarterly report; after witness had carried out the postoffice outfit, he stated that he rushed round to the east door of the "lean-to" kicked it in and rolled out the coal oil tank that was in such a heated condition that it burned his fingers, then he climbed into the man hole in the store ceiling and extinguished the fire that was there. After the excitement of the fire the defendant said he discovered that some of the stamps were missing from the drawer in the cabinet that he had carried into the street. When postoffice inspector came down to Riverton the accused agreed to make up the deficiency after Mr. Sutton returned to Salt Lake City. Mr. Grant, who was with him all day remained behind and stayed in Riverton over night, during the evening the insurance man asked to see his books; witness, continuing, stated that he examined the same and expressed surprise that no cash book had been kept. The next morning, as witness was making up the mail, he said Mr. Grant came to him and wanted to see the postoffice books. Mr. Grant checked up the same and said they were $30 short.

"I told him that if they were that they must have been stolen." Then he offered to help me make up the deficiency and told me to come to Salt Lake to buy the stamps." Witness continued that on a subsequent occasion Mr. Grant suggested that he should get Langton or Nott to buy the stamps as he, witness, could put "the screw on them" owing to their connection with the fire that had occurred in the Salt Lake Equitable Co-op. At this point of the evidence Mr. Nott leaned over the reporter and said, "Now, you be sure and get that in the paper."

CONCEALED WITNESS.

On the Wednesday after the fire Mr. Grant had another interview with witness regarding his paying the insurance when Mr. Grant asked him to refund the money. Witness told him that it wasn't his building; as the conversation concluded witness said he discovered a man hiding behind a crate near which they were standing at the time, as soon as the man found out that he was discovered he broke and ran across the street.

On Thursday Mr. Grant came down to Riverton accompanied by a stenographer and attempted to get a statement from him in the interests of the fire insurance company.

DEPUTY ASKS QUESTIONS.

The following evening Deputy Sheriff Cummock arrested him and took him to the county jail in Salt Lake City. "While they were driving into town, Cummock said," continued the witness, "Now, young man, just as sure as that horse is in front of us I know you set fire to that building, but I know you were egged on to the deed by other parties. Now, unless you tell who put you up to that job you will get eight or ten years in the pen. Now, my boy, didn't Mr. Langton or Nott put you up to set fire to this building?" I answered, "No sir," said the defendant, "and I refused to talk to him further although he fired questions at me all the way into town."

When the accused reached town the deputy sheriff put him in a cell. At 10 p.m. the witness said that he heard a noise and he recognized Mr. Grant's voice; "he was making a great noise, and said it was a — of a fix to be in, further, that Mr. Sutton had sworn out a warrant and had him arrested over this Bate affair." After a lot of arguing, during which time Mr. Grant wanted someone to fetch his brother to put up his bonds, Mr. Grant was put into an adjacent cell. Finally he was put into the same cell with the defendant. While he was there he tried to get witness to own up that Messrs. Langton and Nott had had a hand in either the Salt Lake Equitable or the Riverton fires; "he said," continued the witness, "that he and I were in here for eight or ten years and that unless I could give him some weapon to use against Langton and Nott we were in a bad box." Finally, the defendant said that the jailor came and told Mr. Grant his brother was downstairs with his bail.

In answer to the queries of Mr. Varian, witness stated that he had never told Mr. Grant that he had set fire to the building, neither did witness know who did; further, that he never stole any stamps at any time. At this point of the evidence the court took a recess.

This Afternoon.

At the commencement of this afternoon's proceedings, Attorney Gunter took up the cross-examination of the defendant Ernest Bate. Counsel opened the examination by asking the accused whether "he had ever been arrested before."

"Yes sir," was the prompt answer.

"Have you been dissipating or gambling lately?" was the next query.

"Not that I know of."

Witness proceeded under examination to state that the stock in the store of which he was manager, was originally bought under execution sale from Mr. Deighton and that the stock in question was part of that of the old Salt Lake Equitable Co-op. Coming down to the night of the fire, the witness, after considerable hesitation, estimated that the amount of goods in the building on March 21st amounted to "probably $2,000." Later on witness stated that the stock in the store was approximately the same in value as when the goods had been brought from Mr. Deighton.

"Isn't it a fact Mr. Bates," asked the counsel, "that Mr. Deighton received $950 for the stock, when you, in conjunction with the corporation, bought the goods from him?"

"Yes sir."

After a half hour's examination upon the general geography of the store, together with the defendant's action on the night of the fire, the witness stated that after the alarm was over that nothing in the form of goods or cash was missing, with the exception of the postage stamps from the postoffice cabinet that he had carried from the store.

said that I did not hear. I went up to the cell on my own accord, although the Sheriff asked me if I wanted to go. I heard the conversation by pressing my ear close to the walls of the cell. Grant told me that the defendant had confessed that he set fire to the building."

GRANT CALLED ON GOD.

"I also heard Grant say: 'For God's sake Ernest, if there is anyone else mixed up in this tell the truth?'

"He did, did he?" queried Varian. 'Did he—this man—Grant—call upon God?"

"Yes."

"That is all," remarked Varian, and Gunter said he had no more evidence to offer and was willing to submit the case without argument.

Varian objected, and arguments will begin this morning at 9:30 o'clock.

20 Apr 1899

CLOSING OF THE BATE CASE

Des Eve News

Argued at Length by Attorneys Gunter and Varian Today.

LATTER ASKS FOR DISMISSAL

Says No Case Was Made Out Against the Accused While Gunter Says Defense Made It.

The closing scenes in the preliminary hearing of the Riverton arson case were enacted in Justice Timmony's court room today, the entire time being occupied by the attorneys, who launched forth a flood of oratory upon the musty air of the court room of a vintage that is seldm lapped within the walls of the grim old building. The case will conclude this evening.

Attorney Gunter at the opening of the proceedings this morning did not make any great effort simply confining himself to a bare statement of young Bate's alleged confessions. After he had occupied the floor for a brief ten minutes Attorney Varian arose and from 1.50 until 12.15 the air was rent with caustic adjectives that made the chronic sleepers in the "mourner's bench" awaken with a start.

At one moment a smile would ripple along the bench whereon the Bate family sat, then at the next, as Mr. Varian touched upon the home ties of the defendant, there would be a suspicious pocket handkerchief display that betokened that a sentiment had been carried home.

There was a good-sized audience present, augmented by all the police officers who could attend without seriously interfering with their duties, while a select box party in Justice Timmony's office sat, smoked and smiled as some breezy cognomen or criticism from the attorney's lips was wafted through the open door.

Last Evening.

At the close of the evidence for the prosecution yesterday afternoon Sheriff Howells was called in rebuttal. In the course of his testimony, he had he said, conversed with a man named Argill who had told him that he could not see how the fire could originate on the outside of the building.

Attorney Varian then took an innings.

"Mr. Howells, whatever induced you, as sheriff of this county, to throw your jail open to Grant, and permit all this business?"

I heard Mr. Bate had acknowledged his guilt, and the purpose of Grant, I understood, was to connect some other fire with this one. We had an idea there were confederates in with Bate."

"You know nothing direct?"

"Well, I had my impressions as to who set the"——

"Well, didn't Grant talk to you about this a whole lot?"

"Yes."

Deputy Sheriff Montgomery said he overheard a conversation between Bate and Grant on the night of the arrest when the latter said, "Ernest, do you mean to tell me that you fired that building without anyone else knowing anything about it?" and Ernest answered "Yes, I do. No one else knew anything about it." There might have been something else said that I did not hear. I went up to the cell on my own accord, although the sheriff asked me if I wanted to go. I heard the conversation by pressing my ear close to the walls of the cell. Grant told me that the defendant had confessed that he set fire to the building."

Mr. Varian severely cross-examined the witness to considerable length; finally both sides announced the completion of their cases, and the State offered to submit on evidence, Varian thought otherwise, however, and the court adjourned to hear the arguments this morning.

THE ARGUMENTS.

Mr. Gunter in his argument stated that if the prosecution had not established the fact that the building had been fired by someone, the defense had done so by the testimony of several of their witnesses, counsel claimed that the defendant had made three separate and distinct admissions of his guilt.

First to Mr. Grant on the Sunday morning following the fire.

Second, when Deputy Sheriff Cummock heard Mr. Grant ask the accused down at Riverton in his present, "You won't tell anyone, not even your wife, father or mother, how you fired the building?" And Mr. Cummock, whose word has not been doubted," continued the attorney, "stated on the witness-stand that the accused answered, 'I won't.'"

"The third time that Ernest Bate confessed," said counsel, "was in the county jail, when Mr. Grant propounded the question, 'Ernest, do you mean to tell me that you fired that building without anyone but you knowing anything about it?' to which the defendant answered, 'No, sir, no one knew anything about it but myself.'"

After briefly stating the question that the prosecution had, in his opinion, established a case, Attorney Gunter relinquished the floor to Mr. Varian.

VARIAN FOR THE DEFENSE.

Mr. Varian opened his argument for the defense by alluding to the character of the young man Bate, which, he said, was above reproach. "In a case of this kind," he continued, "one must look for a motive." Counsel maintained that no motive had been shown by the prosecution; the defendant owned his own home adjacent to the store upon which not a cent of insurance had been written; he had an interest also in the store, the dance pavilion and the ice house, all of which were imperiled by the fire. "Is it likely," asked the attorney, "that a man could set fire to a building within a few feet of which his two children lay sleeping locked in the home, and further, jeopardize his father's property and then return coolly to the dance hall and unconcerned await developments?"

Coming down to the stamp incident counsel stated that Postoffice Inspector Dutton went down to Riverton, examined the books, "and then, what did he do? Why, he simply went away and no more was heard of him."

Mr. Varian contended that the actions of the young defendant, both before and after the fire, were not those of a guilty man who would have had ample time in which to remove those alleged traces of incendiarism. [illegible]

[illegible] testified that they saw a [illegible] in conjunction with the circumstance that the back door of the Commercial Co-op just across the street at Riverton had been presumably forced open on that night, it was a feasible theory that these individuals had obtained the coal oil from that store, and, saturating a bundle of rags with the same, had thrown the blazing flannels on the roof of the lean-to." Counsel, continuing, stated that a witness named Beckstead had testified to the fact that when he climbed up on the roof of the building he had doused a bundle of white, blazing rags with a bucket of water and had washed them off; they had, no doubt, contended the attorney, fallen into the "lean-to" where they were subsequently discovered by the carpenter, who was engaged in repairing the premises. Coming down to the alleged confessions by Bate, Mr. Varian said they would not be permissable as evidence in any court, having been extorted under threats, pressure and promises.

With a caustic and scathing tongue Mr. Varian proceeded to criticise the methods used by Mr. H. F. Grant to obtain a confession from the accused, he stated that some prosecutions sometimes became persecutions, and this case was one of them.

Mr. Varian would apparently digress from the so-called confessions for a brief space of time only to return with renewed vigor upon the head of the insurance man, whom he designated as "a mature, astute mountebank," together with, "a projector of theory pictures."

Mr. Varian made a strong argument that was still in progress when the court took a recess at 12.15.

This Afternoon.

At 2.20 this afternoon Mr. Varian resumed his argument that consisted for the major part in citing authorities upon the law governing the admission of the confessions of defendants into evidence, and concluded the plea with a prayer for the dismissal of the accused, Ernest T. Bate.

Mr. Gunter again took the floor and proceeded with the closing argument dealing with the points made by Mr. Varian, including the allegation that the "News" had incorrectly quoted the testimony of the defendant on cross-examination yesterday. Mr. Gunter maintained that the defendant stated that the goods in the store on the night of the trial were of the same value as those bought by Mr. Deighton from the Salt Lake Equitable Co-op some time ago for 1500.

DISPUTES MR. GRANT

S.F. Herld — 20 Apr 1899

Postmaster Bate Swears He Never Confessed the Crime.

SOME RACY TESTIMONY

SAYS GRANT ACCUSED LANGTON AND NOTT.

Bate Says Grant Charged These Two Men With Firing the Equitable Co-op.—Describes Grant's Fake Incarceration In the County Jail—Testimony Is All In.

On the witness stand in his own behalf, Ernest T. Bate yesterday told the story of the Riverton fire, the circumstances surrounding and connected with it and the events leading up to and following his arrest, upon the charge of arson. Bate's testimony was in narrative form and at no time was he interrupted. He flatly denied ever having made an admission of guilt to Special Agent B. F. Grant or Deputy Sheriff J. B. Cummock, as they have previously testified. In fact, he swore that the testimony of Grant was false in nearly every particular that tended to fix the crime upon the defendant.

In a very interesting account of an alleged confession of interview between himself and Grant, Bate declared that Grant said that he believed William Langton and his associates had fired the Equitable Co-op. in this city a number of years ago, and upon numerous other occasions, Bate claimed, Grant had expressed the same belief, and had asked the defendant if he did not know something about Langton and T. H. Nott that would "squeeze" them into helping Bate out of the stamp trouble.

What Grant Said.

Upon cross-examination, the sensational feature was further aired. This was Bate's statement upon being asked by Attorney Gunter for details:

"I had an engagement to meet Grant at Murray, he having telephoned for me to be there with a wagon. I did so, and on the way over to Riverton, he said: 'Ernest, don't you know your name and your father's name was mentioned in connection with that Equitable Co-op. fire?' I told him no, and he said, 'You know you were working there, don't you?' and 'you know the fire was suspicious?' I told him I didn't know it was suspicious and he asked me if I didn't know Langton and Nott set fire to the building. I told him no, and he said 'can't you squeeze them into buying these stamps?' We are satisfied they set fire to that building (meaning the Equitable Co-op.) but they are too cute for us.'"

Bate was on direct examination all the forenoon, and was under the cross-fire of Mr. Gunter all during the afternoon session. The cross-examination was searching, and elicited new and important facts, although the defendant stuck to his story in the main. Witnesses in rebuttal were examined to impeach the testimony of Bate, among them being Sheriff Howells and Deputy Sheriff John Montgomery, the latter having overheard the conversation in the jail. Mr. Montgomery swore positively that Grant had said to Bate:

"Ernest, do you mean to tell me you fired that building without anybody knowing anything about it but you?"

To which Bate replied: "No, sir, no one knew anything about it but myself."

The admission of this and other evidence at such a time was productive of a great deal of argument, but the objections of Mr. Varian were in each instance over-ruled. The testimony of both sides was concluded and arguments will begin at 9:30 this morning.

Grant In Jail.

After relating the circumstances of the fire and his arrest, Bate said that at the jail he was put into a cell and soon Grant came in "making a great noise, and saying it was a h—— of a fix to be in."

"He was put in an adjacent cell," continued the witness, "and finally came into mine. He wanted his brother sent for to bail him out. He tried to get me to say that either Langton or Nott had a hand in the Equitable or the Riverton fires, and said he and I were in for ten years, and that unless I could give him a weapon to use on Langton and Nott, when he got bailed out in the morning, we were in it for sure. Finally, the jailer came and told Grant his brother was downstairs with his bail."

This concluded his narration and, in reply to Mr. Varian, he said he did not tell Grant he had fired the building.

The size of the envelope in which Bate claimed to have placed the stamps was a feature of the cross-examination, and witness was given a bunch of stamps (apparently $30 worth) and an envelope the same size described by him, but failed to get them inside.

Sheriff Howells Testified.

Sheriff Howells, for the state, in rebuttal, was, after much argument, allowed to state the size of the envelope Bate said he had used. Attorney Varian took a turn at the sheriff.

"Mr. Howells, whatever induced you, as sheriff of this county, to throw your jail open to Grant, and permit all this business?"

"I heard Mr. Bate had acknowledged his guilt and the purpose of Grant, I understood, was to connect some other fire with this one. We had an idea there were confederates in with Bate."

"You knew nothing direct?"

"Well, I had my impressions as to who set the"——

"Well, didn't Grant talk to you about this a whole lot?"

"Yes."

After further discussion, Montgomery testified to hearing the conversation and the confession of Bate. Mr. Varian cross-examined at great length and severely scored the witness.

Both sides announced the completion of their cases, and the state offered to submit on evidence. The defense desired to be heard, however, and it will be argued today.

22 Apr 1899 — Des Evening News

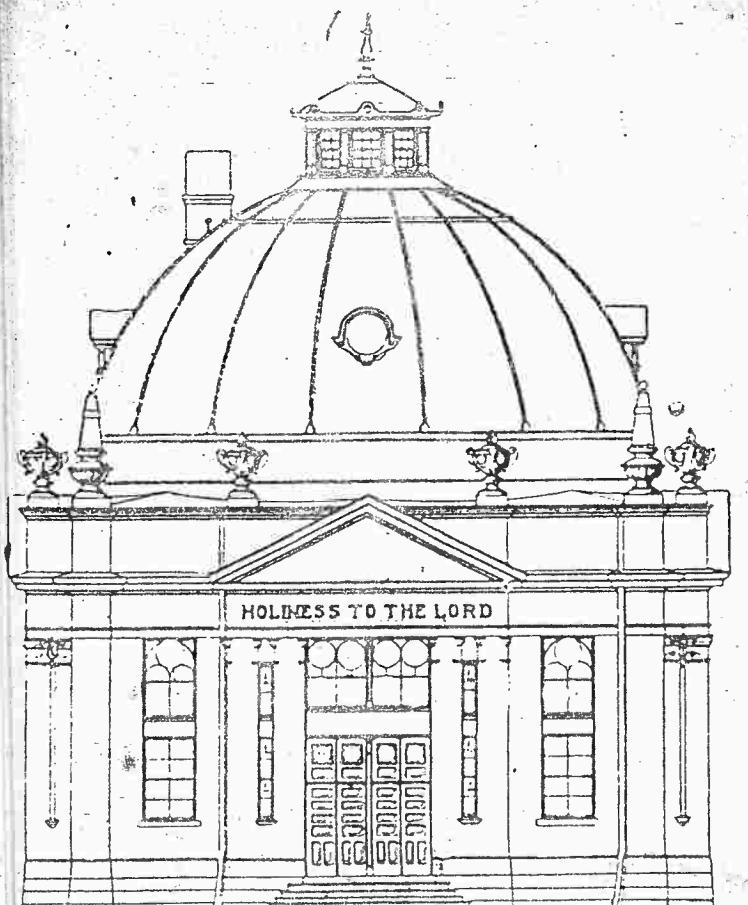
BATE IS HELD FOR ARSON.

Justice Twomey Binds Him Over to the District Court.

Ernest T. Bate, the young manager of the Riverton Flouring Co., who is accused of firing that building on the night of March 2nd, this morning appeared before Justice Twomey for a few brief minutes and then took to hear the verdict of the court.

The proceedings were marked by any surprising evidence or phase of the case. After hearing both sides of the case Justice Twomey bound the action of the lower court.

RIVERTON'S NEW MEETING HOUSE



The Mormon people at Riverton are much interested in the construction of their beautiful meeting house, a cut of which is here presented. The structure is to be of brick. It will cost when completed about $10,000, and have a seating capacity of over 600. In architecture and arrangement it shows a marked advance over the old-time meeting houses, and is a subject for just pride to the builders.

Salt Lake Herald 17 June 1899

TRIAL OF E. T. BATE

ON ARSON CHARGE

Des Evo News 26 Jun 1899

Riverton Postmaster Appears before Judge Norrell in Criminal Court.

JURY NOT YET SECURED.

Nearly All Persons Examined had Read of the Case and Formed an Opinion.

The trial of Ernest T. Bate, the Riverton postmaster, on the charge of arson, began before Judge Norrell and a jury in the criminal branch of the Third district court today. The defendant is represented by the law firm of Richards & Varian, while County Attorney Putnam and his chief assistant, Mr. Ray Van Cott, appears in behalf of the State.

Slow progress has thus far been made in the case, owing to the difficulty experienced in securing a jury satisfactory to both sides. Nearly all the jurors examined had heard or read something of the case and quite a few confessed that they had formed opinions which would influence them in their verdict.

The defendant, a very young looking man, occupied a seat right alongside of the attorneys, and watched the proceedings with more than ordinary interest. The court room has been crowded with spectators, the case evidently having attracted wide-spread attention.

Among the questions propounded by counsel for the defense was, "Do you know E. B. Grant, agent for the Home Fire Insurance company?" and another, "Are you a policy-holder or stockholder in the Home Fire Insurance company?"

Nearly all of the jurors had heard of the Home Fire company; none were stockholders; some had done business with its agents; all knew or had heard of Mr. Grant, though a number could not say whether his initials were H. F. or E. B.

STATE'S ALLEGED CRIME.

The information reads as follows:

Ernest T. Bate, having heretofore been duly committed by J. R. Timmony, a committing magistrate of this county, to answer to this charge, is accused by Orrhanes F. Putnam, county and prosecuting attorney for the county of Salt Lake, State of Utah, by this information, of the crime of arson, committed as follows:

That the said Ernest T. Bate, on the 2nd day of April, A. D. 1899, at Riverton, county of Salt Lake, State of Utah, did unlawfully, willfully, feloniously and maliciously set fire to and burn, with intent to destroy, a certain house to-wit: A store of one W. E. Bate, then and there situated, the aforesaid store being then and there capable of affording shelter for human beings; contrary to the form of the statute in such cases made and provided and against the peace and dignity of the State of Utah.

EXAMINATION OF JURORS.

The first eight jurors called were, W. H. Foster, W. W. Rivers, George A. Harwood, Fred Everhardt, Stephen L. Ripple, Charles W. Sherwood, Marshall Helm and David Cameron.

Juror Foster remembered having read an account of the case in the papers and had in consequence formed an opinion which would require considerable evidence to remove. Mr. Foster was challenged by Attorney Varian. Mr. Putnam did not resist the challenge and the juror was excused.

Juror Rivers, bookkeeper at the Tribune office, said he had read about the case and confessed having formed an opinion touching the guilt or innocence of the accused. Mr. Varian challenged the juror, but after being further questioned by Mr. Putnam Mr. Rivers said he could sit in the case and return a verdict in accordance with the testimony. The challenge was withdrawn.

Juror Everhardt had read something about the case, but had formed no opinion one way or the other.

ONLY READ THE HEADLINES.

Juror Moyle said it had been his custom for sometime past to glance over the headlines of articles that appeared in the daily papers. He recalled the Bate case as reported, but had only read the caption.

"Did you not read the body of the matter?" enquired Attorney Varian.

"No, sir, I did not," answered the juror.

Varian—Then you are one of the greatly increasing body of citizens who do not read everything in the newspapers? (Laughter.)

Moyle (smiling)—I don't know what other people do, but I am compelled to an account of being pressed for time.

Mr. Moyle was later challenged by the State and not excused.

Juror Sherwood had read the newspaper accounts of the case, but didn't attach much importance to that fact; in short he did not believe the story. At the same time he did not think the proper officers would inform against the defendant "unless there was something in it." He meant by that, it was a case which ought to be investigated. Was a firm believer in the rule of law which held a man to be innocent until proven guilty.

DID NOT BELIEVE IN INSURANCE.

Juror Helm was in a state of absolute ignorance so far as the Bate case was concerned and for that reason considered himself competent to sit in judgment upon the defendant. He had never carried any insurance on his property, for the reason that he considered he was just as safe without it as with it. The State exercised its peremptory challenge and the juror was excused.

The defense challenged Juror Cameron and the gentleman was let out of the panel.

At the noon hour only four jurors were accepted. Their names are W. W. Rivers, Charles W. Sherwood, George A. Harwood and Fred Everhardt. Court then took a recess.

NO JURY AS YET.

This afternoon the names of seven other jurors were drawn from the jury box, but at a late hour this afternoon only one of the number was accepted, and that was Benjamin O. Earls.

RIVERTON ARSON CASE.

SLTrib. 27 June 1899.

TRIAL OF ERNEST T. BATE IN DISTRICT COURT.

Jurors Selected Yesterday, and Taking of Testimony Begun—Theories of Prosecution and Defense.

From 10 o'clock in the morning until 3:30 in the afternoon was occupied yesterday in Judge Norrell's court in obtaining a jury of eight persons to try Ernest T. Bate on the charge of arson. Seventeen talesmen were examined before the requisite number who had no fixed opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the defendant, and who were satisfactory to both the State and the defendant, were found. The names of those accepted were W. W. Rivers, George H. Harwood, Fred Eberhart, Charles W. Sherwood, B. F. Earls, Robert B. T. Taylor, John Neff and James M. Fisher, Jr. After the jury was impaneled, Mr. Putnam, on behalf of the State, made an opening statement, telling the jurors that he expected to prove that young Bate, who was postmaster at Riverton and clerk in the Riverton Pioneer Co-op store, in which his father was a large stockholder, set fire to the store on the night of April 1st last. The stock in the store, Mr. Putnam said, was low, and consisted of old, out-of-date goods, hard to sell and worth not to exceed $600 or $700, while the insurance was $2000 and business was bad, the sales not exceeding $10 a day. There was a dance at Riverton that night and the prosecutor said he would prove that young Bate had left the dance hall three or four times during the evening and gone to the store, and that shortly after he had been there the last time alone the fire broke out. It was, however, quickly extinguished, with only nominal damages, but the floor in the room where the fire was found was saturated with coal oil, and paper saturated with coal oil was scattered around. Stamps to the amount of $30 were missing from the postoffice, which was in the store and under the direction of the defendant. The building had not been broken into, and Mr. Putnam declared that he would show that nobody but the defendant had been in the store for hours before the fire started.

The defense reserved its opening statement, but it is understood that it will be similar to that put up at the preliminary hearing, that tramps set fire to the roof and tinder from there had fallen down to the coal oil can; that the defendant could not have done it because, the defense claims, he did not leave the dance alone at any time during the evening.

W. H. Evans was the first witness called and testified to the correctness of maps and diagrams of the store and surroundings to be used at the trial.

Insurance Adjuster J. K. Ernston was being examined as to the $2000 insurance on the place and the value of the stock, which he said was low and poor, when the court adjourned until this morning.

TRIAL IS DRAGGING ALONG

27 June 1899

Slow Progress Being Made in Riverton Arson Case.

Des Eug News

Insurance Agent Urmston and Deputy Sheriff Cammock Testify—Other Court News.

Slow progress has thus far been made in the Riverton arson case, and if present indications may be taken as a criterion the trial promises to be a lengthy one. Up to a late hour this afternoon but two witnesses had been upon the stand, neither of whom gave any additional facts to those already reported. There are rumors that the prosecution has some new and startling testimony to offer. When questioned regarding the matter Mr. Putnam declined to either deny or affirm the reports. He admitted that the State was in possession of new evidence, and for obvious reasons declined to state the nature of it.

It was near the hour of adjournment yesterday before a jury was secured. The panel is made up of the following persons: W. W. Rivers, George H. Marshall, Fred Eberhardt, Charles W. Sherwood, B. F. Earls, Robert H. T. Taylor, John Neff and Charles M. Fisher, Jr.

After the jury had been sworn Mr. Putnam made an opening statement. He said the State would prove that the defendant set fire to the Riverton Pioneer Co-op. store on the night of April 1st last, by means of coal oil and that the purpose was to conceal the embezzlement of $30 in stamps, also to secure about $2,000 in insurance.

The first witness called was W. H. Evens. He identified certain maps and diagrams, giving the location of the Co-op. store, postoffice, dance hall and the Hale's residence. These are to be used at the trial, and the witness simply testified as to their correctness.

J. K. Urmstom, special agent for the Svea Insurance company, was next called to the stand. Witness stated that he was sent out to adjust the losses sustained by the defendant through the fire. The stock, he said, was low and poor and was not worth more than $600 or $700. Court here adjourned until today.

TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. Urmstom was recalled this morning and in answer to Mr. Putnam said he had had nine years' experience in adjusting losses and inspecting and examining stock.

Under cross-examination witness said most of the damage to the stock was by smoke; a little by fire. The defendant told witness that about five gallons of coal oil was missing. Did not fall in with the theory of the Home Fire Insurance company detective that the crime of arson had been committed. Went out to Riverton with B. F. Grant. Was in attendance at the preliminary trial and consulted with Mr. B. F. Grant with regard to the testimony. The Svea company issued the policy March 9th, this year, and insured the defendant's stock to the extent of $2,000. Mr. Bate told him that Mr. Nott was president of the Riverton Co-op.

Deputy Sheriff John D. Cammock testified that he first heard of fire on the morning of April 1st. Accompanied Sheriff Howells to Riverton the same morning. Met the defendant and his father. Witness described the building where the fire occurred. The main building was the brick store and the building a little to the north, known as the lean-to, was built of lumber. Found the shingles on the roof of the lean-to had been burned. Witness related a conversation between the defendant and Mr. Sutton, the postoffice inspector, during which Bate said he had lost $30 worth of stamps. Defendant was asked where he kept the stamps and replied by saying that he had placed them in an envelope inside the drawer of a desk. He said he had put them there along about the 8th of February.

The size of the envelope, which defendant claimed to have put the stamps in, witness thought was 3½x5. Defendant was asked the denomination of the stamps and he said there was $20 in two cents and $10 in one cent. Defendant said the reason he put the stamps in the drawer was because he was going to make out a statement of postoffice matters and that he intended taking them over home that night after the dance.

CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Cross-examined by Mr. Varian witness said he made the complaint and arrested the defendant the same day. It was in order to night when he locked the up in a cell in the county jail. Admitted having told Bate that he believed him guilty, and advised him to make a clean breast of the affair. Witness denied that he had held any inducement to the defendant. He believed that someone had put up job on him. He got the idea that were implicating from a conversation had with the defendant.

STIMONY AGAINST BATE

June 1899 ——— St Herald

SEVERAL WITNESSES IN THE ARSON CASE.

Sheriff Howells Relates What He Discovered at Riverton—Value of the Stock and Insurance.

There were more of Ernest T. Bate's relatives present at his trial for arson before Judge Norrell yesterday. One of his sisters, his mother and one of his wife's sisters were there and several of their lady friends. In fact Riverton was very well represented at the trial.

Insurance Adjustor J. K. Armston, who had been placed on the stand late Friday afternoon, was recalled to give the value of the stock of goods in the Bate store, which he said was between $700 and $800. He declared that the market value would be one-third less. He testified that Bate carried $2,000 of insurance in the Svea Fire Insurance company.

Deputy Sheriff Cummock and Sheriff Howells told of their trip down two days after the fire, when they went to arrest Bate. They found the barrel of oil near the door of the inner room where the fire commenced and saw the handle near the door.

Sheriff Howells learned that defendant had gone into the store three different times during the evening on which the fire had occurred. He also said that Bate had told him that some one had stolen $30 worth of stamps on the same evening.

George M. Ottinger, ex-chief of the fire department, testified to having gone to Riverton three weeks ago in company with Assistant County Attorney Van Cott to look at the store-room. He said that the fire had occurred at the lower corner of the door of the small room and that both sides were charred. The action of the fire had been upward. The prosecution desired to show this to contradict the theory of the defense that tramps had set fire to the store from a hole in the roof. He had also seen oily soot on the ceiling and it had a brown tint indicating that it came from burning oil. Another witness for the prosecution was Alma D. Silcock who had seen ashes mixed up with oil and water on the floor of the inner room. At the time of the fire he had noticed a burning rag between the west window and the door of the lean-to.

Photographer H. J. Sainsbury identified pictures of the scenes in and about the building which have been introduced by the prosecution.

The case may run several days longer as there are many witnesses to testify and the cross-examination of Attorney Merian is severe.

TRIAL OF BATE ARSON CASE.

28 June 1899 _____ SL Trib.

TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES FOR PROSECUTION.

Ex-Chief Ottinger Opposes the Theory of the Defense that the Fire Started in the Roof of the Store.

The trial of Ernest T. Bate on the charge of setting fire to the Riverton Pioneer Co-op. store on the night of April 1st last, was resumed before Judge Norrell and a jury yesterday.

Insurance Adjuster Ormston was cross-examined by Mr. Varian of counsel for the defendant. His original statement that at invoice price the stock in the store was about $700 or $800, and that the selling value was one-third less, remained unshaken. Witness said he had not joined with B. F. Grant in ferreting out the supposed arson.

Sheriff Howells and Deputy Sheriff Cummock testified to finding the floor of the back room of the store saturated with coal oil and papers and rags similarly saturated lying around; also a short piece of candle. The lower panels of the door were burned a good deal. The store had not been broken into, and the defendant had told them that nothing was missing but $30 worth of stamps from the postoffice in the front of the store. The stamps, 2000 in number, they said, the defendant told them he had put in an ordinary-sized letter envelope and placed in a drawer in the front office for safety.

Ex-Fire Chief Ottinger said he had examined the scene of the fire, which undoubtedly started at the lower east corner of the door and worked its way up. This was intended to combat the theory of the defense that the fire was started in the roof.

Alma D. Silcock testified that when they were working to put out the fire, he saw the oil-saturated papers on the floor, and also saw a piece of rag burning between the west window and the main building.

The trial will be resumed this morning.

BATE TRIAL INTERRUPTED

Herald 29 June 1899

CONTROVERSY OVER CONFESSION OF DEFENDANT.

Defense Contends That It Should Not Be Admitted In Evidence—Question Argued and Submitted.

The Bate arson case came to a sudden stop yesterday afternoon. The crucial point in the testimony of the prosecution has been reached. It is whether or not the alleged first confession of Ernest T. Bate to Special Insurance Agent B. F. Grant will be admitted in evidence.

Attorneys Putnam and Van Cott for the state have been counting upon this confession to convince the jury that Bate is guilty. It is the strongest testimony they have against him. Attorneys Putnam and Varian spent some time arguing the question yesterday, and Judge Norrell dismissed the jury while the attorneys were making their speeches. A decision upon the question will not be given by the court until County Attorney Putnam has concluded his argument this morning.

There was little testimony of importance during the day. The only enlivening incidents were the occasions during which Attorneys Putnam and Varian differed over their methods of examining witnesses. Mr. Varian thought that Mr. Putnam was leading in his questions several times, and there was some dispute over the matter until Judge Norrell informed the attorneys quite pointedly that they must quit arguing between themselves.

Christensen Peterson, Thomas Page, Reuben Nell, Nicholas Dansie, Heber J. House, Henry Black and Moroni Dansie, young men who had attended the dance on the night of the fire, and who had gone over to help extinguish the flames, told of their observations on that occasion. Their testimony was similar to that given at the preliminary examination.

Mr. Grant Called.

Special agent of the Home Fire Insurance company B. F. Grant was placed on the witness stand, and he, too, related what he had seen on the day after the fire. The chief purpose of his testimony was to give an alleged confession which Bate had made to him when he went down to Riverton to make an examination of the loss.

The point then arose as to whether or not the confession was involuntary or voluntary. Attorney Varian cross-examined to bring out facts concerning this. Mr. Grant said that he had told Bate that he believed the store was burned to hide the shortage of $30 worth of postage stamps. He said, too, that he would do all in his power to secure a light sentence for the defendant if he would make a confession, telling what others were implicated.

Mr. Varian maintains that a confession under these circumstances was involuntary, while County Attorney Putnam holds the reverse view.

THE RIVERTON ARSON CASE

29 June 1897 — Tuesday

B. F. Grant, Prosecution's Main Witness, Has Been on the Stand Today.

Relates How Barry of the Defendant's Confession—Cross-Examined by Mr. Varian.

B. F. Grant, the principal witness in the Riverside arson case, has been on the witness stand the whole of today. Mr. Grant's testimony is merely a repetition of what he testified to at the preliminary trial, except that portion relating to the county-jail incident, which Judge Norrell ruled was inadmissable and therefore should not go to the jury.

This afternoon Mr. Grant was subjected to a severe cross-examination by Attorney Varian, and the atmosphere in and about the court room was made much warmer in consequence.

The prosecution will likely rest its case in chief sometime tomorrow.

When the "News" report closed yesterday Heber Thorne was on the stand. Henry Black and Moront Dansle were next examined. Their testimony tended to show that on the night of the fire Bate had left the dance hall a number of times and that he had been in the store for fully half an hour before the fire was discovered.

B. F. Grant, special agent for the Home Fire Insurance company, was next called. Witness said he went to Riverton the morning after the fire. Saw the defendant who confessed to having set fire to the building. Mr. Varian objected to this statement of defendants going to the jury on the ground that it had been obtained under duress. The question as to the admissibility of this portion of Mr. Grant's testimony was in course of argument when court adjourned.

CONFESSION GOES IN.

When court convened this morning further arguments were made on the point of evidence and numerous authorities were cited by both sides. Judge Norrell ruled that the evidence was admissible and overruled Mr. Varian's objections. His honor said he considered the confession on the part of the defendant purely voluntary. Mr. Grant, the court further said, was not an officer but acted as a private citizen; neither did he make any threat or hold out any inducement to the defendant to make the statement accredited him.

Mr. Grant was again called to the stand and proceeded to relate the talk he had with the defendant at Riverton the day after the fire. Defendant told witness that he was $20 in stamps short and had to fire the building to cover up his tracks. Witness asked him why he had not gone to his father and reported the shortage and defendant said he guessed it would have been better, but he had neglected to do so. Bate asked witness to help him out. Witness said he would do all he could, and told defendant that as his office used lots of stamps he did not believe there would be any trouble in getting $20 worth. Defendant then told witness to be sure and get the old series as that was the kind he had taken from the postoffice. Witness also stated that the defendant asked him to see Mr. Sutton, the postoffice inspector, and promised he would do so. When asked as to what he intended to do with the stamps defendant told witness that he would toss them in a ditch, covering a lot of rubbish and then find them again. Witness told the defendant that he would have to use discretion in buying the stamps and mentioned Langston and Nott. Bate said he hadn't thought of going to them, but expressed the belief that they would help him out. Bate told witness he was sorry for what he had done and if he could get out of this scrape he would never be caught in another. Witness said he suspected that there were others mixed up with the defendant in the affair and questioned Bate concerning it. The defendant, however, said he had not received aid from anyone and had done the whole thing himself.

Mr. Putnam was proceeding to interrogate the witness as to what was said by the defendant at the county jail, when Mr. Varian objected, and the court, after listening to arguments, sustained the objection. It will be recalled that at the preliminary trial it was brought out that Mr. Grant was placed in the same cell as Bate the night of the latter's arrest. Bate supposed Grant was a fellow prisoner and is alleged to have made another statement to him.

CROSS EXAMINATION.

This afternoon Mr. Grant was cross-examined by Attorney Varian. Witness admitted having suggested to the defendant that he (Bate) had set fire to the building, in order to cover up his tracks. The defendant did not volunteer the information, but admitted to witness that it was true. Also told defendant he was liable to get into trouble with Uncle Sam over the loss of the stamps. Did not offer to pay $15, one-half the loss, but promised to aid the defendant in getting it. Did not remember having told defendant he was liable for eight or ten years, for the reason that witness did not know what the penalty was. When he told Bate he thought other parties were in with him on the fire matter he did believe they were residents of Riverton. Was not trying to take undue advantage of the young man. Had been postmaster once himself, and was giving defendant the benefit of his experience. Could not say whether Bate had a sluggish or quick mind.

GRANT A STAR WITNESS.

29 June 1899.

HE TESTIFIED YESTERDAY AGAINST ERNEST BATE.

Said the Boy Confessed to Having Fired the Building to Cover a Stamp Shortage.

B. F. Grant, the star witness for the prosecution in the Bate arson case, was called to the stand late yesterday afternoon. In response to questions asked by Mr. Putnam, the witness said that he went out to Riverton on the morning after the fire. He saw the oil tank and the paper and rags saturated with oil, lying around. He then went on to tell of the confession which he said young Bate had made to him. Mr. Varian objected to the introduction of the confession, for the reason that it was not voluntary, but had been obtained under duress. Mr. Varian then questioned the witness in regard to the confession, with particular reference to the inducement the witness had held out to Bate to make it. Grant said that on the morning after the fire he saw the defendant at Riverton, and the defendant confessed that he was $30 short in his stamp account in the postoffice, and that to cover up his tracks he had set fire to the building. Witness, before Bate made the confession, had told Bate that he (witness) knew that Bate had set fire to the building, and that his only way out of it was to make a clean breast of it and tell all he knew, and who were his accomplices. Grant then promised that if Bate did so he would help him all he could, and if he had to go to jail, the witness would use his influence to have as short a sentence as possible imposed. The point as to the admissibility of this testimony was being argued when court adjourned.

The other witnesses examined during the day were O. Peterson, Thomas Page, Reuben Neil, Nicholas Dansie, Heber Thorne, Henry Black, and Moroni Dansie. Their testimony was directed to show that on the night of the fire the defendant had left the dance hall three or four times and gone into the store, and that he had been in the store alone half an hour before the fire was discovered.

ESSION OF BATE

June 1899 — St. Herald

rance Agent Grant Testifies In Arson Case.

TE SHORT ON STAMPS

ITTED THAT HE FIRED THE BUILDING.

at Grant Promised the Postmas- r That the Stamp Shortage uld be Made Good—Bate De- red That No One Assisted Him tting Fire to the Building.

mmaster Ernest T. Bate of River- trial for arson before Judge ll listened to the strongest testi- against him yesterday morning. e didn't listen without evidences ion, for on his face he wore a ied and sometimes pained look. sh all the damaging testimony of al Insurance Agent B. F. Grant Deputy Sheriff Cummock he list- tently. His wife, who has been sistant attendant during the trial, to smile at times, but her ef- failed and died away into a pit- expression. There were in the t room many residents of River- friends of the prisoner.

cross-examination of Grant by ney Varian was not as severe as been anticipated. Not once did nsurance agent become involved. or twice the attorney seemingly t dent his temper, but he did not ed in breaking the force of Grant's imony to a great extent.

Wednesday afternoon Grant had n put upon the stand, principally tell of the alleged confession which e had made to him on the day af- the fire. There was a long legal ument as to the admission of this imony. Judge Norrell decided yes- day that the confession was volun- and therefore admissable, where- Grant took the stand and pro- ed to relate his experience.

Bate's Confession.

Bate had told Grant that he attempted to burn the building in order to cover up his shortage of $30 of stamps. Grant asked why he did not go to his father and ask for assistance, and Bate had said that he thought to have done so but had neglected it. Grant said he would help him out, that at the Home Fire insurance office there were many stamps, and it would not be difficult to get that amount, which he could use to replace those missing. Grant said that Bate told him that he would lose the stamps in a ditch mixed with rubbish and dirt, and have them recovered, so that the missing stamps would be accounted for. The witness believing that there were others concerned in the fire, asked Bate if there were, but he maintained that he was the only one concerned. In endeavoring to learn whether Langton and Knott of the Equitable Co-op. were connected with it, he drew from Bate that he thought these two men would add him to get $20 worth of stamps.

"The register of the postoffice was all right, wasn't it?" asked Attorney Varian in cross-examination.

"Yes."

"Then, why couldn't the defendant substitute cash for the stamps and show it in the register?"

"Well, his register showed that he had $20 in stamps on hand, and he didn't have them," answered Grant.

"Did you tell the story of this confession just as Bate told you?" asked the attorney.

"Yes, sir."

"When you first asked him about the burning of the store, didn't he tell you that he had seen a couple of strange men about the place on that night?"

"Yes."

"And you said to him that you were confident he had set the building on fire to cover up his tracks?"

"Yes, sir," answered the witness.

Did Not Admit He Lied.

"Didn't you say that you would get stamps for him, and didn't you admit on the preliminary examination that you had lied?"

"No," said the witness. "I think you said that."

"Will you be good enough when you get off the stand," said Attorney Varian, "to come back then and show me where in this record I said that?"

"All right," answered the witness very coolly.

The attorney attempted to offer in evidence to contradict Grant's statements about the stamps a card from the postoffice department, showing that the loss of them had been put down as accidental, but Judge Norrell would not admit it.

"You were doing all this to aid and abet him so that he would be sent to the penitentiary?" asked Attorney Varian.

"Yes, sir," said the witness.

"When you told him that you would have to pay back the $25.35 for repairing the building you told him a falsehood, didn't you?"

"Yes, sir."

"How many lies did you tell Bate in this confession?" asked Varian.

"I don't think I told him any in that sense."

Different in Court.

"How do we know you are not lying now?"

"Well, I wasn't before a court then."

"You make a distinction then in what you say before a court and what you say outside?"

"Yes, sir."

"You tell the truth in court?"

"Yes, sir."

After the statement of Deputy Cummock, who listened to Bate's partial confession while hiding behind a crate of goods, the state rested its case.

Attorney Varian, in his opening statement to the jury, said that he would show that the fire had been set by tramps and that Bate was the first to try to extinguish the flames and worked harder than anyone else.

It is likely that the case will not be concluded till Monday.

B. F. GRANT ON STAND.

30 June 1899 — Salt Lk. Trib.

CROSS-EXAMINED AS TO JUSTIFIABLE LYING.

He Describes His Visits to Young Bate and His Efforts to Get a Confession from Him.

In the Bate arson case Judge Norrell, after listening to further arguments, overruled the objection of the defense to the admission of the testimony of B. F. Grant in regard to the confessions which Grant claimed the defendant had made to him on the day after the fire, and again in the presence of Deputy Sheriff Cummock, three days later. The court sustained the objection to the further confession which Grant alleged young Bate had made in the county jail, when Bate was under arrest, at the time that Grant procured himself to be locked up in a cell with Bate, and pretended to Bate that he (Grant) was accused of complicity with Bate in setting fire to the building and robbing the post office.

STORY OF CONFESSION.

Grant then testified that Bate, the day after the fire, had confessed to him that he was $50 short in his stamp account with the post office, and that he had set fire to the building to cover up his tracks. The witness also said that on April 5th, four days after the fire, he took Deputy Sheriff Cummock with him to Riverton, and that in the Co-op store there Cummock concealed himself behind some packing cases, while the witness talked to Bate, and that then the witness told Bate not to tell his father, mother, wife nor anybody that he (Bate) had fired the building, and Bate replied that he would not tell any one that he had done it.

GRANT CROSS-EXAMINED.

Under cross-examination by Mr. Varian the witness was pretty roughly handled. He admitted that he had said things to Bate which were not true in order to induce him to confess.

"You agreed to procure half the stamps Bate was short for him to replace them, to help him out of the trouble?" asked Mr. Varian.

"Yes, I intended to get the stamps for him," said the witness.

"To help him?"

"No, to strengthen the case against him."

"But you told him it was to help him?"

"I intended getting the stamps for him, and told him so, and it was no lie."

ADMISSION OF LYING.

"You admitted in your examination at the preliminary hearing that you lied when you told him that."

"I don't think I did."

The transcript of the testimony was read, from which it appeared that Grant admitted that he told Bate an untruth, and witness then said that he was not under oath at the time, and that he drew the line between ordinary conversation and testimony in court. He told Bate what he did to make him confess and tell who his accomplices were.

MENTION OF NOTT.

"You suspected that Mr. Nott put the boy up to firing the building?" asked Mr. Varian.

"I suspected somebody had done it."

"How did you come to mention Nott? Was it because he was a stockholder in the Co-op, and you had an idea that Nott must be the man?"

"I didn't know if it was Nott or who it was. I was trying to find out."

"How many lies did you tell Bate in the conversations you had with him?"

The witness hesitated and then answered, "In the sense of a lie, I don't think I told him any."

Deputy Sheriff Cummock took the stand and testified that while he was hidden behind the packing cases in the store he heard Grant tell Bate not to say anything to his father, mother or wife about Bate having fired the building, and that Grant said he would tell them or anybody else that he had done it.

STATEMENT OF DEFENSE.

The prosecution here rested, and Mr. Varian made his opening statement for the defense. In substance he said that Bate was a young man of good character, with wife and two children. He had no bad habits. There was only $250 insurance on the stone building, which was owned by the defendant's father, Mr. Bate, Sr., and the frame hall and other buildings within a very few feet of the store, and young Bate's house was close by also. There was no insurance on any of these buildings, and if the store had been burnt the other buildings were so close they could not have escaped. The floor being saturated with coal oil could account for by the fact that the oil tank had stood there for a long time and the oil had been split and leaked out. Counsel said he would prove that the fire started in the roof, and not inside the store, and that twenty-five minutes elapsed after the defendant was in the store the last time before the fire was discovered, and if he had been going twenty-five minutes, the entire building would have been in flames. The defendant was also one of the most active in helping to put out the fire.

The examination of witnesses for the defense will begin this morning, and it is thought the case will not reach the jury before Monday.

TESTIMONY FOR YOUNG BATE

1 July 1899 — S L Herald

THEORY THAT TRAMPS FIRED THE BUILDING.

Witnesses For Defense Testified That the Defendant Assisted In Putting Out the Fire.

The trial of Ernest T. Bate for arson dragged along before Judge Norrell yesterday at wearisome length. The defense has been occupied in putting forth testimony to prove that young Bate did not set fire to the Riverton store, but that it was set by tramps, who had been prowling about the place.

Lars Backstead had seen two strange men standing about the dance hall on the night of the fire, and he had noticed that whenever any person went near them or scrutinized them they backed off out of the light.

His brother, Edgar, who had first seen the fire, and had given the alarm, saw the flames on the roof. When every one was aroused and rushed over to the store young Bate was the most energetic in extinguishing the flames and saving goods.

The Elder Bate testified that he saw the fire burning on the roof, and that he saw two burning rags, each saturated with coal oil. One of these was on the roof and one of them was on the ground. He dipped up water to put on the fire, and dammed up the ditch so that it could be the more readily secured.

David Henderson, who had been employed at the Equitable Co-op, testified that the stock of goods was worth $1,200, including store fixtures, which he valued at $350.

1 July 1899

ATE'S FATHER TESTIFIES.

LUE OF STOCK MUCH IN EXCESS OF INSURANCE.

States that He Saw the Roof urning—Other Witnesses Testify or the Defense.

W. E. Bate, father of Ernest T. Bate defendant in the Riverton arson e, was on the witness stand for over e hours yesterday giving testimony behalf of his son. The old gentlen, in reply to Mr. Varian of counsel the defense, said that he owned store building which was fired and a large interest in the stock. There only $250 insurance on the store ding and he owned the dance hall several other buildings in close imity to the store building and e was no insurance on any of . They were so close to the store if the latter had burnt the others d not have been saved. Witness two strangers, apparently tramps, ring around the dance hall on the of the fire. He was quite sure re was started in the roof and not e the store. A rag saturated with as found on the roof and another also saturated with oil fell from roof several days after the fire. roof was burnt quite a little. Wit- saw the flames in the roof.

avid Henderson thought the stock foods in the store at invoice prices ld foot up close to $2000 and the ng price would be about $1200.

Evans, Sam Perry, William Webb, r Beckstead and Lars Beckstead fied to seeing two tramps around ne night of the fire and also that y saw the roof burning. They ught the fire was started from the side.

he trial will be resumed this morn-

SL Trib. 2 July 1899

RIVERTON ARSON CASE.

TESTIMONY AS TO TRAMPS SEEN NEAR THE STORE.

The Man who Repaired the Building After the Fire, Testifies as to What He Found.

The trial of the Bate arson case dragged along slowly yesterday forenoon and court adjourned earlier than usual in the afternoon.

Mrs. Bate, mother of the defendant, Edith Bate, his sister, and Urilla Orgill testified that they had seen two suspicious characters loitering about on the night of the fire. Atwood Orgill and Samuel Green said that the defendant had left the dance hall three times during the evening, but never alone.

George Hackett, the man who repaired the building after the fire, testified the same as he did at the preliminary hearing that he found a rag saturated with oil in the rafters and also found a similar kind of rag on the floor, which he thought had fallen from the roof about a week after the fire. This testimony was to establish the theory of the defense that the fire was started from the outside. The trial will be resumed on Monday morning.

3 July 1899 Des Eve News

RIVERTON ARSON CASE.

Will Not be Submitted Until Wednesday or Thursday.

The Riverton arson case is still dragging along in the criminal court. The defense today introduced the testimony of more witnesses, chief among which has been George Hackett, who, by means of a charred door which led from the main store to the lean-to described to the jury the action of the fire. Mr. Hackett said there could be no doubt but what the fire started from the top and worked its way down.

Tomorrow being a legal holiday it is hardly likely that a conclusion will be reached before Wednesday or Thursday.

BATE ARSON TRIAL.

July 1899 St Herald

Carpenter Testified Concerning the Course of the Fire.

The Bate arson case is still on trial before Judge Norrell, and the progress made is very slow. Only three witnesses were examined yesterday. It is likely that the case will not be finished until Thursday.

Most of the time during yesterday was taken up by the examination and cross-examination of George Hackett, the carpenter who repaired the buildings. The object of his testimony was to show that the fire started on the roof and burned downward, rather than on the floor of the inside room and burned upward. He said on cross-examination that there had been more fire on the floor than on the roof, but contended that the volume increased as the flames spread downward.

John Beckstead and his wife testified that witness Thorne for the prosecution had said to them that he was not in the dance hall all during the evening, as he had said on the stand.

The defendant Bate has not yet been placed on the witness stand, but it is likely that he will testify on Wednesday. Today being a legal holiday, there will be no court.

BATE TAKES THE WITNESS STAND.

5 July 1899 DOSEVON

Defendant Says He Knew Nothing of Fire Until Alarm was Given.

CASE NEARING CONCLUSION.

His Conversation with Sheriff Howells, Deputies and Mr. Grant when He Learned of the Fire.

Ernest T. Bate, the defendant in the Riverton arson case, was called to the witness stand today, and up to a late hour this afternoon his examination-in-chief had not concluded. The defendant's testimony was substantially the same as given before the committing magistrate. In answer to Mr. Varian Bate said he was born in American Fork twenty-three years ago last month. Had lived at American Fork and Riverton all his life. Married about five years ago. Was father of two children, the oldest was three and the youngest a little over one year. Had been in the mercantile business ever since the Co-op. store was built there, about twelve years ago. The store and business was owned by witness' father. Witness had one-fourth interest in it. The amount of insurance on the store was $250. The dance pavilion was not insured. A few years ago Langton & Nott bought an interest in the business, and it became a branch of the Salt Lake Equitable Co-op. Witness was appointed manager. The stock was insured for $2,000. The policy was renewed twice. The stock had not run down to any appreciable extent. There were certain lines of merchandise that any in much demand. Mason objects. Knocks F. F. Grant, but not until after the fire. The ground on which the pavilion was erected belonged to defendant's father, but the building belong to about five young men of Riverton, members of an orchestral band, defendant being one of the number.

Coming down to the night of the dance, Bate said the hall opened about 9 o'clock. After the dance he went out three times. The first time he went to the store after a piece of cardboard to make some tickets out of. the second time he went into his house adjoining the pavilion, the third time he went out with Constable A. B. Silcox to identify some tramps that were around. He lit a small hand lamp to get the cardboard and was only in the store long enough to get the cardboard off the counter and go out. Witness remembered going to the store the second time that night alone with Moroni Dansie to get some candy. Dansie came into the store along with defendant he and the same hand lamp was again lit. Defendant also said he put a letter from postoffice cabinet. Handed Dansie the letter over the counter, and got his candy, and both came out of the store together. Both went back to the dance pavilion. When the fire alarm was given, defendant said he was at the piano. He immediately ran over to the store. On the way some one called out "April fool." Witness hesitated a moment and then somebody said, "It's no April Fool," when he went on. The first thing he did on reaching the store was to open the door and take out the postoffice cabinet. Did not strike a light. He then rushed to the north door of the building and "jerked" the coal oil can out.

Witness was then examined at some length as to conversations had with Sheriff Howells Deputy Cummock and F. F. Grant, also in regard to the $30 worth of stamps and postoffice matters. He said he knew nothing of the fire until the alarm was given.

BATE'S STORY OF THE FIRE

Herald ——— 6 July 1899

DEFENDANT TESTIFIES IN THE ARSON CASE.

Denies B. F. Grant's Statement That He Made a Confession—Discovery of the Fire.

Ernest T. Bate the young storekeeper of Riverton, told his story of the fire of April 1, in Judge Norrell's court yesterday. There was no variation from the testimony which he had given at his preliminary examination on the charge of arson. On cross-examination he did not contradict himself, but made probably the best witness for his side who has yet appeared in the case.

Bate's testimony was tedious for all the various small and seemingly unimportant details that came out before were gone into. He told how he had worked and lived at American Fork, where he was born, and at Riverton, where he has been during the latter part of life. He said that he was 23 years old, had been married five years and was the father of two children.

He said that he had been out of the dance hall three different time on the night of the fire. Once he went to get a piece of pasteboard, from which to make tickets; the second time he went to his home near the pavilion and the third time he went out with Constable Silcock to identify some tramps. He had gone into the store along with Moroni Dansie to get some candy.

Bate went on to relate how at the alarm of fire he rushed over to the store. He opened the back door and at once took out the postoffice cabinet and afterward went to the north door of the leanto and got out the coal oil can.

"I discovered the loss of the $30 worth of stamps after I had examined the contents of the cabinet in the street," said he on cross examination. "I heard that suspicious looking characters had been around the place. I heard it at the time of the fire. There was nothing else besides the $30 worth of stamps missing. The next day I found a few coppers in the street that had probably been lost from the drawer during the excitement."

The witness made a strong denial of B. F. Grant's statement that he had confessed. He maintained that Grant had not charged him with setting fire to the store in their conversation. County Attorney Putnam tried to have the witness tell of the difficulty he and Rufus Nell had gotten into when they were accused of breaking into Langton & Knott's store, but the testimony was ruled out. It is likely that the case will be concluded today.

HIS STORY

6 July 1899

...ting Fire to River-ton Co-op Store.

...D DENIES GRANT'S STORY

...Bate, who was the Postmaster ...iverton, was on the Stand Dur-... Entire Day, and Testified ...freely with Respect to the ...e—He Also Said that He was not ... the Store Alone During the ...ening—Case will Reach Jury ... Afternoon.

...t T. Bate, who has been on ... for the last ten days before Judge ... and a jury on the charge of ... for setting fire to the Co-op ... at Riverton, took the stand yes-...day morning in his own defense, ...mained there nearly all day un-...direct and cross-examination. ...made a good witness, telling sub-...tially the same story as he did at ...preliminary hearing.

...e related again the oft-told tale of ...dance at Riverton on the night of ... fire, and said that he played on ... piano for the dancers. He said he ... the dance hall three times during ... evening, once to go to the store ...et some cardboard to make tickets ..., another time to help Constable ...ock round up some ruffians that ... supposed to be prowling around, ... another time to get some candy ... the store for Moroni Lunsde, who ...at with him.

DENIED BEING ALONE.

...had not, he said, been in the store ...that evening, and was as much ...prised as anybody when the cry of ...e was raised. He rushed out of the ...ce hall, and with others used every ...t to put out the flames.

...The stock in the store was not much ...ger at that time, but was a fair ...ortment of the past few years, during ...ich $2000 of fire insurance was car-... The only thing missing from the ...e after the fire was put out was ...230 worth of stamps from the post-...ice. He notified the Government of ...loss of the stamps, and made the ...ount good, at the same time filling ...t blank form of proof of loss, ex-...cting to recover the amount from ...Government when the loss shall ...e been fully investigated.

DENIED GRANT'S TALE.

...He absolutely denied ever having ...essed to B. F. Grant of any one ... that he had fired the building to ...er up his tracks in the matter of ...missing stamps, and with equal ...iveness denied that Grant accused ... of it. On cross-examination he ...led that he had ever stolen goods ...m the Equitable Co-op store in Salt ...e and divided the proceeds with ...ar Nell. The course of cross-ex-...nation was long and tedious, but ... witness adhered to his original ...y in the main. The defense will ...l this morning, and after some tes-...ony in rebuttal the case will be ...dy for argument. It is expected it ...l reach the jury late this afternoon.

NOW IN HANDS OF THE JURY

6 July 1899 — Deseret News

Riverton Arson Case Comes to a Conclusion at Last.

Opinion is that the Verdict Will Either be an Acquittal or a Hung Jury.

The Riverton arson case, after a long and tedious trial extending over a period of eleven days, was submitted to the jury at a late hour this afternoon with prospects for an acquittal or a disagreement among the jurors.

The defendant was on the witness stand the whole of yesterday, the greater portion of the time being devoted to his direct examination. Late in the afternoon he was cross-examined by Mr. Putnam, but stuck to his original story.

When court convened this morning Bate was further examined by both Mr. Varian and Attorney Putnam, after which the defense rested.

The State then called half a dozen witnesses in rebuttal and after they had been excused arguments to the jury were begun Assistant County Attorney Ray Van Cott led out and was followed by Mr. Varian. Mr. Putnam closed for the State, and after Judge Norrell had delivered his charge Bailiff McDuff was sworn in and the jurors were taken to their room to deliberate upon a verdict.

While the arguments were in progress the defendant sat facing the jury with his little girl upon his lap.

ERNEST BATE'S SUCCESSOR.

Mrs. Catherine Thorne Appointed Postmaster of Riverton Today.

A Washington special to the "News" this afternoon announces that Mrs. Catherine Thorne has been appointed postmaster at Riverton, Salt Lake county, to succeed Earnest T. Bate, removed, and now on trial in the district court in this city on the charge of arson. Another appointment was as follows: J. W. Satterthwaite, Laketown, Rich county, vice Willis Jones, removed.

NOT GUILTY SAYS THE JURY

Ernest T. Bate Acquitted of the Charge of [illegible]

7 July 1899 Deseret News

[illegible] Told Them How Long to Arrive at a Conclusion—Testimony Was Conflicting.

"We, the jurors in the case of the State of Utah vs Ernest T. Bate, find the defendant not guilty."

The above verdict was reached at 5:15 last evening, after an hour's deliberation, and at 5:30 the ex-postmaster of Riverton left the courtroom a free man.

It was learned today only one ballot was taken, that being unanimous for an acquittal. The jury's decision occasioned no surprise among those who had been in attendance at the trial and had heard the evidence. A great deal of the testimony was of a contradictory nature, so much so that the jurors, everyone thought, could do no other than to acquit Bate of the serious charge.

BATE IS ACQUITTED

St Herald 7 July 1899

Jury Finds Postmastsr Not Guilty of Arson.

JURY WAS OUT ONE HOUR

CLOSING TESTIMONY AND ARGUMENTS OF COUNSEL.

Mr. Varian Severely Scored the Officers for the Methods They Pursued—Defendant Congratulated By His Riverton Friends—Removed As Postmaster.

Ernest T. Bate is not guilty; so said the jury which has during nine days listened to his trial for arson. The jury does not believe that he set fire to the Riverton store on the night of April 1.

Bad news comes from Washington for Bate at the same time that he is cleared of the charge of arson. A dispatch received last night said that he had been removed as postmaster at Riverton. The cause is not stated. Mrs. Catherine Thorne has been appointed in his place.

Most of those who had listened to the testimony believed that there would be a disagreement of the jury. The evidence had been so conflicting and the character of Bate having been good, it was not considered that the eight men would be of the same opinion, but they did decide the matter very quickly.

The evidence introduced yesterday morning was in rebuttal, the defense having rested at the conclusion of Bate's testimony. Rufus Nell, who claimed to have visited the store at Riverton on the day after the fire with his wife and sister, told of the way the defendant acted at that time. He said that Bate had shown him how and where the fire occurred, stating that Bate pointed out the coal oil on the floor and motioned upward to illustrate how the oil must have been thrown against the door. Bate had undertaken to show him that the fire must have begun on the floor and not at the roof, as was now contended by the defense.

Sheriff Howells was recalled to testify concerning the envelope that had contained the $30 worth of stamps alleged to have been stolen.

Henry Black, an employee of the Commercial Co-op of Riverton, from which place the defense alleged the kerosene used in the fire was taken, was called to testify that the kerosene pump in that store could not be worked by one unfamiliar with it. Mrs. Annie Nell was the last witness; she corroborated the statements of her husband, Rufus Nell.

Assistant County Attorney Ray Van Cott opened the argument in a short address for the state. He went over the ground carefully to show the impossibility of the store having been set on fire by tramps.

Attorney Varian, for the defense, talked for an hour and three-quarters, that time having been assigned to each side.

Mr. Varian was very bitter in his description of the conduct of the officers toward Bate. With much vehemence he declared that the defendant had been "hounded by the officers of the law."

County Attorney Putnam closed the argument.

The jury was sent out at 4:30 during the afternoon, in charge of Deputy Sheriffs McDuff and Peery. The eight men deliberated for just one hour. When they had agreed Deputy Peery went for Judge Norrell. Mr. Varian and County Attorney Putnam were on hand. Bate, with his father and mother, his wife and his two little children and many other relatives and friends who have been in constant attendance, were in the court room.

When the verdict was read and the defendant discharged, all the Riverton people came forward to shake hands with him.

RIVERTON.

A Prosperous Community—Social Events.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., March 20.—We have had our share of winter here this season, but, generally speaking, it has passed off without much suffering or loss. Our sheepmen are feeding a great many sheep this winter, but owing to the hard and prolonged winter hay is very scarce. The farmers have sold their hay at a very good figure, and they look forward to a bounteous harvest and good prices for their products this coming season.

SOCIAL EVENTS.

A farewell party will be given in the Riverton hall Tuesday evening, March 21st, in honor of one of our departing missionaries, Brother Seth Pixton, who is going to England; also on Friday evening, March 24th, a grand character ball will be given in the same hall. Cash prizes will be given away to the best characters represented.

RIVERTON.

Des. Ev. News Tues 21 March 1899

A Prosperous Community—Social Events.

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he is known. DEN Apr. 7, 1899

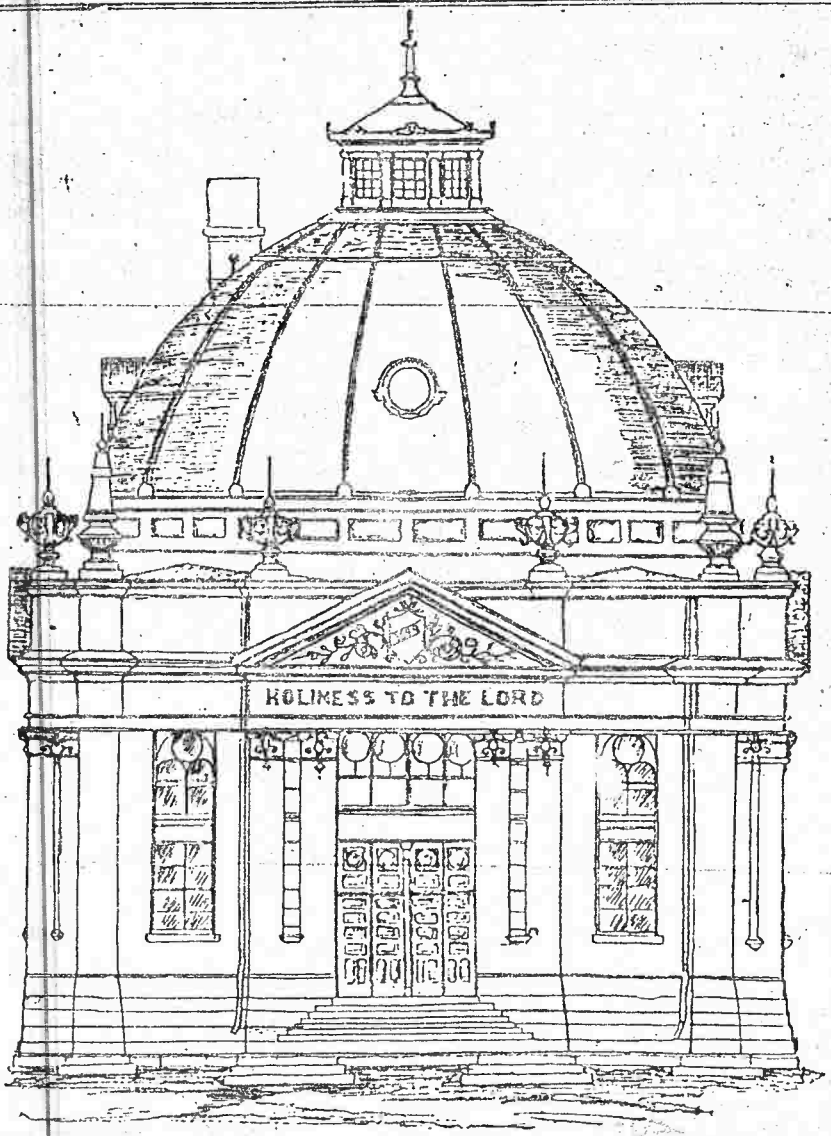
RIVERTON.

Runaway and Runaway—Sheep Killing Canines.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., April 5.—On Sunday a horse attached to a buggy broke loose from the hitching post in front of the postoffice and started for home at a lively rate. In turning a corner in the road homeward the vehicle was upset and badly damaged.

Yesterday morning James Daniels of this place found three vicious dogs in his sheep corral feasting on the remains of one of his thoroughbred lambs. Fourteen of his fine sheep were more or less seriously injured, three or four of which cannot survive. A suit for damages will probably be the result unless the owners of the dogs settle the costs peaceably.



NEW RIVERTON CHAPEL.

The above is a reproduction from the drawing of Architect Kletting of the new $11,000 brick and stone chapel that the enterprising people of Riverton ward, Salt Lake county, are about to erect. In style it may be called Romanesque. It is 67½ feet in length and is 56 feet high from the foundation with a large auditorium and gallery which combined have a seating capacity of nearly 1,000 persons. All things considered it will be one of the handsomest small houses of worship in any of the country districts of the State, and the Riverton Latter-day Saints, Bishop O. P. Miller at the head, are to be congratulated on their enterprise. The means with which to erect the structure are at hand and the work will be pushed to a rapid completion.

Deseret Evening News, June 17, 1899

HERRIMAN.

A THRILLING RUNAWAY.

Bishop C. F. Miller of Riverton and Two Others Narrowly Escape Death.

Special Correspondence.

Fort Herriman, Salt Lake County, Nov. [illegible], Saturday evening, the 6th inst., what might have been a very serious accident.

While Bishop C. F. Miller and Counselor C. N. Ellis and Samuel Eastman were summute home from Salt Lake City on the above date, and when a few miles out upon the State road, one of the single trees became detached causing one of the animals, a large young black mare, to become frightened and both started to run at a fearful speed. The night being rather dark added to the peril of the occupants of the rig. The combined efforts of the Bishop and Counselor Ellis were required to hold the team to the road. Suddenly a line snapped which left the outfit at the mercy of the animals. Bishop Miller holding on to the one line and made an effort to run the team up to a telephone pole in order to mitigate the impending catastrophe as much as possible. He missed the pole, and the only alternative remaining was to run into the barbed wire fence. The Bishop remarked, "hold on boys," when the team, with the light spring covered wagon, dashed through the fence, snapping every wire as if made of twine and turned the wagon over with the three occupants unhurt. The horses fortunately became freed from the double wagon and dashed into a board fence with a crash, and came to a standstill in a nearby pasture. A lighted lantern revealed three or four men and upon the animals, but happily not of any serious character. Through the kindness of Mr. Jones, who lived near by repairs were effected and the party proceeded on their way with thankful hearts for having escaped so miraculously.

DEN, 7 Dec, 1899

SOUTH JORDAN.

[illegible] Family Reunion — Locating a Beet Sugar Factory.

Special Correspondence.

South Jordan, Salt Lake Co., Dec. 7.—The Buckstead family are having a reunion here today. The tribe is getting quite numerous in the State. There are 120 members living in the Jordan wards, and they are scattered in the various counties throughout the State, and adjoining States. It is estimated that 300 will meet here today. A program will be carried out and a general feast of feasting and enjoyment is anticipated. The Buckstead family have been among the pioneers in Utah to develop the country. Four of the family did noble service in the Mormon Battalion and as pioneers in other capacities they have been energetic.

O. [illegible] and Alexander Mills have brought out the most buildings and machinery of Isaac P. Page, of Riverton, and will carry on the trade at the old stand. Mr. Page will leave for a visit to Texas to Turkey. The new meeting house at Riverton is being erected. When completed this structure will be the finest in the county.

Mills Bros. & Co., who have been engaged in the manufacture of brooms at Lake View, engaged in the mercantile business, broom corn and other material having gone skywards, the firm concluded to discontinue making for the present at least.

A great many fine residences at Riverton, Draper and along the Jordan are being erected, showing prosperity on all sides.

SITE FOR BEET SUGAR FACTORY

A committee who had been appointed to locate a site for the branch sugar factory made an investigation of places most suitable and central along the Jordan river. Two sites were chosen, one at the old West Jordan mills or ward house and the other on the east side of the river, near Cooper's mill. One of the other of these sites will be selected at a future meeting of the board.

RIVERTON.

Subscribers and patrons of the "News" in Riverton and its vicinity are notified that the agency has been transferred from N. J. Christensen to the Riverton Commercial company. All having business with the "News" or knowing themselves in arrears are requested to call on that company.

Des. Evg. News May 11, 1899

Des. Evg. News

RIVERTON.

Dec. 10, 1900

Twin Baby of Wilford Webb Died on Thursday.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Dec. 7.—The twin baby boy of Wilford Webb died on the night of Dec. 6th, at 10 o'clock. The sister twin was buried last Wednesday, having died on Monday, Dec. 5th, 1900, at Riverton, Utah.

RIVERTON.

RECEPTION TO PRES. MILLER.

Grand Testimonial Tendered by People to Retiring Bishop and Wife.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Feb. 14.—A grand reception was given in the Riverton Commercial Hall on February 10 in behalf of our departing Bishop, O. P. Miller and wife. Bishop O. P. Miller has lately been appointed assistant president of Jordan Stake and in consequence thereof he has to exchange his home at Riverton ward and remove to East Jordan ward, where they call him. The people of Riverton are loath to part with him and his family as they have almost grown up in our midst, and Elder Miller has presided over Riverton ward for upwards of sixteen years, during which time he has endeared himself to the hearts of the people and has become an acknowledged leader of the people.

A short program was rendered appropriate to the occasion, consisting of songs, recitations and speeches, with a royal repast of large proportions, which was partaken of by all the people.

Addresses were made by Elder James Jenson, counselor to President Miller, Bishop Burgon of Union and others.

As a token of respect and love to Brother O. P. Miller and wife, the people of Riverton presented a handsome gold watch and chain to Brother Miller and a beautiful gold ring to Sister Miller, which were accepted with feelings of deep emotion. After dinner President Miller made a hearty response wishing the heavenly Father to everlastingly bless the people.

President Miller has gained the respect of every one in Riverton and neighboring wards. Everybody has found, in dealing with him, an upright and straightforward business man. The people of Riverton congratulate him upon his new calling, and pray that he may always prove worthy of the higher trust now reposed in him.

Des Evening News Fri Feb 16, 1900

OUTLOOK FOR SUGAR BEETS

Conditions Most Gratifying Throughout Lehi Factory District.

Eighty Per cent of the Crop of 7,155 Acres Looking Well—Cultivation in Lieu of Irrigation.

Special Correspondence.

Lehi, Utah County, July 26.—The beet sugar crop throughout Salt Lake and Utah counties as well as in the districts of Sanpete and Sevier is looking remarkably well considering the dry season. Manager Cutler and Superintendent Austin returned late Saturday evening from a visit to the beet fields in the districts of Mapleton, Springville, Provo, Lake View, Pleasant Grove and American Fork, and the crop in these localities is far better than they expected to find it, they having seen a number of patches which will yield from 15 to 20 tons per acre, but of course the general yield per acre will average much less than this. Mr. Austin stated that the farmers are utilizing all of the water they can get access to on their beets and orchards, and generally speaking, they will be able to raise a fair tonnage, much more than was anticipated twenty days ago. Many of the farmers are greatly surprised at the progress the beets are making this season, considering the drouth, as in a great many instances, judging a field of beets from the top, the tonnage apparently would be very light, but on investigation the beets are a very good size for this time of the season. The farmers are doing their utmost to take care of the beet crop, and Mr. Austin attributes the present favorable condition of the crop to the excellent cultivation it has received, together with the cool nights we are having. On Mapleton bench, says Mr. Austin, there is one patch of beets that has not as yet been irrigated and the beets are suffering but very little, which condition is due to the thorough cultivation they have received.

The beet crop in Provo appears to be in good shape at the date as it has never been particularly on the low lands. Ninety per cent of the Springville beets are looking well, and in the Mapleton district, notwithstanding the water is very short, the beets look well. Lehi: They will also have a very fair crop as they are pretty well supplied with water from the Provo river, and while Pleasant Grove has not much water the outlook for beets is not at all discouraging. The American Fork beets look excellent especially when we take into consideration that this is practically their first season in the business.

IN SALT LAKE COUNTY.

In Salt Lake county the beets are looking well with the exception of a few acres in Lovendahl's, Riverton and West Jordan, and after talking with the Utah Sugar Company's agents at Spanish Fork and Payson and the company's representatives in Sanpete and Sevier counties, I find at this date eighty per cent of the entire beet crop is looking well, and the tonnage will far exceed the estimates of twenty or thirty days ago. The agent at Payson has just reported that the beet crop in that locality is looking remarkably well, a number of fields will yield 20 tons per acre, while they have a few acres on the higher lands that will be light unless we have some rain soon.

SARATOGA RANCH.

The Saratoga ranch which was bought by the Utah Sugar company some time ago as a mother beet seed farm is proving to be an admirable place for this business. The five acres of mothers on this farm is now being harvested, which is turning out an enormous crop, and the person in charge of the cutting says the output in pounds will exceed anything he has yet cut or seen. The forty acres of beets also on this ranch is the finest crop in this section of the country which demonstrates that the manager of the Utah Sugar company made no mistake in buying this place for a beet sugar seed farm.

BEET DISTRICTS AND ACREAGE.

Below are the Utah Sugar company's beet districts with the respective acreage in each:

Murray, 66½; Lovendahl's, 26½; West Jordan, 641; Crescent, 133; Riverton, 135; Lehi, 1,225; Utah Sugar Co., 156; American Fork, 250; Pleasant Grove, 333½; Lake View, 240½; Provo, 254; Springville, 940; Mapleton, 870½; Spanish Fork, 654; Benjamin, 261; Payson, 432; Mt. Pleasant, 50½; Spring City, 108½; Ephraim, 109½; Manti, 79½; Gunnison, 125; Salina, 44½; Vermillion, 49½; Aurora, 41; Richfield, 69½; Monroe, 95; Elsinore, 161; Redmond, 55; Inverury, 45½. Total acreage, 7,155½.

Deseret Evening News January 31, 1901

RIVERTON.

A Choir's Good Work — People Opposed to Vaccination.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Jan. 28.—After meeting Sunday the choir under the direction of Brother Webb, went in a body to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Silcox, and sang many of the good old hymns to them. Mrs. Silcox has been ill for a long time, and unable to get to meeting. She was delighted to hear the singing of the choir once more.

Mr. and Mrs. Silcox are two of the oldest, if not the oldest persons in the ward.

Only about 50 per cent of the school children have been vaccinated here, yet. Many of the parents are opposed to it. Bluff Dale, the ward south of here, is waiting patiently for the way to be opened that their children can go to school without being vaccinated. They have not had any vaccinated, nor do they intend to if they can possibly avoid it. They have had no small-pox in their district.

The farmers are making contracts for the raising of beets next season. The yield this year was very light, but the prospects are better for the coming season.

Deseret Evening News March 26, 1901

RIVERTON.

Suffering from a Bad Arm Caused by Vaccination.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., March 24.—George Greener, who has been suffering with a sore on his arm for some time caused by vaccination, went to Salt Lake City to have it treated, the first of the week. At this writing the arm is doing nicely. The party is the brother-in-law of your correspondent, and has been laid off quite a number of days on account of the compulsory vaccination regulations on railroad lines. He is in the employ of the railroad, at Clear Lake, as a section hand.

Deseret Evening News March 29, 1901

RIVERTON.

SHOCKING INHUMANITY.

Sad Details of the Death of William Curtz.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., March 27.—The sympathies of the people of Riverton are extended to Mrs. Curtz in her sad bereavement in the tragic death of her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtz and family moved to Riverton from Park City some three months ago. After locating his family comfortably Mr. Curtz went to Mercur to engage in mining. His wife being in delicate health he was on his way home to her when his death occurred. He came from Mercur to Lehi Junction yesterday afternoon and presumably arrived there about 8 o'clock p. m. Apparently his intention was to finish his journey on foot to Riverton as his body was found about four miles north of Lehi this morning. The announcement of the sad affair was first received here about noon today, from Sheriff Storrs of Utah county, from Lehi and the news was broken as gently as possible to Mrs. Curtz who is bearing up bravely from the shock.

After leaving the train at Junction to walk to Riverton, it is presumed that he became lost and wandered around over the country until he got chilled and fatigued and finally died. His footsteps were traced through the fields and wire fences throughout the country along the Jordan river. The worst feature of the sad misfortune was that the man died within only a few rods of a ranchman's house, and his cries for help were heard by the occupants of the place for three or four hours without response. The ranchman made no effort to find out what was the matter with the poor man until morning, when he went out and found the man dead. When asked by the sheriff why he permitted a stranger to die in his yard without offering assistance, the ranchman said that his wife was frightened and nervous, and that he was afraid she would faint away and die if he left her.

The deceased leaves a wife and four children. His life was insured and his remains will arrive here tomorrow to be viewed by relatives and friends when they will be taken to Salt Lake City for interment.

Dec 5 Evening News
Mar 8, 1905

RIVERTON.

DEATH OF YOUNG MOTHER.

Mrs. Nels Nielsen Succumbs to Long Illness.

Special, Salt Lake City, Feb. 28.—Riverton mourns the loss of Dagmar Nielsen, who died early this morning after an illness of over a year. Mrs. Nielsen was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, April 15, 1882. She emigrated to Utah. The following year was married to Niels Nielsen of Riverton. Since Dagmar's youthful Sunday school and society worker in her native city and has been a beautiful and devoted wife and

SANDY.

COUNTY SCHOOL LAW.

Some Points Covered by the Recent Legislature—The Election—Death of a Pioneer.

Special Correspondence.

Sandy, Salt Lake Co., March 30.—The funeral service over the remains of Mary Ann Leach Van Tassell-Hayden, who died in this Sandy ward Saturday morning at 8 o'clock, in Logan temple, were held in the Sandy ward meeting house Sunday at 1 p. m., Bishop W. D. Scott presiding. Addresses were delivered by Wm. Jennings and H. Bowers, all speaking of the noble life of the deceased. Music was rendered by the choir and Miss Mamie Scott in a solo and instrumental duet by the sisters Miss Ida and Mamie Scott. The floral offerings were numerous and beautiful. The remains were interred in the Sandy cemetery. Pall bearers were Messrs. Wm. Jennings, Wm. Hall, Wm. Fairbourn, Lafayette Bowers, Samuel Bowers and Joseph Bowers.

The county school bill which passed the legislature last winter has been the source of much discussion in this county during the past few months. The bill provides that that portion of the county lying outside of Salt Lake City, and to the south line of Murray precinct, will be called Granite school district, and that portion of the county lying south of Murray will be called Jordan school district. Each district will have a board of five trustees with powers equal to cities of the second class. These districts will appoint each a district superintendent and clerk. The present county superintendent, however, will hold office until June 1, 1907. After that time the office will be declared vacant, and the district superintendents appointed by the district boards will be in charge.

The county commissioners will appoint the first boards of education to serve until the first Wednesday in December, 1906, at that time they will be elected for three years, after the expiration of three years. Each justice's elected for four years. Each justice's precinct will elect one member of the board of education, there being five justices' precincts in each school district.

The following named persons have been mentioned for members of the board for Granite school district: Amos Gabbott, C. M. Sorenson, B. J. Stookey, A. W. Carlson, C. B. Marks, J. C. Cahoon, Richard Howe, J. C. Hacker, J. B. Lindsey, W. J. Horne. For Jordan district: N. Thompson, A. G. Robertson, C. C. Crapo, W. D. Kuhre, Heber A. Smith, D. O. Rideout, J. R. Rawlings, John Hansen, B. H. Beckstead, C. H. Roberts, J. W. Grant, J. A. Leverich.

The law provides a salary of not more than $300 a year and $50 traveling expenses. High schools will have to be established in the county this year. The University has also decided to drop the High school work it is thought that the Ninth and Tenth grades can be taught successfully in the Fairmont ward, Murray, Bingham Canyon, East Jordan and Riverton, after that both districts can join together and build an advanced High school, with domestic sciences and manual training with all the latest equipments.

JORDAN VALLEY BANK.

Deseret News
Apr. 18, 1905

Name Given New Financial Institution At Riverton Last Night.

Riverton is to have a bank. At a meeting of the Jordan Valley Commercial club at that place last evening, the bank was organized and articles of incorporation will be filed at once in the county clerk's office. The name of the new institution is the Jordan Valley bank. Its capital stock is $10,000, divided into 1,000 shares of the par value of $10 each and nearly all of the stock has already been subscribed for. A building has already been secured, suitable furniture has been ordered and it is proposed to open the bank on June 1. A. T. Butterfield is president; Thomas Nichols, vice-president; John Hansen, Jr., cashier.

DESERET NEWS AT RIVERTON. July 28, 1905

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., July 25.—Riverton, Bluff Dale and South Jordan celebrated Pioneer day. Practically the entire population of the three wards, men, women and children, were out for a good time, and had it. Exercises, speeches and songs, were held in the unfinished Riverton ward meeting-house, which, if ever finished, will be about the finest country ward meeting-house in the Church.

In the afternoon races, tug-of-war, etc., were indulged in. A baseball game, in which the playing was about up to a professional standard, was played, the nines being a picked team from South Jordan and Bluff Dale on one side, and the Lark nine from the Mascott tunnel on the other side. The Lark nine won.

A fine display of fireworks was given in the evening.

A ball in Riverton hall concluded the day's pleasures.

We have one of the pioneers living here, William Wallace Merrill, who is still capable of attending to his farm, and swapping horses with anybody.

The committee, to whom is due the credit of this large and pleasurable celebration were: Geo. W. Bills of Bluff Dale, Gordon S. Beckstead of Riverton, and John Hansen, Jr., of Riverton.

Deseret Evening News
Jan. 14, 1905

RIVERTON.

SEAL-BOWEN NUPTIALS.

Much Sickness Prevalent—Burial of Mrs. Catherine Thorne—New Settlers.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Jan. 13.—This place, generally quite healthy, is now having a great deal of sickness. Geo. H. Dansie has a child down with the dread disease diphtheria, but it is recovering. Jacob Myers has two children also suffering from diphtheria. Edgar Miller, a much respected young man, is very low with typhoid fever. Heber Thorn, a young maried man, is also very ill with typhoid pneumonia.

Mrs. Catherine, Thorne, formerly Mrs. Charles, maiden name Bowden, who lived at Riverton a number of years, is to be buried here today. She had lately lived with her son-in-law, John W. Roberts, in Salt Lake City. Death came through old age and general debility, deceased being about 76.

Schools have been closed this week on account of diphtheria, but expect to open next week.

SEAL-BOWEN NUPTIALS.

Mr. Abraham Bowen, a prominent and prosperous young man, and Miss Mabel Seal, one of the belles of the town, conclude to start in life together, which they do under quite auspicious circumstances. A large gathering sat down to dinner on the 11th, after their coming home from the Temple, to wish them success in life.

Some new settlers are coming in, and quite a number are making inquiries about places, some fine places being for sale on account of embarrassment of some of our citizens from sheep speculations.

Among the new settlers is Mr. Withers, who has bought the Nicholas T. Silcock place, Mr. Silcock having purchased a small place in which to pass away his declining years, after a very eventful life.

Some mining excitement is prevalent among some of our residents, on prospects in the foothills southwest of here.

The owners of lands above the canals are hoping in time to see water brought upon their lands, though the government plans or other agencies. Applications for government aid under the reclamation act are being signed almost universally by both those above and those under the canal.

Deseret Evening News Jan. 30, 1905

RIVERTON.

POSTOFFICE BURGLARIZED.

Attempt to Hold Up Ray Densley—Home Dramatics.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Jan. 30.—We had a little excitement in the morning of Jan. 27, the postoffice being burglarized, all locks of desks being broken open.

The Page-Brixton Co.'s store was also broken into. The postoffice and store are in the same building. The burglars, failing to find money in the postoffice, turned their attention to the store. Two doors were forced open to effect an entrance to the main room. Two men were sleeping there, and they were awakened by the burglars forcing the doors. Had a pistol in the hands of one of the men discharged when the trigger was pulled, no doubt one of the burglars would have been apprehended at once. The burglars being frightened off, one of the men sleeping in the store followed and exchanged a few shots. The burglars having the advantage, got away.

ATTEMPTED HOLDUP.

A good sack of money went before and a couple of highwaymen followed after in a holdup affair at Riverton Friday night. The bold robbers did not make good in their attempt as the man held up started a sprinting contest when he received the orders to turn over his money or his life. It all happened because the little drama entitled "Because I Love You," played by home talent, drew a good audience and filled the treasurer's sack with money. As the treasurer, Ray Densley, was approaching his home after the show, carrying the funds with him, two men suddenly sprang out of the darkness with the command to hand over the funds. Instead of complying he turned and fled at full speed towards the sheriff's home. Later the matter was reported to the police, and from the description furnished it is believed that they are the same pair which robbed the postoffice Thursday night.

Our local talent presented the four-act drama "Because I Love You" to a crowded house in the Riverton Opera House Friday night. Many of the members showed considerable histronic ability, and the way in which the piece carried through bore evidence of careful preparation.

RIVERTON.

Dec 29, 1903

FAIRLY PROSPEROUS SEASON

Due to Jordan Pumping Plant—Interesting News Briefs.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Dec. 28.—Nearly every one is keeping holiday. An event of the season was the Christmas tree of the Seth Paxton company. They distributed prizes to over 700 children.

The Sunday school has an entertainment to come off on Jan. 2, consisting of drilling, a kangaroo court, voting contest of most popular young lady, etc.

This year farmers did fairly well, raising fairly good crops of lucern and beets; grain and potatoes, however, were only moderate. Some fruit was raised but it was an off year for apples. The pumps on the Jordan made our living here possible.

Our former postmaster, Edwin A. Walker, with a few others, have moved to the Snake river country.

Many of our sheepmen, who were among the very largest in the state, have met heavy losses, caused by the taking up of lands of the ranges, by the timber reserves, by the two mile limit in Idaho, and some of us by unwise speculation. Some of them, who were not only known in Utah, but in all the surrounding states, are now entirely out of the business. This is a great loss to this place as formerly they had money to make improvements. Most of the beautiful homes here were built by this class of our citizens.

At one time Riverton was thought to be a banner ward for missionaries for her population, having at that time 12 missionaries in the field. We have now two missionaries credited to this ward, viz.: Niels Nielsen, in Denmark, and Thomas L. [illegible], in the Southwestern States.

There is more or less proselyting in our midst and some arrests, we are sorry to say, have had to be made.

The Commercial company building, one of the finest amusement halls and store buildings in the county, outside of Salt Lake City, it is understood, has been sold to the Petersen Bros. This was formerly the property of Daniel Densley, Jr., who did much to build up Riverton.

Our beautiful new meetinghouse is still unfinished, but it is hoped that if an abundant crop is raised next season, that something will be done to further its completion.

Through failures before mentioned some places are being offered for sale at very low prices.

Our station on the D. & R. G. railway has been closed down to the inconvenience of the people, but it is understood it has been done temporarily in the interest of economy during the coal strike.

People without wells have to drive their stock long distances to water, as very little, if any, water is in the canals. The county commissioners have come to our assistance and are now having driven public well at the principal cross road in our precinct.

EXCITEMENT AT RIVERTON.

Discharged Section Boss Threatens to Shoot Greek Laborers

Des Eve News
Oct. 7, 1904

(Special to the "News.")

Riverton, Oct. 7.—Last night about 5:30 Riverton was the scene of what for a time looked promising for a shooting scrape. A few days ago John Palmer, section foreman for the Rio Grande, discharged a number of Greeks because of some minor grievance. The men immediately went to Salt Lake and reported the matter, with the result that yesterday Palmer was replaced by a Mr. Evans and the Greeks were ordered to return to work. When they arrived here last evening they were met at the station by Mr. Palmer who, shotgun in hand, took after them and chased them some distance along the track, threatening to shoot. His threats, however, were not carried into effect and on waving a flag of truce the Greeks were permitted to go on their way unmolested. The men gave their names as Thomas, Alex., and Chris Escanda, Thomas Milo, Louis Lotz and Slope Milesbury.

WATER USERS MEET

Views of Riverton Are Addressed by Prof. George L. Swendsen.

(Special to the "News.")

Riverton, Utah, Feb. 2.—The water users of this section were last night treated to an educational feast on the Utah lake project by Prof. George L. Swendsen of the United States geological survey. Prof. Swendsen was invited out to speak at a meeting held under the auspices of the Jordan Valley Canal club. The possible water supply of Utah lake and how to organize in order to receive government aid were discussed to the satisfaction of all present.

The following resolution was unanimously passed. "That it be the sense of this meeting that we favor the Utah lake project as outlined by the government."

Des Evg News

LAID IN THE GRAVE.

2 Feb 1904

Demise of Robert M. Dansie, a Promising Young Man of Riverton.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Utah, Feb. 1.—On the 29th ult our ward was cast into deep sorrow by the grim reaper, Death, taking from our midst one of our most promising young men, Elder Robert Morrel Dansie, son of Robert and Rosannah Bilbrock Dansie and grandson of Robert Dansie, deceased. Brother Dansie was taken down less than two weeks ago with a severe case of pneumonia, which, through the skill of the attending physician and the tender nursing of his mother, had been broken. He was however, in a very serious condition owing to a weakness of his heart and the doctor entertained fears because of this. But his relatives were encouraged and regarded it as only a matter of time when he would be fully recovered. So that when the announcement came that he was dead it came as a great shock to everyone. He breathed his last at 11:40 a. m.

Fortunately he died at home—thus fulfilling a desire he had previously expressed.

Funeral services were held Sunday the 31st. ult. at 1 p. m. at the Riverton ward house conducted by Bishop Gordon S. Bills.

The Riverton choir, under the leadership of F. W. Webb furnished the singing which was exceptionally fitting, especially the solo "What voice salutes the startled ear," etc., sung by Sister George Garside.

Elders John Hansen, William Stoneman of Salt Lake, Zack Butterfield, Charles M. Nokes and Bishop Bills each eulogized the life of the deceased and bore testimony as to his sterling qualities.

The interment took place in the Riverton cemetery. The grave, which was covered with beautiful cut flowers, was dedicated by Elder H. S. Hamilton.

Robert Morrel Dansie was born March 12, 1878, and would have been 26 years of age had he lived until his next natal day. He was a Latter-day Saint in every respect. His friends—and he had not an enemy—loved him because of his manly qualities and cheerful disposition.

Nothing derogatory to his character could be said truthfully and nothing too praiseworthy could have been said of him.

The sympathy of the entire community extends towards the bereaved family.

There is some little sickness in the ward. The weather continues cold with a goodly supply of the beautiful to remind us that it is yet winter.

Des Ev News

RIVERTON.

Sat Feb 28, 1903

VEXED IRRIGATION QUESTION

Water Users Pass Important Resolutions and Petition Legislature.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Feb. 26.—A business organization has held some three meetings here, their purpose being to build up the southwestern portion of Salt Lake county, and is composed of most of the leading citizens of Riverton, South Jordan and Bluff Dale. Geo. W. Bills of Bluff Dale is the president, Joseph M. Holt of South Jordan, vice president and Seth Pixton of Riverton, secretary.

Last night was devoted principally to consideration of irrigation problems, and after considerable discussion the following resolution and petition to the Legislature was adopted, which today has been signed by nearly all the irrigatores in this portion of the county.

RESOLUTIONS AND PETITION.

Whereas, The most important question that confronts the citizens of Utah is irrigation; and,

Whereas, The present irrigation laws are inadequate, indefinite, and in many cases ridiculous; and

Whereas, Endless litigation, confusion and bitterness of feeling have grown out of our present water laws, as rights are not defined as regards the watershed; and

Whereas, No permanent settlement of the water question under the present laws and decisions of the courts is possible; and,

Whereas, Many of the most valuable portions of our state have been made practically valueless through the mismanagement of our water supply and its distribution, especially during the last three years; and,

Whereas, Most of the harvest of our toil has been wiped out through these shifting causes; and,

Whereas, Many have been forced away from their homes to seek new ones in neighboring states; and,

Whereas, Our legal expenses have exceeded all other operating expenses combined of our irrigation system; and,

Whereas, Water rights have been granted to one or two streams on a system, without regard to the right of other streams having common supply; and,

Whereas, Parties are allowed to claim water, which they cannot use beneficially, and in some cases cannot use at all; and,

Whereas, Grants of water have been made far in excess of the carrying capacity of ditches or canals; thus taking water from the rightful users; and,

Whereas, One small ditch may stop improvements which would be beneficial to all users of water in that system and desired by almost all the irrigators in that system; and,

Whereas, Under our present irrigation system there is small prospect of our receiving government aid through the national irrigation law, and

Whereas, Filings may be allowed on water before showing there is water unappropriated which is a menace to the first appropriators; and,

Whereas, Our present needs have outgrown the present method of dealing with the irrigation problem. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Church Commercial club, composed of the leading citizens residing in the southwestern portion of Salt Lake county, and other irrigators from the same district, petition the honorable members of the Legislature to incorporate with their irrigation bill, the following suggestions:

First—That the entire waters of the state be placed under the supervision of the state engineer.

Second—That the state be divided into watershed divisions, without reference to county lines under the charge of watershed superintendents, who shall be responsible to the state engineer.

Third—That each watershed division be subdivided to irrigation districts under water commissioners who shall be responsible to the watershed superintendents.

Fourth—That these officers divide all streams delivering to each canal or ditch its quota of water.

Fifth—That in case of litigation, the state defend the action of the state engineer and his aids.

Sixth—That condemnation of water power grants be allowed when the power could be furnished by other means.

Seventh—That the duty of water, which governs the quantity to be delivered be fixed at a minimum of 70 acres per second foot. That in excess of that quantity be liable to condemnation.

Eighth—That no water filing be allowed unless unappropriated water exists. The state engineer to decide with appeal to the courts if necessary.

Ninth—That watermasters be compelled to put in ditches some simple measuring device that can be read and understood by the average irrigator.

Tenth—That when improvements in the water supply are desired by the irrigators in a water district or watershed division as the case may be, that an election be held and on two-thirds of the irrigators favoring such improvements that it be a charge on the parties benefitted.

SCHOOL QUESTION

On next Monday this organization will consider the question of whether it would not be more advantageous to abolish district school trustees and adopt the county unit in school affairs.

Our citizens are to some extent trying to pattern after our neighbor on the east, Draper, whose Commercial club in a few weeks effort has succeeded in bringing to their precinct a canning factory which will give employment to quite a number of persons and also have in consideration with a fair prospect of success an enterprise of no small importance, one being the piping of the waters of Willow creek down the mountain a distance of about two miles which would furnish power and also save water which is lost to users, and the other the incorporation of their town.

Prospects here are encouraging to what they have been and quite an acreage of beets, some tomatoes and some large apple orchards will be planted this spring.

RIVERTON.

GRANGERS MORE HOPEFUL

Harvest Assured—Smallpox Quarantine—Mrs. Matilda Tempest Dead.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., March 17.—Plowing has commenced, and the farmers this year are feeling encouraged. Last year the tillers of the soil were putting in crops with very little faith for the harvest, and they were not disappointed. So after loading their seed and their season's work, they put their shoulders to the wheel, and brought water to their farms in time to save the greater portion of their lucern and most of their orchards from destruction.

This year many of the farmers are planting beets, some are planting tomatoes for a cannery that is being established at Draper. Others are enlarging their orchards and some are planting new ones. Among the larger orchards G. W. Bills is planting 1,500 winter apples, C. F. Beckstead is planting 3,000 Bartlett pears, T. P. Page 500 winter apples, John Hansen 5 acres apples and pears, etc.

There is quarantine here on account of the smallpox in the family of Robert Daniels, but so far it has not spread, and all the stricken ones are in a fair way of recovery. Schools which were discontinued for two weeks, are again running.

The Riverton sheepmen, some of whom were up till a short time ago the largest operators in our state, are going out of the business. Many things are against the large sheep owners, the forest reserves, the two mile limit in Idaho, the regulations against the entry of Utah sheep into Idaho and Wyoming, and heavy losses of the lamb crop last spring, make conditions rather discouraging. Some of our former large flock owners are now entirely out of that business.

MRS. MATILDA TEMPEST DEAD.

The hand of death has taken away today Sister Matilda Tempest, wife of James Tempest. This lady has lived here ever since the organization of the ward and was well and favorably known for her many kind deeds. She was born in England over 70 years ago, and came to Utah in the early sixties.

Some of our citizens are wanting electric lighting for their houses and for our public buildings, and have appointed a committee with Jos. M. Holt as chairman to see what can be done in that direction.

Des Evening News Fri. March 28, 1903

To Consolidate County Schools.

Deseret News 20 June 1903

Commissioners and Superintendent at Work on a Scheme That Will Reduce the Number of Districts in Salt Lake County From Thirty-Six to Seven—Will be Some Opposition—The New Boundaries.

A move is now on foot to consolidate the 36 school districts of this county into only seven districts and thereby greatly decrease the school expenses and also obtain a better equalization of the school taxes. Such a scheme is now being considered by County Supt. of Schools Ashton and the county commissioners. The petition of the residents in the western part of Draper precinct, from about 120 rods west of State road to the western boundary of the precinct, for annexation to Riverton precinct is responsible for the movement that is now on foot.

The Riverton people claim that they should have the benefit of the taxes from one railroad at least, as the way the boundary now runs Draper has two railroads, and the change will give Riverton the Rio Grande track. The residents of Draper will oppose any such change and a warm fight is expected when the petition comes up before the county commissioners for consideration, should it be necessary to consider the matter at all.

The law gives the county commissioners authority to change the boundaries of the school districts or consolidate them upon the recommendation of the county superintendent of schools or upon the petition of the citizens. County Superintendent Ashton has practically decided to recommend the consolidation of the districts into only seven districts, and he and County Commissioner Wilson have talked over the proposed boundaries. According to the plan under consideration the new districts will be formed as follows: (though there may be some slight changes): Districts 31, 32, 46, 35, 34 and 37 will be formed into District No. 1, districts 11, 25, 12, 11, 13 and 47 into No. 2, districts 47, 30, 53, 51, 46, 41 and 42 into No. 3, districts 33, 40, 29 and 54 into No. 4, districts 31, 34, 36 and 39 into No. 5, districts 23, 15, 28, 14, 24, 26 and 27, into No. 6, districts 9 and 45 of Bingham into district No. 7.

Water to the Companies of Growers.

Intermountain Farmer and Rancher
Sept. 23, 1902

lake's level as three feet nine inches below compromise point and Mr. Jonas Holdsworth, who has taken the measurements for the past three years, says that if it were not for the pumps the bed of the river would be practically dry, and that yesterday and today the water would have been flowing from the river into the lake. The pumps are now supplying water for from 20,000 to 30,000 acres of land which would be practically worthless were it not for the Utah lake water, and it is estimated that the partial saving of the beet crop, the making of a third crop of alfalfa and the saving of trees in Salt Lake county, this season has almost paid for the pumps, and had it been installed in the early spring it would have paid for itself twice over in the increased amount of farm products. Many farmers in the south part of Salt Lake valley left the past two seasons for other localities and so many others were preparing to leave that the district would have soon become depopulated, but because of the pumps next year the grain will mature, three crops of hay are guaranteed and first-class stands of beets are assured and farms in general have all advanced fully 50 per cent in value, and Salt Lake City was saved from a court decree which almost meant a water famine.

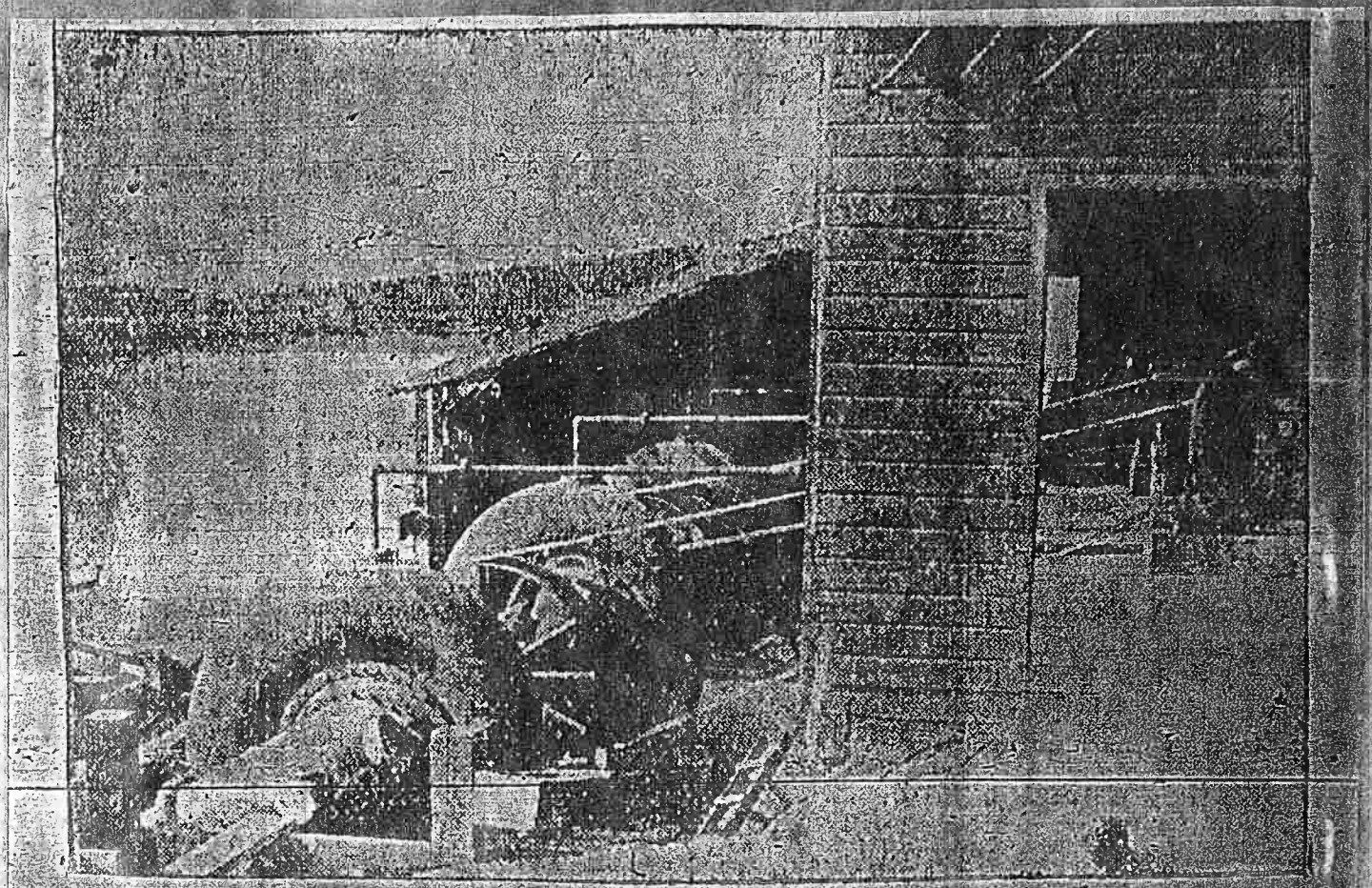
Bishop Archibald Gardner advocated the pumping idea many years ago, but last February, when others began to take an interest in his proposition and his plans were about to be matured, he died. His son, James H. Gardner, superintendent of the Lehi sugar factory, then took the matter up, more for the sake of his father's name than with the idea of financial gain, and interested President Angus M. Cannon and others in the matter. J. Fenton Smith, Jesse Fox, both civil engineers; Thomas Page, Bishop Seddon and others then became interested. Chief Engineer M. W. Ingalls of the Utah Sugar company became associated with Mr. Gardner, and finally in the latter part of May they induced President Angus M. Cannon, W. W. Fitzgerald and Samuel Seddon as the presidents of the South

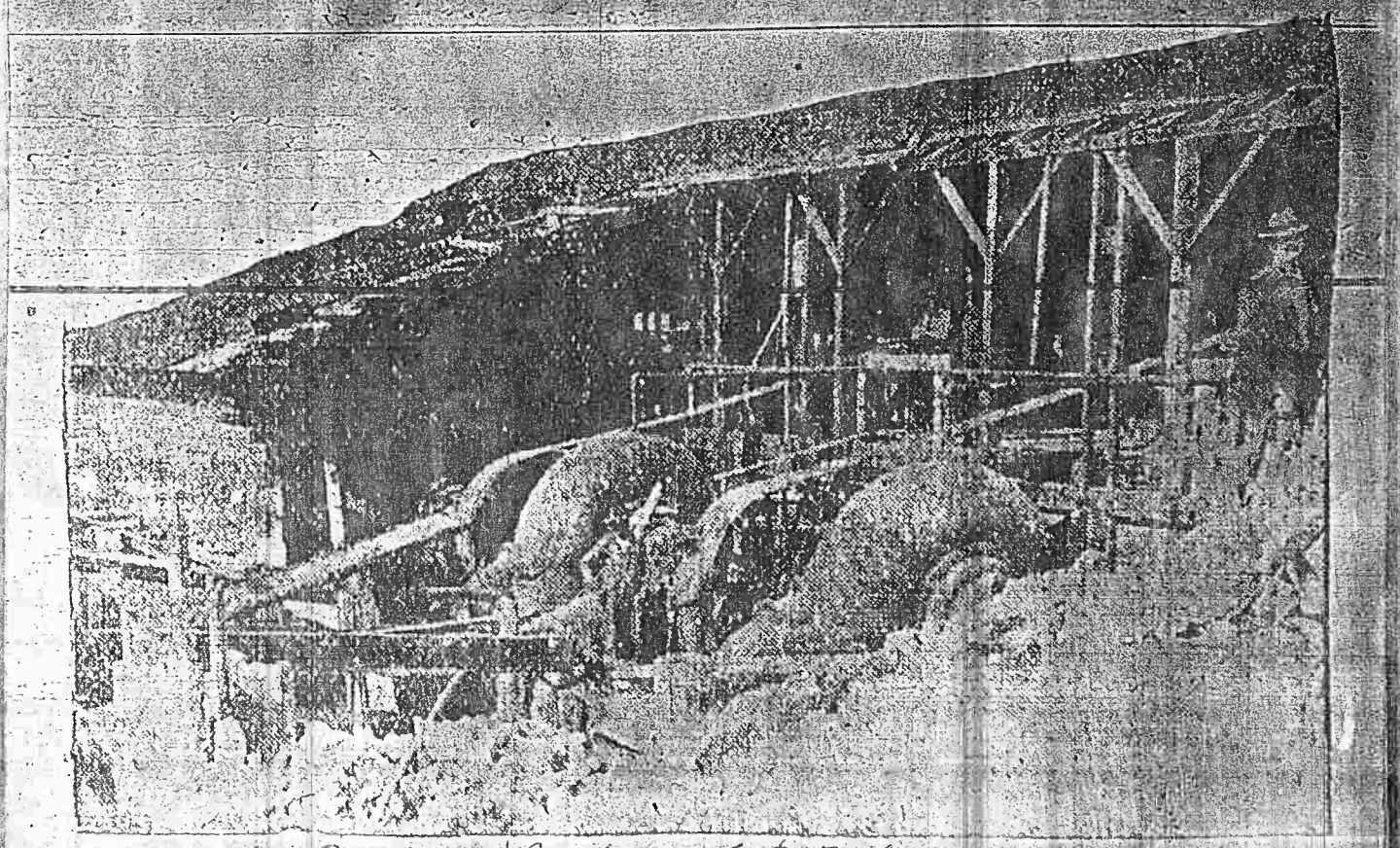
great advantage, will soon come in making a joint and equal ownership by the five interested companies.

Fear is expressed by some that the lake's supply may become exhausted and the records show that its level has been lowered eight inches since the pumps commenced working a month ago. But friends of the pumping scheme say that its level may be taken down for or six feet in a season and that it will fill up again during the winter and with this plan the lake may successfully be used as a reservoir. It has a surface of about 270 square miles. It is now nearly four feet below compromise point. The pumps can lower it four or six feet lower, which would make of it a reservoir eight or ten feet deep, with a surface fifteen by twenty-five miles, so that when an extra wet season comes no water need run to waste, all of which Messrs. Gardner and Cannon claim gives to Salt Lake county the best water right in Utah. They also claim that but one-fourth of the lake's supply is used for irrigation, while three-fourths is lost by evaporation. To lower the lake will lessen the lake's area and thus a big percentage of water will be saved. To make a reservoir of the lake by means of dykes is out of the question. It would require a million of money to erect dykes that the ice flows would not demolish, and were they erected the soil is of such a nature that the seepage out of the lake would be as great as the inflow. Some work yet remains to be done in dredging the river so that the pumps may have sufficient supply to feed from, but four teams are rapidly lowering the channel to this end. Numerous visitors have inspected the plant and all are loud in their praises of the vast project. The contractors have been justly congratulated on the short time consumed in the plant's installation. Special designs and patterns were necessary for the pumps because of their immense size and low lift, yet the pumps were ordered, made, delivered and two of them installed ready for service within fifty days from the date of signing the contract.

The names of Frank B. Kelsey, engineer for the canal presidents, Frank Langston, in charge of the installation of the plant, and T. E. Daniels, the power company's electrician, also deserve credit for the plant's success.

S. W. ROSS.





Inter mountain Farmer and Ranchman, Sept. 23, 1902

The two photographs show three of the four pumps in position, the other being in the shadow of the building. All the pumps and machinery are being rapidly covered to protect them from the weather

PUMP SCHEME STILL LIVES.

Larsen Thrown Out by His Company and Contract to Be Signed Tuesday Next.

Inter-Mountain Farmer and Ranchman, June 7, 1902

The proposition to pump water out of Utah lake for the benefit of the Salt Lake county farmers was given new life once more Saturday, when the directors of the Utah & Salt Lake Canal company shoved Peter Larsen, the president of the company, into the background and appointed the vice-president, Samuel S. T. Sedden to act for them with the representatives of the other companies.

This throwing overboard of President Larsen was the result of a mass meeting of the stockholders of his company at Riverton on Thursday last. The feeling at the meeting against Larsen was very intense, and it is said he would have been badly treated had he appeared on the scene. Delegations were appointed to represent the company and to demand that the work of installing the pump be prosecuted as the people are said to be suffering now for the lack of water.

A meeting of the directors of this company was called for 10 o'clock yesterday. It failed to meet till 1 o'clock. At that meeting Larsen was deposed and Sedden appointed to act for the company.

At the meeting of the canal presidents that occurred at 2 o'clock all the differences seem to have been adjusted and it was arranged that the contract between the three companies and the Salt Lake City Water & Electric Power company be executed at once.

[illegible]

In Oregon, the governor of the power company, secured an injunction from the court permitting him to furnish the power.

President Larsen claimed last night after the meeting that his rights in the matter were fully protected and that Ingalls and Gardner would only hold with the work of putting in the pumps without further obstruction. The action of Larsen has thrown the work back at least a week. It is now expected that two of the pumps will be ready for work July 4th and two more August 24th. The capacity of the pumps will be 100 feet each second.

Inter-Mountain Farmer and Ranchman, July 8, 1902

DEATH OF MRS. BECKSTEAD.

Resident of Utah for Fifty Years Passed Away at Riverton.

Mrs. Eleanor Beckstead, a resident of Utah for fifty years, died yesterday at Riverton at the home of her son, G. F. Beckstead, the well-known sheepman. The cause of death was a stroke of paralysis with which she was afflicted on this city May 7th. She was taken to the a few days later and gradually weakened until she died came. Mrs. Beckstead was 73 years old and came to Utah in the early days. Her husband died several years ago, leaving a large family. Mrs. Beckstead was a well known and highly esteemed woman of Utah, and her death will be mourned by hosts of friends.

DES. EVE. NEWS OCT. 8, 1902

SHOT HIS SISTER.

Careless Lad With a Pistol Almost Causes a Fatal Accident.

(Special to the "News.")

Riverton, Oct. 8.—What might have been a fatal case of a small boy and a didn't-know-it-was-loaded gun, occurred in our little burg yesterday. Thomas Demsley, the 13-year-old son of Daniel Demsley, Jr., was playing with a 22-caliber pistol and pointing it toward a number of children, pulled the trigger and shot his sister Ivy, aged 11, the bullet penetrating the elbow joint of the right arm. The unfortunate child was taken to Sandy, where medical aid was summoned, but the physician was unable to locate the bullet and it is thought he will have to resort to the X-rays. The little girl is now resting as easily as could be expected.

This place has taken on new life since the instalment of the pumps, and the people feel that the water problem is now well on the road to settlement inasmuch as the government seems favorable to the Utah lake reservoir scheme.

Bishop Thomas P. Page, nominee for state representative on the Democratic ticket, says that if elected he will introduce a number of measures that will be of incalculable benefit to the people of this state.

Inter-mountain Farmer and Ranchman

RIVERTON IS HAPPY.

Oct. 28, 1902

Pleasant Ball and Banquet to Celebrate Abundance of Water.

Riverton, Oct. 21.—A very pleasant affair took place here on Monday evening, October 20th, in commemoration of the successful installation of the pumping plant at Utah lake and the satisfaction with which our farmers are being supplied with water for irrigation. A banquet and ball such as the citizens of Riverton and vicinity can well be proud of were held on the above date, by special invitation, at the residence of our popular stockman, G. F. Beckstead, whose spacious apartments put on the appearance of genuine enjoyment.

Speeches and music were interspersed in connection with a well-laden board, to which the invited guests did honor, after which all repaired to Riverton's spacious hall in the Commercial building, where young and old enjoyed music, dancing and speeches until 12 o'clock.

The committee on arrangements deserves special mention for its good judgment, as well as our jovial friends Messrs. F. W. Webb and Edward Orgill, who have charge of the hall, which was well lighted and arranged for the comfort and pleasure of the occasion.

The people of this community feel that the clouds are passing and the sunlight of prosperity again appearing. Land values are on the rise; many who have thought of pulling up stakes for a better locality have concluded to remain here. Riverton sustains two mercantile companies, both doing a good business, and there is some talk of bringing in some manufacturing interests. A real estate office has been established, town lots are being platted out and are selling from $50 to $100 each; money is in good demand and securities are considered first class. We invite parties seeking a good, healthful locality for homes to visit Riverton.

TWO OF GREAT PUMPS ARE READY

Immense Machines in Place on Jordan River.

WILL BE TESTED TONIGHT.

Two More Pumps Still to be Tested For Operation — Work is Being Pushed Both Night and Day.

(Special to the "News.")

Lehi, Utah, Aug 8.—Two of the large pumps at the head of the Jordan river are now ready for work, and in the course of a few days the other two pumps will be installed, and as soon as the dam is completed the pumps will be put in operation.

These pumps were made by Byron Jackson of San Francisco, one of the largest pump manufacturers in America, and were made especially for this work. They are called double centrifugal pumps of the double section pattern, having a suction and discharge of 40 inches each. They stand 20 feet high and weigh each over 10 tons. Also each pump has a six-foot frame, which will require an 18-inch belt, and it is so nicely adjusted that a man can easily revolve the wheel by a mere twist of the arm. When the four pumps are all installed, they will occupy a space 82x18 feet, and will throw 400 cubic feet of water per second. To operate these mammoth pumps, there are four one-hundred horsepower Westinghouse induction motors, and three transformers of 750 K. W. each to transform the current from 16,000 volts as high potential to 550 volts.

The large dam is constructed out of planks, well braced with high large pillars and underneath the whole plant there are five rows of piling. There is also under construction an extension dam 70 feet long, having nine gates, each of them eight feet wide. All these the river will pass through at times when the pumps are not in operation. The entire plant will be closed in with lumber and well cemented all around the top, and will cost over $10,000. The power for the running of these pumps will be furnished by the Salt Lake City Electric Power and Water company.

Messrs. Gardner and Ingalls, the contractors, have used every effort possible to expedite the work, having employed day and night shifts, and 48 hours after the second pump arrived at the railroad station here, the pump was installed and ready for action. Tonight at 6 o'clock the power will be turned on and a test run made of the pumps and motors.

DISCUSSION OF WATER QUESTION

Des Evening News Wed. Aug. 6, 1902

Farmers Decide to Investigate Government Proposition.

WILL HOLD MASS MEETING.

This the Conclusion Arrived at at a Meeting in Riverton Last Sunday —Resolution Adopted.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, August 3.—At the conclusion of the conference of the Jordan Stake of Zion, a meeting was held of the stockholders of the different Jordan Canal companies, of which a large number were present. The meeting was held to consider the proposition of Mr. F. C. Newell on behalf of the government in regard to the Utah lake and Jordan river water system.

The meeting organized with John Hansen, Jr., as president and James Blake as secretary. Apostle John Henry Smith, who was present, was requested to address the meeting. He stated among other things that while at Washington a short time ago, he found the president of the United States deeply interested in irrigation matters, but that he did not have an opportunity of seeing Mr. Newell last week as he was in Idaho at the time. He thought it was about time for the people to look after their interests in the matter.

The chairman, Thomas P. Page, O. P. Miller, Joseph J. Williams, Geo. W. Bills and H. E. Beckstead also expressed their views.

A committee consisting of Thomas P. Page, John Hansen, Jr., and N. A. Nelson, was appointed to wait upon the presidents of the Jordan Canal companies and to arrange for a mass meeting of every one interested in the Jordan river, and to endeavor to have Mr. Newell address the meeting for a more thorough understanding of the government proposition and to request that our senators and representatives and the state engineer favor the meeting with their attendance.

The following resolution was introduced and referred to the committee, which will explain to some extent the situation of the farmers under the Jordan canals:

Whereas, The U. S. government has through Mr. F. C. Newell, made what amounts to an offer to take charge of the Utah Lake and Jordan river irrigation system, under the recently passed irrigation law, and to furnish whatever expend may be necessary for the improvement of said system, and that without interest, and

Whereas, This will be done without charge to ourselves, unless it is in cases where we are benefited and where the water supply is increased sufficiently to water other lands, the government will furnish water to new settlers at actual cost, and

Whereas, This offer is made by experts of the highest rank in irrigation matters in the United States, and is solely for the benefit of the irrigationist and as the work would be prosecuted as a comprehensive system and not as parts of a patchwork plan, which in consequence of the disunity of our canal companies we have to endeavor to carry through, and

Whereas, Of the waters entering Utah lake here than one-fourth part reaches our farms over three-fourths being lost through evaporation in Utah lake, and evaporation and seepage in our canals and weir ditches, and

Whereas, There are streams of water running to waste, or that are unappropriated at the present time, which can be diverted, reservoired and utilized in Utah lake like the Upper Duchesne river, and the Weber river during spring and flood seasons, and

Whereas, For the past three years we have had a failure of crops through insufficient water, and a large portion of our farming population have emigrated, and

Whereas, To keep our homes it is imperatively necessary that our irrigation system be brought under management, united and capable of grappling with the conditions that confront us

Resolved, That from present knowledge we believe this to be a great and beneficent act on the part of the government, and that we impress upon our own officials the necessity of immediately taking the same at the earliest possible date

GARDENS RETURNING TO DESERT.

Riverton's Old Men Discouraged, Strong Citizens Leaving and Lads Going Sheep Herding—Must Have Water or the Town Will Soon be Erased From the Map.

Des Evening News Tues June 10, 1902

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., June 9.—We write on a doleful strain. For the loss of respected citizens who are leaving us behind, going like Parley Hamilton to Snake river and George Washington Beckstead who will make his habitation among the Oregonians, at La Grande. Our hearts are also sore to see our wheat and oats dying out by scorching in the sun, and to see our old men discouraged, our middle aged men trying to sell out and our young men and boys having to herd sheep. Grieved we feel also to see farms offered for sale at one-half the prices they could have been sold for three years ago, and no buyers. Also to see our meetings with over half the benches vacant where formerly standing room was at a premium. Also to see at our parties, the young ladies tripping the fantastic toe with each other, following the scriptural injunction, "Do ye to each other as ye would then should do unto you," where formerly partners were in over abundance. Also to see our beautiful new meeting house, which has the name of being the finest meeting house among all the country wards of Zion, lacking not only windows and inside finish, but a congregation, as our present attendance would not fill one corner.

The trouble in this and the adjoining wards is nearly all due to a lack of water and a lack of energy. For the shortage on our crops we grumble, but we work not; we wait for the salvation of the Lord, but we fail to respond in energetically putting our shoulders to the wheel. This will make the third year of our losses, and we still argue over schemes for our relief, and then try and hunt for reasons why they should not be carried out.

As the adage runs. How deferred maketh the heart sick.

Some of our residents try to make a living on lands above the canals, but so far dry farming on the adobe lands has not been very successful. Some sheepmen from other places are driving through, either wishing to save these dry farmers the expense of gathering a crop that would not pay much more than expenses, or else thinking that the dry farmers in the generosity of their hearts, plow up land and put in seed to save poor sheep from starvation, have been tempted from lack of feed to drive sheep on these seeded lands, in one case eating up quite a number of acres. In this case a suit is planted for damages to the amount of $250.

Many of the younger members are now looking quite full faced, even some that are naturally lantern-jawed in appearance at most times, and many of those of a fleshy disposition seem from the appearance of their faces to be fattening for an exhibition. It, however, is not intentional and no one seems proud of it, and it causes some little pain and inflammation. It is due to a swelling of the salivary glands, and goes by the common name of the mumps.

In our social affairs business has increased greatly since a rural delivery was established and mail facilities have increased from one to four a day.

In the postoffice we see notices of appropriation of water, one for 30 second feet, and another for one thousand second feet. One notice reads that some of the waters are filed on for diversion into Davis and Tooele counties. My pen came nearly writing for diversion into the Mississippi river and the Pacific ocean but on examination it only says Davis and Tooele counties. This being the case we find ourselves well supplied with water on paper, and trust it will not be long (hoping against hope) that some of this paper water will materialize.

TOWN'S DEPOPULATION AVERTED

Citizens of Riverton Who Were Ready to Abandon Their Homes Rejuvenated With Hope Once Again Will Now Get Water—With Which to Irrigate Farms and Orchards.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Utah, June 15.—Since last week a glimpse of light has appeared and yesterday the dawn of hope came through the despair and darkness which had settled over us and our lands for some time past. At our Sunday services the speakers dwelt (as they have done on previous occasions) upon the necessity of having a little more patience and not to leave our homes and abandon our farms, and to have faith, as it was nearly certain that the lack of water would be overcome and that our fields would be once more fruitful as aforetime.

The darkest hours often immediately precede the dawn; and on last Wednesday we indeed felt sad. The reason being that the installation of the pumping plant at the intake of Jordan river was abandoned. For this we, in connection with other wards in the southwest of Salt Lake county have struggled as it was the only available means of preventing the lucern on the clay lands from dying out and our orchards from destruction. But the orders for the pumps and electrical machinery to operate them were countermanded and the engineer discharged. We all felt sad, indeed, and with us the president of the board of canal presidents, who was worn out with weeks of work to overcome the many obstacles that stood in the way of this proposition, which was the only way to save our homes. He had overcome all the difficulties and the contracts were ready for signing, but at the last moment one of the canal presidents who had been with him and his associates during many weeks of meetings as a partner, and who had helped formulate the contracts, not only refused to sign, but gave notice that he would not be responsible for any payment for the pumping plant. This news, after the stockholders of that company had twice voted in favor of pumps, caused a feeling of indignation which spread like a prairie fire and like it the heat for the time was intense.

A meeting was held on Thursday, June 11, at the Riverton schoolhouse, where, although there were feelings, and many hard words uttered on the outside, in the meeting itself order was maintained. Committees were appointed to wait on the directors of the canal referred to; to wait on the presidents of the other canals; and to see the contractors and others.

The effect was that on Saturday, June 14, the directors of the canal referred to appointed another to take the place of their president on the canal board; the board of canal presidents looking to the good of the people and not to slights thrown upon them, became willing again to act; and the contractors for machinery and for power were again prevailed upon to take the matter in hand.

The credit of the canal companies was, however, badly injured temporarily by such unbusinesslike actions in countermanding, and the contractors who were formerly quite willing to await payment now must be paid a sum said to be in the neighborhood of $10,000 in advance.

As the contract calls for two of the pumps to be in working order on or before July 24, this will probably save our orchards and lucern from destruction, and much of our garden stuff. The greater part of our wheat and oats will, however, be allowed to burn up.

The talk of men, with as fine residences as you can find in any country district in the state, leaving as they could not sell; the statement of merchants that were seriously thinking of boxing up their goods and shipping to other parts; and the stopping of winter orders given by storekeepers, has now abated, and after three years of drouth we await the time of plenty which we yet trust may be in store for us in the future.

Another matter we have to record—that one of our much respected young men went to Salt Lake City the other day and persuaded one of the belles of Draper, Miss Emma Jorgensen, not only to change the prefix to her name, but also to change the name she had inherited from her father. They go to Draper to reside, but when the time comes, when everything will again look lovely in Riverton, it is quite possible that the gentleman may return bringing his amiable and accomplished partner with him.

Tues Evening News Thur June 12, 1902

RELIEF SOCIETY MEMORIES.

Sixtieth Anniversary of First Organization of Society by the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Fittingly Observed by Organization Throughout the Church.

March 17th was the sixtieth anniversary of the organization of the Relief society. On that day, in 1842, the first female Relief society of the Church was organized at Nauvoo, Ill., by the Prophet Joseph Smith. Throughout the Church the day was fittingly observed by the ladies. Following are brief reports of some of these commemoration exercises:

Riverton, Utah.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Utah, Salt Lake Co., March 18.—Yesterday the largest gathering of amusement and enjoyment that has met in Riverton for quite a time past, celebrated. It being an assembly of almost the entire settlement, most of the farms being deserted, and almost all the homes being abandoned for the afternoon. It was held jointly to celebrate the anniversary of the Relief society and to honor the old folk, and was held in the Riverton Commercial hall, the largest hall in Salt Lake county outside of Salt Lake City.

Tables were set and loaded with the bounties of life, the places being occupied by our veterans being handsomely decorated with flowers and the national colors, and banqueting started about noon. The afternoon was spent listening to a pleasing program of musical selections, speeches, recitations, etc. In the evening the laughable farce "Pete and the Peddler" and the village drama, "Hickory Farm," was rendered. Our native talent excelled themselves and certainly gave an entertainment far ahead of most of the travelling troupes that have been playing in the same building.

The day's doings lasted a little less than a full revolution of the clock, starting at noon and letting out about an hour before midnight, and will long be remembered.

RIVERTON.

HIGH SCHOOL PROPOSITION.

Rejoicing Over Jordan Pumping Plant—Testimonial to Supt. Blake.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., April 3.—On Monday an election was held for the purpose of establishing in connection with other districts in the county, a high school district. Riverton voted 25 in favor to 3 against on the high school proposition. Many other districts opposed this measure, and it was defeated as a whole. It is quite possible, however, that an effort will be made to unite Riverton with some of the surrounding school districts, either in establishing a small high school district or in having a higher grade taught in the district school.

The people here were very much interested and somewhat aroused over the turn of affairs in Salt Lake City on the Jordan pump proposition. On the news arriving that the Salt Lake City council had passed the pump ordinance over the mayor's veto by a vote of 11 to 4, and that it was practically assured that pumps would be immediately erected, and that drouth would not be apt to reign over our lands as it did last year, some of our citizens got together and with a wagon and band of brass instruments paraded this and adjoining wards. The wagon was covered with bunting with mottoes: "Good prospects of crops," "Salt Lake City council favors pumps," "Hurrah for pumps," etc.

A meeting was also held with Seth Pixton, chairman, and John Hansen, Jr., as secretary and a resolution passed commending the action of the members of the city council who were friendly to the county districts, and copies were mailed to each councilman.

TESTIMONIAL TO SUPERINTENDENT.

In Sunday schools matters the Stake superintendency have arranged to present a testimonial to our former honored Stake superintendent, James Blake, for his valued services in that position, the testimonial being an album containing the portraits of the various ward superintendents and assistants. Bro. Blake was compelled to resign in consequence of his interest in the sheep business taking him away from home the greater portion of the time.

Deseret Evening News
March 6, 1902

RIVERTON.

VANDALISM RAMPANT.

Growth Causing Many to Migrate to Idaho and Oregon.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., March 5.—This little burg, which at one time had the name of being the most prosperous farming district in Salt Lake county, and in which so many of our citizens have built noticeable fine residences, and whose residents have built the outside of a meeting house that is reported to be the finest ward meeting house in the Church, is now suffering from a loss in population and a deterioration of property due to the lack of water in the Jordan canals.

A large exodus has taken place, principally to Snake river, Idaho, and Grande Ronde, Oregon, and many others would leave but for the reason they are unable to sell at present and they do not wish to leave their property unprotected.

Many of the landowners [illegible]

[illegible] are sorry to say, is [illegible] and the bungows of [illegible] have been left for [illegible] have been destroyed, [illegible] the windows (some of [illegible] large expensive ones), of [illegible] formerly occupied by N. J. [illegible] and of La Rhode. Oregon, and those of the house formerly occupied by Robert Fe[illegible]

The young men who commit these offenses ought to be dealt with for their own good, but many of our residents do not like to bring these acts of vandalism to public notice as some of the young men are apt to make things uncomfortable to those who bring them to be punished. Among other matters, it is not long since that a young man of this place shot a horse and also a cow, merely for his amusement as he wanted a target. Stables have been entered at night and good horses taken out and almost ruined by the brutal treatment they have received.

Riverton is, despite the dull times, in favor of a high school in this part of the county, and is making an effort to have it located here.

The Salt Lake Dairy company, who bought the general merchandise business of Alexander Hills is building a small addition and a lady expects to open a millinery establishment.

Riverton is also the distributing office of rural delivery, with E. A. Walker as postmaster, the offices of Herriman, Mousley and Gale having been abolished.

Des. Eve. News
Jan. 22, 1902

DIVERTON.

RIVERTON.

Dec Eve News March 20, 1902

Exodus of Farmers Almost — Rural Delivery Given Satisfaction.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., March 18.—The threatened exodus of our farmers to other places, has somewhat abated, since the canal companies have acted favorably toward installing a pumping plant at the intake of the Jordan river, which they expect to have working before July 1st. However, if there should be any undue delay in the action of our canal officials, with the great losses and dead orchards of last year before the eyes of our citizens, feelings the reverse of kindly will apt to be engendered.

The extension of our rural delivery is giving general satisfaction and another route is being petitioned for by the people who will be benefited by the same.

A large number of horses have lately been purchased, by one of our leading citizens, Geo. F. Beckstead, who has made extensive investments in land in Alberta, and he has shipped the animals to that part of his majesty's dominions.

RIVERTON.

Samuel L. Howard Honored With Banquet.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., April 4.—A very pleasant ward social was held here yesterday in honor of Brother S. L. Howard, retiring superintendent of the Sunday school of this place. The affair was held in the commodious quarters of the Riverton hall. Tables were set and refreshments served at 12 o'clock, after which a short program was rendered in which President O. P. Miller and Brother John Stake took part. The afternoon continued with a dance for the children and the day's enjoyment concluded with a dance for the older people.

Brother Howard was presented with a gold watch and chain by the [illegible] of the Sunday school as a [illegible] in which he [illegible] the superintendency for [illegible] years and has been a [illegible] in the Sunday [illegible]

Deseret Evening News, April 5, 1907

PAINFUL ACCIDENT TODAY.

Daniel Densley of Riverton Has Two Ribs Fractured.

Daniel Densley, of Riverton met with a painful and somewhat serious accident while riding on a large, high seated wagon this afternoon with his young grandson. They were driving across the car tracks at an angle when the wheels slid along the track. Mr. Densley, who is over 60 years of age, was thrown heavily to the ground bruising his head and shoulder and fracturing two ribs. He was taken to the L. C. M. L. drug store and Dr. Seymour L. Young, who happened in, bandaged the injured so that Mr. Densley can take the train home this evening. His grandson drove the wagon to Riverton and will meet his grandfather at the station with a buggy on his arrival there. Mr. Densley's sons are in the mercantile business in Riverton.

RIVERTON.

DESERET EVENING NEWS NOV 25 1901

Death of Mrs. Christian Peterson—Serious Crop Failure.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Nov. 22.—We sorrowfully record the funeral today of Mrs. Christian Peterson, who has lived here the greater portion of her life, but who at the time of her death was a resident of Midway, Wasatch county. She was the wife of Christian Peterson, for many years counselor to the bishop of this ward, and daughter of John Hansen; Brother Hansen being one of the first settlers who undertook to construct the Jordan canals and build up this locality. She was the mother of fifteen children, of whom eleven are living, the youngest an infant a few days old.

SERIOUS CROP FAILURE.

This ward, with many of the wards in the west and south of Salt Lake county, are undergoing a trying time, as most of the farmers have failed to raise crops enough to pay their taxes and other expenses through lack of water for irrigation. We are patiently waiting for the directors of our canal companies to awake from their lethargy and unitedly devise means to prevent the abandonment of what was once one of the most productive districts of the state.

Much praise is due Postmaster Arthur L. Thomas for the energy he has displayed in the matter of free postal delivery for Riverton, Herriman and parts of South Jordan and Mowbley wards.

We have also to report, and it will show we are not quite dead, that a meeting was held here last Monday for the purpose of establishing a high school in the southern portion of the county, and the people of Riverton offered to furnish the building, heating and janitor work free if the high school was located here.

DEN 25 Feb. 1906

RIVERTON.

OLD FOLKS FETED.

Pioneer John Farmer Honored—Local Prosperity—Homeseekers Arriving

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Feb. 11.—Riverton is fairly prosperous. A few new people are making homes here. Quite a few sheep were fed here this winter and most of them are now sold. Hamilton Bros. and Wm. H. Silcock disposing of their last stock. There is a small bank here that is doing quite a business. Riverton is now something of a school center as we are running with the higher grades from Bluff Dale and South Jordan.

A family gathering was held at the residence of Samuel Rutterfield of Herriman on the 7th inst. in honor of John Farmer, one of the old settlers who came to Herriman in the fifties. This was the eighty-first birthday of the old gentleman. All of his descendants, nephews and nieces were present, and he was the recipient of many valuable presents.

OLD FOLKS FETED.

On the 2nd a very large gathering in honor of the old folks was held at the Riverton hall. Almost the entire population was there. The festival started at 10 a. m. and concluded after 12 midnight. Singing, speeches, the serving of dinner and the presentation by local talent of the farce of "Captain Racket," and a dance, occupied the day and part of the night.

DES. EVEN. NEWS 12 JAN. 1907

RIVERTON.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

Prof. L. A. Merrill Discusses Dry Farm Posibilities in This County.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Jan. 11.—The farmers in the south end of the Salt Lake valley have had an insight into the possibilties of the vast areas of lands in this valley that are situated far above the irrigation canal. At a meeting last night, at which 150 land owners and farmers of Roverton and vicinity were present, Prof. Lewis A. Merrill, editor of the Deseret Farmer, at Salt Lake City, spoke of the methods to be pursued in reclaiming these lands, and outlined co-operative methods by whih these lands can be cultivated most economically. He spoke of the successful experiments at the various state experimental arid farms and also reviewed the work of Bishop Farrell of Cache county. Presidents Paxman and Grace of Juab county, who, the speaker stated, were probably among the most successful arid farmers of the state. The organization and work of the Utah Arid Farm company was also given as the successful result of co-operation and the application of scientific methods.

Prof. Merrill had the attention of the audience for over two hours, and convinced many doubters here as to the practicability of arid farming. A company has been organized, more than 3,000 acres of choice land selected, a traction engine will be purchased, and active operations begun during the coming spring.

DES EVE NEWS
Aug. 10
1903

RIVERTON.

THRESHER AND HARVESTER.

New Public Buildings and Waterworks. —Immense Crops.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Aug. 8.—The Jordan Valley Dry Farm company of this place has just installed a steam combined harvester and thresher, which harvests the standing grain, threshes and sacks the same, ready to be put on the cars. This immense machine, which looks at a distance like an immense harbor dredge, was started up in the big wheat fields west of Riverton the day before yesterday, and Riverton is now as proud as a dog with two caudal appendages.

The first steam harvester of the kind was used last year on the dry farms near Nephi, by the company of which Prof. Lewis A. Merrill is maanger; the one here is the first and only steam harvester in Salt Lake county; a somewhat similar harvester was purchased and is being used by the Steadman Bros. on land in West Jordan, it being drawn by 26 horses.

The hard times of last fall had very little effect on Riverton, and the neighborhood is quite prosperous the present year. Work is plentiful; wages fairly good; lucern has yielded heavy crops; wheat on irrigated land is extremely heavy, but is down in many places, so that it will be troublesome to cut. Fruit is abundant, but hundreds of pear trees are being cut down on account of the blight.

The pipe line and water system, taking water for culinary purposes from the mountains above Draper, across the Jordan river and nearly half-way to the West mountains, has just been completed, and brings water of the finest quality into the homes of the people at a cost of about $20,000.

The meetinghouse, which has the name of being the finest country ward meetinghouse in the Church, is close to completion, and probably will be ready for occupancy in a course of a couple of months. In quite a few respects in outside appearance it resembles the Salt Palace of Salt Lake City.

Riverton is also erecting a modern schoolhouse, which will probably cost $23,000 when completed, and is one of the busiest little farming communities in the state.

RIVERTON.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

...iness Changes—Crops Satisfactory —Taking Up Dry Land.

...ecial Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Oct. 27.—...verton is one of the busy agricultural ...wns in Salt Lake county. Farmers ...e now digging beets, getting up pota... and picking apples, and the crops ... fairly satisfactory.

...Many purchases have been made of ...nds above the canal for dry farm...; among the buyers are: Thomas ...milton, Reuben Hamilton, John ...encer, Chris Larsen, Carl Madsen ... sons, Edward Morgan and others ...ing the past few weeks.

...he Jordan Valley Dry Farm com...y is finishing up its work for the ...son, and will put the engine away ... the year. This is the company that ...chased a combined harvester, using ... engine to cut, thresh and sack the ...in at one operation, and was a ...plete success.

...he Riverton meetinghouse, of which ...claim is made that it is the finest ...untry ward meetinghouse in the ...urch, is about completed, although ... upper story is not seated yet. The ...er portion of the building has been ... for the last month for meetings, ...day schools, etc. It will pay neigh... to visit and see what a beautiful ...ing the people here have erected.

...he Riverton schoolhouse, to cost ...ut $35,000 when completed, is now ... the square, with prospects of be... ready for occupancy by the new ...

BUSINESS CHANGES.

...e Page-Pixton company, the largest ...rcantile establishment in southern ... Lake county, is changing its name, ... will be known in future as Page-...sen company. It is reported that ...mas P. Page, who has been the ...ager for some years, will visit ...ope, Turkey, Palestine, etc., and ... John Hansen, Jr., will succeed him ...manager.

...orge W. Bills has lately returned ... a mission to Ohio. He is building ...ore and is going into business with ...son-in-law under the name of Bills ...ark.

...is also reported that a company ... the adjacent ward of Draper will ... engage in the mercantile business ...

...his season the Riverton People at an

expense of about $25,000 bought water rights on the east mountains, and piped it across the valley and the Jordan river, and it is now in the home of most of the residents. This gives the people pure water for culinary purposes and watering stock. Though the expense per family comes high, no one who now has it would do without it even if the cost was higher than it is.

Dec Evg News 8 Jan. 1909

RIVERTON.

NEW MEETINGHOUSE.

Handsome Structure Nearly Completed —Successful Bazar.

Special Correspondence.

Riverton, Salt Lake Co., Dec. 31.—Today brought to a close the bazar held in the new meeting house in this ward, which was a most successful affair, netting $800.

The new ward house is now nearly completed and is a handsome structure. It has two floors. The lower one is divided into five class rooms, a stage and auditorium. The upper floor will be used for general church gatherings. It is spacious, well lighted and approached by a large semi-circular stairway made of cement. When this large auditorium is seated, being now ready for the seats, it will be equaled by few ward houses and excelled by none. This building was originated and started by Bishop O. P. Miller, when he was the bishop of this ward.

The new eight-room schoolhouse is now having the shingles placed on it. This is an elegant building, which will be much appreciated by all.

The Riverton pipe line is working like a charm. People living along the line may have the purest water in Utah delivered at their doors.

Land here is cheaper than any other place in Utah, considering the advantages and the splendid market for farm products.

Deseret News Feb. 28, 1910

SANDY.

CITIZENS IN MASS MEETING PROPOSE CAR LINE ROUTE

(Special Correspondence.)

SANDY, Feb. 28.—A mass meeting was held Saturday evening in the Sandy city hall, where the citizens of Sandy, and vicinity, comprising Crescent, Draper, Riverton, Bludale, Herriman and South Jordan came together to discuss the most convenient route for the streetcar line of the U. L. & R. company to take upon entering Sandy city from Murray. The towns south and west of Sandy were well represented. Strong disapproval was expressed on the route, urged by some, which leaves State street at the Social Hall corner and runs southeast, paralleling the San Pedro line to Sandy. This would be most inconvenient to most of the prospective patrons, who would thus have to travel a mile farther east to get to the car, and would also have to cross several railway tracks, which would be dangerous. After some discussion a resolution was unanimously adopted urging the company to extend the car line into Sandy City by way of State street. Last year the city of Sandy expended over $10,000 grading and putting into shape one of its main streets, as an inducement to the street-car company to enter the city by way of State street, in preference to any other way. The southern end of the county is booming and all the towns located in this section are rapidly coming to the front, and the time is not far away when there will be a large city located in this part of the county.

RIVERTON.

BURIAL OF DANIEL DENSLEY, A VETERAN OF 84

(Special Correspondence.)

RIVERTON, Salt Lake Co., Feb. 26. The funeral of the late Daniel Densley of Bluff Dale ward was held in the Riverton meetinghouse on Feb. 22.

Des Eve News, Mar. 2, 1910

DANIEL DENSLEY.

Bishop William C. Crump of Bluff Dale had charge. There was a large attendance, as deceased was well known and highly esteemed in that part of the county, having lived in Herriman for 30 years and for nine years in Bluff Dale, where he died. Consoling and eulogistic addresses were made by Bishop Crump, Bishop Thomas Butterfield of Herriman, Bishop Gordon S. Bills of Riverton ward, Elders John Bovey, James S. Quayle, William W. Merrill and William H. Freeman. Many of those had known the deceased for 40 years or more and bore testimony of his integrity and uprightness and of his fidelity to the gospel. The song service was rendered by the Bluff Dale choir.

Elder Densley was born near Bath, England, July 29, 1826. In 1851 he married Sarah Beech, and in 1862 became a member of the Church. With his wife and four children, he came to Utah in 1866. He is survived by his aged wife and eight of the 13 children born to them, besides 76 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

The remains were buried in the family plot in the Herriman cemetery.

RIVERTON.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR MRS. CAROLINE HANSEN

(Special Correspondence.)

RIVERTON, Utah, May 12.—The funeral of one of the prominent early settlers of Riverton, Mrs. Caroline Hansen, was held at the Riverton meetinghouse today. Bishop Gordon S. Bills conducting the service and Zachariah Butterfield, Carl Madsen, Mrs. Sarah J. Howard, Mrs. Charles E. Miller, James Jensen, Bishop Farnsworth, Stake President Hyrum Goff, Bishop William A. Bills and Bishop William B. Ennes being the speakers and Mrs. Ed Tea, Beth Pixton and Fred W. Webb, the soloists. Mrs. Hansen was born Jan. 7, 1827, at Helsingore, Denmark; emigrated to Utah in 1859, where she married John Hansen, Sen., in 1863, who survives her. She was a particularly faithful worker and a great help to the sick in the neighborhood and at the time of her death, May 10, 1913 (which was caused by a fall two weeks ago), was president of the female Relief society of Riverton. Besides her husband she is survived by one son, John Hansen, Jr., superintendent of the district schools in Jordan district and by 14 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

DESERET EVENING NEWS, MAY 14, 1913

Eve. News, July 9, 1910

RIVERTON.

CROP CONDITIONS IN SOUTH OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

(Special Correspondence.)

RIVERTON, Salt Lake Co., July 8.—Dry farming has not been as successful this year as formerly. This is due in part to the long period of rainless weather, and to the shiftless methods in planting had been done through previous rainy years giving a crop with little effort. The Jordan Valley Dry Farm steam combined harvester, that cuts, threshes and sacks, is now at work, but most of the land planted to dry farm land will not be cut this year.

The lucern weevil is now at work here for the first time, and the yield of lucern in this locality will not be over half of the average, which is usually higher than most places in the state.

Fruit crops are not heavy and apples will be about half a crop.

There is some agitation in regard to pumping for irrigation and it is probable in the near future lands above the present canal lines will be brought into irrigated cultivation and planted on orchards.

David Bills invited all the old folks and many of the leading citizens of this locality to a banquet on July 4.

The people of Riverton, Bluff Dale and the southwest of the county expect to celebrate the 24th of July. Speeches, baseball, horse racing, steer roping, etc., will be the order of that day.

Des. Eve. News, July 18, 1910.

RIVERTON.

DANIEL DENSLEY BARN STRUCK BY LIGHTNING

(Special Correspondence.)

RIVERTON, Salt Lake Co., July 18.—A terrific storm swept this place late Saturday afternoon. The heavy rain was accompanied with high winds which flattened out the grain in the irrigated fields and left it in very bad shape for harvesting, and will cause some loss. Lightning during the storm struck the barn of Daniel Densley, which was injured to some extent and some hay burned.

The small boys are having a great time here today gathering up fish from the canal, which is nearly dry. The water has been turned off to repair the breaks made by the Saturday storm.

Des. Eve. News, July 19, 1920

SOUTH JORDAN.

TERRIFIC STORM HITS SOUTH END OF COUNTY

(Special Correspondence.)

SOUTH JORDAN, Salt Lake Co., July 18.—A terrific storm struck this section of the county on Saturday afternoon about 4 o'clock, when the rain came down in torrents, accompanied by a severe electrical discharge. During the night the waters rose in the South Jordan canal, which overflowed and broke its banks, overflowing many farms and doing damage to the extent of $2,000. The principal losers are William Soh and Jeremiah Stocking. The water ran wild all night and created havoc in its wake. Many had to flee from their homes to escape from the overflowing streams. No one, however, was hurt, and the principal damage was to crops and canals, the latter and the farmers' ditches being filled with mud and debris. It will take three days to repair the canal and ditches. The storm came from the south, but did not extend far north of this place.

SOUTH JORDAN SCHOOL CLOSED.

Several cases of scarlet fever having broken out in the vicinity, the South Jordan school has been closed for the remainder of the week. The Riverton, Sandy, and Granite schools will be fumigated Saturday.

Des-Eve. News Dec. 9, 1910

Deseret Evening News, Oct. 15, 1910

RIVERTON.

PROSPEROUS CONDITIONS AROUND RIVERTON

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Oct. 15.—The Jordan school institute met here yesterday, Oct. 14. The attendance was 107 out of the 104 teachers. The Riverton people gave the teachers a banquet in the meeting house and a dance at the Riverton hall. The business of the institute was attended to in the morning, and at the afternoon session songs, recitations and a lecture from Prof. Wm. M. Stewart of the state university were given.

This is a district of large hay barns, many having been erected during the present year, which makes a great change in the landscape. The yield of lucerne here under the Jordan canals is about two tons higher than the farms watered from the mountain streams, the reasons being that the water is warm, and that with the system of pumps as much irrigating water can be had in the fall as in the spring. The present year the yield has been below normal, as the weevil affected the first crop.

There would be a fair opening here for a barber, and we are inclined to think that a milliner, a plumber and a dentist would do well to consider this as a location.

Nearly everyone here has water for culinary purposes in the house. The water is piped from Bear canyon on the east mountains above Draper, crosses the Jordan river and is distributed to nearly every farm in Riverton and Bluff Dale. This was an uncommon and expensive undertaking for a farming community, but now it has been installed, we cannot see how we got along without it previously.

RIVERTON.

D FOLKS ENTERTAINED:
RECLAMATION PROJECT

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Utah, Feb. 2.—Riverton
d a party for the old folks today. A
ble was spread and a large portion
the population, numbering, sat down
dinner. A program of music, recita-
ions and speeches was given and a
neral good time was enjoyed by
everybody. The old folks will be
asic company.
ere is considerable
ing

RIVERTON.

PUMPING PROJECT WILL BE INAUGURATED

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, March 17.—A company is being organized to pump water from Utah Lake, close to Saratoga Springs, to raise water to 75 feet above the present level, so that excellent opportunities will be afforded to both new and old settlers in this vicinity. Among those interested are J. H. Murdock, Abel John Evans, Stephen Chipman, J. William Knight, Reed Smoot, J. B. Keeler, and others.

At the Commercial club tomorrow, there will be a mass meeting to listen to propositions of the Telluride Power company in regard to pumping water for lands above the Utah & Salt Lake canal, and electric lighting.

John Hansen, Jr., and wife of this place were both born on the 17th of March. One is an American of Danish parentage, and the other English. They both will be seen wearing green ties on this day in the honor of St. Patrick.

Farming has started late this year, in consequence of the wet season, but the dry farmers are rejoicing in the prospects of a good wheat crop.

Riverton is becoming quite a chicken center. Charles L. Millard, Thomas Freeman, J. H. Freeman, Edward Orchard and Seth Pixton have poultry which they exhibit and have prizes by the score for fine stock. Incubators are used and there are about [illegible]

On the 17th of March the Relief Society are getting up a program of a lunch for everyone, speeches, songs, etc.

The News, Mar 18, 1911

Deseret Evening News, Mar. 29, 1911

RIVERTON.

PLANS TO RECLAIM LAND IN SALT LAKE COUNTY

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, March 28.—In a short time we may expect a large addition to the population of southwestern and western Salt Lake county, and lands which are to some extent dry farmed will be brought under an irrigation system.

There are two projects and offers made at the present time which are under the consideration of a committee. The lands considered (Bluffdale to the railroad tracks at West Jordan) 3,000 acres under the 50-foot level, or 3,500 acres under the 75-foot level. There is also probably about the same amount of land north of West Jordan, making by all about 8,000 acres. The company which has been organized by J. R. Murdoch, Abel John Evans and others, and who have large filings on the waters of Utah lake, offer to build canals and pump up to the 75-foot level at a cost not to exceed $50 per acre, and an annual maintenance charge of not to exceed $5 per acre.

The other offer is that of the Telluride Power company, who propose to install pumping stations on the banks of the Utah and Salt Lake canal, and pump water for those owning water in that canal at an annual cost approximately of $3, $4 or $6, for the 25-foot, 50-foot and 75-foot levels respectively. In addition there would be the cost of pumps, motors, piping, buildings, etc., the same being for the 25-foot, 50-foot and 75-foot levels, about $8.50, $12 or $18 per acre respectively.

The parties to whom this scheme would be open would have to own water in the Utah and Salt Lake canal, which is worth about $30 per acre, and is based on 300 acres as a unit for pumping, larger units costing somewhat less, and smaller ones somewhat more.

Riverton is planting apple orchards this year, those planting acreage being Hans B. Jensen, Thomas Nichols, R. Ashworth, Thomas F. Page, Charles M. Nokes and others; the varieties are principally Jonathan, Rome Beauty and Stayman's Winesap.

Des. Eve. News, Sept 25, 1911

RIVERTON.

BISHOP APPOINTED IN SOUTH JORDAN

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Sept. 25.—A new organization of the bishopric in the adjoining ward of South Jordan has been effected in consequence of the death of Bishop Blake. Samuel E. Holt is now bishop with B. H. Beckstead and Christian Mortensen as counselors. A change has also been made in Riverton Sunday school, as Supt. John Hansen, Jr., removed to Sugar in this county. The superintendency is now as follows: Franklin W. Seal, Sr., superintendent, with Thomas Nichols and Niels J. Nielsen, assistants.

Crops have been good during the year, with the exception of the first crop of lucern, which was almost a failure through the ravages of weevil. There are, however, heavy second and third crops of lucern, due to our irrigation systems.

Utah lake, the Jordan river and our immense pumping plant give the settlers under the Jordan canals the best water right in the state. Farmers under this water system obtain warm water in the spring, and in latter part of the season, when the mountain streams are about dry as much water as at any time of the year.

The Jordan soup, as some call it, is not particularly suited for drinking purposes, but is fertilizing; and far better than cold, bright, pure, sparkling mountain stream water for the purpose of irrigation.

We are well provided with drinking water having a water system in about every farm house with hot and cold water, bath tubs, etc., in a large number of the homes. Our pipe line system starts from the Wasatch mountains above Draper, crosses the Jordan river and extends to the bench lands on the west side of the Jordan. It was a heavy tax on the people to put this in operation.

A meeting with the object of bringing some thousand acres of land above the line of the Utah and Salt Lake canal under irrigation is to be held at Riverton, Thursday, Sept. 28, at 8 p.m. J. R. Murdoch, J. Wm. Knight, Abel John Evans, Stephen L. Chipman, J. W. W. Fitzgerald, F. W. Kirkham and others will be present to consider applications for water and possibly let contracts for work.

A similar meeting is also to be held at West Jordan Wednesday, Sept. 27.

A number of the most influential men of our state, examined some of the higher lands in this vicinity lately, and are fairly well assured of the growth of Riverton and this portion of the county in the near future.

es. Eve. News Sept. 29, 1911

RIVERTON.

LANS OUTLINED FOR IRRIGATION PROJECT

eeting Held at Riverton to Discuss Proposed Vast Canal System.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Sept. 28.—One of the larg- meetings of land owners of part of the country was held e last night under the auspices of Riverton Commercial club. The eeting was addressed by Messrs J. R. rdock, J. W. Fitzgerald, Abel John ans and F. A. Kirkham.

hese gentlemen on behalf of the ir- ation companies they represent made following propositions:

o bring water by pumping from a mping plant to be built near Sara- a to a level of 100 feet above the esent line of irrigation, at a cost of per acre, and an annual maintain- ce charge of not to exceed $5 per e for pumping and distribution.

o bring water to a level of 250 feet ove the present line of cultivation by avity. Cost to be $50 per acre with annual maintainance charge of $1. is water would be the high waters the Provo and would only be avail- le in April, May and June. At a er time to furnish water from reser- irs, some of which are now being nstructed and said water to be avail- e July, August and September. This old cost about $50 per acre addi- nal, but parties need only take a tion of the reservoir water unless y desired to do so. There would be ctically no extra maintainance rges on this.

Des. Evg. News
Dec. 2, 1911

RIVERTON.

PROMINENT YOUNG MAN ANSWERS DEATH'S CALL

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Dec. 25.—The funeral of Chas. W. Jeffs, who died Dec. 21, was held in the Riverton meetinghouse, Sunday afternoon, Dec. 24, at 1 o'clock, Bishop Gordon S. Bills presiding. The beautiful floral offerings and large congregation were witnesses of the high esteem in which Elder Jeffs was held in this community. Seth Pixton, Thomas M. Hamilton, F. E. Seal, Sr., John Hansen, Jr., C. C. Crapo, Zach. Butterfield and Gordon S. Bills each bore testimony of his sterling worth. The pallbearers were chosen from the Riverton Commercial club and the singing was furnished by the Riverton choir, under the direction of F. W. Webb; also a solo by Oscar Fullmer. The interment took place in the Riverton cemetery. The dedicatory prayer was offered by Elder Thomas Nichols.

Charles W. Jeffs was born in American Fork, Utah, Dec. 14, 1881. After his birth his parents returned to Evanston, Wyo., their home.

In August, 1891, his father was accidentally shot and killed by a few hours. The family then moved to Riverton and Elder Jeffs had since made this place his home. On Oct. 5, 1903, Elder Jeffs was married to Agnes Euralda Orgill, a talented and leading young woman, who, with two children, survive him.

Des. Eve News. Jan. 30, 1912.

RIVERTON.

RIVERTON CITIZENS IMPROVE THEIR TOWN

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Jan. 28.—Riverton can boast of citizens with "get up and get" spirit. Two miles of sidewalks have just been graveled by volunteer workers and, this task out of the way, the work of grading two miles of streets has been begun under the direction of the county commissioners.

The town has a live Commercial club of 75 members. A week ago it was proposed to build side walks; the next day 50 men and 30 teams were busy and during the week two miles of sidewalks have been graveled. All this work has been done without pay. When the county commissioners learned of this they appropriated enough money to pay for grading two miles of road. Today the men and teams are working for the county.

The town has contracted for a lighting system and more than 100 houses will be wired by April 1.

The people are now asking for an extension of the car line from Sandy to Riverton. Riverton is situated 20 miles southwest of Salt Lake City and has a population of about 700 people. A few years ago they united and put in a water system at a cost of $14,000, distributing it to more than 100 families. The water is piped from the mountains east of Draper. Since that improvement the town has grown rapidly. There is now a bank, four stores, a butcher shop and a barber shop. A $20,000 school house is well filled with fine, healthy children. It has become necessary for the trustees to appropriate $8,000 to furnish additional rooms to accommodate the rapidly increasing number of children.

Deseret News — April 15, 1912

WEST JORDAN.

SUBURBAN FARMERS WANT OPEN MARKET

(Special to The News.)

West Jordan, April 15.—Gardeners and fruit growers residing in the suburbs south of Salt Lake will meet Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock in the amusement hall of the Granite stake tabernacle at Fourteenth South and State streets for the purpose of improving market conditions and attempting to establish a general market in Salt Lake where the farmers may dispose of their products under fair conditions of competition.

This meeting is called at the suggestion of the Salt Lake County Fruit Growers' association and board of directors of the U. P. growers' exchange. Those interested in handling and marketing fruit will be present and give instruction along the lines mentioned.

All gardeners and fruit growers residing in Mill Creek, East Mill Creek, Windsor, Union, Holliday, Big and Little Cottonwood, Draper, Sandy, Crescent, South Jordan, West Jordan, Riverton, Granger, Hunter and suburbs of Salt Lake, and all who are and may be depending upon marketing products in Salt Lake, regardless of locality, are requested to attend.

D. Eve. News Jul 24, 1912

RIVERTON.

BIT OF ANCIENT FAMILY HISTORY

[illegible] Correspondence.) [illegible] Riverton, July 22.—The Page family [illegible] held their reunion at the old [illegible] The [illegible] [illegible] Page family [illegible] John [illegible] Page [illegible] shire, born [illegible] family, A. D. [illegible] descended from the [illegible] of Monachty, Cardiganshire. [illegible] Elizabeth Gwynne Page, his wife, descended through the Gwynnes of [illegible] Brecknockshire, from Gwrgant [illegible] of Garthmadryn (now Brecknock) [illegible] A. D. [illegible]. The reunion included [illegible] the morning [illegible] a trip [illegible], a reception at the Wilson [illegible] and a theater party at the Orpheum.

The street lights of Riverton will be in operation within a week. Nearly every house in town is now lighted by electricity.

Last night a meeting of the fruit-growers was held to organize a society to handle this year's crop of fruit.

Harry E. Page has received a call to fill a mission in Great Britain.

Elder Zachariah T. Butterfield, who has fulfilled a mission in the Society Islands has recently returned.

As a proof that Riverton is growing it may be cited that eight babies were blessed in the last fast meeting.

Frederick A. Webb, of the firm of Parry and Webb, dealers in agricultural implements, has sold out to Arthur J. Parry, the firm now being Parry Brothers.

The harvesting of wheat on the dry farms has begun.

RIVERTON

ELECTRICITY'S ADVENT CAUSES BIG REJOICING

Deseret News, Aug. 3, 1912

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Utah, Aug. [illegible] Riverton celebrated on July 31 under the auspices of Riverton Commercial club the installation of the electric lighting system, which is used by nearly everyone in this vicinity, and is also used for street lighting. The entire town was [illegible] with many visitors from the adjoining wards. Speeches were made by Jesse Knight, J. William Knight, County Commissioner John C. Mackay, Mr. McHenry of the Murray Commercial club, Mr. Graham of the Salt Lake organization and both Pixton.

The taking out of a new canal above the present line of the Utah and Salt Lake canal was promised in the near future.

Afterwards a banquet was given, when 450 persons partook of the good things of life with a dance in the evening.

USEFUL MAN GONE.

A largely attended funeral was held here yesterday, that of Gilbert Lloyd, a man of more than usual ability in mechanical and other lines.

The speakers were Bishop Gordon S. Bills, Bishop William C. Crump, Reuben S. Hamilton and E. Butterfield.

Gilbert Lloyd was born Jan. 16, 1856, in Butler county, Pa., and was the son of John R. Lloyd and Mary A. Graham. He was [illegible] this home Nov. 16, 1887, and [illegible] Utah in March, 1890. He [illegible] City two years and [illegible] in Riverton. He is [illegible] seven sons, three [illegible] ber of grandchildr[illegible]

ROOSEVELT RALLY HELD AT RIVERTON

Oct. 14, 1912
Deseret Evening News

Senator Reed Smoot Principal Speaker, Reviewing National Situation.

URGES SUPPORT OF MR. TAFT

Policies of Administration Discussed At Length—Points to Records Of Rival Candidates.

"Senator Reed Smoot was the principal speaker at a Republican rally held Saturday night at Riverton. The rally was well attended and much enthusiasm was manifested. Senator Smoot covered much the same ground in his speech as at Provo the night before. An account of which appeared in the Saturday issue of The News.

Senator Smoot discussed the qualifications of the three presidential candidates, advising that either Taft or Wilson must win. In the course of his discussion of this point he said:

"Now I ask you to follow me and let us see for ourselves what the history of these two men is. Let us see who is best qualified to stand as president of the greatest country on earth, and when that is decided you can make up your mind. I have nothing more to say for or against it rests with you. Let us take Governor Wilson, and in discussing his case or I do not propose to cast any reflection upon him as a man. I do not want to say one word against his character, because I believe him to be an honest and clean man, but no more so than William H. Taft, president of the United States.

"But is he fitted for the position of president? Has he had the experience that will justify you in voting for him as president? Let's see. What business has he followed? What has been his profession in life or during the last? One thing, and one only, and that is a school teacher. A splendid man for president of the university, educated for that particular calling, but I want to say to you that he is an impracticable man.

PRESENT TAFT'S PUBLIC LIFE.

"Why, no doubt, many of you know Dr. Carl G. Maeser. He was a splendid man, an educated man, no better teacher ever entered Utah than he; and would you for a minute think of placing him to manage a business? Why, he knew no more about it than a baby, and I say to you that Gov. Wilson knows no more about governing a great institution, outside of an educational institution, than millions of other American citizens.

"Now let us see for a moment what experience the other man has had. For over a quarter of a century, he has been in the public eye, for over a quarter of a century he has filled places of responsibility, he has been your servant and tell me one failure on his part. Tell me of one instance where he has been charged with misappropriating one cent of the government's money, or tell me if you can where he has made a failure and disappointed the American people.

"Why, don't you remember his wonderful career in the Philippines, sent there by our beloved President McKinley, the late beloved President McKinley, called, as it were, upon a mission by him, and the people there, simple as they are, learned to love him, and he brought out of chaos order established a government there at a time when feeling ran high, and there was a discussion on the part of the people of the Philippine Islands to resent the interference of the United States government.

RECORD OF ADMINISTRATION.

He referred in extended mention to the administration's [illegible] which he held to be a great one, to the buildings of the Panama canal. The work of the bureau of mines under the Taft administration was not only commended. The record for homestead legislation was also discussed at length. As to politics and politicians he said:

"Whether [illegible] politics, [illegible] agreeing with the [illegible] of the United States [illegible] points of the platform [illegible] Taft has [illegible] and believed upon as [illegible] United States [illegible] respectively, [illegible] I believe I know [illegible] Republicans who have [illegible] president for that position [illegible] makes more of an honest [illegible] or does of his success [illegible] Who he made the thirteen [illegible] 95 [illegible] He has stood [illegible] he caused [illegible] the Aldrich tax, Urban [illegible] Currency bill [illegible] and with the [illegible] laws [illegible] progressive [illegible] the people [illegible]

[illegible] in Cuba, but if we had had a Democrat as president of the United States we would more than likely have had war with Russia, and more than likely would have had war with Mexico, and what would that mean? Millions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of American lives lost. It will all come out right in the end."

Senator Smoot reviewed the record of the administration in railroad matters, surrounding the steps taken to obtain fair and just rates and also many other benefits secured from legislation and departmental regulation.

He criticized Governor Wilson's record in the matter of his professed friendships for the workingmen; reviewing statements in the governor's books and other writings and in his speeches.

The senator went into the question of the recall of judges and judicial decisions in an effort to show that the theory is not well founded.

THE PRESIDENT'S SUPPORTERS.

Of President Taft and his friends and of Col Roosevelt and his friends, the senator said:

"Do you believe for a minute that the dearest friends that President Roosevelt had on earth would desert him and denounce him if they thought for a minute that he had been robbed of one single vote in the Chicago convention? Who were his dearest friends? Where are they today? Are they supporting him in his denunciation of the party and in his claim that he was [illegible] robbed? Take the dearest friend that he has on earth—Senator Lodge, a man who was with him every day, I suppose, that they were together in Washington—a man that he consulted upon every public question—a man that he loved I believe even greater than he loved his own brother. I want to say that you find Senator Lodge, pained as he was, opposed to this claim. And sometimes I wonder if it were agreed to by the man that I loved.

"Why, my friends, I would have crawled from San Francisco to New York for President Roosevelt if he were in the right. Take, for instance, Senator Root—a man who he said was the greatest statesman in all the world. He had him not only in one position in his cabinet, but two. Can we support him in these claims?

"Take President Taft, a man that loved him, a man who President Roosevelt said would make the best President of anyman in all this country. Take his own son-in-law and is he supporting him in this so-called claim of fraud? No! No! Why, I can name them the balance of the night to you, but I haven't time. I only hope and trust that this was started by some one else than Roosevelt, and yet we cannot excuse him for his very actions since have given credence to it, and he has consented to the claim."

W. Mont Ferry spoke briefly at the conclusion of Senator Smoot's address.

Des. Eve. News Oct. 18, 1912

RIVERTON.

POLITICAL RALLIES: OTHER NEWS ITEMS

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Oct. 16.—Riverton is having a number of political rallies lately. Last Saturday, Senator Smoot and the Republicans; next Saturday, the Democrats and next week, the Progressives.

The canal which places in the irrigated column a large portion of what are now dry farms, is being worked on, and about a half mile of tunnel has been dug for the canal in the south hills.

There has been a change in the medical line. Dr. Ferguson having sold out to Dr. Hardy.

Frisby & Shill company who operated a general merchandise business, have discontinued and moved to Provo.

Plenty of work here, picking apples, digging potatoes and loading beets. Crops are good.

Des. Eve. News Dec. 5, 1912.

RIVERTON.

CANAL WORK PROGRESSING: $500 REWARD IS OFFERED

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Dec. 4.—Work is being done on the new canal on the west side of the river which will put under irrigation a large tract of land in Utah county and southwestern Salt Lake county. The tunnels are about completed and the pumps are ready to be installed.

The bank burglary of a week ago in which the bank safe was shattered, but no money obtained by the burglars is the talk of conversation. No clues have come to light so far. The bank directors have offered a reward of $500 to any parties giving information which will lead to the conviction of the burglars and will keep the names of the informants secret if necessary.

Mrs. Butterfield in a Salt Lake hospital recently underwent an operation.

There has been a few cases of smallpox but the patients have about all recovered. At Herriman the schools were closed yesterday on account of smallpox.

Joseph Giles, who has lately returned from California, is starting a bakery and is building his ovens for that purpose.

The plumbing and heating of the new schoolhouse is about completed. The building will be one of the modern schoolhouses of the state.

Des Eve. News Dec 31 1912

RIVERTON.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY AT RIVERTON BANK

Second Unsuccessful Attempt—This Time Night Watchman Is Prepared.

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Dec. 31.—Burglars attempted last night to rob the Jordan Valley bank. About a month ago the same bank was broken into but the attempt was then, too, unsuccessful.

Night Watchman Henry Brown was awakened about 2 o'clock this morning by the sounds of the rattle of a key in the lock at the front door. He sat up in bed and reached for his gun. He leveled the weapon at the door and waited. In a few moments the burglars abandoned the attempt to open the door with the key and turned their attention to the side window. While they were prying and otherwise attempting to effect an entrance, Mr. Brown made his presence known by a demand that they quit the premises and intimated that he was ready for them if they entered. Mr. Brown says there was a whispered consultation and a hurried retreat of three figures through the darkness. When the night watchman made an investigation at the window he found a pick, a spike maul and an overcoat that the would-be burglars had left behind in their haste to get away. The officers have the articles and the coat is regarded as a clue that may lead to the apprehension of the men.

Des. Eve News, 6 Jan - 1913

RIVERTON

MRS. ELIZABETH A. B. BROWN DIES AT RIVERTON HOME

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Jan. 2—Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Brown died Dec. 28, 1912. She was born in Liverpool, Oct. 1, 1834, and came to Salt Lake in 1870. She was married to Henry Brown in 1861 and leaves a husband, six daughters, two sons and 24 grandchildren. Mrs. Brown was an old resident of Riverton, coming here before the railroad was built. Funeral services were held Dec. 29.

Des. Eve. News Apr. 24. 1913

RIVERTON.

TRIPLETS, ALL GIRLS.

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, April 24. Triplets, all girls, were born today to the wife of Dr. O. E. Hardy. Both the children are doing well.

Lehi, April 23.—The official test of the first unit of the Utah Lake Irrigation company pumping plant, near Saratoga, was conducted April 22.

Interested observers were Mr. Woody, of Milwaukee, the Allis Chalmers company's representative, who supervised the designs of the pumps, their construction and tests at the factory and the manufacturer's part of the official test; A. P. Merrill, district manager of Utah Power and Light company, which supplies the electrical current for the operation of the pumps; former State Engineer, Caleb Tanner; representing the subscribers for water under the new project; O. C. Beebe, cashier of Zion's Savings Bank and Trust company, with other officials from the same institution; Joseph R. Murdock and J. William Knight, President and vice-president of the Utah Lake Irrigation commpany, with other officials of the irrigation company; and R. P. Fairbanks and C. S. Jarvis, engineers for the Utah Lake Irrigation company.

The test was satisfactory from every standpoint. The largest pump of the group, which was guaranteed to give an overall efficiency of 67.8 per cent for pump and motor, delivering 20 second-feet against a head of 114 feet maximum, delivered 24.6 second-feet against a total head of 107.5 feet, with an efficiency of 71.5 per cent overall. This high efficiency is a characteristic sought for in pumping machinery as it reduces the annual maintenance charges for power to a minimum.

The Utah Lake Irrigation company will be delivering water to its subscribers in Utah county by May 1 of this year; and in Salt Lake county before the middle of May. The substantial construction that is being conducted along the canal, including steel reinforced concrete culverts and bridges, ingot iron headgates, pipes, and 4,000 feet of concrete lined tunnels through Jordan narrows, together with the substantially built canal extending from south of Saratoga in the Utah county, to several miles north of Riverton in Salt Lake county, with the fertile area that will be supplied, which is just on the eve of rapid development, due to the construction of the new canal, and the interurban railroad, all would seem to presage a successful future for the project.

Salt Lake Tribune April 24, 1913

News May 17, 1913

Following a campaign of publicity and education advocating the expenditure of $1,000,000 to build a system of macadamized roads throughout Salt Lake county, the commissioners of this county will be asked to submit to the voters the proposition of bonding the county in that amount for this work.

This is the result of the meeting held by the Commercial club yesterday when the matter of good roads for the county was discussed by representatives of the Commercial club and by many people from outside this city. It is proposed that two or three north and south roads and several roads running east and west are to be thus macadamized by the funds procured by the bonding, and the assertion was made at the meeting that such work could be done without increasing the burden of taxation on the citizens of the county. There are now about 35 miles of ordinary roads, but under the new system, it is claimed that 186 miles of macadamized roads could be obtained and kept up at a greater cost than the present highways.

In support of this claim it was said that the present dirt roads cost $150,000 for maintenance while the new roads would not cost the county to exceed the same amount. Itemized, the new project's expense would be:

For annual interest on bonds of $1,000,000 at 4½ per cent, $45,000.

For the annual sinking fund to retire bonds, $30,000.

For the annual maintenance of the macadamized roads, $55,000.

This would equal the cost of maintenance of the dirt roads, or $130,000.

The support of all those from out of town was pledged to the undertaking, and it was stated by them that the proposition will meet with general approval throughout the county generally.

Those who attended the meeting included: Job P. Lyon, chairman of the sub-committee of the Commercial club special committee on good roads; E. P. Ellis, Walter J. Burton and A. E. Berry, members of the sub-committee; W. McHenry of Murray, president of the Salt Lake County League of Commercial Clubs; C. H. Banks, president the Murray Commercial club; George Reed of Pleasant Green, vice president of the West Side Commercial club; H. Howard, president of the Riverton Commercial club; J. S. Barlow, editor of the Murray Eagle; T. P. Page, Riverton; J. S. Walk, Pleasant Green; W. Wilson, Sandy.

Des. Eve. News May 19, 1913

RIVERTON.

THE BINGHAM WARD HAS NEW BISHOPRIC

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, May 19.—At the quarterly conference of the Jordan stake held here yesterday and Saturday the Bingham ward was reorganized with James A. Wright as bishop and Hyrum S. Keeler and Francis A. Miller as his first and second counselors respectively. Elder Rudger Clawson, of the Council of the Twelve, Elder Joseph W. McMurrin, of the First Council of Seventies, and Elder Andrew Jenson were the visitors. James A. Wright was set apart as bishop to preside over the Bingham ward by Elder Rudger Clawson; F. A. Miller was ordained a high priest and set apart as Bishop Wright's second counselor by President Hyrum Goff, of the Jordan stake. Hyrum S. Keeler was not present. This bishopric was chosen and sustained at a meeting held in Bingham May 11.

The visitors spoke at the different sessions of the conference, which were all well attended, upon chastity and purity among the young. Elder Andrew Jenson, at the conference of the M. I. A. held in the evening, lectured on his trip around the world.

Des. Eve. News, June 5, 1913

RIVERTON.

RIVERTON IS GROWING, TRIPLETS ARE NAMED

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, June 4.—Riverton is growing in more ways than one. Sunday at meeting the triplets of Dr. Oscar R. Hardy were named, being blessed by Bishop Gordon S. Bills and Elder Ed J. Butterfield. Their names are Esther, Elisa and Estelle.

Water will be turned in the new canal tomorrow. This canal will increase the irrigated acreage of Bluff Dale, Riverton and South Jordan about 10 per cent. The land is all fairly level, of good quality and as it is tributary to Riverton from a trading standpoint it will increase the business of this place.

The interurban railway is letting contracts and it is expected by [illegible] a year that Riverton will be connected with Salt Lake by that road.

Thomas P. Page, who has been [illegible] of the Page-Hansen company [illegible] 20 years, has resigned, and is succeeded by John Hansen, Jr. Mr. [illegible] taking the presidency of the [illegible]

Dr. O. R. Hardy, [illegible] George W. Bills, [illegible] Wm. Mittendorf [illegible] automobiles [illegible] building buying.

Deseret News June 18, 1902

RIVERTON.

CANAL FULL OF WATER.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, June 17.—The Utah Land Irrigation company's canal is brimful of water, ready to irrigate hundreds of acres of fertile land. The Intermountain railroad is expected to run through the heart of this town within a month at a convenient point which should enhance values and bring many families to Riverton.

D.S. Eve. News 9 July 1913

RIVERTON.

THE EDITOR IS HAPPY.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, July 8.—A baby boy has been born to Mrs. Faerber, wife of Dr. Alfred T. Faerber, editor and manager of the Salt Lake Valley Examiner. Dr. Faerber says there is a vacancy in the repertorial staff awaiting the young "cub," and he will make of his son a first class journalist. Mother and son are doing well, and the father is happy.

Des. Eve. News July 22, 1913

RIVERTON.

PIONEER DAY AT RIVERTON.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, July 21.—Pioneer day will be celebrated here in fitting style. There will be horse racing, bronco riding, and sports of all kinds, besides a patriotic program in the hall.

The harvesting of wheat is in full blast and work is progressing on the interurban railroad.

South Jordan is installing a water system that will give water for culinary purposes to the citizens of that place.

Riverton and Bluffdale have water piped from the mountains across the valley east.

The irrigated area of this district, since the completion of the canal last month, has increased 50 per cent.

Des. Ever. News 27 Oct. 1913

RIVERTON.

RIVERTON NOTES.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Ut., The grading of the Riverton Valley is about completed.

Mr. Pixley, dealer in implements and vehicles has taken a partner, Mr. Hartwell, and is increasing the business under the name of the Riverton Implement & Vehicle company.

Mr. Underhill has opened up a saloon here, making two undertaking establishments for Riverton.

Mr. Hurd and Miller have created a stir and are putting in new and up-to-date mill in connection with their work.

INSTANTLY KILLED WHEN STRUCK BY TRAIN

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Nov. 5.—William J. Franklin, aged 39, was instantly killed this [illegible] when the wagon which he was driving was struck by Denver & Rio Grande passenger train No. 4, eastbound. His body was thrown into the air, his skull was crushed and he was dead when the few persons who witnessed the accident reached his side.

Mr. Franklin was driving a team belonging to the Page & Hansen Mercantile company, by whom he was employed. He was driving east on the road which runs past the Rio Grande station, about two and one-half miles from town. The depot is on the west side of the tracks, close to the road, and hides the view of the track to the [illegible] approaching from that side.

Mr. Franklin's team was upon the track before he saw the approaching engine. He tried to back his team, but the engine, going at a high speed, struck the horses, piling up both on its pilot and killing them instantly. The horses were carried 150 feet by the train. Mr. Franklin had risen in his seat in the attempt to rein back the team. When the engine struck the animals he was jerked violently forward and thrown against the side of the locomotive. His body bounded back from the track, and when spectators reached his side he was dead.

Samuel Howard of this place, who with about 30 others was working on the county highway along which Franklin was driving, not far from the station, said tonight that he heard no whistle from the engine. He estimated the speed of the train at 50 miles an hour. Other witnesses of the accident agreed with him on these points.

William J. Franklin was a native of England and came to Utah about three and one-half years ago, being followed six months later by his family. Besides his widow he is survived by two daughters, one aged 12 years and the other 4 years. His body was removed to the undertaking parlors of S. M. Taylor & Co., at Midvale. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

It is not yet determined whether an inquest will be held.

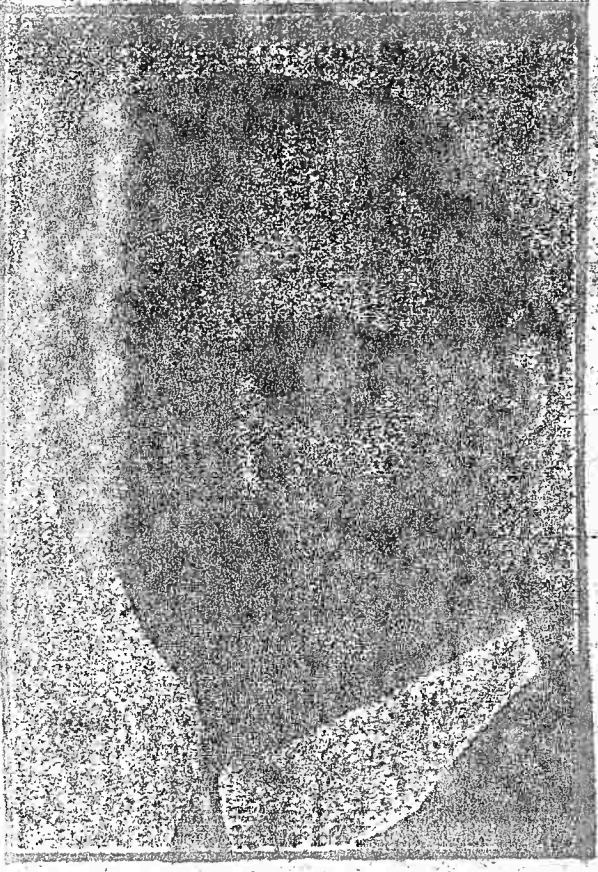
Deseret Evening News 10 Nov. 1913

RIVERTON.

FUNERAL SERVICES WILLIAM J. FRANKLAND

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Nov. 9.—The funeral of William J. Frankland, who was killed



WILLIAM J. FRANKLAND.

by a train at Riverton station Nov. 6 was held Nov. 8, at 1 o'clock p.m. in the Riverton meetinghouse, Bishop Gordon S. Bills presiding. The speakers were Zachariah Butterfield, John Hansen, Ruben Hamilton, James Madson and Bishop Soren Rasmussen of Draper. The ward choir sang appropriate selections. The grave was dedicated by Thomas Hamilton.

In reporting the death of Mr. Frankland an error was made. The name was spelled as Franklin and should have been Frankland.

Des. Eve. News 21 Nov. 1913

RIVERTON.

RIVERTON NOTES.

Riverton, Nov. 21—The choir gave a successful entertainment and dance Nov. 20.

Lorenzo Howard, a young man of 18, the son of S. E. Howard and who was operated on for appendicitis, is now on the road to recovery. The beets are nearly all dug; the potato and apple harvest has passed and crops were good.

A settlement has been made with the D. & R. G. by the widow on behalf of herself and children for the accident at Riverton station in which her husband William J. Frankland was killed on November 6, by being run over by an express train.

The interurban expects to have track laid to Riverton in a week.

Quite a number of sales of land have been made under the new canal which was completed late in the summer of the present year.

The Utah and Salt Lake canal will be enlarged this winter and coming spring, the Utah Copper Co. having purchased the right of way for 100 second feet of water.

Eve. News

RIVERTON.

IMPROVING THE ROADS.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Feb. 18.—The road from the
Riverton station to the
[illegible] graded, the work
[illegible] Road Supervisor S
[illegible] last three days
[illegible] has been grading
[illegible] Orem track into
[illegible] other portions
[illegible] Friday and Saturday
[illegible] field and Smith
[illegible] Benjamin Blundell
[illegible] Riverton Implement
[illegible] ably built a
[illegible] implement
[illegible] the new
[illegible]

Des. Evg. News Mar. 26, 1914

SANDY.

JOINS COUNTY LEAGUE: OTHER ITEMS OF NEWS

(Special Correspondence.)

Sandy, March 24.—The Sandy Commercial club held a lively meeting recently when items of a local nature were taken up and discussed. It was decided to join the baseball league in the south end of the county, which is being organized and made up of local players. The towns entering teams in the league will be West Jordan, South Jordan, Riverton, Bluff Dale and Herriman, on the west side, and Draper and Sandy on the east side.

On Thursday the people of Sandy, West Jordan, South Jordan, Crescent, Granite and Union will turn out to meet the Salt Lake Route demonstration train. Arangements are also being made to have the school band out to welcome the visitors.

Dr. Beatty will deliver a lecture in Sandy Friday evening on "Farm Sanitation." He will use lantern slides to illustrate his talk. The lecture will be free and the public is invited.

The Sandy city park has been taken over by the city; more trees will be planted and in time the ground will be leveled up and platted.

The Short Line Railroad company will park the station grounds this spring. Supt. Brewer was down recently looking over the situation and said work will be begun at once.

The brick work on the Jordan high school was begun yesterday and is to be finished in 40 days. A cotage will be built on the campus, where Principal Peterson will reside.

Deseret Evening News — April 2 1914

RIVERTON.

CELEBRATE COMPLETION OF INTERURBAN AND CANAL

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, April 2.—Riverton will celebrate the completion of the interurban railway and also of the new canal by a meeting and dance on the evening of Friday, April 10. Invitations have been sent out to the Commercial club of Salt Lake City and to the Commercial clubs on the west side of the Jordan, and to those of Lehi and American Fork.

Riverton has also made arrangements with the Agricultural college for speakers from the college to hold sessions on Friday and Saturday, April 17 and 18.

Thomas P. Page has returned from a trip to the countries of northern Europe, where he has been visiting friends and studying recent laws enacted in these lands for social betterment and new methods of taxation.

A large amount of new lands is being brought into cultivation this year under the new canal and about 50 per cent additional irrigated ground is added to Riverton and the adjoining wards.

The deliveries of The Deseret News the same evening from the interurban road are appreciated by its many friends.

Riverton has a baseball club under the management of Edward Orgill, which expects to be heard from during the season.

Des. Eve. News Sep. 8, 1914

RIVERTON.

SPECTACULAR GRASS FIRE.

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Sept. 8.—A spectacular grass fire on the foothills and upper bench land west of here burned over a wide area last night and attracted considerable attention. Aside from the destruction of some fences little damage was done.

RIVERTON.

Deseret News Dec. 2, 1914

SUGAR FACTORY IS TALK AT RIVERTON

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Dec. 2.—One sugar factory, at least, and probably two, in Salt Lake county in the not far distant future was the talk at an enthusiastic meeting held here last night under the auspices of Associated Commercial clubs of Salt Lake county.

The meeting was attended by a large number of citizens and the consensus of the gathering was in favor of a sugar factory in Salt Lake county. It was even suggested that one such enterprise would not be sufficient, but that there should be one factory in the north end and another in the south end of the county. Offers, which were held as bona fide, were made to subscribe individual amounts varying from $500 to $2,500. J. W. McHenry, chairman of the Asociated Commercial clubs, who presided at the meeting last night, said he would give $500 in cash to the project and two months, or even six months, of his time to start such an enterprise; "and further," Mr. McHenry said, "I will give $100 to any man or company who will start any sort of industry in this county employing 10 men or more." While no money has been put up there are those who say that $250,000 or $300,000 could be depended upon when the situation takes a more concrete form.

A committee, consisting of S. H. Howard, R. S. Hamilton, J. E. Freeman, D. O. Rideout, W. J. Green, J. P. Peterson, J. A. Morrison, W. H. Silcox and W. C. Crump, was appointed to arrange preliminary details and to report to a mass meeting to be called later by J. W. McHenry. All of the clubs forming the membership of the Associated Commercial clubs of Salt Lake county will appoint committees to confer with the general committee.

In addition to the sugar factory, a plant is contemplated for drying the sugar beet pulp.

Speeches were made at the meeting by D. O. Rideout, W. E. Wright, of Ogden, W. H. Homer of Utah county, David Mills and J. E. Freeman.

Des. Eve. News Dec. 7, 1914

RIVERTON.

...RD IN SERIES OF FOUR INSTITUTES

(Special to The News.)

...verton, Dec. 7.—The third of a ...ies of four farmers and housekeep... institutes in the Jordan school dis... ...t under the auspices of the high ...ool was held here Saturday. There ...s good attendance at all the ses... ...s.

...the morning and the afternoon ...ions there was first a general ses... ...and then departmental meetings. ...morning session general meet... ...of. L. M. Windsor spoke on ... ...and after the ... ... Olivia Hanson and ... ...both of the Jordan high ... ...ulty talked to ... [illegible]

[illegible]

...ural college spoke on household ...nomics. E. J. Webb, county dem... ...strator, and E. W. Stephens, instruc... ...r of farming at the high school, both ...lked at the men's meeting. Mrs. ... Cozine gave an address to the ...ls, and Henry Peterson, principal of ...e high school, talked to the mothers, ...e subject being the training of high ...hool girls.

Des, Evg, News Dec. 17, 1914

RIVERTON.

DAM COMMISSION CONSIDERS SITUATION

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Dec. 17.—The Utah Lake and Jordan Dam commission held a meeting this morning at Jordan Narrows, where a new diversion dam is just being completed for the division of the Jordan river among the several canals in Salt Lake county.

For some time past, in consequence of the work of constructing this dam being in progress, it has been necessary to keep the gates at the pumping plant, 10 miles farther south, closed, to shut off most of the outflow of the lake. This has caused some concern among the land owners on the east shore of Utah lake, who fear their farms may be inundated by the overflow of the lake. Part of the gates at the pumping plant were raised early this morning and the rest of them will be this evening; the water will be allowed to flow unobstructed down the river. An observation taken this morning at the pumping plant indicates that the present level of the lake's surface is only .3 of a foot below compromise point, but with present weather indications and the outflow of the lake it may not be expected to rise much if any more. The commissioners are intent upon doing everything within reason to prevent damage from high water; and at the same time to conserve the interests of the canal companies of Salt Lake county which have been under heavy expense in providing for utilizing the water of Utah lake for the irrigation of this valley.

Des. Eve. News Feb. 23, 1915

RIVERTON.

WILFORD WEBB DEAD.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Feb. 22.—Wilford Webb, a prominent and respected citizen of this place, died Feb. 18. Mr. Webb was born in England, Oct. 20, 1847. He is survived by his wife, nine children and six grandchildren. Funeral services were held in the Riverton ward house Sunday, Feb. 21, at 1 p. m.

Eve. News Feb. 25, 1915

RIVERTON.

OLD FOLKS ENTERTAINED.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Feb. 23.—The Riverton celebrated Old Folks' day, commencing at 12 o'clock, Feb. 22; dinner served to 400. A program was consisting of songs, recitations, and selections, concluded with a play by district teachers. The old folks were entertained with much of remem-

Des. Eve. News Apr. 8, 1915.

NO TRACE FOUND OF BISHOP WILLIAM A. BILLS

Sheriff John S. Corless and a number of deputies this morning resumed the task of dragging the Jordan river near Riverton in an effort to find the body of William A. Bills, aged pioneer, who is believed to have fallen into the river. Mr. Bills disappeared from his home at Riverton Monday night. His hat and a glove were found on the banks of the river yesterday by John Hanson, a farmer of Riverton.

The sheriff extended a wire net over the Jordan river opposite Samuel Howard's ranch, a mile below the point where the hat and glove were found. This part of the river is being dragged today.

The missing man was for 22 years bishop of West Jordan ward. His son, Parley Bills, said he was nearly 80 years of age, and was feeble. He left home Monday night, saying he had some business to attend to in Salt Lake. It is thought that he walked along the bank of the river, became tired and perhaps fell into the river. He was born at Pittsburg, embraced the gospel and crossed the plains to Salt Lake valley in 1848. Later he settled at Riverton. He retired as bishop of South Jordan ward about 15 years ago.

No word had been received from Sheriff Corless at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Des. Eve. News Apr. 20, 1915

ODY OF W. A. BILLS FOUND THIS MORNING

Badly decomposed, the body of William A. Bills, who disappeared from his home at Riverton about two weeks ago, was found in the Jordan river at 11 o'clock today by a searching party consisting of his two sons, George W. and David Bills, and Joseph Park. The body was found a mile and a half north of where his hat and gloves were found.

Mr. Bills, who for many years was bishop of South Jordan ward, left his home at night about two weeks ago, saying he was going to Salt Lake City on business. He did not return, and members of his family began to search for him. His hat and one glove were found in the willows on the bank of the river near Riverton, and a search of the river was instituted.

For several days Sheriff John Corless and a party of deputies dragged the river. Much of the water was drained out and the river was dynamited, but no trace of the body was found.

Confident that the body was in the river the members of the family constantly kept up the search. The party sailing down the river today noticed a slight ripple in the water, and upon investigation it was found to have been caused by the body of the dead man. Sheriff Corless was notified of the discovery. No arrangements for the funeral have yet been made. Had Mr. Bills lived until the 1st August, he would have been 81 years of age.

Deseret Evening News. Apr. 23, 1915

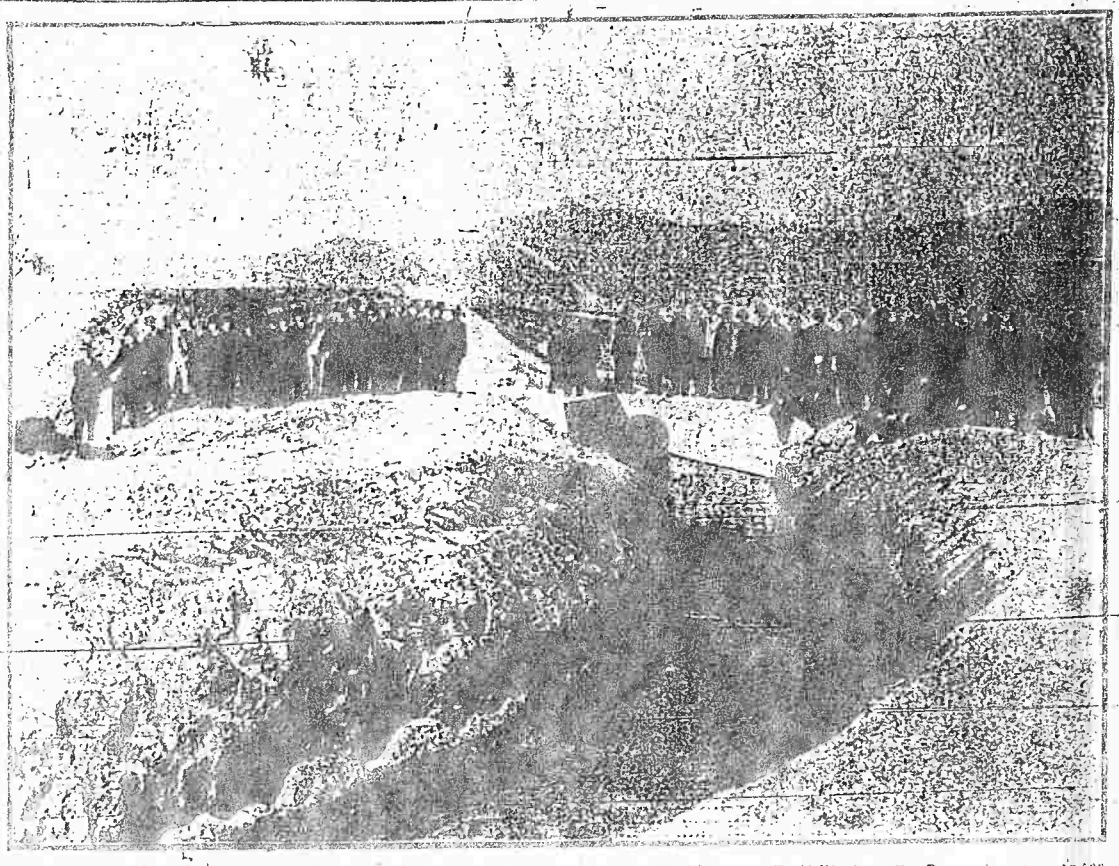
MANY ARE PRESENT AT FUNERAL SERVICES FOR BP. W. A. BILLS

Funeral services for William A. Bills, for 32 years bishop of South Jordan, were held yesterday at the Riverton chapel. The large hall was completely filled with friends of the family, many of them having come many miles to be present at the funeral.

The services were conducted by Charles Miller of the bishopric of Riverton ward. The choir, under the direction of F. W. Webb, sang, by request, "When First the Glorious Light of Truth." Reuben Hamilton gave the invocation. The speakers were Byron Beckstead of South Jordan, a nephew of the deceased, who gave a biographical sketch of the pioneer, mentioning several characteristic experiences of his life in the Salt Lake county; Joseph Orgill of Draper, Bishop Samuel Holt of South Jordan and William D. Kuhre, president of Jordan stake. Musical numbers were furnished by James Moncarr and Cavendish Cannon, Mr. Moncarr singing by request, "Sometime We'll Understand" and "O My Father."

The benediction was pronounced by Bishop John A. Egbert. Interment was in the South Jordan cemetery.

"Hands Across the Boundary Line" Between Salt Lake and Utah Counties



The picture shows the party of capitalists and business men at the outlet of the siphon which pours liquid life from the Provo river over 12,000 acres of heretofore arid land. The outlet is just a few feet over the Utah county side of the boundary line between Salt Lake and Utah counties. At this left of the picture is shown Former Governor John C. Cutler, on the Salt Lake side of the line, shaking hands with Jesse Knight, standing on the Utah county side, with the stone monument marking the line, between them.

Salt Lake county's wealth and resources in arable and fertile lands was vastly increased yesterday when the waters of the Provo river, through an engineering triumph, were turned upon the western bench of the Salt Lake valley. Twelve thousand acres of land, extending some 17 miles from Provo to the point of the mountain at Jordan Narrows and sloping from the foothills, is now irrigable from the canal of the Provo Reservoir company.

The completion of the irrigation canal, as marked by the turning of the water into the Salt Lake valley, was the event of yesterday witnessed by a number of the most prominent business men and citizens of Salt Lake and Utah counties. During the afternoon these men, forming a party of over 20, as the guests of the officers of the irrigation company were taken in automobiles over the line of the canal and the territory which it will supply.

The main canal, 35 miles in length, has its intake about a mile and a half above the entrance to Provo canyon, and its present terminus at the town of Welby. Crossing the Provo bench 1000 acres of which is supplied by its waters, the canal traverses the uplands of the Lehi and American Fork districts and comes to the Jordan narrows at the point of the mountain. The chasm of the narrows is crossed by means of a steel siphon, which in its 3500 feet length makes a drop of 290 feet with a pressure that forces the waters up an incline of 150 feet and sends them gushing over the boundary line of the two counties. The outlet of the siphon is but two or three feet inside the Utah county line.

This siphon at present has a capacity of 125 second feet, a sufficient quantity of water to amply supply 12,500 acres of land. By the elimination of a 40 foot fall at this point of the intake of the canal the supply at the siphon may be greatly increased as the necessity may arise. From the mouth of Provo canyon the canal, at the foot of the mountain, the canal line recedes underneath the foothills until the railroad track at Welby is reached. The canal will be extended at least another 15 miles during the early summer.

WILL IRRIGATE 12,500 ACRES

Under the present conditions of the canal it is calculated that the 12,500 acres within its service will receive sufficient water to mature all grain crops and two crops of lucerne. For later and colored waters from the upper reservoir will be available.

The project which reached its culmination yesterday has been five years in the making, and reached its completion through the untiring efforts and energy of Joseph B. Murdock and his associates in the Provo Reservoir company, as well as with the early invaluable assistance of Jesse Knight and J. William Knight. The officers of the company are Joseph R. Murdock, president and manager; Joseph B. Keeler, vice president; R. D. Murdock, secretary-treasurer; directors, Joseph R. Murdock, J. William Knight, Francis W. Kirkham, Stephen L. Chipman, A. J. Evans, O. C. Beebe, J. C. Jensen, George H. Brimhall and Joseph B Keeler.

The officials of the company are lavish in their praise of the work of Irvine H. Jacobs, the young engineer who for the past two years has had direction of the engineering work of the canal and to whom was given the responsibility of the feat of bringing the water across the Jordan Narrows. Mr. Jacobs is a graduate of the Brigham Young university and the Utah university.

The guests of the officials yesterday were given a revelation astonishing in the opening to eyes of agricultural wealth of the Salt Lake and Provo valleys. In a 15 mile drive 20,000 acres of fertile and green lands reclaimed through the North and South Jordan and the Utah and Salt Lake canals were traversed, showing in striking manner the latent possibilities now to be developed under the new canal. The night scene was also shown the canal of the Utah Lake Irrigation company, almost a twin project of the reservoir company, which parallels the upper canal. This company is officered by the same men and has almost the same directorate as the Provo Reservoir company. With a pumping station consisting of two 36 foot pumps and one 16 foot pump it utilizes the waters of Utah Lake to irrigate 8,000 acres in [illegible] waters of [illegible] are diverted at the Jordan Narrows and taken across to supply the regions of Sure Draper and Sandy.

BANQUET IN PROVO.

In the evening the guests were tendered a trout dinner at the Hotel Roberts in Provo, during the course of which felicitous remarks were made upon the success of the canal project.

Francis W. Kirkham as postmaster, and Mr. Murdock outlined briefly the history of the company and its work in the building of the canal, pointing out that the work of crossing the river at the narrows and extending the canal to Welby had only been begun last November. Mr. Murdock gave to Jesse Knight full credit for his assistance in the early financing of the project which made its beginning possible.

George S. McAllister, as the representative of the manufacturers of Utah, praised the company for its work, saying that what Utah needs more than all else at present is increased population and that such projects as the reservoir company opened the way for such population. He gave assurance of the support of the manufacturers' association in the peopling of the new lands.

MEANS NEW SUGAR FACTORY

W. E. Bamhard of the Salt Lake City Real Estate association expressed his amazement at the wonderful sight of the agricultural resources which had been given him during the day and affirmed that such a trip would convince one that there is no necessity for people going to other states seeking land. "The canal," he said "is one of the great big projects of these two counties. It means not only the certainty of a new sugar factory in Salt Lake county, but also other factories."

J. W. McHenry, chairman of the affiliated Commercial clubs of Salt Lake county, pledged the aid of the clubs in peopling the new lands, and also described the fact that local people sought elsewhere for lands. He stated that during this year 147 families had left Salt Lake county for other territories seeking land. "We brag about what we have," he said, "but the day has come when we should develop. We should quit importing foods and establish our own factories. Such lands as these brought under irrigation by this new canal under irrigation by this new canal means factories and industries, possibles."

Bishop O. F. Hunter endorsed the members of the company in high terms and praised their unselfish motive.

PLAN PLEASURE RESORT.

George O. Relf said that the sights of the day had opened his eyes in wonderment, and in sparkling of the development of the lands, took occasion to tell those present of the plans for the opening of a mammoth summer resort in Provo canyon. He said that a project was on foot to acquire the properties of the old Telluride power company in the canyon, and that in fact the matter was now being taken up with the company. Should a satisfactory price be named the properties will be purchased and a resort on the lines of the noted places of Colorado and the Pacific coast be established. Such a resort Mr. Relf believed, would attract people from the south and middle west especially.

W. C. Orem declared that he believed that there is ahead of Salt Lake and Utah counties a greater development in the next five years than has been attained in the past 15, and added that industries will rapidly follow irrigation.

TRIBUTE TO BUILDERS

O. C. Beebe, cashier of Zion's Savings bank, and who has been identified with the financing of the project, said that the power company had offered sales from the canal project on that the promoters received nothing until all indebtedness of the company was paid. He paid a high tribute to the business acumen and management of the officers of the company.

Jesse Knight, although in a humorous vein, also brought out a tribute to the manner he had completed the project in hand.

COMPANY'S OFFICERS.

The guests of the company yesterday were

W. S. McCormick, C. W. Nibley, John C. Cutler, George Austin, T. M. Cutler, Joseph Geyhegan, O. F. Hunter, George O. Relf, Hugh J. Cooper, Willard T. Duncan, W. H. Armstrong, Fred Mitchell, W. H. Wattis, W. A. Ingram, W. H. Rowe, J. Walter Sears, N. Brant, [illegible] Kirkham, George S. McAllister, Roscoe W. Eardley, J. W. McHenry, T. J. Callahan, Arthur Winter, John F. Bennett, Oscar Eccles, W. E. Hubbard and Matthew Miller of Salt Lake; Jesse Knight, J. William Knight, Chester Pond, Z. N. Pierpont, W. L. Mangum, W. K. Spafford, I. H. Jacobs, Joseph B. Keeler, Caleb Tanner, George H. Brimhall, Nephi Bloke, R. J. Murdock and I. H. Masters of Provo; Seth Tinker, Z. Butterfield and Thomas P. Page of Riverton; A. J. Evans and S. W. Ross of Lehi; Joseph R. Murdock of Heber City and S. L. Chipman of American Fork. Representatives of newspapers of Salt Lake were also present.

RIVERTON.

HEARTFELT TRIBUTES TO BISHOP WM. A. BILLS

Des Evening News Mon April 26, 1915

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, April 22.—Services for Bishop W. A. Bills, who was drowned in the Jordan river, April 3, the body having been recovered on the 20th inst., were held in the Riverton ward chapel, commencing at 2 o'clock p.m., April 22 1915.

First Counselor Charles E. Miller, of the Riverton ward bishopric, presided. The ward choir sang "When first the glorious light of truth." Invocation by Elder Reuben S. Hamilton.

James Moncur of Salt Lake City sang the solos, "Sometime We'll Understand" and "O My Father."

WILLIAM A. BILLS.

The principal speaker was Henry B. Richmond, a nephew, who narrated in brief the history of the deceased, and bore a fervent testimony to the faith and works of this good man.

Joseph Ingill of Draper, W. D. Kohler, president of Jordan stake, and Samuel E. Hale, bishop of South Jordan ward each eulogized the life and works of the departed.

Former Bishop John A. Eckert of West Jordan pronounced the benediction.

The grave, which was literally covered with flowers, was dedicated by Elder Thomas M. Hamilton.

Bishop Bills was held in high esteem in this section, as evidenced by the large attendance at the obsequies, over 600 being present.

William A. Bills was born in Pittsburg, Penn., Aug. 5 1835. He joined the church in 1841, and came to Utah in 1848 with his parents and four brothers and one sister. He was personally acquainted with the Prophet Joseph. From his early boyhood he was zealous in the defense of the truth and took an active part in building up the community in which he lived.

Among the experiences of his early life were the cricket "war" in 1856, the Echo canyon war, and a member of the home guard against Indian depredations in 1865. In company with Amasa Lyman, Charles C. Rich, and his father he went to California to purchase horses. While on the trip his father sickened and died. He returned to Utah in 1850 and in 1851 his mother died. For a short time after the death of his mother he lived with Amasa Lyman. In 1852 he married Emeline Beckstead living at Farmington until 1855 when he moved to Mountain Green, Weber county. While at the latter place he presided over a branch of the church.

In 1865 he came to South Jordan, then a branch of the West Jordan ward. He acted in the capacity of president over this branch for seven years and in 1877 when the South Jordan ward was organized, he became the first bishop, holding this position until July 4 1900 a period of 23 years, when he was honorably released on account of ill health.

During the latter part of his life he lived in Riverton, near his son Gordon S. Bills, bishop of Riverton ward.

Bishop Bills was the father of 11 children, 11 surviving him; 102 grandchildren 102 surviving, 104 great-grandchildren 104 surviving, and 67 marriages into his family.

His immediate family surviving are Emeline B. Bills, Matilda A. Bills, Ann G. Bills and the following sons: Gordon S., William A., Alexander, George W., David Farley, Ole, William R., Norman, Orson, Samuel, Lafayette, Roy Ross (a son) Lester Fillo. The surviving daughters are Catherine Orgill, Mary E. Seal and Mattie Bills.

Deseret News Mar 17, 1916

RIVERTON.

TO OFFSET PROPOSITION OF TELEPHONE COMPANY

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, March 17.—At a mass meeting held here last night to discuss the telephone situation in Salt Lake county, a resolution was past opposing the proposition of the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph company to install an exchange here and charge toll on all calls to other points in the county.

Thomas P. Page was chairman of the meeting. He was authorized to appoint a committee representing the Riverton Commercial club to confer with similar committees which have been appointed by other county clubs. Speakers at the meeting were County Commissioner C. F. Stillman, O. W. Carlson, former county commissioner, Dr. G. C. Emery and Ed. Harper.

The question of an independent telephone company came up, and it was the sense of the meeting that plans for the organization of such an enterprise be put under way if it be found necessary in order to forestall the proposition of the Mountain States company. Committees have been appointed to take this matter up, as follows: O. W. Carlson, J. L. Brown and D. W. Moffat, to present the legal phase of the organization of an independent company; George C. Smith and James E. Moss, representing the financial phase; Dr. G. C. Emery of Holliday, Mayor J. W. McHenry of Murray, and J. Wilmer Boothe of Midvale constitute an executive committee, representing the committees of three members each from the various Commercial clubs affiliated with the United Commercial clubs of Salt Lake county. The members of these three committees are charged with the organization of an independent telephone company at such or any time it is deemed advisable in fighting the proposition of the company at present operating in Salt Lake county.

'PHONE USERS GET TOGETHER FOR BIG FIGHT

Meetings Held at Various Points In County Where Enthusiasm Runs High

THREAT TO BOYCOTT ALL WHO HOLD OUT

Deb Evening News Wed Apr. 5, 1916

Clamor to Sign "Roll of Honor"— Independent System in Sight— Parade Planned.

(Special to The News.)

Murray, April 5.—Typical of meetings held last night at various points throughout the county, relative to the telephone controversy, the one held here was enthusiastic beyond the anticipations of its promoters. The Murray city hall was packed and many could not get in. The Murray band discoursed music on the steps of the hall and the crowds surged and thronged in and out. The slogan of the meeting was "Stand Together."

At the close of the meeting an opportunity was offered all present who could get up to the table to sign the "roll of honor." A scramble followed and when the count was made 137 telephone users had put their names down to order their telephones disconnected not later than 9 o'clock next Friday morning.

The principal speakers were Mayor J. W. McHenry and O. W. Carlson. Mayor McHenry recited the history of the controversy. He said it has been continuing for years and that the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph company has brought on the trouble by gradually "creeping up in its unfair treatment of subscribers," and the last move on the part of the company, "he said, "of charging toll for inter-exchange calls is the last straw. The only way we can fail is to fail to stand together." Mayor McHenry said that two years ago the Development league appointed a committee to look into the telephone situation. This committee conferred with the Telephone company and the latter agreed to meet and arrive at an understanding. It reported that it could make no headway and the matter was dropped. Mr. McHenry said the Telephone had repeatedly ignored the efforts of the committee to adjust difficulties and had been known to say by its representatives that it would attend to its own affairs and did not welcome any interference.

Independent System Suggested.

Mr. Carlson said public utilities owe as much to the people as do the people to public utilities and he concurred in the statements made by Mayor McHenry, especially in the matter of the history of the controversy. He said the county commissioners have the power to regulate public utilities in regards to rates and tolls and that under the franchise granted to the telephone company the matter can be tried out in the courts.

In regards to an independent system of telephones Mr. Carlson reported that eastern capitalists, whose names are not at liberty to be read, are willing to put in telephones and that influential citizens with means in the county will back them. If necessary, he said, an independent system will be put in operation. Mayor McHenry said that L. F. Bello of Hunter told him that he had been approached by a representative of the telephone company and offered free 'phone if he would put order his instrument taken out. Mr. Bello, Mr. McHenry said, told the representative of the company that he would accept the terms offered provided that all his neighbors did likewise, in some cases, otherwise he would order his 'phone out.

Plans are already under way to take the matter to the legislature and today F. C. Emery of Holliday and Mayor McHenry are drafting a bill to be presented to the next session of that body. It is said that it provides for the regulation of public utilities but without a public utilities commission.

It is reported that Dr. C. C. Emery has been approached by a representative of the telephone company as to what terms the Affiliated Commercial club will make. Dr. Emery is chairman of the public utilities committee of the Affiliated Commercial clubs. He is said to have replied that no terms except a flat rate will be considered—no inter-exchange tolls.

Other Meetings Held.

Reports from meetings held in other places indicate enthusiasm and a determination to stand together. Meetings were held in the following places in charge of the persons named: Sandy, Mrs. A. Crane; East Mill Creek, E. F. Stillman; Riverton, T. P. Palgrave; Fresent, N. A. (Fighting) Nelson; Granger, P. P. Peterson; Magna, George A. Little; Garfield, D. M. Moffatt; Peoa, Mr. Taylor; West Willson Millsaps, Orson Ryan; and Wilmer Boring; West Jordan, Claude Abbott; South Jordan, Joseph M. Holt; Draper, C. O. Rideout and Franklin Smith; Granite, H. Harding Bliss. Fred Ingram, Holliday, C. C. Emery.

The total number of names of the "roll of honor" will be counted and placed on at a meeting to be held tomorrow night, preliminary to the ordering out of the telephones on the following morning.

Reports from Midvale are that 251 telephone users out of a total of 800 signed the promise to order out their 'phones and the remainder will be visited today. At Sandy the sentiment developed that any merchant or any business man who failed to order out his telephone will be boycotted by those who sign the "roll of honor." Transcripts were present at 15 telephone users out of a total of 15 and every person present signed the resolutions. The others will be visited today and tomorrow. At Holliday 46 out of 50 subscribers pledged themselves by signing to order out their 'phones and it was suggested that a committee be appointed to take out the other four telephone instruments. No formal recognition of this move was given. At the Granite high school 75 telephone users were present and all signed.

A move was started today to interest all owners of automobiles in Salt Lake county to assemble at the Murray city hall Friday afternoon and parade to the telephone office in Salt Lake City and there make a public demonstration against the toll charges. The parade is due to arrive in Salt Lake at 3 p.m.

...EPHONE TOLLS ... ARE JUSTIFIED

...ision Reached by Commercial Club Board of Governors

SUBURBANITES ROUSED

...ney Offered for Independent ...elephone System in County.

Request that the city commission not allow the people of Murray and the county to parade the streets of Salt Lake City tomorrow to protest against the new telephone toll rates in county districts was made to the board this morning by C. C. Campbell, district manager of the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph company. The members stated that in as much as no application for a parade had been made the commission could not take a hand in the controversy.

Unless there is boisterous or unbecoming conduct the public has a right to the use of the streets for parade purposes, the members stated, and no effort will be made to stop the parade. Suggestion was made by Commissioner Heber Wells that if the telephone company wished to parade in behalf of position it might do so.

Representatives of the company stated that in as much as it has some $60,000 invested in this city it should be protected against ridicule by a parade such as he understand the people of Murray and the county districts propose to stage in this city.

...provement in the service to be ... by the Mountain States Tele... & Telegraph company is ... commensurate with the toll ... between Salt Lake City ... county points, according to ... action ... ched by the board of ... of the Commercial club af... three hours' session last night ... with representatives of ... company. At the conclu... of the session Pres. F. C. Rich... of the club issued a statement in ... he declared that there is no ... for complaint on the part of the ... people.

...resenting the telephone com... at the conference were A. H. ... division general manager; C. ... district manager; ... Salt Lake ... B. Mackintosh, assistant to Mr. ... A. S. Peters, division commercial engineer, Orson John Hyde, ... commercial agent, S. R. Noel, ... agent, and A. J. Krauss, commercial agent. In addition to these ... members of the board of ... local business men to be ... affected by the toll charges, ... also in attendance. The board ... and the telephone people de... today to make public the names ... business men.

... an exhaustive discussion of the ... the telephone people clear... to the satisfaction of the board ... governors of the club points that ... been either misunderstood or ob... to for other reasons, and show... conclusively that the proposed toll ... are neither unjust nor objectionable. Mr. Richmond's statement is as follows:

The board of governors of the Commercial club, after a thorough consideration of the telephone business of Salt Lake City and Salt Lake county and statements presented to the ... by officers of the Mountain ... Telephone & Telegraph company, have by unanimous vote decided that when the people of Salt Lake ... fully understand the changes ... made for service and intended ... promised improvements of the ... there will be no cause for complaint on the part of customers of the ... company either in Salt Lake ... or in Salt Lake county."

... representatives of the Affiliated Commercial clubs of Salt Lake ... were in attendance, having decided to discuss other terms with the ... company than an entire repeal of the tolls.

... lines are going ahead, and in two ... three weeks subscription books ... be opened looking to the formation of a new and independent company," said C. C. Emery, chairman of ... public utilities committee of that ... organization. "The subscribers are ... said 'against the proposed' toll charges."

"Salt Lake businessmen to be heavily affected by the change in telephone service and tolls to county points," said Mr. Richmond this morning, "declared themselves convinced, after the meeting, that the telephone company is just in its action. In view of this fact I think the only stand the club can take is that expressed in the statement issued last night."

People United ... Against Toll Plan

Murray, April 6—At a late hour last evening Mayor J. W. McHenry completed a tour of the leading towns of the county outside of Salt Lake City, taken for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the people on the question of toll rates between points in the county. He reports that he found the people thoroughly united in opposition to such tolls.

He stated that by 9 o'clock Friday morning, at least 1,000 telephones would be disconnected. By way of confirming rumors to the effect that capital was available for an independent system, he stated that tenders amounting to over $20,000 had already been made and that a number of capitalists in Salt Lake City had offered to subscribe for stock in an independent company.

Mayor W. W. Wilson of Sandy declared last evening that he believed fully 95 per cent of the suburban telephones in the county would be ordered out Friday. He said he had canvassed the situation thoroughly.

Last evening at a meeting of the school board of Jordan district, held at Sandy, a motion was adopted by a unanimous vote providing for the removal of all school telephones in the district. This action covers the Jordan high school, Sandy, Draper, Crescent, Riverton, West Jordan, Union, Herriman, South Jordan, Granite and Butlerville.

TELEPHONES ARE BEING CONNECTED

Work Began Saturday and Service Is Being Rapidly Installed

REMOVALS NUMBER 941

A. H. DeNike, Division General Manager, Is Satisfied With Present Situation.

Des Evening News Mon-Apr. 10, 1916

Disconnected telephone in Salt Lake county, due to the recent telephone war, are being re-installed at the rate of about 100 a day, and the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph company is making every effort to have all of them connected this week. In all 941 telephones were actually disconnected, in addition to those on which the receivers were removed from the hangers. The connections are being made as orders come in.

The work of reconnecting began last Saturday, when 70 phones were placed back in service. Today the orders for reinstallation have come in so rapidly that the company was unable to connect them all. The work will be pushed however, until all telephones are placed in service.

Throughout the county and among the telephone officials a feeling of satisfaction over the situation is evident. Members of the executive committee of the Affiliated Commercial clubs of Salt Lake county, as well as of the utilities committee, are using their influence to restore the telephones. This was a part of the pledge made by the committees in the settlement of the trouble.

The telephone company is endeavoring to install the telephones in the order of the requests made by the subscribers, and not with regard to the geography of the county, or the distances between subscribers. The intention is to serve county people as willingness to give executive and immediate service. A number of the office force are giving their time largely to the Murray district.

A. H. DeNike, division manager of the company, returned today from a vacation. He expressed delight that the fight has been determined. He was away from the city during the entire time.

CLARENCE D. BILLS WINS CHAMPIONSHIP TYPEWRITING MEET

Last evening's intermountain open championship type writing contest at Pantages theater was won by Clarence D. Bills, a 16-year-old schoolboy of Riverton, who wrote 120 words a minute, for 30 consecutive minutes on an Underwood machine. He also won the Utah state open contest. Young Bills' errors were unusually small, being only 54 in over 8,000 words, to 153 for his opponents. There were other contests, the program being as follows:

Intermountain open—Clarence D. Bills, Riverton, 120 per minute; Ray E. Newgeon, Denver, 95; M. M. Saxton, Salt Lake, 91; Ruth Huhl, Salt Lake, 90; George Stanley, Park City, 81; John Towery, Park City, 75; D. T. Walton, Salt Lake, 69.

Utah state open—Clarence D. Bills, 120; M. M. Saxton, Salt Lake, 91.

Schools.

Utah state school—Florence V. Rhoades, Salt Lake, 82; Mary West, Salt Lake, 78; Lois Gibson, Park City, 61; V. S. Morrison, Salt Lake, 61; Glennie Weiner, Salt Lake, 54; Verna Greene, Salt Lake, 52; Fay Davis, Salt Lake, 52; Irene Stancomb, 48.

Intermountain school—Florence V. Rhoades 82; Mary West, 78; V. S. Morrison, 61; Glennie Weiner, 54; Fay Davis, 52.

First year high school—Lois Gibson, Park City, 61; J. W. Parry, Logan, 49; Emma Sutton, Park City, 40; Fannie Neiman, Park City, 26.

Second year high school—John Towey, Park City, 74; Ruth Baxter, Park City, 62; D. A. Freedman, Logan, 59; Paul D. Vincent, Provo, 56; Genna Bradshaw, Lehi, 51; Herman Feischer, Ogden, 45; Miri Clark, Lehi, 41.

Third year high school—George H. Stanley, Park City, 82; Bernard Bergeson, Logan, 67; Christine Martin, Park City, 58; Rex Johnson, Provo, 44.

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Des Evening News May. 13, 1916

Des. Eve. News June 7, 1916

RIVERTON.

CHILD DROWNED IN IRRIGATION DITCH

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, June 7.—The 18-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Land was drowned here today in an irrigation ditch. The father of the child is agent at the D. and R. G. depot and the little boy had been permitted to spend the afternoon at the station. While Mr. Land was busy the little tot wandered away. When the father missed him a search resulted in finding the body in a shallow ditch not far away.

Des. Eve. News June 14, 1916

RIVERTON.

HOGS AT RIVERTON VACCINATED FOR CHOLERA

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, June 14.—Dr. L. K. Knighton, veterinarian, vaccinated 84 hogs here yesterday for cholera. The animals were in the herds of Daniel Downey and T. P. Page. Every precaution is being taken to prevent the future spread of the malady.

Des Evg News Sep 2 1916

RIVERTON.

MRS. SARAH L. J. WEBB PASSES AWAY AT RIVERTON

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Aug. 30.—Mrs. Sarah Lucy Jacklin Webb, wife of Charles Webb, died here Aug. 27. She was born at American Fork, Jan. 22, 1866, daughter of George and Ruth Wagstaff Jacklin. Mr. and Mrs. Webb have resided at Riverton for the past 26 years.

Mrs. Webb was an energetic Church worker, having been actively engaged in Primary association work in this ward for 16 years and president of that organization for eight years, being released last February owing to failing health. She was widely known and esteemed for her unfailing charity and helpfulness to those in need.

Funeral services were held in the Riverton chapel today. Eleven speakers, including members of the Jordan stake presidency, extolled her life and labors.

S. Eve. News Nov. 24, 1916

RIVERTON.

ISCUSS QUESTION OF FACTORY AT RIVERTON

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Nov. 24.—Sentiment in vor of a sugar factory here has own so strong that a mass meeting s been called for tonight to discuss e proposition and to hear reports om D. O. Rideout of Draper and ward Alston, who, it is said, are act- g as agents for what is called the rthwestern Sugar company.

J. Webb, county farm agent, was sked to help notify farmers of the eeting and he consented to do so; nd also to be in attendance. The atter has not taken more definite rm than public sentiment, which is believed will be crystallized tonight.

NOVEMBER 25 1916
DES. EVE. NEWS

RIVERTON.

FACTORY AT RIVERTON PROMISED FARMERS IF ACREAGE IS SECURED

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Nov. 25.—Representative farmers of Riverton and vicinity at a meeting last night in the ward amusement hall here were promised a sugar factory for 1917 if contracts can be secured for 5,000 acres of beets and before the meeting adjourned 500 acres were contracted for.

The contracts are between James P. Sprunt, who formed the Southern Utah Sugar Co. of Delta; he is represented as trustee, and the growers; no company is named. Mr. Sprunt was the principal speaker at the meeting. He said he represents eastern capital and is authorized to assure the farmers that the money is ready to build the plant when the farmers sign for 5,000 acres. The contracts call for the payment by the interests represented by Mr. Sprunt of $6 a ton for beets delivered at the factory or at loading stations, with an additional sliding scale for beets that excel in sugar content. They also call for 75 cents additional for pulled beets delivered before Jan. 1, after digging.

The proposed location of the factory is on the Jordan river, between Riverton and Draper. D. C. Rideout of Draper and Howard Alston of Riverton are among those who have taken prominent parts in the promotion of the scheme.

There were about 150 farmers present at the meeting. It is said the company represented by Mr. Sprunt is a Denver firm.

RIVERTON.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR GLADYS C. HAMILTON

Des. Evg. News Jan. 27, 1917

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, Jan. 26.—Funeral services for Gladys C. Hamilton, wife of Thomas M. Hamilton, were held in the Riverton ward house Sunday, Bishop Gordon S. Bills presiding. The opening prayer was by Chas. E. Mil-

MRS. GLADYS C. HAMILTON.

ler. Appropriate music was furnished by the Riverton choir, and a quartet composed of Ethel Latimer, Hattie Bills, A. B. Isaacson and I. E. Freeman. The following paid tribue to the life's work of the departed: Bishop Orin P. Miller, Bishop Gordon S. Bills, David Bills, Z. Butterfield and Chas. England, a missionary companion of deceased's husband, and Ella Peterson, former president of the Riverton Relief society. The benediction was by Almon T. Butterfield. Interment in the Riverton cemetery.

Mrs. Hamilton was born Sept. 14, 1874, the daughter of Warren Ford and Christina McNeil Reynolds. She is survived by her husband, Thos. M. Hamilton, and seven children as follows: Gladys Marie, Everett Mark, Owen Seth, Edith Naomi, Vesta Vay, Weston Eugene and Mary.

Deseret News Jan. 2, 1917

RIVERTON.

EMELINE BECKSTEAD BILLS ANSWERS CALL OF DEATH

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Jan. 2.—Emeline Beckstead Bills 80 years old, widow of Bishop W. A. Bills, who was drowned two years ago in the Jordan river, died at the family home yesterday. Death was due to old age.

Mrs. Bills was born in Canada in 1837 and came to Utah when 12 years old. Her family settled at South Jordan. Mrs. Bills leaves seven children. They are Bishop Gordon S. Bills, David Bills, George W. Bills, Mrs. F. C. Seal, Alexander Bills, Mrs. Nephi Artill and W. A. Bills.

Mrs. Bills was active in Church and charity work. She was president of the Relief society at Riverton 20 years.

Des. Evg. News Feb. 9, 1917.

RIVERTON.

ALEXANDER HENDERSON ANSWERS CALL OF DEATH

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Feb. 9.—Alexander Henderson died here Thursday of pneumonia in his seventieth year. Mr. Henderson was born in Scotland, Oct. 30, 1847, and came to Utah in 1863. He had lived in Riverton most of the time since. He is survived by a wife and 20 children by two former wives; his last wife had no children. He leaves 44 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be held Monday, Feb. 12, at 12 o'clock noon in the Riverton chapel.

RIVERTON.

J. W. Maynard Dies.

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, April 7.—James W. Maynard of this place was operated on for appendicitis in a Salt Lake hospital last Thursday morning, and died the following morning. He was born in Fort Herriman, Utah, and is survived by his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Maynard Lloyd. He was unmarried. His father, James Maynard, died a few years ago. Three brothers and four sisters also survive him. The funeral took place here today.

Deseret Evening News, Apr. 9, 1917

Des. Evg. News May 5, 1917

Typewriting Contest Goes to Riverton Boy

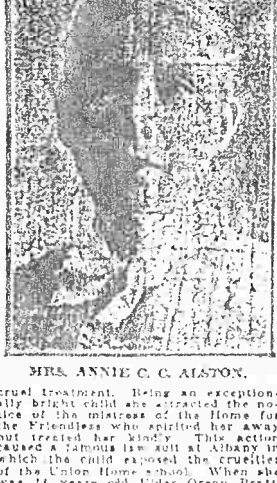
At a rate of 132 words per minute, Horace Bills of Riverton, Utah, won the typewriting contest at Pantages theatre last night. His record was the best in both the intermountain open and the Utah state open events. Guy Cowan of Denver won second place with 122 words per minute and George Bailey of the Park City high school took third at 96 words per minute. Miss Pearl Blaze of Henager's Business college won the intermountain school test and the Utah state school open at 75 words each. Anna Mazier won the first year high school contest and Lois Gibbs the second and third year high school tests.

Mrs. Annie C. C. Alston Passes Away

Closes Useful Life

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, June 18.—Mrs. Annie C. C. Alston, wife of Christopher Alston, died here yesterday aged 84. She was born Dec. 31, 1832, at Cuttack, India. Her father, Wm. H. C. Smith, was then a British army officer stationed in India. Father and daughter, then a child, were baptised by Elders J. M. Musser and Wm. Fotheringham, and started for Utah. On reaching New York the father, being short of funds, enlisted in the Union army, the Civil war being then in progress. He placed his little daughter in the Union Home school where she suffered extremely



MRS. ANNIE C. C. ALSTON.

cruel treatment. Being an exceptionally bright child she attracted the notice of the mistress of the Home for the Friendless who spirited her away but treated her kindly. This action caused a famous law suit at Albany in which the child exposed the cruelties of the Union Home school. When she was 14 years old Elder Orson Pratt, then engaged in Church work in New York, became acquainted with her, employed her and adopted her. She came to Utah in 1863 and was long employed in the Historian's office. In 1874 she married Christopher Alston and for a number of years resided in Davis county. In 1895 she located in Sugar House ward where she was secretary of the Relief society until 1912, when the family removed to Riverton. She was the mother of seven sons and one daughter and is survived by her husband and five children, as follows: Christopher J., Clifford M., Roslyn, Howard and Clinton Alston. Mrs. Alston was prominent and active in Church work most of her life.

The funeral will be held in the Riverton ward meetinghouse at 11:30 a.m., and at the Sugar House ward chapel at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 22, 1913.

Deseret News

RIVERTON.

Impressive Funeral For J. J. Butterfield

July 6, 1917

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, July 6.—The funeral of Joseph James Butterfield, who died July 1 at a hospital in Salt Lake City, as the result of coming in contact with a high voltage current a few days before took place in the Riverton meetinghouse yesterday afternoon. The house was crowded to its utmost capacity by relatives and friends. The ward choir rendered some excellent and appropriate numbers during the funeral exercises. The speakers were Wm. Freeman, who witnessed the terrible accident that caused Mr. Butterfield's death, Mr. Jensen of the 1st ward, Bishop Gordan B. Hills, Lorenz Myers, Peter Sorensen, Rasmussen, Jos. H. Redd, Zachariah Butterfield and Andrew Jenson of Salt Lake City. The opening prayer was offered by Elder Chas. C. Miller and the benediction by Bishop Frank Crane of Herriman. The grave was dedicated by Elder Reuben Hamilton. Much sympathy exists in behalf of the widow, and the seven children who without warning were made fatherless.

Deseret Evening News July 2, 1917

RIVERTON.

Death and Funeral of Joseph J. Butterfield

(Special Correspondence.)

Riverton, July 1—Joseph J. Butterfield, who was terribly burned by electricity June 18, when a hay baler he was working on in company with J. H. Daniels came in contact with a high tension wire, died at a Salt Lake hospital yesterday (Sunday), surrounded by his family. He suffered severely but bore the pain bravely. He was the son of Almon and Elizabeth Butterfield, of Herriman, where he was born Nov. 14, 1878. He was a grandson of Thomas and Jane Butterfield, early pioneers of Herriman, after whom Butterfield canyon was named.

Mr. Butterfield married Miss Dora Peterson of Riverton, [illegible] and followed farming [illegible] by his wife, seven [illegible] parents and the following [illegible] sisters: Almon T. [illegible] ton; Miss Mary J. [illegible] ver, Idaho; Mrs. [illegible] John J. Butterfield [illegible] Jensen and [illegible] Riverton; Willis [illegible] and Monty Butt[illegible]

Mr. Butterfield [illegible] character and [illegible] active men [illegible] a faithful [illegible] husband and [illegible] ill-fated [illegible] Riverton cemetery.

Deseret Evening News Aug. 4, 1917

RIVERDALE.

JAMES TEMPEST'S DEATH FOLLOWS FALL FROM TREE

(Special to The News.)

Riverdale, Aug. 4.—James Tempest of this place died at 8:35 this morning in consequence of injuries received by falling from a tree last Wednesday. He had ascended the tree for the purpose of trimming it. He was born Nov. 5, 1845, and came to Utah in Capt. Robertson's hand cart company in 1860. He was a veteran of the Black Hawk Indian war, and is survived by his wife and one daughter. The funeral will be held in the Riverton meeting-house Monday, Aug. 6 at 2 p. m.

Dr. Eve News

Sep 27, 1917

William L. Webb Dies.

(Special Correspondence)

Riverton, Sept. 26.—Wm. L. Webb of this place died this morning. He is survived by a widow and six children. The funeral will be held in the chapel here at 11 a. m. Friday.

Des. Eve. News Oct. 30, 1917

RIVERTON.

Death of John Dansie.

(Special to The News.)

Riverton, Oct. 30.—John Dansie, a life-long resident of this vicinity, died at 3 p. m. yesterday, following an attack of pneumonia which developed some weeks ago. He was the son of John Dansie, a pioneer of Bluffdale, and was 33 years old. He married Julia, daughter of C. S. Miller of Riverton, who survives him, as do three children, Jesse, Edgar and Dorothy. Mr. Dansie is also survived by one brother and seven sisters. The funeral will be held in the Riverton chapel Thursday, Nov. 1, at 12 o'clock noon. The body may be viewed on that day from 10 to 11:30 o'clock at the family home.

Ev. News Dec. 22, 1917.

Riverton Follows Agricultural Pursuits

RIVERTON is one of the thrifty and prosperous towns of the valley with a population of about 300 people and the trading center of a population about three times this number, located west of the Jordan river, 18 miles south of Salt Lake City on the Orem interurban railway with the Denver & Rio Grande skirting the eastern boundary. Riverton is a community devoted for the most part to agricul-

(Advertisement).

ture and stock raising pursuits. It has many improvements, including a water system, electric light and power, telephone and telegraph communication and a school system under the Jordan district.

The community supports a substantial bank a number of stores and a canning factory through which the products of the farms are canned and prepared for the market.

Riverton is a community of flock masters, of dairy herds, of apple orchards, of alfalfa and beet fields and grainfields that are enlarged by thousands of acres of dry farms with possibilities of yielding wheat enough for the entire county.

Feb. 19, 1918 Des. Eve. News

SOLDIER COMING HOME FOR FATHER'S FUNERAL

John Miller of Riverton died today and for the second time since last October William Lewis Miller, a son, will come home from Camp Lewis at American Lake in Washington to attend the funeral of a member of the family. The last time young Miller came home he accompanied the body of his brother, Clarence Miller, who died soon after the boys reached the cantonment.

William Lewis Miller and Clarence Miller went to Camp Lewis with the national army among the first contingents from Salt Lake county. Clarence Miller sickened and died. When his boys came home, one dead and the other in mourning, John Miller, the father, seemingly could hardly be consoled. After the funeral the other boy went back to camp and the father grieved. It is said his death was hastened, if not actually brought on, through grief.

Today Capt. F. V. Fitz Gerald, disbursing agent for Utah and secretary to Governor Simon Bamberger, wired to William Lewis Miller at Camp Lewis the sad news of his father's death and a request for a leave of absence that the soldier boy might come home to the funeral. John Miller was a prominent citizen of Riverton.

Mar. 8, 1918 Des. Eve. News

Funeral Service Held For Jacob Myers

Last tributes of respect were paid Jacob Myers at a funeral service held Thursday afternoon in the Riverton ward chapel. Bishop G. A. Bills presided and the speakers were the bishop, Joseph Hibbard, John Hansen and

JACOB MYERS

Zachariah Butterfield, all of whom spoke of the sterling qualities of Mr. Myers and commended his activities as a useful citizen. The opening prayer was by A. T. Butterfield and the closing prayer by Charles E. Miller. The ward choir sang the following songs: "Nearer, My God, to Thee," "Shall We Meet Beyond the River?" "O My Father," and "Resting Now From Care and Sorrow." The pallbearers were six sons, as follows: Louis J., L. L., Chas. F., W. J. and Urban. Interment was in the Riverton cemetery. Mr. Myers is survived by his wife, 11 children and 37 grandchildren.

...all of the 50 school ... who volunteered to act as ... the emergency have been ... and further appeals are ... made for more volunteers. Every ... needs for such volunteers. Every ... person who can care for the ... persons is requested to register at Red ... headquarters for this work.

Busy in Hospitals

The Red Cross emergency hos... approximately 50 patients are being cared for. James F. Hobbs, ... Eighth West street, who was ... to the hospital two days ago, ... this morning. Several ... patients are reported to be in a ... condition while others are said ... improving. The heating plant ... other equipment has been repair... and is said to be in excellent shape. ... of all deaths from influenza ... to have received at the city health ... rtment in the last 24 hours. They ... as follows: Mrs. Albert Hills, ... Fairview place, in Red Cross hos... ; Mrs. Whitthaus, at 156 west ... Sixth street; Hubert G. Bush, ... the poor hospital; Caleb W. Parry, ... the home, 204 east Eighth South ... ; the R. Doon, 613 west First ... street, in a local hospital, and ... Thomas M. Thomas, at 528 north ... street. Nearly 100 new cases ... reported to the city health de... ment yesterday and reports from ... ers homes had been received up ... noon today.

From the home of Ray Hickok, 1712 ... ond street, reports were received at Red Cross headquarters this ... ing that one of the children was ... dead and that the other mem... of the family were so sick that ... were unable to care for them... Relief was sent to them.

Late last night word was received ... a family by the name of Peter... 935 Lake street, was ill of the ... Mrs. A. N. McKay responded ... the call for help. Mrs. McKay in... ned headquarters about midnight ... family, at 224 east Eighth South ... in a serious condition and the ... of a nurse were at once, ob... .

Large quantities of jelly, puddings ... drinks have been donated to the ... ers in the Red Cross emergency ... , according to Mr. Shields and ... appreciated very much by the in... .

Manager Shields requests that per... who have donations to make to ... Red Cross shop be patient at this ... if these donations are not called ... at once as everyone at headquarters ... engaged in battling with the ... gency. Double shifts are being ... ed at the headquarters now, and ... place is kept open from 8 a.m. ... 12 p.m.

A call for 15 nurses for the nurses' ... was received and answered ... Red Cross members this morning. ... other calls of like nature are ... received promptly.

reports from Ogden say that Miss Stratton, a trained nurse from Provo, who went to the junction several days ago to superintend Ogden emergency hospital which has been opened to fight the influenza, has been stricken with the disease and is now a patient in the Dee hospital. Miss May Woodcock, director of the public schools of Salt Lake, left this morning to act in the same capacity in the Ogden emergency hospital. The basement of the First congregational church of Ogden has been offered by the trustees of the church as an emergency hospital and has been accepted by the Red Cross for that place. Among the cases reported in that city are five of Singer's circus who appeared at the local opera house theatre two weeks ago.

A dispatch from Bingham says that everything is progressing favorably in that city although there are a large number of cases.

Practically every county in the state, with the exception of Kane and Washington, has already reported to the state board of health the presence of Spanish influenza. All those communities where it has been found are under orders to put into effect the regulations closing schools, churches, etc., preventing all indoor public assemblages.

Many Towns.

The offices of the state board this morning that 95 incorporated towns or other communities had reported the disease. Alphabetically arranged they are:

American Fork, Arthur, Bear River, Benjamin, Bluffdale, Bothwell, Bountiful, Bingham, Castle Gate, Cedar City, Circleville, Clarkston, Coalville, Corinne, Delta, Devil's Slide, Echo, Elberta, Ephraim, Eureka, Farmington, Ferron, Fielding, Garfield, Glenwood, Goshen, Gunnison, Holladay, Huber, Helper, Henefer, Hinckley, Honeyville, Hooperville, Kamas, Kaysville, Kingston, Lark, Lehi, Leamington, Layton, Levan, Loa, Logan, Magna, Mayfield, Midvale, Millville, Moab, Modena, Monticello, Mohrland, Newman, Morgan, Mount Pleasant, Murray, Newton, Oak City, Oasis, Ogden, Ophir, Orangeville, Park City, Pleasant Grove, Pocatello, Parowan, Payson, Plymouth, Vista, Pleasant Grove, Portage, Price, Provo, Randolph, Richfield, Riverton, River Heights, Salem, Salt Lake City, Scipio, Springville, Spanish Fork City, Syracuse, Sandy, Salina, Tremonton, Thurber, Vernal, Wellington, Wellsville, Woodruff, Woodover, Willard and Woodside.

Dr. Beatty Appointed.

Dr. T. B. Beatty, secretary of the state board, has been named by Rupert Blue, in charge of the public health service of the United States, as representative of that service in Utah. A telegram was received yesterday afternoon, notifying him of this action. It is said that the fact that this position has been offered indicates the intention of the federal government to take charge of the situation, as regards the influenza epidemic, under the powers of a bill recently passed by Congress.

Dr. Beatty is empowered to appoint physicians available to act as assistants in this state and to take preventive steps as he in his judgment may see necessary.

	19
Outside of Salt Lake	
	3
	181
	2

Spanish influenza struck unexpectedly again yesterday and total of new cases rose from Wednesday to 143, while rate advanced from 6 to 10. Health authorities were not surprised the sudden relapse was merely reaction of Sunday. However, the pessimistic report from Dr. Sorensen, the hospitals report and Major W. C. Chidester Douglas estimates the life of epidemic to be 10 days.

"It can be plainly seen," said Major Douglas, "that there is an optimistic reaction when we received only five cases yesterday in contrast to 38 cases of two weeks ago. Then also, there was no new pneumonia developed in the last 48 hours.

"No deaths were included in the hospitals report while five cases were admitted and 14 dismissed as cured.

The Red Cross Emergency hospital and relief committees, B. F. Race, of the Hercules Hotel, and Mrs. Snyder died.

Ban Parties Banned.

There must be no more tea parties or functions during the ravages of flu, was the order again reiterated by Dr. T. B. Beatty, state health officer. It appears that certain persons are neglecting this demand, and that a large party was recently given from which new cases have developed. These must be stopped.

Report of the violation of the ban was ordered some time ago by Dr. Beatty to certain officials and immediately transmitted to the proper officials. The officers will be held responsible for such incidents.

While the number of calls at the police headquarters remained about the same yesterday morning, they were the severity which has been noted during the past few days was relieved by Dr. Beatty, for he said that yesterday sickened up during the afternoon, then an increase was noted.

...pitiful call came in at 11 ...ock when a woman, weeping until ...y could hardly hear her, pleaded for ...rse. She said her baby was dy... and there was no relief on hand. ...r Pretzinger, a former trained ...se, responded valiantly to this call. ...he true situation at Morgan was ...ealed this morning by Rev. Ches... A. Snyder, who has but recently ...rned from this stricken locality. "The trouble is fear," he said, "and ...e patients are left without aid. In ...e case, a tired nurse, after hours of ...ding three men to bring her ...ne bedding, but when influenza was ...entioned the men disappeared and ...e poor woman was forced to cut ...e bedding herself. Tim Anderson ...s pro-cured. He is donating his ...rk force and his personal aid in the ...ld. At all hours of the night, his ...r can be seen on its trip of mercy. ...e situation is now under control."

Towns Heard From.

Mack, Bego and Dragon were heard ...m this morning and two nurses ...re found for Moab and Bego while ...e was sent to Dragon. The situation ...mains at all three places.

There is still a deficiency in nurses, ...d Dean Fleetwood, and when the ...there is a cost... delay of many minutes before the ...ses can be found. He asked that ...rsons respond so that delay would be ...minated, thereby saving many lives. ...e has the aim in view to find the ...e situation in the small towns sur... ...unding Salt Lake. Dean Fleetwood ...ll leave this afternoon for Midvale ...here the headquarters of Draper, ...Riverton and the other ...wns is located.

Despite the severity of yesterday ...th in new cases and increased ...ovalth, about 60 homes where the ...ckness has taken hold were given a ...ste of Halloween by the community ...ctors of the Civic Center.

According to Miss Jennings, little ...ary boxes filled with candy and ...ts and Halloween caps formed a ...rt of every lunch sent out while the ...ses who received luncheon at ...e kitchen found little cases of candy ...d tasty plates. The luncheon was ...ed of Halloween and included ...asted pumpkin pie, potatoes and ...

Perry Morton of the Salvation Army stated that all calls for food and clothing had been amply satisfied and that he believed from the appearance of things, the epidemic was done, so far as coal has been required for the sufferers.

Hamilton Establishes

...Number of new parties, the ultimate was very interesting last night," ...d Chief J. Parley White greeted the ...ers with which Chief ...Hamilton experience this morning. ...ll started a few perfectly ...ble remarks on the rights of co-par... ...ers, which ...

...ief said that he had ...

arrested three separate parties for violating the health order and that two were now being held pending the decision of Dr. Beatty.

Beginning today the state board of health announces that it will enforce the ruling in regard to public funerals. That undue assembling to view the bodies of deceased persons has spread the contagion, is the belief of Dr. Beatty, state health officer, and he says that hereafter deputies will see that but one mourner views the body at a time.

One of the newest and most unique masks which has yet come to light, is the Clark mask, devised by John T. Clark, 160 Neas building. The four ends of the strings attached to the mask proper are tied to a rubber band, which fits snugly over the back of the head. It is adjusted and removed by a simple upward or downward movement.

Armenians Stricken.

In answer to one of the many calls which poured into Red Cross headquarters yesterday, Manager R. J. Shields discovered that a family of nine Armenians were stricken with the influenza. They requested to be sent to the Red Cross Emergency hospital but after a short conference it was decided to convert the house into a hospital.

As a result of the call made by Dr. Beatty several days ago for volunteer physicians to attend the towns with "their backs to the wall," Dr. C. M. Clark, of American Fork came forward yesterday to offer his services. [illegible] Dr. Leonard, a specialist of this city, also offered his aid and was immediately dispatched post haste to Dragon where, it is reported, there are not enough well people to attend the sick.

Many disturbing cases were included in the daily report to Dr. Beatty from all parts of the state. It appears that the epidemic is going [illegible] over night and by morning 50 or 75 cases are developed. Seven cases were reported from Holden Summit, where the new construction work is being done on the Oregon Short Line railroad, and other points [illegible] that all such cases be reported to the state [illegible] in order that [illegible]

Nov. 9, 1918

Rexburg News

Riverton Man Victim Of Influenza-Pneumonia

(Special to The News.)

RIVERTON, Nov. 9.—James E. Madsen, a prominent and highly respected resident of Riverton, died at his home yesterday of pneumonia, following an attack of influenza. Mr. Madsen was born in Riverton, Oct. 11, 1882. He was active in Church and other community work, having been assistant superintendent of the Sunday school and president of his seventies' quorum. He filled a mission for the Church several years ago. He is survived by his widow, three children, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Madsen, and 10 brothers and sisters.

Funeral services will be held in the Riverton cemetery Sunday, Nov. 10, at 12 o'clock noon.

"FLU" BAN MAY BE REMOVED NOV. 18

Des. Eve. News Nov. 8, 1918

Beatty Says if Improvement Continues Such Action is Probable—Zone System Starts Saturday.

In Salt Lake.	
Total number of cases	2,078
New cases yesterday	28
New cases week ago	120
Total deaths to date	196
New deaths yesterday	2
New deaths week ago	10
Houses heard from this morning	1
In State.	
New towns afflicted	3
New cases	31
New deaths	5

"FROM present appearances the epidemic character of the influenza has about subsided in Salt Lake City, and if this conclusion is sustained by the events of the week, the ban on schools and assemblages might be safely lifted next November 18."

Above was the nearest approach to a definite date for the raising of the state board of health ban on public assemblages that has yet come from Dr. T. B. Beatty, state health officer. The statement was [illegible] had already announced that the ban on public [illegible] would be raised in Tremonton, [illegible] and Levan next Monday. Intimations that such action [illegible] taken have been given out [illegible] for some time, but no date had been fixed.

[illegible] half minute after he had [illegible] statement with regard to [illegible] City, Dr. Beatty was informed by telephone from Dr. [illegible], state bacteriologist, that the [illegible] culture received some time [illegible] after several vicissitudes, has been brought to a point where [illegible] ready for distribution by the [illegible] board of health.

"[illegible] is enough now," said Dr. [illegible] "to supply all demands for the [illegible]."

[illegible] vaccine is prepared on the [illegible] principle, and is to be considered a preventive which a somewhat [illegible] experience has indicated [illegible] efficient and probably the [illegible] of the kind so far discovered. [illegible] does not, however, supersede [illegible] precautions necessary [illegible] the influenza.

[illegible] Death Blow to "Flu."

[illegible] weakened forces of Spanish influenza [illegible] due to receive a death blow tomorrow morning when, it was announced by Dr. T. J. Howells, the much-talked-of zone system of physicians for the city and county of Salt Lake will officially take effect.

"This is one of the greatest moves medically taken by this community for some time," said Dr. Howells, "and although for the time being it will serve to unite with the Red Cross in completing the total eradication of the influenza, yet it will remain in effect after the epidemic is dead."

The zone system which is in practice in many of the large cities of the nation, was definitely slated for this county several days ago upon recommendation of Dr. Howells and action by the county commissioners. Its purpose, according to the county physician, is to provide a closer contact with the Red Cross and to assure those who can not afford to pay for medical aid, a responsible medical attendant.

Zone Divisions.

The city and county will be divided into five zones, the first covering that territory east of Main street and north of Twenty-first South street; the second west of Main street and north of Twenty-first South; the third from Twenty-first to Thirty-third South streets; the fourth from Thirty-third to Eighty-eighth South streets and the fifth the remainder of the county south of Eighty-eighth South.

By appointment by the county commissioners the following physicians will take charge of the respective zones to give influenza the final blow: Zone No. 1—Dr. Anderson; Zone No. 2, Dr. Duckworth; Zone No. 3, Dr. Edmonds; Zone No. 4, Dr. Rothwell and Zone No. 5, Dr. Bourne of Sandy. These physicians will be held responsible for the care of patients afflicted with the influenza in their districts. All calls from indigent patients will now be received at the county hospital.

As far as the actual condition of the epidemic is concerned, yesterday was undoubtedly the best day yet experienced, in the fight for the last four weeks, there being only 24 cases reported against 120 the same day a week ago. Only three deaths were listed on yesterday's chart while up to 12:20 this morning only one house had called for help from the city health department.

Dr. Paul again stated his intention of closing the Red Cross hospital within a week should the epidemic decrease at the present rate.

Open Air Treatment.

The city health officer is in receipt of a medical journal to which he refers the public for an article written by Surgeon-General Brooks in which he writes that in one hospital where there were 321 hopeless cases of influenza-pneumonia, open air treatment saved 318.

"I advise," said Dr. Paul, "that wherever the conditions permit, that patients be transferred to the open air—not into tents but into the open air itself and I warrant that the case will be improved."

Improvement at Fort.

The influenza seems to have almost abated at the Fort Douglas hospital, related Major W. C. Chidester, but the quarantine will not be lifted until a similar move is made by Dr. T. B. Beatty, state health officer.

"Although we are not governed by the order of the state health office," he stated, "yet in safety, both to ourselves and to the community, we will not allow the men out of quarantine until the city reports conditions satisfactory."

When asked about the decline of the epidemic, the military physician expressed the situation in these words: "The bottom seems to have dropped out of everything and the wards are being closed." No cases or deaths from influenza have been reported for several days.

Prepare For Opening.

Apparently the general managers of the theatre circuits of the country are anticipating the early opening of the theatres in Salt Lake, Denver and other intermountain cities, and today marks the beginning of material activity in the ranks of the actors. Many of the Pantages acts are leaving this afternoon to open in Denver, while, it is expected, other acts will arrive here tomorrow from the coast for the opening here. Orpheum acts moved to Denver yesterday. The acts which leave for Denver today have been in this city for nearly four weeks.

There is, and has been considerable indignation in theatrical circles regarding a recent report published in one of the papers of this city to the effect that they are "stranded" without money to pay their hotel bills and that they were forced to "top beets" to keep themselves in clothes.

"This report," said one of the Pantages performers, "is the choicest kind of yellow sensation, equalled only by yesterday's lie about peace, and is not true in the smallest degree. The actors in this city are, for the most part, living in normal circumstances. In fairness to the profession, we are asking that this false report be corrected."

Despite the fact that conditions took a slight turn for the worse in Sego and Eureka yesterday, the state board of health officially rescinded the quarantine ban on schools and shows at three places last night. They are: Tremonton, Levan and Green River. Many officials are prone to believe that this action is the natural forerunner of a similar abolition in many of the smaller towns of the state where the epidemic has been stayed off by prompt obedience to orders.

State Reports.

Three new towns reported the spread of the influenza today to the state board of health. Teasdale, with six cases, has had the epidemic for 12 days but today is the first time the officials have reported it. The other two towns were Leeds, 1 case (said to have come from Salt Lake); and Bicknell, with several suspects.

Ogden reported 52 new cases and three deaths; Provo 21 cases, 11 families stricken, and 1 death, while Helper reported the death of Mrs. Sarah Marsh, 32, leaving husband and five children.

Following is a portion of the delayed Oct. report from the state board of health: Leamington, 153 cases, 2 deaths; Standardville, 65 cases, 8 deaths; Huntsville, 47 cases, no deaths; Warren, 2 cases, no deaths; Lakefork, 16 cases, no deaths; North Cache, 82 cases, no deaths; Lewiston, 78 cases, 1 death, and Clover, 7 cases.

The south end of Utah, said Dr. Beatty, reports a general decrease in the disease but several new cases are reported in the vicinity of Goshen. In Milford, a mandatory order requiring the wearing of masks in public places has been issued.

Dr. Beatty further stated that the fault in Eureka was not due to the excellent co-operation of the health authorities but to lack of co-ordination on the part of the people.

Deseret News Jan. 14, 1919

School Principal of Riverton Passes Away

(Special to The News.)

RIVERTON, Jan. 14.—Alonzo B. Isaacson, principal of the public schools here, widely known and highly esteemed throughout south Salt Lake county, died at his home here yesterday, following two weeks' illness of influenza. He was 28 years of age and had taught in the schools of Jordan district about six years.

Mr. Isaacson was son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Isaacson of Ephraim and a graduate of Snow academy at that place. He is also a former student of the University of Utah, where he excelled in scholarship and won the warm friendship of his instructors and fellow students. He filled a mission to Europe and was driven out by the outbreak of the war, completing his labors in the southern states. At home as well as abroad he was active in Church work.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Esther Swenson Isaacson, formerly of Sandy. They were married only a few months ago. He is survived also by his parents and the following brothers and sisters: E. M. Isaacson of Salt Lake, Linden, Thorpe, Sarah, Eddie and Lavor Isaacson of Ephraim.

Des. News Jan. 16, 1919

Of A. B. Isaacson

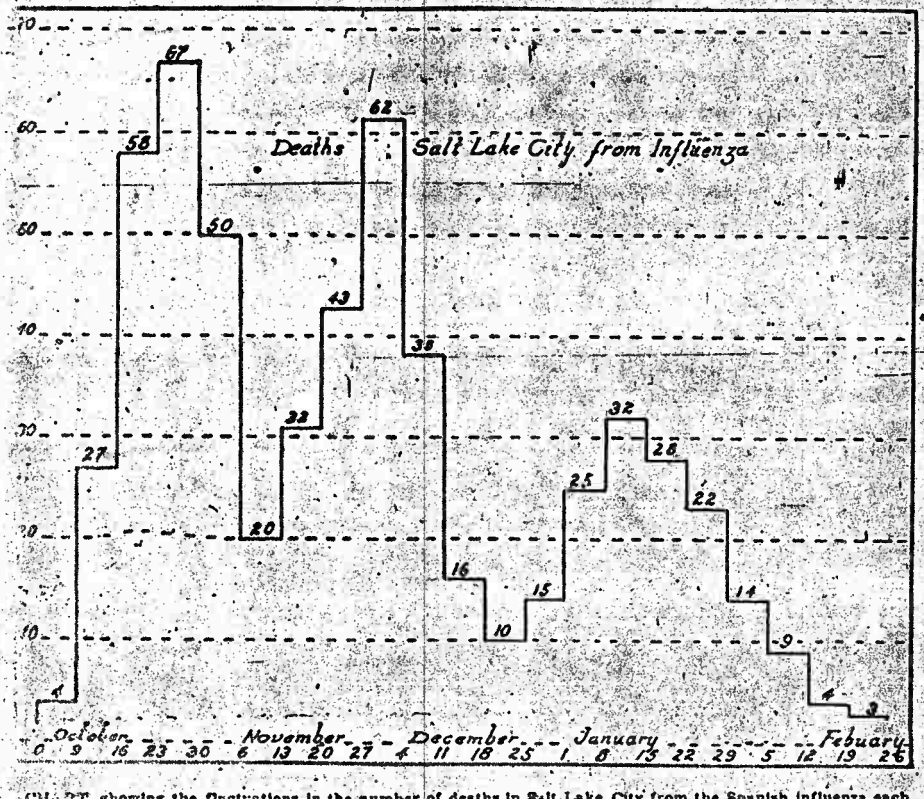
Memorial services for A. B. Isaacson, former University of Utah student and principal of the Riverton schools, who died Jan. 13, were held at the home in Riverton Wednesday. The speakers were Bishop Gordon S. Bills of Riverton; Elder Reginald White of the Sandy ward bishopric; Supt. D. C. Jenson of the Jordan school district and W. D. Kuhre, president of Jordan stake. They all highly eulogized the character and usefulness of Mr. Isaac-

A. B. ISAACSON.

son, who had not only endeared himself to relatives and friends but who was recognized as a stalwart young leader, able and energetic in assisting in Church and community work. A double quartet sang "Welcome Home" and "The Teacher's Work Is Done."

The body was taken today to Ephraim, former home of the deceased where Friday at noon another service will be held, many of Mr. Isaacson's relatives and friends residing in Sanpete valley. Interment will be at Ephraim.

Three "Flu" Waves Hit Salt Lake; Chart Shows Death Fluctuations



CHART, showing the fluctuations in the number of deaths in Salt Lake City from the Spanish influenza each week from October, 1918, to March 1, 1919, has been prepared by the the state board of health for the information of the general public. This chart shows that the epidemic reached its zenith during the week of Oct. when 67 deaths from this cause were reported. During the first week of that month only four deaths were [illegible] and the number increased by leaps and bounds for the next three weeks. The number then began to decrease until for the week of Nov. 6-13 only 20 deaths were reported.

Following the celebration of signing the armistice the disease received a sudden impetus and the number of deaths increased from that date until in the week of Nov. 27 62 deaths occurred from this cause. From that point the number of deaths began to drop again until only 10 deaths were reported from Spanish influenza during the week of Dec. 18. The third wave followed the opening of schools until the week of Jan. 8 the number had gone up to 32. From that time the decrease was gradual until for the week ending Feb. 26 only three deaths were reported.

The chart as prepared by the health board appears herewith.

Des. Ed.
News MONDAY MAY 19 1919. SALT LAKE

"INTANGIBLE ASSETS" PASSED

BANK VALUES TEN MILLIONS

COUNTY Assessor James E. Lynch has finished his assessment on local banks and other large corporations. In making up his valuations he deviates widely from the policy of his predecessor, Mr. Parsons, who proposed to tax companies on their "intangible assets," the Utah-Idaho Sugar company alone having been assessed at $10,000,000.00. This is now being fought in the courts and the hearing comes up next month.

Assessor Lynch announces that only apparent and tangible assets have been assessed by him in accordance with court decisions, and that all assets have been placed at what he deems to be a fair and equitable valuation.

Total assessed valuation of banks in Salt Lake county for taxation purposes in 1919 is set at $10,307,593, according to a statement given out today by Mr. Lynch. The stock in these institutions has a market value of $8,948,496 and the real estate buildings and improvements are worth $2,359,097, making the aggregate $10,307,593, as set forth in the statement.

Assessor Lynch says that in making up his valuations for taxation purposes he has followed closely the lines set out in a recent decision of the state supreme court in an action instituted against the former county assessor by the Continental National bank of this city.

Figures for each banking institution in the county in the matters of capital stock and real estate and improvements are set forth in the following detail in the assessor's report:

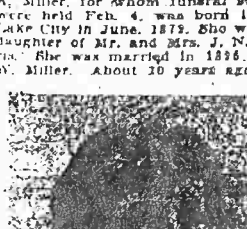
	Stock	Real Estate and Improvements
Bankers Trust company	$ 122,105	$ 17,460
Bingham State Bank	51,885	16,205
Columbia Trust company	247,060	16,295
Continental National Bank	557,440	280,930
Copperfield State Bank	86,000	.....
Deseret National Bank	854,520	535,475
Deseret Savings Bank	614,600	503,475
Garfield Banking company	90,000	.....
Jordan Valley Bank	13,597	150
Magna Banking company	30,000	.....
McCornick & Company Bankers	619,560	541,815
Midvale State Bank	32,655	12,787
Murray State Bank	21,860	3,770
National Bank of Murray	151,225	7,449
National Bank of Republic	275,438	356,205
National City Bank	315,870	85,135
National Copper Bank	420,000	.....
Sandy City Bank	9,640	7,768
Sugar Banking company	22,500	.....
Utah State National Bank	785,925	267,125
The First National Bank of Magna	25,000	.....
Utah Savings & Trust company	261,279	42,925
Walker Brothers Bankers	1,052,500	71,965
Zion's Savings Bank & Trust company	771,455	671,970
	$8,948,496	$2,359,097

Deseret News
FEBRUARY 17 1920

Esteemed Woman at Riverton Laid at Rest

(Special Correspondence.)

RIVERTON, Feb. 16.—Mrs. Sarah A. Miller, for whom funeral services were held Feb. 4, was born in Salt Lake City in June, 1879. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Morris. She was married in 1896 to W. W. Miller. About 10 years ago they



MRS. SARAH A. MILLER.

moved to Canada and came back to Riverton about six years ago. Mrs. Miller was a devoted wife and mother and a faithful worker in the Church, being especially active in the work of the Relief society. She died Feb. 2, of heart trouble and other complications, after an illness of nearly one year.

The funeral services were held at the residence, Bishop Gordon Bills presiding. The speakers were James H. Anderson of Salt Lake City, Clifford I. Goff of Midvale and Bishop J. A. Cornwall of Winder. The choir sang two selections and Mr. and Mrs. Hill sang a duet. Interment was in the Wasatch Lawn cemetery.

Mrs. Miller is survived by her husband, her parents, seven brothers and one sister and the following children: Mrs. Albert F. Grow, Mrs. Bert Fairless, William M., Melvin M., Orris P. and Lucile.

Des Eve News 14 Apr 1920

Arrested at Riverton on Attempted Burglary Charge

George Christensen, William Cramer and Edward Reddick were arrested at Riverton last night by Deputy Sheriff William Brough, and were charged with attempting to break in and rob a store at Riverton. When the men were taken into custody it was discovered that they were in possession of an automobile which had been stolen last night from in front of the Eighth ward chapel on Fourth South and State streets, this city. The auto was the property of the Cullen Meat market.

According to Victor Christopherson, chief criminal deputy sheriff, Christensen admits having deserted from the navy at Rhode Island, June 12, 1919 and having enlisted in the army in this city March 1, 1920. The following day, March 2, he again deserted the U. S. service, according to the officers.

Cattle at Riverton Reported Victims Of Anthrax

R. W. Hoggan, state live stock inspector, has returned from Riverton, where he inspected cattle belonging to Richard Withers, three of the animals having died of anthrax, to which 69 others have been exposed. Rigid measures were ordered and put in force by Dr. Hoggan to stop spread of the affection and he says that he considers the cattle practically safe from further ravages.

At Pleasant Grove the inspector conducted an autopsy on several hogs that had died there recently and he found that they had been victims of hog cholera. Dr. C. T. Jones of American Fork, deputy to the state inspector, has been given charge of the situation in that vicinity and further trouble from cholera will probably be averted.

Des. Eve. News Feb. 23, 1920

Des Eve News
14 Apr. 1920

New Suits Filed.

Third District Court.

A. J. Parry against the Riverton Creamery, to quiet title to certain real property.

26 Apr 1920

Children Disappear From Home in Riverton

Search has been instituted by the county sheriff's office for Mabel Fay Nichols, aged 12 years, and Allan Nichols, aged 10 years, who disappeared from their home at Riverton at 10 o'clock Sunday morning. They left to go to Sunday school but when they did not return at the usual time the father, Thomas Nichols, a Riverton confectionery store owner, became alarmed and began to look for them.

He drove to Herriman, several miles west, where the family has relatives but found no trace of the children although he questioned many persons along the road. He reported the matter to the sheriff's office and Deputy Sheriff William Brough joined in the search. Salt Lake City and surrounding towns were immediately notified to be on the lookout.

The girl is described as being of light complexion with blue eyes. She was wearing a brown and blue checked dress and a black straw hat with a blue ribbon trimming. The boy also is light of complexion and was wearing a blue serge suit with cap to match.

It was learned this afternoon that the two children bought tickets for Salem on the Orem line. Efforts are being made to find them there.

DES EVE NEWS 27 Apr 1920

Missing Riverton Children Are Found at Salem

Mabel Fay Nichols, aged 12 years, and Allan Nichols aged 10 years, children of Thomas Nichols of Riverton, were located yesterday at Salem, Utah county. The two children disappeared from their home Sunday morning, and their parents believed them to have gone to Sunday school. When they did not return a search was instituted which lasted 24 hours.

It was found by Deputy Sheriff William Brough that the two children, taking with them $2 which they had saved, boarded an Orem train for Salem. There they went to the home of L. J. Christensen, whom they told that they were orphans from Salt Lake City.

Trace of the children was found through a checking with the Orem railroad officials. The children gave no reason for their action and wept many tears when they were reunited with their parents. They said they would not again attempt to wander into the big world.

Des Evs News 7 July 1920

Funeral Services Held in Riverton

Funeral services for John Hansen, who died several days ago, were held in the Riverton ward chapel at 2 p.m. Tuesday. Mr. Hansen was a native of Forean, Denmark, where he was born April 28, 1830. When a young man he joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and in 1864 he came to Utah. The trip from Denmark at that time required nine months.

Upon arriving here, Mr. Hansen decided to settle in Malad where he moved shortly after. He later contracted work on the Utah Central railroad and was also connected with canal work construction in Salt Lake county. Mr. Hansen was active in religious lines. In 1853 he went to Denmark on a mission, and again in 1880, he went to Denmark on a mission. April 22, 1865, he married Caroline Petersen, who died May 10, 1910. He is survived by his widow, Mary M. Hansen; one son, John Hansen, Jr. [illegible] grandchildren.

Des Evg News.

Aged Riverton Resident Is Summoned by Death

(Special to The News.)

RIVERTON, Aug. 6.—Mrs. Matilda B. Nielsen, wife of Jens Nielsen, died at her home here last night of old age. She was in her 83rd year. She was born in Vising, Denmark, Jan. 3, 1838, came to America 40 years ago and had been a resident of Riverton for 38 years. She is survived by her husband and two sons, Andrew Nielsen of Widtsoe and Niels A. Nielsen of Midvale; also seven grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in the Riverton ward chapel Sunday, Aug. 8, at 4 p.m. Interment will be in the Riverton cemetery.

6 Aug. 1920

Journal History

Dec. 20, 1920

RIVERTON WARD

JORDAN STAKE

Meeting house of this ward completed and on this date was dedicated by Elder Reed Smoot.

(From S.&.W. Hist'l Rept. Bk.)

TRIAL COURT UPHELD IN PIPE LINE LITIGATION

Des. Eve. News

The decision handed down by Judge J. L. Brown in the Third district court is upheld by the state supreme court in a ruling made in the case of the Riverton Pipe Line company against the Bear Canyon Pipe Line company. The litigation is that which arose over the rights of the two parties to the waters of the Bear Canyon Creek near Draper, Salt Lake county.

The district court in its decision determined the first right to be that of the Riverton Pipe Line company to 60,000 gallons per day; the second right to be that of the Bear River Canyon Pipe Line company to 102,720 gallons per day; the third right to be a joint right between the two to 72,000 gallons per day, 5-6 of which is to the Riverton company and the remaining 1-6 to the Bear Canyon company; the fourth right to be those of L. H. and Emma W. Smith, Joseph M. Smith, B. M. Crosgrove and Matilda Crosgrove. In its appeal to the supreme court the Bear Canyon company concurred in the adjudication of the first two rights but took exception to the latter two. The supreme court holds the adjudication of the water rights made in the district court to be the only one just and equitable.

21 March 1921

Body of Riverton Soldier Arrives Home for Burial

(Special to The News.)

RIVERTON, July 6.—The body of Samuel Elmer Howard, who died while in service with the American expeditionary forces in France, arrived here today at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Howard. Military honors will be paid the young soldier in the funeral services to be held for him tomorrow afternoon, beginning at 1 o'clock, in the Riverton ward chapel. It is expected that the governor, or a representative, and other state officials will be present. Interment will be in the Howard family plot in the Riverton cemetery.

Samuel Elmer Howard was born Sept. 27, 1892. He went to France with the 313th engineers. He contracted influenza during the Argonne drive, in which he participated, and died in a base hospital, Oct. 2, 1918. He is survived by his parents, two brothers and three sisters. One of the brothers, Alonzo Howard, enlisted in the infantry early in the war and was wounded by shrapnel in the Argonne drive. He recovered and returned to the United States.

Des. Evg. News July 6, 1921

WILL PUMP WATER TO HIGH LINE CANAL

July 11, 1921

Event Scheduled for Today Will Bring Valuable Land In Salt Lake Valley Under Irrigation

An event that will mark a new phase in the activities of the Provo Reservoir company, one of the largest irrigation companies in the state, will take place this afternoon at 5:30 o'clock at the Jordan Narrows, when company officials will turn on the electric current to pump approximately 50 second feet of water from the Jordan river and elevate it 250 feet to a high line canal, which will carry it to lands in the western part of Salt Lake county.

This is the second highest lift in the state, the highest being the 300-foot lift of the Bonneville Irrigation company in Davis county.

The Provo Reservoir company, control in which is owned by Francis W. Kirkham of Salt Lake and Joseph R. Murdock of Heber City, several years ago put in an inverted syphon to bring the water from the Provo river to the high lands on the west side of Salt Lake county. A comparatively small amount of water was delivered to it at that time for the reason that the demand was not large and because the diverting capacity of the headgates and the carrying capacity of the canal were too small. The syphon carried flood waters from the Provo river and water from small reservoirs built by the company on the headwaters of the river. The stored water was used late in the season.

The idea of pumping the water from Utah lake into the west arm of the syphon to increase the latter water supply was conceived. According to estimates at the time the pumps were placed on the ground it was calculated that the annual cost of the project would be approximately $4 per acre. Since that time the power rate has advanced about 20 per cent.

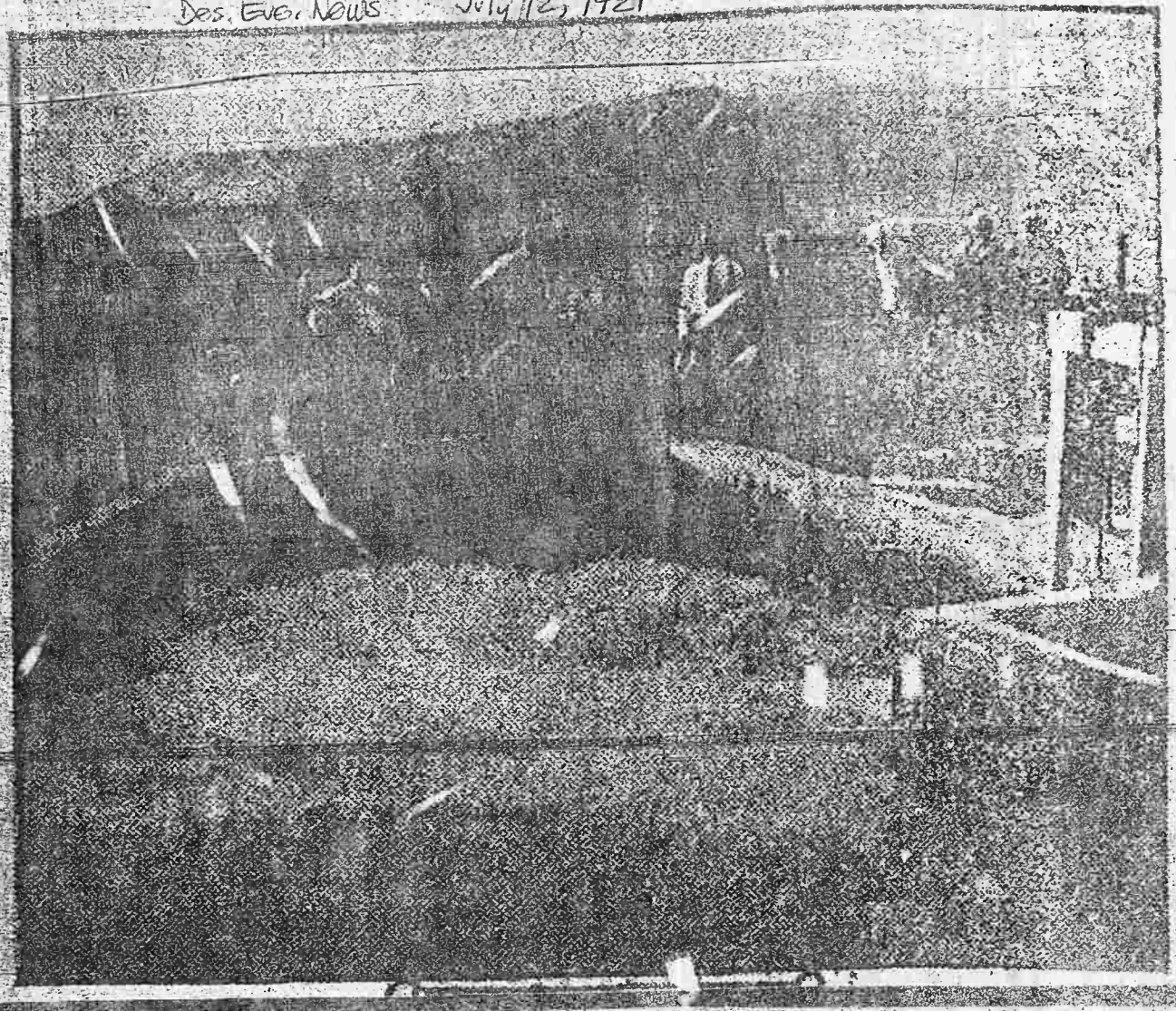
To Divide Water.

It is pointed out that if the power cost can be maintained at a point where it is possible to pump the water profitably 250 feet for irrigation, it is the intention of the company to rely on the pumps for the late water supply west of the Jordan, and to use the stored water through a continuation of the canal east of the Jordan and as far north as Draper and Sandy. It is estimated there are some 3,000 to 5,000 acres of irrigable land on the east of the river, which are now without water.

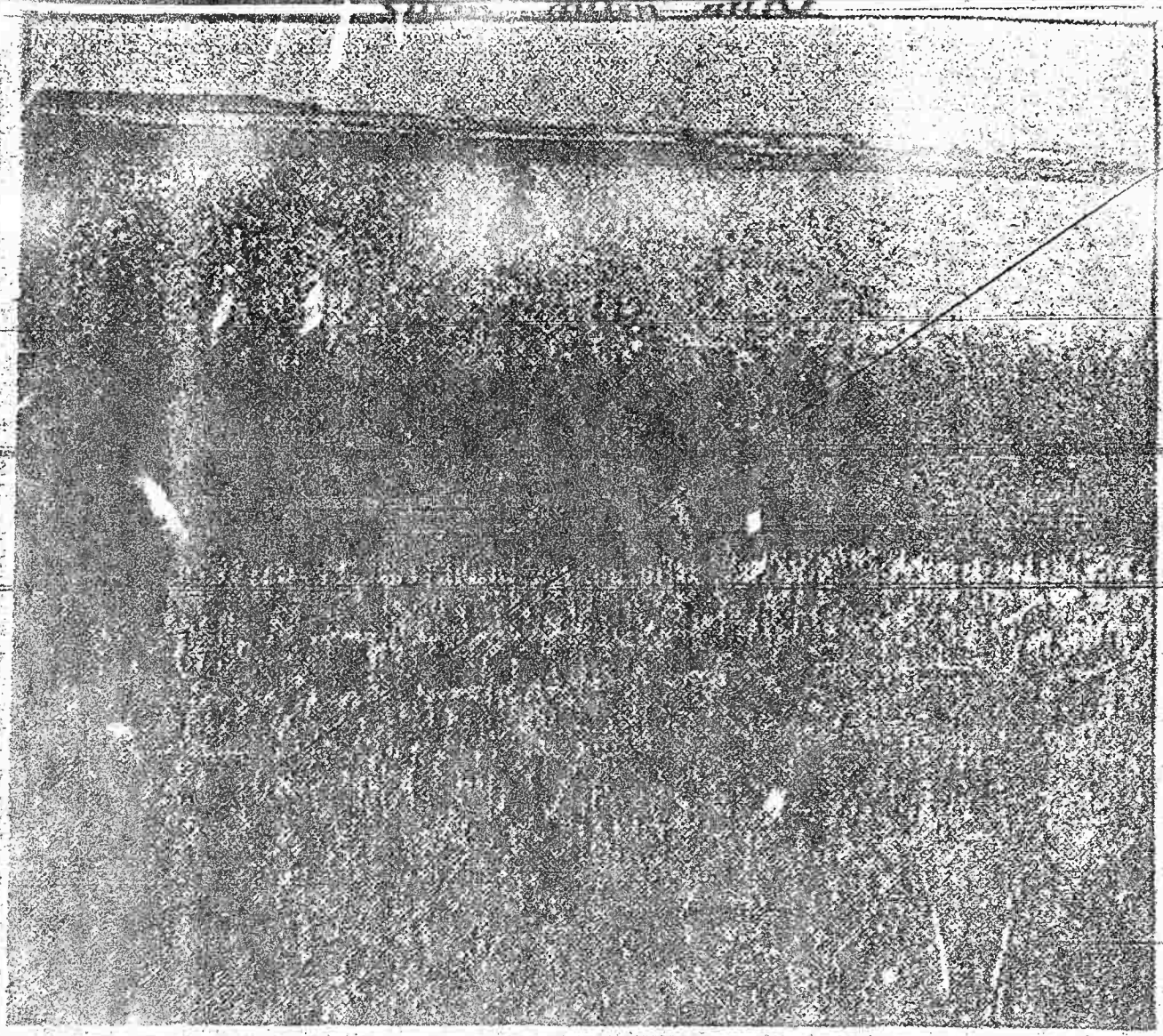
The pumped water will be sold to the west side farmers at $35 per share, which entitles the user to one second foot per 100 acres, or the equivalent of two acre-feet per acre in an irrigation season of 100 days. The shares also give the purchasers an interest in the plant of the Associated Canal company near Lehi, on Utah lake. This plant is not being operated at present, and possibly will not have to be operated this season, since the gravity flow from the Utah lake into the Jordan river is sufficient during the high water season at the lake.

Recent tests made indicate that the syphon will carry a maximum of 123 second feet. The canal at present extends north to near Welby, about 20 miles and south a distance of eight miles to a point opposite Saratoga Springs, a tract of 10,500 acres on the north end, which could be irrigated, with a short extension of the canal northward, and about 3,000 additional acres in Utah.

Des. Evg. News July 12, 1921



UPPER—OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE PROVO RESERVOIR COMPANY STANDING AT THE MOUTH OF THE HUGE SYPHON WHICH IS DISCHARGING 140 SECOND-FEET OF WATER.



LOWER—FIELD OF FIFTY ACRES OF WHEAT WHICH RECEIVES WATER FROM THE HIGH LINE CANAL OF THE PROVO RESERVOIR COMPANY. Des. Eve. News July 12, 1921

Des. Eve. News July 12, 1921

Electric Current Starts Pumps at Jordan Narrows and Big Irrigation System is Now in Actual Operation

WITH prominent state and county officials and directors of the company present, the electric switch was placed shortly after 6 o'clock Monday evening which formally opened the gigantic pumping system of the Provo Reservoir company in the Jordan Narrows.

Within a few minutes after the huge motors with a capacity of 800 horse power had been set in motion, the water was pouring into the high line canal [illegible] feet above the bed of the Jordan river. The plant was constructed at a cost of $60,000 and was built for the purpose of augmenting the flow of water which is brought from Provo canyon to the fertile lands west and south of Salt Lake, a distance of more than 40 miles.

Five years ago under the direction of Joseph R. Murdock, who is president and manager of the company, the canal was constructed to the east side of the Jordan Narrows, where a great steel syphon was built to drive the water across the chasm by its own weight.

From the intake at the Point of the Mountain the syphon crosses the Jordan river in the canyon below and shoots up on the other side, where the water pours into the canal on the west side of the Narrows. The syphon in crossing the canyon passes under the tracks of the Denver & Rio Grande and the Orem interurban.

The pumping plant on the west side of the canyon is so constructed that it can be enlarged should the need arise. The companies in control, the Provo Reservoir company and the Utah Lake Irrigation company, can supply water to approximately 25,000 acres of some of the most fertile land in the Salt Lake valley. It is conservatively estimated that between 1,500 and 2,000 families are reaping the benefits of the project.

Capacity Augmented.

The big syphon at the Narrows is capable of handling 125 second feet and this flow is augmented to capacity of approximately 140 second feet by the pumping system. This is sufficient to insure the farmers under the project three acre feet of water for an acre of land. An acre-foot of water will cover an acre of ground to a depth of one foot. A second foot of water is a cubic foot of water passing a given point in one second. Thus the 140 second-foot stream would mean that 140 cubic feet of water is delivered at the mouth of the syphon every second. As there are approximately seven and one-half gallons of water to the cubic foot, this means that the system is discharging 63,000 gallons of water every minute into the cement lined canal on the west side of the Narrows.

A big feature of the future operations of the company, which will in a great measure mark a new phase in the irrigation of lands in the Salt Lake valley, was pointed out by Francis W. Kirkham, a director of the company. According to present plans if power can be obtained at a profitable figure additional pumps will be installed to furnish water for the west side and water now passing through the huge syphon from the reservoirs on the Provo river will be taken in a cement lined canal to lands in the vicinity of Draper and Sandy.

The two canals used by the two companies total eighty miles, the higher canal extending from the reservoir on Provo river and the lower from Utah lake. This year the upper canal was extended at a cost of approximately $60,000 a distance of eight miles from the Taylorsville ridge to the vicinity of Magna, bringing under cultivation several thousand additional acres of land. Practically all the land served by the two canals lies from five to twenty miles south and west of Salt Lake and is a rich sandy loam, capable of producing large crops of alfalfa, sugar beets, potatoes, small fruits and garden truck. Many thriving and profitable orchards have been under a high state of cultivation. The land is everywhere dotted with homes and substantial school and church buildings. Paved roads are within easy distance of nearly every home and electric lights and culinary water systems are accessible.

Difficulties Overcome.

To those in attendance at the opening of the project, Murdock explained some of the many difficulties the companies overcame to make the project a success. Since the scheme was started the company, according to Mr. Murdock has been in litigation with more than six hundred individual companies and corporations. Fully 90 per cent of the suits were compromised.

"Up to the present" said Mr. Murdock, "there has come to our notice not one complaint that we have not made every effort to adjust. The completion of this canal and pumping system is the dream of many years. We are now assured of success and the directors of this company are happy in the thought that they have been able to bring prosperity to thousands of people. We have completed this project at a cost of more than $2,000,000."

Much of the success of the project was attributed by Mr. Kirkham and Mr. Murdock to the company's engineer in charge, I. H. Jacobs who has been assisted during the latter part of the construction work by Dan McCallister.

The officers and directors of the companies are as follows: Joseph R. Murdock, president and general manager; J. Will Knight, vice-president; R. J. Murdock, secretary and treasurer; I. H. Jacobs, engineer and Dan McCallister, assistant engineer. The board of directors is composed of A. W. Ivins, D. A. Smith, Francis W. Kirkham, Willard Smith, Stephen L. Chipman, George H. Brimhall and Abel John Evans.

(*) JORDAN STAKE-RIVERTON WARD.

David Bills was this date ordained a bishop and was set apart to preside over this ward by Elder George F. Richards. His counselors were chosen and set apart the same date. (Stake and Ward Hist. repts (bk).***

Meetings Scheduled in Jordan School District

Des. Evo. News

12 Aug. 1921

Jordan district schools will open for regular school work on Tuesday, Sept. 6. Utah's new law relative to attendance of school children up to 18 years of age will be rigidly enforced.

In order to facilitate matters and consult with patrons who may desire to be more fully advised as to the requirements of the law, the attendance officer of the district, J. H. Greer, will be at the local school buildings as follows:

West Jordan, Aug. 18, 10 a.m. and South Jordan, 1 p.m.; Riverton, Aug. 19, a.m. and Bluffdale, 1 p.m.; Herriman, Aug. 22, 10 a.m. and Draper, 1 p.m.; Crescent, Aug. 23, 10 a.m. and Sandy, 1 p.m.; Union, Aug. 24, 10 a.m., Butler, 1 p.m. and Granite, 2:30 p.m.; Bingham Canyon, Aug. 26, 10 a.m; Midvale, Aug. 25, 10 a.m.

Riverton District Has Feed for Stock

Des. Eve. News

In the district surrounding Riverton in Fremont county about 10,000 sheep and 2,000 cattle can be fed for market, the state department of agriculture has been advised. The district committee in charge of the co-operative feeding campaign in Carbon, Hot Springs and Park counties will meet [illegible] to consider the feeding problem here.

16 Sep. 1921

Riverton Autoist Who Failed to Stop After Accident is Fined $100

30 Aug. 1921

Des. Evn. News

PROVO, Aug. 30.—Thomas Butterfield of Riverton who drove on after his automobile struck and knocked down Eva Wilkins, six-year-old daughter of Wren Wilkins, last Tuesday, was fined $100 by Judge J. B. Tucker in city court yesterday.

Butterfield was charged with driving his car on the wrong side of the street as well as failure to stop after the accident.

In passing the sentence Judge Tucker announced that he would send to jail the next person who failed to stop after an accident. Butterfield made a disparaging remark as he was sentenced and said he hoped the man who spent the money and the purpose for which it went would be cursed. He was severely reprimanded for his assertion by the judge.

4 Nov 1924

Federal Farm Loan Bank For South End Of County Planned

Des. News

Steps were taken at a meeting held in Riverton last night toward the organization of a federal farm loan bank in the south end of Salt Lake county. Officials and water users of the Provo Reservoir company and the Utah Lake distributing company were present. T. A. Butterfield of Harriman, S. H. Howard and W. C. Crump of Riverton were appointed a committee to draw up plans for the bank.

The farmers also considered the question of securing witnesses and crop estimates to present to the public utilities commission in the petition now pending against the Utah Power & Light company for a reduction of power rates.

A plan was also presented to the farmers for securing money from the war finance corporation to finance the feeding of livestock. Thomas Page presided at the meeting. Jamie M. Kirkham represented the Utah State Farm bureau. The speakers were John R. Murdock, president, and I. M. Jacobs, engineer, of the Provo Reservoir company, and Francis W. Kirkham. Meetings will be held tonight at 8 o'clock at the South Jordan and West Jordan meeting houses to consider the same problems.

Farmers in Salt Lake county have a great surplus of hay and feed from the by-products of the beet crop, according to Harden Bennion, of the Provo Reservoir company, with no stock to feed. The hay cannot be shipped on account of a quarantine, he said. Over 500 cars of Utah cattle have recently been sent to California to feed, Mr. Bennion said. One of the chief objects of the meetings is to form organizations for borrowing money to buy feeders.

Tes-News

Interurban Roads Look Forward To Next Year With Confidence

THE interurban roads of Utah have done well recently in view of the general depression prevailing the past 12 months. The roads are in three separate units, though immediately connected, extending from Preston, Ida., on the north, to Payson, Utah, on the south, 190 miles, with branch lines which largely increase their facilities for doing business. The Utah-Idaho Interurban operates between Preston and Ogden, the Bamberger Electric between Ogden and Salt Lake and the Orem Interurban, or Salt Lake & Utah, between Salt Lake and Payson.

These electric lines have since their construction come to monopolize the bulk of the local passenger traffic roads, and are rapidly getting into the intrastate freight field. Improvement in right of way construction and maintenance is steadily progressing on the three lines. New motive power and rolling stock have been added, and additional conveniences of travel extended to the public. The union station project in Salt Lake has assumed a concrete form in approval of final plans by the Bamberger and Orem interests, and this fine building may be constructed before the close of the coming year. Passenger patronage and freight business are steadily growing.

There has been talk for some time of extending the Utah-Idaho line to Idaho Falls; and while present financial conditions will hardly permit this to be done in the immediate future, there is a general belief that within the next three years the electric cars will be running to that point. There is also a possibility of extension southward of the Orem line to Nephi, and ultimately to Cedar City.

Improvements on Bamberger.

In spite of the general adverse conditions the Bamberger Electric Railroad company has kept up its policy of extensive improvements and construction work wherever possible. The revenues have not permitted the railroads to carry out all of their plans but nevertheless much work along this line has been accomplished by the Bamberger company.

Chief among the roadway construction is the item of ballasting. This was done for the entire length of the road, between Salt Lake City and Ogden. The present condition of the roadbed compares favorably with any system in the country. Some double tracking was accomplished. With the [illegible] of four miles, the line is now double tracked between Salt Lake City and Ogden. The unfinished part will no doubt be completed early in the coming year.

During the past year, the shops, under the supervision of E. A. Boyd, have turned out some of the finest interurban passenger equipment seen in this part of the country. Six of the former open trailer type passenger cars have been converted into closed motor cars, with a seating capacity of approximately 38, whereas the former type of passenger motor car will seat but 56.

In the way of freight equipment the Bamberger recently purchased three 50 ton steel frame and steel reinforced box cars.

The joint freight terminal at Salt Lake City yard is now being completely paved, and the improvement at this terminal include the installation of a team and automobile automatic scales. The scales will be for the use of the public as well as for railroad use.

While business on the Bamberger generally has not been normal, yet there has been a recent improvement and with increased revenues other extensive improvements will be made.

Orem Business Good.

The Salt Lake and Utah Railroad company, popularly known as the "Orem Line," is strictly a home industry, and has in operation 75 miles of high speed electrified railroad. Its construction conforms to steam line standard, for the handling of a general freight and passenger business.

Through rates on all commodities are published between all stations on its line and all points in the United States.

The total number of cars of freight handled during 1921 is over 3[illegible] straight carloads, or an average of 266 cars a month. During the first year's operation, the figures were 2,266 cars, or an average of 144 cars a month.

During 1921, the Orem line received from and delivered to its trunk line connections at Provo and Salt Lake City, approximately 5,040 carloads of freight.

The territory tributary to the Orem line, namely, Salt Lake and Utah counties, shipped a large tonnage over its rails during 1921, including [illegible] cars of fruit, 2,104 cars of beets, [illegible] cars of vegetables, 100 cars of hay, 125 cars of grain, 144 cars of canned goods, and many hundreds of cars of sugar, molasses, and gravel, etc. In addition to the straight carload traffic 16,000,000 pounds of less than carload shipments were transported. Since the beginning of the Orem line operations 80 new industries have been established on its line.

The Orem line carried 39[illegible] regular fare passengers in 1921, an average of about 1,000 passengers a day, while 211,[illegible] passengers were carried during the first year's operation.

The outlook for the coming year [illegible] promising and from present indications both freight and passenger earnings will show a substantial increase over previous years.

Idaho Central Prospers.

Six years ago the Ogden, Logan and Idaho railway was completed from Ogden, Utah, to Preston, Idaho, [illegible] 95 miles of main line and 31 miles of branch lines, including the [illegible] City, [illegible], [illegible] and Quincy branches. On Jan. 1, 19[illegible] the name of the road was changed to the Utah-Idaho Central Railroad company, which was deemed more appropriate. [illegible] passenger trains are operated daily on this line between Ogden and [illegible] and between Ogden and [illegible] City. [illegible] passenger trains are operated daily between Ogden and Preston, all [illegible] making a direct connection at Ogden with the Bamberger Electric railway to and from Salt Lake City. The main line of the road runs north from Ogden through [illegible] Brigham, the county seat of Boxelder county, Deweyville, Wellsville and Hyrum, Logan, the county seat of Cache county and the home of the Utah Agricultural college, Smithfield, Richmond and intermediate points, terminating at Preston, the county seat of Franklin county, Idaho. [illegible] [illegible] is operated between Ogden and [illegible] through beautiful Ogden Canyon and [illegible] the present year [illegible] [illegible] off at Ogden [illegible] [illegible] stage hotel.

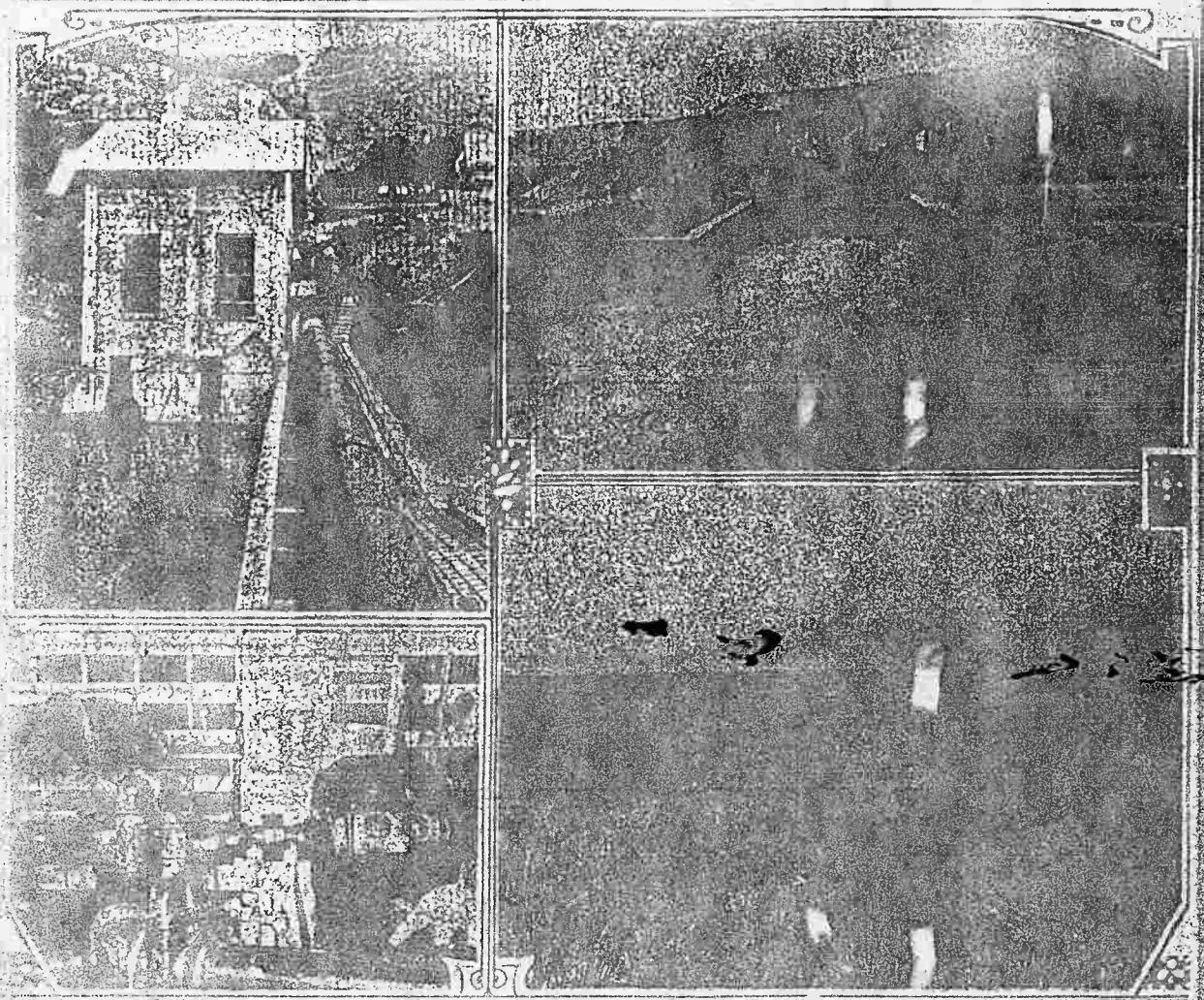
The Utah-Idaho Central has [illegible] freight traffic with all lines, and [illegible] between Salt Lake City and [illegible], Logan and Preston, [illegible] making delivery of freight from Salt Lake City and Ogden to all points in Cache valley. The line carries [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] mineral [illegible].

Many carloads of coal are [illegible] handled over this line, originating in the Utah and Wyoming coal mines, for industrial and domestic use. During the present year the company purchased 100 new gondola coal [illegible] bottom cars which have been placed in service with the Utah and Wyoming coal mines and the company now totals a total of 211 freight and passenger equipment cars with [illegible] electric freight locomotives.

Considerable maintenance work has been taken care of this year, [illegible] new ties have been placed under rails, and much ballasting has been done.

The personnel of the officials is as follows: M. S. Eccles, president; J. M. [illegible], first vice president; Jos. Scowcroft, second vice president; Royal Eccles, secretary and treasurer; J. H. DeVine, general counsel; [illegible] Whitney, general manager; P. Mulcahy, assistant general manager and auditor; [illegible] F. [illegible], traffic manager; H. C. [illegible], chief engineer; G. W. [illegible], [illegible] superintendent [illegible].

Era Of Power and Irrigation Development Opens



...power and irrigation development, giving a hint of the methods used for harnessing the streams of the state to turn the wheels of industry and to make the desert bloom. Upper left—Power house of the Provo Reservoir company at Jordan Narrows. It lifts waters from the Jordan river ... feet and irrigates approximately 2,500 acres. Upper right—Where the water emerges after the lift. The stream pouring from the mouths of the siphon originates in the hills in the background. It is brought across the valley in the middle distance to quench the thirst of the fertile uplands. Lower left—Type ... motor and pump used in modern Utah irrigation works. Lower right—Harvest scene in Utah irrigated land. Forty bushels to the acre is a common yield.

Provo [illegible]

Finishes Big Project

Recent enlargement of the operation of the Provo Reservoir company have placed it among the foremost irrigation companies of the state. During the early part of the summer the company completed and opened a gigantic pumping system in the Jordan Narrows, south of Salt Lake. The plant consists of two huge motors, one of 400 and one of 500 horsepower capacity which furnish power to lift 33 second feet of water 150 feet above the bed of the Jordan river to a high line canal through which it is taken to lands lying west and south of Salt Lake.

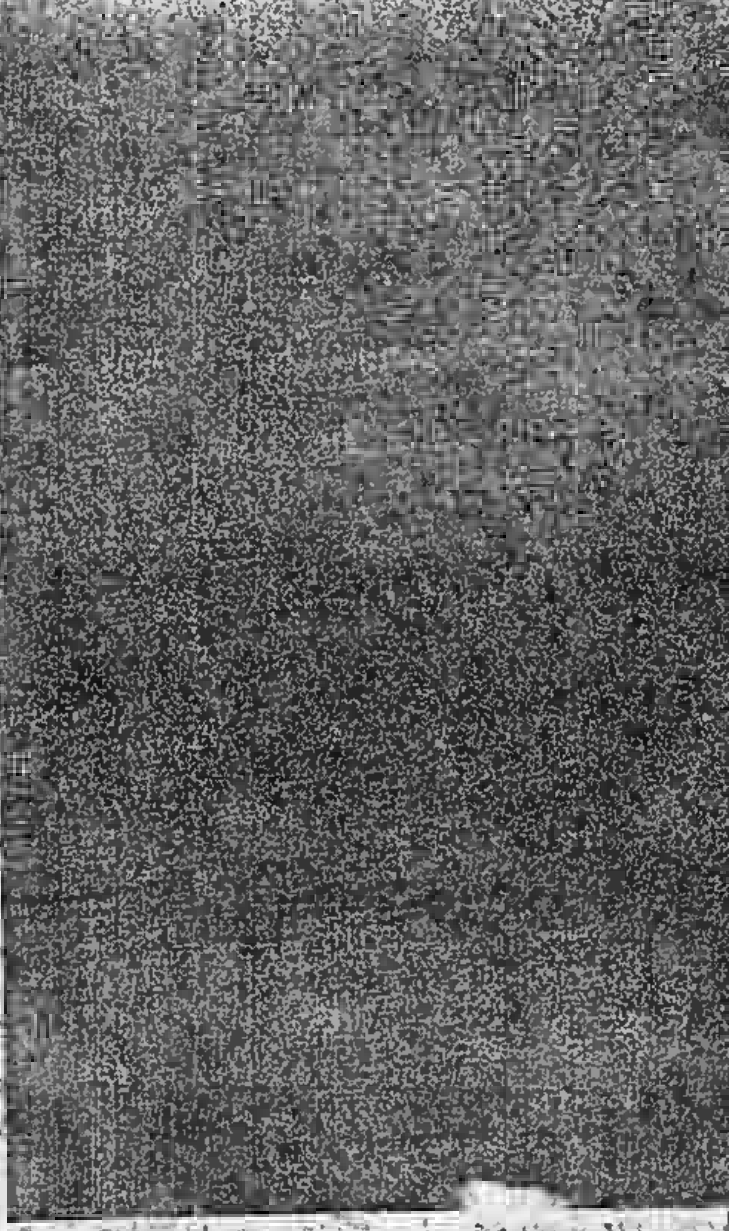
Five years ago under the direction of Joseph R. Murdock, president of the company and one of the pioneer irrigationists of Utah, a canal was constructed to the east side of the Jordan Narrows. Here a great steel syphon was built to carry the water across the chasm to the west side by its own weight. The pumping plant was constructed to supplement the gravity flow, which is brought from Provo canyon, a distance of 40 miles. Another canal from Utah lake carries 150 second feet.

The two companies, the Provo Reservoir company and the Utah Lake Irrigation company, which controls the canal system, have interlocking directorates. By the two canals water is supplied to approximately 35,000 acres.

According to Harden Bennion, an executive of the company, it is the plan of the company if power can be obtained at a profitable figure to install pumps to furnish water from the Jordan river to land on the west side and water now passing through the syphon from the reservoirs on the Provo river will be taken in a cement lined canal to lands in the vicinity of Draper and Sandy.

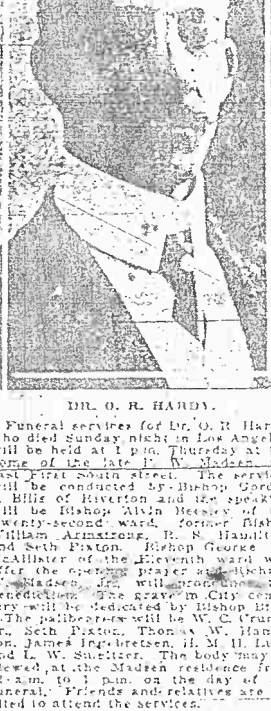
The two canals used by the company total eighty miles in length, the higher one extending from a reservoir from the head of Provo river and the lower canal from Utah lake. In the past year the lower canal was extended at a cost of approximately $50,000 a distance of eight miles from the Taylorsville ridge to the vicinity of Magna, bringing under cultivation several thousand more acres of highly productive land. Practically all of the land served by the canals lies from five to twenty miles south and west of Salt Lake.

Officers and directors of the companies are Joseph R. Murdock, president; J. Will Knight, vice-president; R. J. Murdock, secretary and treasurer; L. H. Jacobs, engineer and Dan McCallister, assistant engineer. The board of directors is composed of David A. Smith, A. W. Ivins, Francis A. Kirkham, Willard Smith, Stephen L. Chipman, George H. Brimhall and Abel John Evans.



Funeral Services for Dr. O. R. Hardy Will be Held at Madsen Home

8 Mar 1922



DR. O. R. HARDY.

Funeral services for Dr. O. R. Hardy, who died Sunday night in Los Angeles, will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at the home of the late P. W. Madsen, 611 East First South street. The services will be conducted by Bishop Gordon S. Ellis of Riverton and the speakers will be Bishop Alvin Beesley of the Twenty-second ward, former Bishop William Armstrong, R. S. Hamilton, and Seth Paxton. Bishop George S. McAllister of the Eleventh ward will offer the opening prayer and Richard W. Madsen, jr., will pronounce the benediction. The grave in City cemetery will be dedicated by Bishop Ellis. The pallbearers will be W. C. Crump, jr., Seth Paxton, Thomas W. Hamilton, James Ingebretsen, H. M. H. Lund and L. W. Snelgrove. The body may be viewed at the Madsen residence from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the day of the funeral. Friends and relatives are invited to attend the services.

Dr. Hardy was a native of Salt Lake and a son of the late Oscar H. Hardy and Mrs. Esther A. Hardy. His early education was obtained in the schools of this state and he studied medicine at Northwestern university in Chicago. He then practiced medicine here and in Riverton for several years, going to Los Angeles two years ago. He is survived by his mother, his wife, Mrs. Laura Madsen Hardy, daughter of the late P. W. Madsen, four children, Mariam Estelle, Elise and Harvey Hardy, and two sisters, Mrs. Carrie Hardy Marlowand Mrs. Estella Hardy Thompson, both of this city.

JORDAN VALLEY POTATO GROWERS ORGANIZE

Des News
7 June 1922

At a meeting in Riverton Wednesday night the Jordan Valley Potato Growers' association was organized by representatives from the Riverton district, Bluffdale, South Jordan and Fort Herriman. It is expected, according to announcement, that through the organization from 800 to 1,000 carloads of potatoes will be marketed annually. It is planned to contract with some reliable commission man to act as sales agent for the organization.

Officers of the new organization elected at the meeting were [illegible] Peterson, president; A. O. McMullin, vice president, and M. H. Kirk, secretary-treasurer. The above named and the following constitute the directorate: L. L. Myres, George Miller, H. Silcox and W. A. Turner.

INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE COMPANY IS CONSIDERED

Aug 11, 1922

Further consideration of the formation in Salt Lake county of an independent telephone company was the main subject at meetings held last night at Midvale, Sandy and Riverton. Speakers at Midvale were J. E. Pixton of Murray and James Moss of Holliday. At Sandy W. D. Livingston and Frank Oniel, both residents of Holliday, were speakers. Representatives from Bluffdale, West Jordan and Draper attended the meeting at Riverton. Speakers were Claude Abbott and Leonard Cahoon. A committee composed of George Bliss and Roy Glazier was appointed to act on removal of [illegible] Oscar Fullmer of Bluffdale [illegible]

The Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph company was represented at the three meetings. O. J. Hyde, [illegible] manager of the company, [illegible] the meeting at Murray, and the company was represented at Sandy and Riverton by Fred B. Jones, state manager, and Miles M. Cahoon, [illegible]

Sept 1922

Child Drowns in Well at Riverton

Harold Reynolds, son of W. H. and Mrs. Nina L. Reynolds, of Riverton, was drowned in a well in the rear of the family home yesterday afternoon. The child was missed about 4:30 o'clock and the parents undertook to search for him. The sheriff's office was notified and Deputy Sheriff Samuel M. Howard joined in the search. It was 7:30 p.m. before the body was found. It lay in the bottom of a 20-foot well. It is believed that the child was playing on planks over the top of the well when he fell into the excavation. The family had recently moved to the place and did not know of the existence of the well.

In addition to his parents, the child is survived by two brothers, Wayne and Clarence.

Funeral services will be held in the home this afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will be in the Riverton cemetery, under the direction of [illegible]

Des News

Livestock Feeding Urged at Riverton

22 Dec, 1922

Feeding and marketing livestock and the importance of the industry to Utah agriculture were the subjects discussed Thursday night at a general meeting of farmers of Riverton and surrounding communities.

Speakers were J. H. Manderfield, manager of the Salt Lake Union Stockyards; Z. Butterfield, Dr. R. N. Meade of the livestock committee of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce; Bishop S. E. Holt of South Jordan ward, Bishop David Bills of Riverton, P. A. Delmue, of the Delmue Livestock Commission company, V. L. Martineau, county agent, Thomas Freeman, A. T. Butterfield, banker, who has helped to finance feeding of lambs in the county, J. P. Freeman, Thomas Hamilton, William Turner and W. H. Kirk, cashier of the Jordan Valley bank.

The short talks made were designed to be of practical value to farmers who are constantly enlarging winter feeding operations. Successful feeders told how the job was done, experts told how to market fat stock and bankers explained the basis of financing feeding operations. In addition the county agent pointed out the benefits that came to the county as a whole from feeding stock as this industry furnished a home market for hay and increased the value of by-products from sugar, and added to the fertility of the soil.

Farmers Take First Steps In Big Irrigation Scheme

DES News
21 Sep. 1923

Central Committee Organization Effected at Meeting Held in South Jordan.

The proposed project for the reclamation of lands in the Salt Lake basin was explained at a meeting held Thursday evening in the South Jordan Opera House and steps were taken toward organization of irrigation districts. This meeting was for the western part of the county affected under the proposed project.

A central committee, a member of which represents each of the several towns and communities west of the Jordan river was appointed as follows: W. A. Turner, Bluffdale; Samuel H. Howard, Riverton; A. McMullin, South Jordan; Soren Dahl, West Jordan; Ellis Bennion, Bennion; Thomas A. Butterfield, Herriman. This committee met and elected Mr. McMullin as chairman and Mr. Butterfield as secretary.

Board Plans Indorsed.

The meeting also indorsed the reclamation project as outlined by the board of county commissioners.

It was announced by E. L. Burgon, chairman of the county commission this morning, that a meeting for a similar purpose representing the territory east of the Jordan river will be held at 7:30 o'clock this evening at the Sandy First ward meetinghouse. Another meeting representing Taylorsville, Granger, Hunter, Pleasant Green and Magna will be held in the Hunter ward house at 7:30 p. m. Saturday evening.

The following circular explaining the project in detail has been issued by the county commission over the signature of Chairman Burgon and is being mailed to the property owners:

"The Salt Lake county commissioners have been informed by the Water Storage commission of Utah, who are co-operating with the United States land reclamation service, that Utah should receive $5,000,000 or more for the reclamation of lands in the Great Salt Lake basin. Of this amount probably $1,000,000 or $1,500,000 may be appropriated by the next Congress, which meets December 1. The Water Storage commission has had surveys completed on a number of reservoir sites on the Weber river, which, if completed, will provide water for Weber and Davis counties. In Utah county it is proposed to dredge the Jordan river and widen and deepen the Surplus canal in Salt Lake county to control the flood conditions on Utah lake. It is also proposed to drain lands bordering Utah lake and provide water for the Cheesman valley and Florida lands by pumping.

County Would Benefit.

"It is the opinion of the county commissioners that Salt Lake county should receive its proper quota of these funds and they are recommending that the canal of the Provo Reservoir company be enlarged and extended from the point of the mountain to the United States military reservation. The commission also recommends the enlarging and completion of the canals of the Utah Lake Irrigation company and the Provo Reservoir company on the west side of Jordan river, and the purchase by the residents of the west side and parts of the east side of the river of ten to fifteen second feet of water from the east side canal to be exchanged for water from the Little Cottonwood to be used for domestic purposes. The commission further recommends the drainage of lands in the county along the Jordan river and lands at Granger, Hunter and west of Salt Lake.

"To obtain these funds, irrigation and drainage districts must be organized, which districts give repayment contracts to the reclamation service for funds expended.

"If funds from the reclamation service can be obtained at this time for these purposes on twenty years' time without interest the benefits accruing to us is almost beyond our ability to comprehend.

"You are invited to a meeting to be held, where the details of the proposed reclamation will be explained and steps taken for the organization of drainage and irrigation districts.

"We respectfully urge your co-operation and immediate attention for the reason that it will be difficult for us to be ready to properly place this matter before the Utah Water Storage commission and our representatives in Congress in time for the next session of Congress in December."

EIGHTEEN FARM BUREAUS ARE FORMED IN COUNTY

Des News 10 Dec 1923

EXTENSION WORK CONDUCTED IN ALL COMMUNITIES REPORT SHOWS.

Local farm bureaus were organized in 18 communities in Salt Lake county this year, according to the report of V. L. Martineau, county agricultural agent, submitted to the county commission today.

In every community in the county extension work was carried on the report says.

Incorporating of local units will be completed during the year. The bureaus are at Bluffdale, Brinton, Butler, Draper, East Mill Creek, Crescent, Granger, Granite, Fort Herriman, Holliday Hunter, Pleasant Green, Riverton, Taylorsville, Winder, Bennion, South Jordan and West Jordan. Work is under way for the establishment of a unit at East Midvale.

Jordan Potato Growers Organize

Oct. 1923

Organization of the Jordan Valley Potato Growers' association has been completed, it was announced this morning at the offices of the Utah State Farm bureau. Articles of incorporation will be filed within a few days under the Agricultural Co-operative Association act of the last legislature. Headquarters of the organization will be established at Riverton.

J. Reuben Peterson of South Jordan is named as president, Albert O. McMillan, South Jordan, vice president, M. Horton Kirk, Riverton, secretary and treasurer, and Lionell S. Myers, Riverton, William A. Turner, Bluff Dale, George Miller, Harriman, Nicholas H. Silcox, Riverton, and Joseph Morgan, Riverton, additional members of the board of directors.

Purposes of the organization as outlined in the articles of incorporation are to aid, encourage and promote economic, efficient and orderly production, storing, shipping, utilization, distribution and sale of agricultural products, especially potatoes, to assist in eliminating speculation and waste, and to purchase supplies, etc., for the benefit of members. There is no capital stock and the purpose is only to distribute profits among individual members according to the farm bureau co-operative marketing plan.

UTAH CANNED PRODUCTS SPREAD FAME OF STATE

One of the most effective means of advertising throughout the world the many mountain grown products for which Utah is famous is the canning industry. Distribution from Utah's canneries is world-wide and carries the reputation of the state to practically every country on the globe.

Regaining normal conditions in 1923 after a disastrous slump in business following the war the canning industry is now back to substantial prosperity, and when the 1923 pack is all accounted for it will exceed that of 1922, approximately 2,000,000 cases of canned goods, exclusive of canned milk with its 30,000,000 cans, was packed in Utah in 1922.

Utah now has 39 factories for the canning of numerous products with an invested capital of $3,772,453. More than 30 varieties of farm and orchard products are being canned this year. Ten thousand acres of ground were used in growing tomatoes for the above purposes, 2500 acres for peas, 200 acres for string beans, and 600 acres for miscellaneous products. This does not include the vast amount of strawberries, raspberries and other small fruits used for canning purposes or the thousands of tons of packing goods cabbage, cucumbers, beets, onions, etc., which yield profitable returns to the farmers. Peaches, cherries and pears, very often fruit grown in the state are also canned as well as sauerkraut, pickles, hominy and numerous specialties.

Factories in the state receive more than $15,000,000 for their products that are canned—exclusive of milk—and for products and labor the factories spend more than $12,000,000 per annum.

Canneries for Utah Goods.

In spite of intensive canning the past few years, factories are still here in the approximately 180 towns of the state which can from all parts of the country. The quality of Utah canned goods is so well established that the markets cannot be fully supplied. It is well known by those "on the inside" that puree made from Utah tomatoes is the substantial element in the making of one of the world's most famous food products. Large firms of the east pay the highest prices for the Utah stock, ship it east, where it is seasoned and labeled and then shipped back to western markets where it is not generally known that the puree was grown and manufactured in Utah.

Perhaps the most important phase of the canning industry is condensed and evaporated milk products. Utah has two plants—one at Richmond and one at Logan—which have made the state famous for this product. Approximately 28,800,000 cans, or 600,000 cases, of milk will be canned in the state this year, representing a gain in production of 10 to 15 per cent over 1922. The estimated value of the year's production is $2,750,000. Utah canned milk is especially known for its quality, due to ideal feed, water and climatic conditions.

The canning industry throughout the state is fostered by the Utah Canners' association with headquarters at Ogden, of which W. J. Parker is president, H. D. Olson vice president, and J. P. Barker, secretary-treasurer. Directors are in addition to Mr. Parker and Mr. Olson, Ronald Wadsworth, Richard Stringham, Lyle A. Anderson, George Goddard, and Seth Pixton.

Reviewing the scope of the canning industry, Mr. Parker said:

"The Utah Canners' association is affiliated with the National Canners' association which keeps Utah canners posted on market conditions with regard to all canned foods. Through co-operative arrangements with the United States Public Health Service and the medical departments of several large universities, canners of the state are well equipped to furnish the most wholesome food obtainable, not by mere state [illegible] and state [illegible]. The Utah canner, for years, has stood behind the public trust placed in canned foods, keeping the product of the world famed.

Benefits Far-Reaching.

"The canning industry of the state has grown to be one of the greatest [illegible] builders, handling raw farm products, including the thousands of gallons sold to farmers for their products, the wages paid to factory workers and the cash that eventually reaches the merchant which are worthy of consideration.

"In connection with this great industry one must consider other avenues it has opened up and fostered, such as the American can company's plant situated at Ogden which provides employment for hundreds of workers. They turn out millions of cans yearly and their payroll runs into thousands of dollars monthly. Can labeling gives employment to many box makers and printers. Many other industries incidental to the above industry are also furthered in Utah during the canning employment.

"Thirty-seven factories operate in Utah during the canning season and these factories compare favorably with any in the United States. The welfare of the workers is carefully studied and sanitary conditions are under supervision of the state food department.

"Utah has the distinction of having the largest exclusive pea canning plant in the world. Our canners are representative men and are nationally known and recognized. The president of the National Canners' association and two directors are Utah men.

"Utah canned foods reach every state in the Union and are exported to a number of foreign countries. Utah quality is unexcelled and there is a growing demand for Utah canned goods."

The canneries of Utah are: Vita Alem Canning Corporation, two factories; National Packing Corporation, five factories; Perry Canning company, one factory; Twin Peaks Canning factory, two factories; Ephraim Sanitary Canning company, one factory; Kaysville Canning Corporation, two factories; Roy Packing Corporation, one factory; Morgan Canning company, two factories; North Ogden Canning company, one factory; Pleasant Green Canning company, two factories; Riverton Canning company, one factory; Utah Canning company, one factory, Utah Packing Corporation, five factories; Woods Cross Canning company, four factories; Weber Packing Corporation, one factory; Willard Canning company, one factory; Springville Canning company, one factory; Brigham City Canning company, two factories; Jones Canning company, one factory; Uintah Canning company, one factory; Utah Fruit Juice company, one factory; Midwest Canning company, one factory; Western Food Products company, one factory, and Smith Canning company, one factory.

Deseret News 17 Mar 1924

Riverton Octogenarian Answers Call of Death

RIVERTON, March 17. — Funeral services for Mrs. Sarah Jane Hamilton Howard, 81, who died Sunday at the family residence will be held in the Riverton ward chapel March 19 at 1 p.m. Interment will be in the South Jordan cemetery.

Mrs. Howard was born in Goderich, Canada, June 11, 1842, and came to Utah in 1852. She married Archibald Gardner in 1857, by whom she had one son, James H. Gardner of Lehi, and in 1865 married Samuel L. Howard, who died in 1906. Three sons survive by this union: Samuel H., Riverton; Robert L. Howard, Blackfoot, Ida.; J. Reuben Howard, Garfield; Mrs. Samuel H. Reckstead, South Jordan; Mrs. Joseph S. H. Bodell, Wellsville; Mrs. Emanuel M. Olson, West Jordan; Mrs. W. A. Crane, Herriman; also 60 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren.

Andrew Christian Nielsen Dies in Death at Riverton

RIVERTON, July 5.—(Special)—Andrew Christian Nielsen died at his residence here Friday, July 4. He was born Feb. 16, 1837 at Orted, Jylland, Denmark and came to America in 1882. For 20 years he was a resident of Draper.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Gabrielle Rose Nielsen and six children: Niels, Elias, Andrew, August and Anton Nielsen and Mrs. Marie Nelson, all of Provo; also 22 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in the Riverton ward chapel Sunday, July 6, at 2:30 p.m. with Bishop David Hills presiding. Interment will be in the Riverton cemetery under direction of C. L. Golf of Midvale.

DESERET NEWS

SUGAR MILL AT RIVERTON TO BE BUILT AT ONCE

Option on Plant Site Exercised; Slicer Will Be Completed This Year.

Negotiations for purchase of a 160-acre tract of land one mile east of Riverton have been completed by the Utah-Idaho Sugar company and construction of a new sugar factory will begin there this fall. The plans of the company became known Wednesday when work on building designs and specifications got well under way.

The company has held an option on the factory site since the first part of the year. The deal was just recently closed.

Preliminary plans are to duplicate the present West Jordan plant of the company, which has annually $600,000 worth of beets. This would give the new factory a capacity of 1,000 tons of beets in 24 hours.

Construction will be rushed on the factory so that it may be ready with the completion of the next year's crop. Actual work will begin in September, according to Ronald H. Smith, chief engineer for the company. This work includes construction of a pipeline to the Utah factory and plans will be pushed there for its final preparation for shipping into storage. However, the new factory will be built as rapidly as conditions warrant it, according to Mr. Smith.

Completion of the new factory is dependent, of course, upon increase acreage in the Riverton project. It is expected that the government will furnish water for this area of land in the coming year, which will be opened to settlement. The Grande Western and Denver & Rio Grande Western railroads have Draper-Riverton branches which will provide excellent transportation facilities.

The plant will be a permanent factory operation, according to officials of the Utah-Idaho Sugar company. It will operate five months in the year, principally during the fall.

PROVO RESERVOIR USERS ARE INCORPORATED

Des News

$2,000,000 COMPANY TO WORK FOR RECLAMATION PROJECT.

7 July 1924

Incorporation papers were filed with the secretary of state Saturday by the Provo Reservoir Water Users association, organized to take over a part of the irrigating system of the Provo Reservoir company.

The new association holds an option on the entire system of the Provo Reservoir company and is asking the selection of the Provo reservoir unit as a government reclamation unit of the Great Salt Lake basin, under a plan whereby all the water would be furnished by canal companies already organized.

It is proposed to extend the canals from the Point of the Mountain to West Bengies on the east of the valley and from N. C. by to Magna on the west, increasing the land under the canals to some 50,000 acres. Such extension is contingent on the government building the reservoir.

The new corporation is capitalized for $2,000,000 with Joseph R. Murdock, president; W. A. Crane, vice president; Royal J. Murdock, secretary treasurer.

John Hansen in Race For State Senator

13 Sep 1924
Des News

John Hansen, Salt Lake county farmer, mining and business man, will be a candidate for the state senate before the Democratic county convention, Sept. 15.

Born in Salt Lake, Mr. Hansen received his education in the local schools and for 23 years engaged in teaching. He was the superintendent of the first consolidated district in the county. For a number of years he has been a resident of Riverton, where he has engaged in farming and dairying. He is secretary of the Salt Lake-Tooele Beet-growers' association and has received the indorsement of the Salt Lake County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Hansen is secretary of the National Costumers' association and owner of the Salt Lake Costuming company. He has had legislative experience having served in the lower house in 1913-15.

RATE INCREASE FOR RIVERTON WATER IS FIXED

New Schedule Based on $2.50 a Month Up to 5,000 Gallons, Effective for One Year.

Des News 18 Oct 1929

Increased water rates under the Riverton Pipe Line were authorized Saturday by the public utilities commission. New rates to go into effect are $2.50 a month for water furnished through meters and up to 5,000 gallons and an additional 25 cents for each thousand gallons used in any one month; $7.50 a quarter, for not to exceed 15,000 gallons and 25 cents for each thousand gallons above.

The company is faced with the necessity of practically replacing its main pipe line some six miles in length and has neither been able in the past to set up depreciation reserves nor pay any dividend in excess of four per cent on the investment.

To have increased the rates several years earlier would have made possible betterments in the service and would have been an advisable measure, the commission held.

This is the second increase given the pipe line company by the utilities commission. On Dec. 10, 1919 the board authorized increases designed to set up some reserves for the retirement of property.

Replacement expenditures should be more than doubled in the next few years, according to the commissions' findings.

S. L. COUNTY CITIZENS INVITED TO FARM MEET

29 Dec. 1924 Des News

Citizens of Salt Lake county are invited to the annual convention of the County Farm Bureau to be held at [illegible]erton Tuesday, it was announced Monday by M. S. Winder, president. Mr. Winder said attendance will not be limited to farm bureau members, but every person in Salt Lake county may attend and participate in the entertainment.

Vocal and instrumental selections will be furnished. At noon 183 pounds of elk meat will be made into sandwiches and distributed free.

Mr. Winder announced that the annual election of officers of the Salt Lake county farm bureau will be held at a special meeting of the board of directors at the City and County building Jan. 11.

S. L. FARMERS PASS MOVE TO BEAT CHILD ACT

Proposed Amendment Declared Harmful to Youth; Purpose Alien Land Statutes

Deseret News 31 Dec 1924

Defeat of the proposed child labor amendment was urged in a resolution adopted by the Salt Lake County Farm Bureau at its annual convention in Riverton Tuesday.

The legislative committee, in presenting the resolution, declared that such legislation would be contrary to the spirit of democracy and would hinder the proper development of the child.

The passage of an anti-alien land law, the re-classification of property for taxing purposes, economy in government expenditures and strict law enforcement were also urged, and together with the child labor amendment recommendations will be submitted to the legislative committee of the Utah State Farm bureau which in turn will present them to the legislature in January.

Reports concerning organizations revealed a decided growth in the farm bureau movement, and showed great financial benefit to the farmers during the past year. A spirit of optimism regarding the agricultural prospects for 1925 was evident, and heavy yields are expected.

Prof. William Petersen, head of the extension division of the U. A. C., discussed the relationship of extension service to the farmers and the farm bureau. A practical demonstration of proper care of children was given by Mrs. Victoria B. Christensen, health specialist of the U. A. C., and Ephraim Hergesen, president of the state farm bureau discussed its accomplishments.

Mrs. Lyon Gore, chairman of the home section committee of the state farm bureau spoke on the activity of women in the bureau. The meeting was held in the ward hall, scheeler Prest. M. R. Winder had general charge. Music was rendered by 300 persons and musical selections were offered.

REPAIRING WORK

BEGUN BY COUNTY

'25

[illegible] repairing of coun[illegible] and other spring work in[illegible] graveling and grading has [illegible] according to Commissioner [illegible] Burgon. Much of the depart[illegible] of roads and bridges [illegible] began patching hot plant[illegible] State street south from Thirty-[illegible] South Friday. Only the larg[illegible] breaks will be filled and the [illegible] work will be done when [illegible] weather is more favorable, Mr. [illegible] said. Only a little gravel[illegible] and grading is being done as [illegible] are still too wet.

[illegible] not wooden bridges will be [illegible] with concrete as soon as [illegible] of frost is gone. The [illegible] planned improvements in[illegible] six bridges in Mill Creek [illegible], one at Bluffdale, one at [illegible], two at Union, one at [illegible] South East and Thirty-fourth [illegible] streets and one or two at [illegible].

[illegible] of replacing wooden cul[illegible] with interlocking cement cul[illegible] is progressing.

Assault-to-Slay Charge Result of Riverton Dispute

Des. News

July 1925

Lucien E. Tayson was charged with assault with intent to murder the county attorney Thursday, the result of an alleged assault Riverton Thursday morning. V. Michelson, husband of Tayson's step-daughter, appears as complaining witness.

Tayson cut Michelson about the neck and slashed his clothing with a pocket knife, according to the story told Vernon Snyder, assistant county attorney, when Michelson suggested that Tayson apologize for some remarks he is alleged to have made about his wife.

Hayfield Accident Victim Is Buried at Riverton

RIVERTON, Juuly 27.—(Special) Funeral services for Raymond Bills who was killed Wednesday afternoon when a horse attached to a hay rake he was operating ran away were held in the Riverton ward chapel Sunday afternoon with Bishop David Bills in charge. Interment was in the Riverton cemetery with C. I. Goff, undertaker in charge.

27 July 1925 Ly's News

FARMERS MEET AT RIVERTON TONIGHT

Des News 27 April 1925

Formation of a drainage district to reclaim between 700 and 800 acres of land west of Riverton will be discussed at a meeting of farmers at Riverton Monday evening.

The farmers will meet at 4:30 p.m. and go over the project with R. A. Hart of the United States department of drainage investigation and will then decide whether a drainage district will be formed. Action is on recommendation of L. M. Winsor of the Utah Agricultural college.

Farm Accident Victim Will be Buried Thursday

MIDVALE, July 24.—(Special)—Funeral services for Raymond Bills, Riverton farmer killed in a hay field accident, will be held in the Riverton ward house Saturday, July 25, at 2 p.m. with Bishop David Bills presiding. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Della Bills, and the following children: Raymond W., Gordon S., Ivan M., Bertha, Zelda, Orpha and Gladys Bills; also his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon S. Bills, Riverton, and the following brothers and sisters: Silas, Ezra, Bert, Reynold and Harriet Bills, Mrs. Sadie E. Stocking, Mrs. Carrie L. Green, Mrs. Hazel Butterfield, Elizabeth Miller, Emma Hamilton, Riverton; Mrs Nellie Cox, Salt Lake.

The body may be viewed at the family residence, Riverton, from 10 until 2 on the day of the services. Interment will be in the Riverton cemetery under the direction of C. I. Goff, of Midvale.

Dos. News 24 July 1925

Riverton Bank Cashier Dies at Panguitch

Word of the death Sunday night of Martin Horton Kirk, 35, cashier of the Jordan Valley bank at Riverton, was received in Salt Lake from Panguitch Monday.

Mr. Kirk and wife were touring scenic southern Utah on a two-weeks' vacation, when he became ill with appendicitis at Panguitch. He died of peritonitis following an operation for a ruptured appendix.

Fellow workers report he was in apparently perfect health when he left for southern Utah nearly two weeks ago.

Mr. Kirk is the son of the late William Kirk and Mary Kirk of Salt Lake. His mother, wife and three children survive.

The body will be brought to Salt Lake for burial.

14 Sep. 1925 Des. News

APPLE GRADING DEVICES PUT AT SANDY, RIVERTON

PREDICTION GIVEN THAT METHOD WILL INCREASE SALES IN STATE

17 Sep. 1925 Des. News

With the object of uniform grading, packing and marketing Utah apples, grading plants are being installed at Sandy and Riverton. The one established at Pleasant Grove, in connection with a school in apple grading opened Wednesday and continued Thursday, under the auspices of the co-operative marketing society of that place.

The Utah Farm bureau, co-operating with the Federated Fruit and Vegetable co-operative, has organized a number of state growers into district societies, and these bodies will use standard grading and packing methods. Fred Matthews, commercial agent of the bureau, organizer, said that the method, now being tried for the first time, would undoubtedly result in a better price and the sale of a larger quantity. Reports from the state indicate that this season's apple crop will rank among the best in history.

15 Sep, 1925 — Des. News

Riverton Bank Cashier To be Buried Thursday

MIDVALE, Sept. 15.—(Special)—Funeral services of Martin Horton Kirk, 35, cashier of the Jordan Valley bank, at Riverton, will be held at the Riverton ward chapel on Thursday, Sept. 17, at 2 p.m., with Bishop David Ellis presiding.

While touring the scenic southern Utah on a two weeks' vacation, he was taken ill at Panguitch and died following an operation for appendicitis. The body is being brought to C. J. Coff. at Midvale. Interment will be in the Riverton cemetery. Those wishing to view the body may do so at the family residence at Riverton from 12 to 1:30 on the day of the services.

Deseret News 18 Sep. 1925

Final Tribute Paid To Riverton Woman

RIVERTON, Sept. 18.—(Special)—Funeral services for Mrs. Caroline Nokes of Riverton, were held Wednesday afternoon in the Riverton ward chapel with Bishop David Bills conducting. The Riverton ward choir furnished the music.

Speakers were, Patriarch Gordon Bills, a life-long friend of the Nokes family, Mrs. Mary Arquill, Mrs. Rena Bills, John Hanson, Thomas M. Hamilton, and Bishop Bills. Invocation was by Rulon Hamilton and closing prayer by Z. Butterfield. The grave in the Riverton cemetery was dedicated by Samuel Howard. The floral tributes were many.

H. R. HURREN IS NAMED JORDAN BANK CASHIER

5 Sep. 1925 — Des. News

Announcement was made Friday by A. T. Butterfield, president of the Jordan Valley bank, of the appointment of H. R. Hurren of Hyde Park, Cache county, as cashier of that institution, effective October 1st.

Mr. Hurren is now assistant cashier of the Eureka Banking company and is a graduate of the University of Utah and the Utah agricultural college. He is regarded as fully competent by the board of directors of the Jordan bank because of former banking, as well as other business and scholastic experience.

The appointment was made on account of the sudden death of N. Kirk, former cashier, following an operation while he was on a vacation in southern Utah.

Murray Eagle Feb. 3, 1927

[illegible] to be Dedicated

[illegible] magnificent school build[illegible] just completed at Riverton will [illegible] in fitting manner Thursday night, Feb. 10, according to the announcement of Prin. W. R. Stevens of Riverton. The school board will be in attendance 100 per cent strong and Dr. Arthur L. Beeley of the University of Utah will give the dedication address. This school plant is not only a real credit to the board of Education and Jordan District but stands as a monument in the forground of Utah's Educational field. It is in the fullest sense the latest word in modern school plants.

All are invited to attend the dedication exercises on Feb. 10th.

Murray Eagle [illegible] *Feb. 3, 1927*

Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] [illegible] Bills and Mrs. [illegible] Buckley [illegible] birthday [illegible]. Games were played and refreshments served [illegible].

Mrs. [illegible] [illegible] birthday. Games were played and refreshments served to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Bills [illegible] Mrs. Archie Page and Earl Page of Salt Lake, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo [illegible], Mrs. [illegible] Page and daughter, [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Butterfield, Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bills, Miss D[illegible] and Ruth Howard and Sam Newman.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Page had as their dinner guests Friday, Mr. and Mrs. John Frankland and son, William, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Frankland and daughters Ardise and Iona, Mrs. Emma Gatherum, Claude Gatherum, Willard Gatherum and Thomas Gatherum, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sleater, Mrs. Samuel Baird, Mrs. Sleater, Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Kay Shephard of Salt Lake, Mr. and Mrs. Guyman Page, Mrs. Hattie Freeman and Daughters, Relva, Mae, Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Butterfield, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wiberg and family of South Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Whetman of Payson, Duke Page of Nephi and Roland Page.

Mr. David [illegible] of Burley, Idaho was the guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Hammond for the past month.

Mrs. David Haycock of Firth, Ida. spent the past week with her sister, Mrs. Thomas P. Page and family.

Mr. and Mrs. George Whetman of Payson visited [illegible] at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Page. [illegible] Mrs. T. P. Page [illegible].

Miss Ardise Frankland of Salt Lake spent several days as guest of Miss Iona Page.

Duke Page returned to Nephi on Sunday after spending [illegible] days [illegible].

The Primary Association presented a play at the amusement hall on [illegible].

Thomas L. Butterfield and Fred D. [illegible] [illegible] for the past [illegible] of [illegible] from [illegible] and vicinity where they expect to be gone for two weeks.

FUNERAL CONTINUED

Funeral services were held Friday for Thomas L. Page, whose death came as a shock to his family and friends. Prayer was offered by Zachariah Butterfield. The speakers were Lorenzo [illegible] of Salt Lake, Gordon S. Bills, John [illegible] and Bishop David Bills. Thomas M. Hamilton dedicated the grave. The flowers were many and beautiful.

Funeral services were held for Earl Blake Garside, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Garside, who died Sunday at his home after being ill for the past year. Prayer was offered by G. S. Bills, the speakers were John [illegible], Henry Bills, Thomas M. Hamilton and Bishop David Bills. Prayer was offered by W. J. Fischer. Burial was in the South Jordan cemetery. The many flowers spoke of the deep sympathy of friend[s].

Murray Eagle

Feb. 17, 1927

Mar. 10, 1927

Mrs. Wilford J. Myers announces the birth of a boy Saturday.

Miss Millie Mills left Tuesday for Boise where she will spend several weeks at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bess Page, visiting.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Madsen announce the birth of a girl on Saturday.

Miss Phyllis Butterfield and Miss Beth Steadman and Mrs. Pearl Rodell who are attending the B. Y. U. at Provo spent the week end with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Bateman, of Midvale, and Miss Myrtle Munn, of Bern, Idaho, who was returning home from the Californian—Mission was of Mr. and Mrs. George Smith on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Page are receiving congratulations upon the arrival of a baby boy on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Myers and Mr. and Mrs. Z. T. Butterfield formed a party at the Wilbes on Monday it being the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Myers.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra L. Bills and Mr. dend visiting.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Peterson en Silas Bills spent Wednesday at Divi tertained at dinner on Monday it being their son, Donald's birthday anniversary. Covers were laid for 10.

Miss Gladys Peterson spent three weeks in Salt Lake visiting the guest of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Bradford.

The play entitled Jimmy Yonson on the job was presented at the Madison School on Monday night for the benefit of the school, the cast included Miss Amelia Bills, Miss Beatrice Howard, Miss Eva Mae Sorenson, Miss Iola Maynard, Miss Majorie Torkelson, Ross Newman, Harry Weedig, Wiley Hansen, Henry Bills and Floyd Butterfield Marvin Dansie and Tirla Butterfield. After which they were entertained at the jail at Luncheon and dance.

RIVERTON

Mar. 17, 1927

[illegible] Fischer [illegible] at [illegible] of [illegible] Brown [illegible] the [illegible] and Mrs. [illegible] A. [illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] and Mrs. [illegible] California [illegible]

[illegible] left [illegible] home in South [illegible] Mrs. A. [illegible] in honor [illegible]

[illegible] Salt Lake.

Mrs. [illegible] Rutherford and [illegible] and Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Sunday at [illegible] Mildred [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] at [illegible]

[illegible] entertained at a birthday party on Sunday in honor of his [illegible] birthday anniversary. Games were played and refreshments served to [illegible] guests.

Mrs. Lum Kidd entertained at a card party Thursday evening in honor of Mr. Kidd's birthday. Five hundred was played and a luncheon served after which dancing was enjoyed. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Smith, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. B. Y. Bollers, Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Thornton and Mrs. George Cunningham, all of Salt Lake, and Mr. and Mrs. David Kidd, Mr. and Mrs. Alson [illegible] from Bluffdale; Mr. and Mrs. Forres Parry and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Seal of Riverton.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Y. Bollers were visitors at the home of their son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lum Kidd for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Lum Kidd entertained a few friends Wednesday of last week. Cards were played and a light luncheon was served, the guests being Mr. and Mrs. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. Hickmore Kidd, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Merrill, Mr. and Mrs. Robert [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. S. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. Sam Turner, Mr. and Mrs. [illegible], all of Bluffdale; Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Thornton of Salt Lake.

Murray Eagle

Apr. 28, 1927

RIVERTON

Mrs. Z. T. Butterfield, Correspondent

Mrs. Ben Howard and Miss Deana Madsen entertained at a shower in honor of Miss Beatrice Howard at the home of Mrs. Howard on Friday. Games were played and refreshments were served to, besides the guest of honor; Mrs. Annie Burgon, Mrs. Carl Madsen, Mrs. Lyman Butterfield, Miss Jean Madsen, Miss Rhoebal Butterfield, Mrs. D. Jensen, Mrs. Roland Page, Mrs. T. L. Beasley, Mrs. Abram Bowen, Miss Tirza Butterfield, Miss Edith Hamilton, Miss Elsa Beasley, Mrs. Glen Smith, Mrs. Myrle Hirz, Mrs. H. S. Crane, Miss Olive Crane, Mrs. Thomas Newman, Mrs. Rose Oliver, Mrs. J. G. Merrill, Mrs. Meredith Page, Miss Ruth Steadman, Mrs. Leslie Butterfield, Miss Rhoebal Egbert, Miss Nona Jensen, Mrs. S. H. Howard, Mrs. Mosea Beasley, Mrs. Aaron Davis, of Murray and Mrs. Rex Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Glazier announce the birth of a boy on Saturday at the home of Mrs. Lowetta Madsen.

The marriage of Miss Beatrice Howard and Rose Newman took place on Tuesday at Salt Lake. They will make their home in Bingham.

Mr. and Mrs. Duke Page and family, of Nephi, spent Saturday and Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Bills and Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Page.

The kitchen Improvement Contest tour was on Friday where they visited at Hunter, Taylorsville, Riverton, and Herriman, the first prize was awarded to Mrs. Z. T. Butterfield, and to Mrs. A. H. Daniels, third being tied between Mrs. J. S. R. Rodell and Mrs. O. R. Freeman. A program was rendered at the Herriman Ward Chapel where the Herriman women served luncheon to 100 guests from all over the State.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Peterson entertained at dinner on Sunday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Peterson and family who are leaving for West Jordan to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Gwynne Page and Mrs Florence Page were entertained at dinner on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Heber Frankland of Salt Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sandstrom and family were entertained at dinner at the home of C. R. Daniels of Salt Lake Sunday.

Mrs. Z. T. Butterfield had as their guests Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Duke Page and family, of Nephi, Mrs. Olive Oldman and son, Miss Orilla and Treasa Myers, Miss Esther Rindlisbach and Miss Rosamond Holt, of So. Jordan.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Rindlisbach had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Charles Crane of Herriman and Tom Crane, of Chicago, who is spending some time with his sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Daniels are moving to their new home during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Lloyd and family were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jr. S. Sutherland of Provo on Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. S. C. B. Sorenson entertained Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Sorenson of Salt Lake at their home on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Page entertained at supper Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bleaser, of Salt Lake, Miss Iris Bleaser, of Bingham and Mr. and Mrs. George Wiseman and family of Ingleside.

Mrs. Fred Schaegar of Los Angeles, California, spent Sunday as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hans B. Jensen.

[illegible] Mrs. Fred May announces the engagement of their daughter, Miss [illegible] to Neal Beckstead of South Jordan, the wedding will take place the latter part of December.

[illegible] Preston entertained at a party in honor of her daughter [illegible] birthday. Games were played and refreshments were served to [illegible]

[illegible] J. H. Maynard announces the engagement of their daughter [illegible] to Clifton Hansen [illegible]

[illegible] L. Beesley entertained [illegible] in honor of Mrs. [illegible] birthday at her home on [illegible] games were played and refreshments were served to 20 guests.

[illegible] of the West Jordan [illegible] with the children of the Riverton [illegible] second ward, Bluffdale [illegible], South Jordan and [illegible] presented an entertainment at the South Jordan Academy [illegible] Wednesday night.

The Riverton 2nd ward Sunday School will [illegible] a comedy at the Amusement Hall on Friday night.

Mrs. William Nelson entertained at a party at her home on Tuesday [illegible] was served to Mrs. Wilford [illegible], Mrs. Richard Loveridge and Mrs. Frank Roberts.

Mrs. Joseph Parks entertained at a party in honor of her husband's birthday anniversary Friday. Games and music were enjoyed and refreshments were served to Mr. and Mrs. Ken. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Crane, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bills, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Bills, Mrs. Lyman Butterfield, Mrs. Rose Newman, Miss Ruth Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Park, of Lark; Mr. and Mrs. Gerald W. Bills, Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Cantonwine and Mr. and Mrs. William Bills of Salt Lake.

Midvale Journal July 13, 1928

RIVERTON WARD TO BUILD HOME

The Riverton 2nd Ward have been authorized to build a new ward chapel.

Ground has been broken and preparation made for a fine, up-to-date modern building in the very latest architectural design.

The building will cost approximately $40,000 and will be completed by Nov. 30th of this year.

RIVERTON WARD HOUSE NEARS COMPLETION

Midvale Journal Sep. 28, 1928

The Riverton Second ward are progressing nicely with their new ward house. They are putting the roof on this week and will be ready for the plasterers the beginning of next week.

The Stake Presidency and High Council met in regular session Thursday night at the Stake office. Much work was gone over pertaining to Stake matters.

Calicott and Ella Schmidt who have been counselors in the M. I. A. to President Merl C. Kirk were honorably released and Mrs. Darias Thomas of Lark and [illegible] Bert Crump of Bluffdale were chosen counselors to Mrs. Kirk, to succeed them. A large number of M. I. A. workers attended the convention held at Barrett Hall in Salt Lake on Sunday.

Miss Ann Holt and Helen McMullin were home on Sunday for a short visit. These two young women have been attending the mission school, preparatory for missionary work and left for their fields of labor Friday noon, one going to the Eastern and the other to the Western States.

Elder Hugh J. Cannon of Salt Lake was the speaker at the Sacramental meeting at South Jordan Sunday evening. Elder Cannon has traveled extensively for the L. D. S. church and gave a very interesting talk of his labors abroad.

Fast Day will be observed through out the Stake Sunday, September 30. Owing to General Conference coming on the first Sunday in October M. I. A. Joint Meeting will be held Sunday evening in the various wards of the Stake.

September 23 1928 Executive board meeting at 9 a. m. with Louise Y. Robinson and Sarah M. McLelland of General Board. "Duties and Responsibilities of Officers" was discussed by Sarah McLelland and "New Plan for Visiting Teachers" by Louise Robinson.

Board meeting at 9:45 a. m. Sister Robinson discussed donations for Relief Society and conducted a questionaire. Sister McLelland spoke of duties and responsibilities of Class Leaders.

Session at 11 a. m. for Stake and Ward Officers, Bishops, High Council and Stake Presidency. — Singing, "Scatter Seeds of Kindness." Prayer by Bishop Wm. J. Lask. Sister McClelland discussed "How to Cooperate with County Charity." Sister Robinson spoke on "Care of Defective Children." Bishop Vernal Webb of Riverton First ward talked on the "Importance of Monthly Consultations Between Bishop and Relief Society." Singing, "Do What is Right." Benediction, Zach Butterfield. There were 118 present.

General Session at 2 p. m. Singing "Make the World Brighter." Prayer, David T. Dahl; singing, "Let Us All Press On." Report of West Jordan Stake Relief Society, President Mary J. Pixton. Sister Robinson spoke on "Standards of Home Care." Duet, "Gentle Words," Riverton Second ward, Mrs. May and Myers. The Stake Secretary Esther Leak spoke on "Educational Work in the Relief Society." Sister McLelland spoke on "New Plans for Visiting Teachers." President Jos. [illegible] Pixton spoke to the mothers. Title by Riverton Ward [illegible] "Sunrise and You." Benediction by Mary C. Turner. There were 145 present.

President Pixton presided at the forenoon meeting and First Counselor [illegible] at the afternoon meeting.

Dec. 14, 1928
Midvale Journal

HENRY BYRON BECKSTEAD

(Editor's Note: This is the third entry in the famous character contest sponsored by The Midvale Journal in order that the deeds of our famous men and women might not go unsung. Everyone is invited to participate in the contest. Prizes are offered. Regular space rate paid for all contributions.)

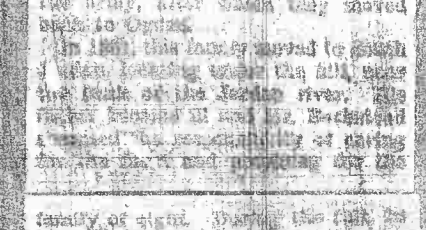
Outstanding in our community is one man whose accomplishments and sterling character should certainly accord him a place in the minds and records of this community and in fact South Salt Lake County. As he has been helpful in assisting and building up this valley in which we are now enjoying.

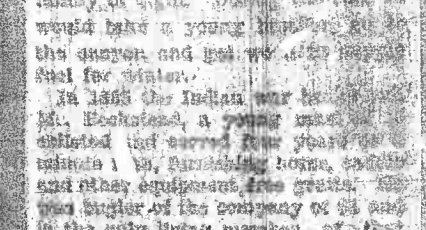
Henry Byron Beckstead, the subject of this, is the grand son of Alexander Beckstead and son of Henry and Luseen Bybee Beckstead who immigrated to Utah in '49, crossing the plains in Captain Aire's company, his mother driving a team of cows and oxen interchanging each for rest of these animals. His father was a hunter for game to supply food for the struggling immigrants. This family settled in Farmington where they struggled hard for a livelihood until 1852 when the drough became so severe they were compelled to leave and settle in Uinta and helped to establish that settlement where Uinta now stands. His mother was one of the two women in camp at that time. His father helped in taking the first water out of the Weber river from what is now East Weber, now near Echo, for irrigating purposes. Mr. Beckstead was then the only child in camp, he being two years of age. This little settlement consisted of 11 families with about that many houses and the U. P. railroad now runs over the place where these people once settled. The reason for them going into this part of the country was for protection from the Indians who were

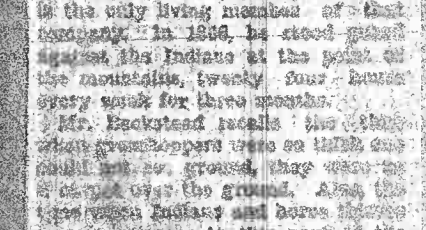
This man remembers distinctly the raids made by the Indians and the demands made by them for food and often times the Pioneer's cattle and horses were driven off while they stood by, helpless. Though a mere lad, he well remembers the grasshoppers and the cricket days and would try to do all he could to destroy them with a stick with a rag fastened on the end that his mother fixed for him.

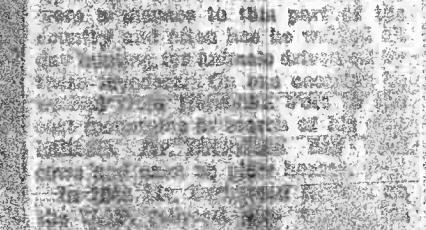
Later, this family moved to Ogden, when in 55 and 57, there was a great scarcity of food. He, with other boys would scout the fields and hills and dig Sego roots, wild onions and weeds for food, many families having nothing but weeds for food for weeks at a time. Mr. Beckstead recalls vividly hearing small children cry for food and there would be none in camp to supply their hunger.

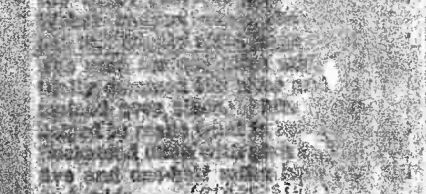
In 1858 Mr. Beckstead's family and others were called to move to West Jordan on account of the invasion of Johnston's army. This army came through West Jordan just south of the West Jordan cemetery on their march to the mouth of Bingham canyon. This family then moved to Spring Bottom, immediately west of Provo. Their houses were covered wagons and wikeups, and remained











In 1873 he went to Grantsville and Skull valley. On his way, he encountered a group of Indians on the war path. He, being alone at this time was compelled to take a short cut through the country and passed through unharmed. He also relates a circumstance of one William Spencer who was warned not to go out alone or unarmed, and always to be careful. But he took no precaution and was shot, beaten and stripped of his clothing and left on the hills by Indians. Mr. Beckstead in company with George Beckstead hunted two days for this man and says he never will forget the sight that greeted their eyes when they found him. Mr. Spencer lived two months but never regained consciousness. On one occasion, while Mr. Beckstead and his father were gathering wood in Butterfield canyon, he noticed a shadow and on looking around saw an Indian in the act of throwing a spear at him. He attacked the Indian and took him prisoner and on searching farther, found there were upwards of fifty Indians hidden in the canyon. Mr. Beckstead says we lost no time in getting out of the canyon.

In 1875 a survey was made for the South Jordan canal. Work began in 1876. Mr. Beckstead helped to make the canal, saw the first water turned in and was superintendent twelve years and a director for fifteen years. At that time there were no distributing weirs, just boxes which were very unsatisfactory. Under his supervision, the first weirs were installed which have proved a success and are still in use. Mr. Beckstead was a deputy sheriff for a long period in the 70's. He was the first postmaster in South Jordan from 1878 to 1882.

When the first Sunday school was organized in South Jordan, he was chosen superintendent and held that position for fifteen years. He belonged to the first quorum of Seventy organized, and was president of the ninety fifty quorum for twenty years. He was superintendent and director of the first co-op store in South Jordan and was captain of a band of fourteen pieces for four years. This band took part in the grand Pioneer Parade in Salt Lake City at the time Daniel H. Wells was released from [illegible]

Mr. Beckstead is the only Sexton, South Jordan has ever known. He saw the first burial which was a child, in 1863. In 1868 he became the Sexton and holds that position to this day. In fact, for many years he was undertaker, minister and all that goes with the burying of the dead. There are five hundred buried in the cemetary and he has witnessed all except four. Mr. Beckstead has helped to build three meeting houses, filled a mission to the Southern States, where he was mobbed, and at one time, looked into the barrels of seven rifles. He served twelve years as chairman of the old folks committee, filled years as a home missionary in the Jordan Stake. For years he was the only promoter for dances in the surrounding communities. Mr. Beckstead has always been an ardent worker for [illegible]. He has been a friend to the [illegible], the poor and needy—no night too dark or road too long and rough for him to go and give assistance when needed.

He is known to all of us as Uncle Byron, because of his kind [illegible] and jovial disposition.

[illegible]

RIVERTON

home at Draper.

Mr. and Mrs. William O Page had as their guests Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Sleater of Salt Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Zach Butterfield entertained at dinner during the week end, honoring Mr. and Mrs. Wallace D. Beckstead of South Jordan, Miss Harriett Wiberg, Mrs. Alice Page and Miss Leice Freeman, Mrs. George Whetman of Payson.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Lloyd had as their guest last Friday, Mr. and Mrs. John Benson and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jensen of Upalco.

Mr. and Mrs. Dee Hall and daughter, Ardith, returned to their home in Idaho Sunday after spending some time visiting with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wiberg entertained at dinner Sunday in honor of Mrs. George Whetman and children of Payson.

Miss Evelyn Nielsen entertained at a party last Monday at her home. Games were played and refreshments served to Miss Leone Parks, Miss Jesse Bills, Miss Helen Crane, Miss Mae Freeman, Miss Bernice Page, Miss Mary Jensen, Miss Edith Freeman, Miss Jean Madsen and Miss Ella and Lois Swenson.

The marriage of Ralph Hamilton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben S. Hamilton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben S. Hamilton, and Miss Cora Butterfield of Herriman, took place last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Page had as their guest Monday and Tuesday Miss Nora Bateman and Mrs. Lavern Egbert of West Jordan.

The Parent-Teachers association gave a program at the school auditorium where Mrs. Horne gave a lecture on art in the home on Wednesday.

A very impressive funeral was held Friday over the remains of Mrs. Nancy J. Nichols, wife of Thomas Nichols at the first ward meeting house. The church house was filled and the flowers were beautiful. The loss is mourned by many friends and relatives. Also on Saturday services were held at the first ward over the remains of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brown whose death came as a shock to the family and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Goff entertained at dinner Sunday honoring their son, Louis E. Goff, who recently returned from the Swiss-German mission. The out of town guests were Myrle Dewey and Miss Halton of Salt Lake.

Mrs. Geo. W. Goetz was the guest of honor at a luncheon given in Salt Lake Wednesday of last week. Mrs. Jack Bennington was the hostess, and charmingly entertained eight guests.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Spencer and Mrs George A. Cluff of Evanston were guests Saturday and Sunday at the home of their sister, Mrs. Geo. A. Wright.

Point.

Mr. P... [illegible] ...ank of Bri... ...ham Y... [illegible] ...ver the gold... ...en spike ... [illegible] ...the Salt Lake ban... ...quet in ... [illegible] ...He is celebrating th... ...ending ... [illegible] ...rail road into Salt Lake.

Mr. Peterson went into Little Cot... ...tonwood ... [illegible] ...and worked in th... ...mines for three years. In 1871 he came to South Jordan, where he pre... ...empted one hundred and twenty acres of land and later home steaded. He still owns a good share of this land. He helped to make both the South Jordan and Sandy and Salt Lake can... ...als, taking contracts for work on them, he was a director in the latter for nine years.

Mr. Peterson worked out the a... ...mount of ... [illegible] ...water shares and h... ...nows what hard work it is to get water on the thirsty land. Mr. Peterson also was a contractor in Sevier canyon, building rail roads and recalls the grass hopper days when they were so thick at times they would darken the sun, and when farmers would go out and fight them. Also when there were no roads in South Jordan and people would drive the river bank, using that for a road.

For many years Mr. Petersen hauled farm products into Bingham Canyon, leaving in the early hours of morning and often returning late in the evening.

December 26th, 1878, Mr. Petersen married Mary Sophia Simmonsen; because of that union there are thirteen children, ten of whom are living. On Christmas of last year they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Mr. Petersen has made many sacrifices, helped to build three churches, filled two foreign missions, one to Denmark and one to Northern States, has worked in the M. I. A., was for thirty years in the Presidency of the Ninety-ninth Quorum of Seventy and fifty years a ward teacher. Mr. Petersen is now eighty one years old, attends to his out side chores and is in fairly good health; his mind is clear and active.

Mrs. James Petersen

Mary Sophia Simmonsen Petersen was born February 26th, 1862, in Denmark, came to America in 1873. As a little girl she lived with her fam...

Feb. 15, 1929

y No. 6 In Journal's
mous Characters Contest

Resident Has Trav-
In Far Corners Of
s World Of Ours

s Phillips Page

rs. Z. T. Butterfield

Phillips Page, was born in Dec. 22, 1850. He comes y old Welch family. He is Thomas Gwynne Page, of e, Wales, his father going and engaging in business, the hyphenated name so ame of the family is now

y traces their descent thru ions, 6 Gwaldeg, ruler of lyn, now the country of d surrounding lands, who 230.

of their government was conshire, an insignificant day. This was some 200 the conquest of the Sax- Henquist and Horsa, of England, and about 100 ions to the victories of the on and Mercians on the the Ilee which divided the ation who had kept their s, into Cornwall on the s in the center and Stra- the north and brought a- ants of Wales approximate- d it is today. The family of es at a later date became h Welchsquires, living on r present lands in Central having very little but their to be proud of.

ther was Genette Scott, the of Robert Scott, of Forfar- land. The Scotts of perth- hire are originally McGre- s, McGregors being one of the ans and the name not al- e used, took over the name

ed a good business educa- ing Journal, with a long

(Continued from Page One)

In 1871 he joined the L. D. S. church, and in the succeeding year 1872, emigrated to the United States, stopping for a few months at Chicago (this being the year of the fire) and later the same year coming to Utah. He had been used to clerical positions and found manual labor rather trying at first, but after a little while, he became accustomed to working in the mines, on railroads and other employment of various kinds.

In 1873 he married Emma Harms, of Chertesy, Surry, England, and his two daughters, by this union, married brothers and are Mrs. Robert S. Sleater and Mrs. Thomas B. Sleater of Salt Lake City. During a portion of this time he was agent of the Bingham Railway, he being the first agent there at that time of the Bingham Canyon and Camp Floyd Railway.

A great many of the English people (they are not so numerous as formerly) have a very great desire to own land, freehold land, coming from a land where under the survival of the tyrannical feudal system, land is mostly under 99 year leases.

Many of them have purchased lands in the United States and in the English colonies, and have not always showed very sound judgment in their purchases. He bought a small tract of land on the Union bench and by working at the smelters, teaching in the schools, and other occupations, made a rather scant living and made some improvements.

During this time he helped start two Mutual Improvement Associations, one at Union and one at South Cottonwood. This was previous to the L. D. S. church officially taking over the Mutual Improvement movements. At that time the Salt Lake Tribune, now perhaps the greatest newspaper in the Rocky Mountains, was a particularly ribald anti-Mormon sheet. That paper used to give us reports, manufactured to a great extent. One of their reports which I have not forgot, was one of our members preached a sermon and concluded with stating he met an ignominious death by being hung up between two other thieves. Advertisements even if not intended to assist often do so, and the South Cottonwood organization was able to purchase books and start a small library and after the L. D. S. church took over the Mutuals, it became a leading member of that society. Afterwards he homesteaded 80 acres of wild unirrigated land, which is now Riverton, but at that time was part of West Jordan Ward, and on which he is now living. During the years 1880 and 1881 he worked on the Utah and Salt Lake Canal to bring water to the land. In 1882 he married Harriett Frankland of Beccles, Suffolk, England. He followed surveying, contracting and other occupations.

In 1883 he moved to Scofield, Carbon county, managing a store for the Union Pacific railway at their coal mines and living there seven years.

During his residence at Scofield he was in the bishoprics of the Pleasant Valley and Scofield wards. He returned to Riverton and with the exception of very extensive travel, he has lived there to the present time.

The Page-Hansen Company

In 1891 he started at Riverton a small mercantile establishment, which has developed now to the Page-Hansen Company. In 1899 he was called by the L. D. S. church on a mission to Turkey. While there he started a Turkish Rug factory in a portion of that land where rugs were only made to a limited extent, and which, when other churches took hold of that industry, was the forerunner of the rug center known as (Aintab. In 1890 he in company with Elder Albert Herman, president of the Turkish mission and Elder Joseph W. Booth, returning president of the American mission, took a bicycle trip through Asia Minor, Syria and Palestine. Most of the way along the Syrian desert and the honor to be acquainted with. He had a thorough knowledge of the principal languages of those lands, viz: Turkish, Arabic, and Armenian, and his place will be hard to fill. He had lately been released. The Mission headquarters had been moved to Haofa, Palestine, and he must have been on a visit to the previous headquarters at the time of his death. Full articulars have not been received at the time of this writing.

Continuing the trip of Elder Herman, Booth and Page, they came by way of the Hamath (Solomon's kingdom extended from Hamath to River of Egypt) where there is the largest wooden water wheel used by irrigation purpose existing; Damascus, Caesarea, Phillip, the most northern point of Christ's recorded travels, Nazareth and Haifa (at the foot of Mt. Carmel where Edyah slew the prophets of Baal.)

At Haifa they had a small branch of German Saints who were formerly members of an organization called Templars.

About 1870, two brothers of the name of Hoffman, in Wurtemburg, Germany, preached Christ's coming was close at hand and advised some of their followers to start some colonies in Palestine, which they did at Haifa, Jappa and Jerusalem. The colonies at Jappa and Jerusalem still living in existence. Their organization was a rather loose organization. The young men, most of them, to return their German citizenship, went to Germany to serve in the army, and remained there. They were a rather prosperous class, however. The German tradesmen being generally a better workman that the Arabs and their system of tithing for mutual help and assistance was also a factor in their property. The Turkish town of Haifa with many blind alleys, with its high walls and flat roofs, was a marked contrast to German colony at Haifa with wide straight streets, gardens in the front of the gabled red tiled roofed houses. Here Elders Booth and Page were stricken down with malaria fever and took ship for Alexandria and from there to Aintab, headquarters of the Mission.

Elders Booth and Page, having been released from the missions on account of sickness, but not accepting same. Elder Booth arranged to stay in Turkey, but Mr. Page took up his old release when he suffered another attack of fever and started for home. On the way home, the ships on which he traveled were thronged with pilgrims, Mohammedans going to Mecca, members of the Greek Orthodox church going to Jerusalem for the Greek Easter (not on the same date as the Roman Catholic Easter) and members of the Catholic church, going to Rome for the Roman Catholic Easter. He visited Jerusalem, saw many of the places connected with the life of Christ there. Bethlehem, where was at that time putting in the [illegible] at Assouan, on the Nile, which has brought [illegible] land under [illegible] have since the time of the

Riverton Jr. High Schools Complete Opera Presentation

Monday evening March 25, 1929, the Riverton Junior High School presented the Aperetta "Windmills of Holland" to a large and very appreciative audience and in a most plausible manner.

The demonstration of youthful talent and ability was a very remarkable feature, as principles and chorus members alike put over their respective parts in a credible manner.

The successful rendition of the operetta was conclusive evidence of the faithful and efficient leadership of Miss Mae Rasmussen and Miss Elise Sampson as musical and dramatic directors respectively. With much credit due Mrs. Ruby Broadbent, pianist, Clifton Densley, violinist, James Beal, scenery; Arthur Lewis, lighting. W. R. Edgel, Vaughn Bills, Kenneth Jones, Kay Hamilton, advertising and N. K. Thompson as Business Manager.

Special numbers rendered were: Song, Melvin Weenig and Vernon Swansen; solo, Jean Yveth Broadbent; song and dance, Elise Hardy, Estelle Hardy, Mary Hamilton, Marie Crump. Myabeer Hertogenbosh, LeVar Park Vrouw Hertogenbosh, E. Butterfield Wilhelmina Hertogenbosh, M. Turner Hilda Hertogenbosh..... Elise Hardy Bob Yeomans ..... Blaine Miller Hans ..... Vernon Kick Frans ..... Harvey Hardy Katrina ..... Estelle Hardy Florina ..... Jean Yveth Broadbent

Chorus of Girls and Young Men.

Midvale Journal Mar 28, 1929

Murray Eagle Apr. 18, 1929

TOTAL CASH ON HAND

Expenses

Interest paid

TOTAL

Less earnings col.

TOTAL

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in

Surplus fund

Undivided profits

Interest

TOTAL

Less expenses and taxes paid

Net Undivided profits

Due to other banks

Deposits subject to check

Cashier's checks

Time certificates

Savings deposits

TOTAL

TOTAL

State of Utah, County of Salt Lake, ss.

A. T. Butterfield, being first duly sworn, says that he is the cashier of the above named bank and that the above and foregoing report contains a full, true and correct statement of the condition of the said bank at the close of business on the 3rd day of April, 1929.

A. T. BUTTERFIELD.

Correct attest:

DAVID BULL,

Z. BUTTERFIELD,

I. E. FARNSWORTH,

Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of April, 1929.

(SEAL) My commission expires June 22, 1929.

H. E. BURTON,

Notary Public.

State of Utah,

Office of Bank Commissioner.

I, W. M. Hadlock, Bank Commissioner of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the statement as the above named bank filed in my office this 11th day of April, 1929.

W. M. HADLOCK,

Bank Commissioner.

...e Journal Mar. 15, 1929

...IVERTON JR. HIGH NOTES

On March 4, 1929, the Riverton ... junior high school students had the opportunity of listening over the radio to the inaugeratics ... ceremonies of President Herbert Hoover and Vice President Chas. Curtis.

The students of the Riverton Junior high school under the direction of Miss F... Swanson will present the opera "V...ndmill of Holland", Thursday, March 21, 1929 in the Riverton Junior high school auditorium.

The students have been working long and hard to make this opera a success. We extend a hearty invitation to come and enjoy this musical treat with us.

An assembly program was given March 6, in the Riverton Junior high school auditorium. The program was as follows:

Piano duet, Lavon Morgan and Mary ...

Song and ..., Mary Hamilton and ...

Reading, ...

Irish Jig, 8th grade girls: Clara ..., Hattie Green, Mildred Peterson, ... Peterson, ... Lund, Velma ... and Cleo ...

Cornet solo, ...

A ... was elected by the ... high school ... of the retirement of the former ..., Professor McFarland. Miss ... was elected the ... of ...

Entry No. 7 In Journal's Famous Character Contest

Midvale Journal

May 31, 1929

GEORGE SYMONDS OSTLER

George Symonds Ostler, son of Thomas Hodder Ostler and Joan Stevens, was readed [illegible] humble circumstances, never having the advantage of an education. In fact, he never attended an institution of learning, yet he reads and writes and keeps up-to-date with the current events.

Mr. Ostler was born at Bridgeport, Dorsetshire, England, on May 7, 1838 and at the early age of eight years began earning his own livelihood and for one month worked for a shilling or twenty-four cents a week. Mr. Ostler's parents were weavers, his mother being a twin spinner. Consequently he learned the trade and worked as a weaver the early part of his life. He did textile weaving and worked at the Pymore factory for six months.

After which he took care of the machinery at the North Mills for ten years and did not lose two hours work during that period. His wages were fifteen shillings or three dollars and seventy five cents a week. He remembers how glad he was when he could earn enough to buy eight pounds of bread at one time to help feed the family.

Mr. Ostler recalls very vividly the terrible times experienced during the war when there was no food and no work.

Borrows An Old Dictionary

It is interesting how this man learned to read and write. He says he borrowed an old dictionary from his uncle John and that he wore it out completely and today Mr. Ostler is a well versed man, uses splendid language and a splendid bible student.

Joined L. D. S. Church At Eight

Mr. Ostler join[illegible] the L. D. S. church when eight years old, was baptized at the age of fourteen. His activity in the church began then. He went out with the Elders who were sent in that locality holding street meetings, often walking thirty five miles on Sunday's to and from meetings. On one occasion while holding a street meeting some rowdy boys threw stones at the crowd and one large one struck him.

Mr. Ostler and family emigrated to America in 1887. Crossing the sea on the British King ship, they were fifteen days on the water. They made their home first at Riverton, Utah, where they lived one year. Mr. Ostler bought a place of land at South Jordan, which was covered with sagebrush. He cleared it and built his family a home, borrowing the money to do so and paid interest at the rate of fifteen percent. He did all the work on the house, laying the brick doing carpenter work and shingling, plastering and painting and is still living in the home.

Mr. Ostler had always been active in the church and has been a ward [illegible] ever since he came to South Jordan. He was one of the Presidents of the 20th Quorum of Seventy for twenty years. President of the M. I. A. one year, Sunday school teacher for five years and was a school committee for five years.

Mr. Ostler was 91 years of age on May 7th, lives alone, his companion passing away five years ago. Though small of stature his mind is clear and [illegible]

try No. 7 in Journal's Famous Character Contest

Midvale Journal June 14, 1929

By Emma S. Holt

I called upon Mr. William W. ad, the subject of this characch I found him busy candling the market as it is his pleasure for a flock of white Leghickens, to support himself, ow lives alone doing his own d duties. He also cares for vegetable garden.

m W. Beckstead was the son am Beckstead and Margaret Beckstead. He was born on 7, 1850, at the place known four corners, back of the St. e River, in Canada.

Beckstead attended school unen years of age, then worked father on the farm. At the e of twenty-one he was mard still remained on the farm years. After which he came United States and went into for himself, buying, selling ing hogs, cattle, and sheep t. Paul Stock Yards at St. nnesota. He also purchased market at Northfield, Minnesch he conducted successfully e time. Then he desired to out farther so he sold his and bought one-third interNorth Western Stock Yards d, Minnesota.

Beckstead has bought cattle in kota, South Dakota, and a. He says he put 30,000 fattening and did the sell- years, after which he went ad and did the buying for and shipped cattle and the train load.

WILLIAM W. BECKSTEAD

Beckstead then went to Omaha and a meat market at South later purchasing one at No. and for some time conducted Nebraska. He was forced to a Hotel at Omaha for meat and he conducted this busthe year and a half. On of failing health he was adhange his residence and ed in 1899 came West lo- and around Riverton and ana. His first winter here feeding sheep for J. W. W. In order to be out in the ge-ried the different men of stampeders, speaking on d for Mr. Albert Holt, who on the road to Spanish. ented helped materially in White Horse Mill at Sa- way at one time the larg- , also director and the for years. He delivered ed grain with teams for There he went on the road ding and continuing for twenty-two years. During ars he traveled from Omaha to Minneapolis and Minnesota and Dakota. He married and joined a church in 1870 and has of four sons. His hobby his garden, was president Horticultural for nine years, ty years. Mr. Beckstead three times to Europe, visited the Holy Land, the United States. He visited a number of the U. S. and Canada. He has a fine home in Midvale, Idaho, where he and his wife live. Mr. Beckstead is a member of the Methodist church.

Journal

Riverton

12, 1929

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Maynard entertained at a party at their home Saturday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Hardcastle. They were assisted by Mrs. Wilford J. Myers, Mrs. Sidney Hancock and Mrs. Ed Ferguson. Games were played and luncheon served to 102 guests. Mr. and Mrs. Hardcastle will make their home at Sandy.

Mr. and Mrs. Ethel Stockings, Mr. and Mrs. Manonri Butterfield and daughter, Ellen, Mr. and Mrs. Ronold Ellis, Mrs. Ezra L. Ellis and family and Miss Vida Green attended the party Friday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Ellis at Herriman.

The Page reunion was held at Gen eva Resort on Wednesday where the following ones were helping on the different committees, Mrs. Cleo Page, Mrs. Levi Whetman, Mrs. Hattie Free man, Meredith Page, Miss Iris Biester Phoebe Shepherd, Mrs. Alice Page, C. T. Butterfield, William O. Page, Roland Page, Hans Nielsen, Wallace A. Beckstead, Duke Page, Guynee O. Page and Samuel Baird. The day was spent in picnicing. Games, bathing and song were features.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cook [illegible] son, Marina and Fern, and Mrs. Rubie Cook and children of Shelly, Ida. spent two days last week as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Park.

Mrs. Linwood Carter entertained at a party in honor of Mr. Carter's father at their home Wednesday. The evening was spent in dancing and luncheon was served to 25 guests.

The Y. L. M. I. A. Girls of the 2nd ward left Tuesday for Provo Canyon where they will spend the week.

Mrs. M. J. Tischner and daughter, Leeds, and Loran Stockings of South Jordan, spent 10 days at Burley, Ida. and Yellow Stone Park.

Miss Winnifred Holm of Highland Park spent the week as guest of Miss Ila Fremont.

Mr. and Mrs. Lionell Myers entertained at a chicken dinner Sunday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Crosby of Salt Lake and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Myers and children of Aberdeen, Washington, where they spent several days as their guests.

NOTE: The Journal will not entertain the employment of correspondents in districts where the residents are not subscribers to the Journal. The Riverton district has fallen below normal in subscriptions. A representative of the Journal will be in the Riverton territory soon and unless subscriptions are received—at least 100 the Riverton correspondent's position will no longer be required. You are boosting your own community by boosting the Journal. Let's have a 100 per cent organization. Thanks!

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sandstrom announce the birth of a girl Wednesday at the home.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Morgan and children left Sunday for Yellowstone Park where they will spend two or three weeks.

Miss Edith Freeman is spending the week in Salt Lake.

Mrs. and Mrs. Aaron Cornish and family and Miss Isabel Mackey of Provo visited returned home Tuesday after spending the week up Provo canyon and grand daddy lakes.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Gentry have moved to Salt Lake to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Urban Myers and daughter, Barbara and Faun of Aberdeen, Wash. spent [illegible] days last week as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Park and family.

Mr. and Mrs. David Sorensen and son, Jerry, of Denver, are spending the summer visiting with Mrs. Sorensen's parents.

Mrs. Israhel Egbert entertained at dinner at Thursday in honor of the nurse's of Cottonwood home, Miss R. Page, Miss Lois Robinson, Miss Erma Beech and Mrs. Chatman.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hansen entertained at dinner Sunday, Mrs. Creed Morgan of Denver, Mrs. Kate Connelly and son, Edward and George, and daughter, Katherine and Mr. and Mrs Wiley Hansen of Salt Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Peterson and family and Mr. and Mrs. Mildred Heaton spent Sunday at Brighton.

Mr. John A. Kindlesbach left Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Neff of Cresco to spend ten days at Salmon, Ida.

Mr. and Mrs. James Reed of Lark and Mrs. George Lang of Sandy was entertained at dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Kindlesbach last Friday.

Mrs. S. C. B. Sorenson and family returned home Sunday after spending the past month in California visiting with relatives.

We cannot send the Journal through the mails unless you pay something of value for it, without paying a high postage rate. Send in your subscription at once. You be the judge of the amount you send—isn't that fair.

Mr. and Mrs. William Neff, Mrs. Darrell Newbold and Elroy Dansie returned home Sunday after spending the week visiting at Wyoming, Idaho and Northern Utah.

December 26, 1929

RIVERTON BANK ROBBED MONDAY

After a racing gun battle, Cashier Henry Hurren, of Jordan Valley Bank, Riverton, former grid star at the University of Utah, and Earl Porr of Fort Herriman, Monday morning ran down and captured David E. Penn, 22, of McCook, Neb., and Willis Woods, 22, of Riverton, recovering $1600 which the pair had just raked up in a stickup in the Riverton bank.

According to reports the couple entered the bank shortly after 10 o'clock. Penn, who stood in the doorway, held the gun on the cashier, three clerks and two customers in the bank, while Woods scooped up all the money in sight into a canvas bag. Woods robbed Hurren, taking from him a ring of keys. Hurren argued with Woods and talked him into returning the keys. Woods then cut the phone wires inside the bank, and the pair forced the girl clerk and five [illegible] a closet, leaped into a waiting automobile and speeded east toward the state highway.

With the key he had talked the robbers out of, Hurren carried his car, invited a passing man to accompany him, and took up the chase, to a point about two and a half miles south of Sandy, where Hurren shot several times, hitting the body of the car and forcing the men to pull to the side of the road. The yeggs returned his fire.

The bandits jumped out and started an attempted escape across a field, scattering silver dollars in all directions as they ran.

Hurren finally stopped the youths, and returned them to their car and drove them back to the bank, where most of the money was recovered, and where the authorities took them into custody.

Both men confessed, and stated that they had planned the robbery after being laid off their work at Bingham. Penn had been here only six weeks. *Midvale Journal*

Midvale Journal Jan 27, 1933

Riverton Second Ward Bishopric Reorganized

At the Riverton Second ward sacrament meeting which was held Sunday, Lancelot Bills was sustained as bishop with Edward Beckstead as first counselor and Alvin E. Miller as second counselor. Mr. Bills and Mr. Beckstead were released from the West Jordan stake Sunday school superintendency.

Bishop Wilford J. Myers, Heber S. Crane, first counselor and Roy Glazier, second counselor, were released. Bishop Myers and Mr. Crane had served on the bishopric for the past five years; they were set apart September 18, 1927. Mr. Glazier had served for the past three and a half years, and was chosen as president of the high priest quorum of the West Jordan stake.

The stake presidency, Almon T. Butterfield, David T. Dahl and Hyrum Stockings, were in attendance. One-third of the ward population was present at the meeting.

Midvale Journal, Jan 27, 1933

Riverton Man Gets Jail Term

Joseph Nell, 22, of Riverton, who recently was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter, was sentenced to one year in the county jail by Judge Allan G. Thurman in Third district court Monday.

The charge grew out of the death of Mrs. Alice Curtis and her 10-month-old daughter, who were killed in a traffic accident August 10, 1932, on the county highway between South Jordan and Sandy.

Riverton Man Asks New Trial

Joseph Nell, 23, of Riverton, has asked for a new trial in Third district court on a charge of manslaughter, of which he was convicted recently. Arguments on his request will be heard Saturday before Judge Allen G. Thurman.

After conviction last week, Judge Thurman sentenced a year in the county jail as sentence, then made a temporary suspension to study the case. Mr. Nell was held for the death of Mrs. Alice Curtis and her 18-month-old daughter, Edith, in a traffic accident at the Sandy mail intersection with the lower county road last August 10.

Midvale Journal, Feb. 3, 1933

Midvale Journal—Feb. 10, 1955

Riverton Man Denied New Trial

Joseph Nell, 24, of Riverton, was denied a motion for new trial on a charge of involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced in Third district court Tuesday to a year in the county jail, six months suspended conditional upon good behavior.

Counsel for Nell indicated he would appeal the conviction to the state supreme court and Judge Allen G. Thurman set appeal bond at $1000. Nell was found guilty of the charge in connection with the death of Mrs. Alice Curtis and her 19-month-old daughter, Shirla, in a traffic accident last August 10 at the intersection of the Bandy road and the lower county road.

RIVERTON MAN TO DIRECT LOANS

W. C. Crump, Jr., Named To Receive Farm Applications

W. C. Crump, Jr., of Riverton, has been appointed to act in the Jordan district as secretary-treasurer for national farm loan associations through whom applications for farm loans may be made to the Federal Land Bank of Berkeley, Calif.

Mr. Crump is one of 69 such persons appointed in Utah, according to an announcement by D. D. Muir, Jr., vice chairman of the banking and industrial committee for the Twelfth federal reserve district of San Francisco.

A secretary-treasurer for virtually every farming community in the state has been thus named and is now ready to handle applications for farm loans, Mr. Muir said.

Mr. Muir also announced that returns to the United States departments of commerce and labor, in connection with the nationwide "Share-the Work" movement made by 403 Utah firms, show that the system is in operation in 248 of the firms.

As a result of the movement, he declared, a total of 2958 workers have been retained who otherwise would have been let out, 950 new workers have been employed and 107 additional employes will be taken on during the remainder of the winter.

Riverton Review Feb. 17, 1933

Chronicle-Journal, Mar. 24, 1932

Riverton Growers Brood Many Chicks

Riverton poultry growers are brooding large numbers of baby chicks this year. Up to March 21 they had received 51,300 chicks. More will continue to arrive until the latter part of April. The number to March 21 was well in excess of last year's when 23,300 were brooded. In 1931 there were 59,700 brooded and in 1930, 118,700.

Midvale Journal Apr. 7, 1933

THOMAS P. PAGE OF RIVERTON SUCCUMBS

Thomas P. Page, 82, died at his home in Riverton at 7:40 o'clock Wednesday of paralysis after an illness of 23 months. Mr. Page was born December 22, 1850 in London. He was the son of Thomas Gwynne Page of Radnorshire, Wales, and Jenette Scott of Scotland.

He joined the church in 1871 and in 1872 came to Utah.

In 1873 he married Emma Harms of Chertsey, England, and five children were born. Two daughters survive. While living at Union he helped found the Mutual Improvement association. In 1882 he married Harriet Elizabeth Frankland of Beccles, Suffolk, England. In 1883 they moved to Scofield, Carbon county, and he was engaged in the mercantile business. During his residence at Scofield he was in the bishopric at Pleasant Valley and Scofield wards and was set apart as a high priest by President Heber J. Grant.

Thomas P. Page

In 1890 Mr. Page and family moved to Riverton where he had [illegible]

(Continued on Another Page)

23 acres of land [illegible] at that time [illegible] Jordan ward. He started [illegible] cantile business which [illegible] to the Page Hotel [illegible] he was called by the [illegible] in Turkey on a [illegible] he started a [illegible] return home before [illegible] on account [illegible] he stayed with [illegible] who met him in [illegible] sailed him home [illegible] was sent on a [illegible] and in 191[illegible] [illegible] world [illegible]

Atlantic ocean 19 times, had served two terms in the state legislature, and had been active in welfare of the county and state.

He is survived by his wife, Harriet E. Frankland Page, and the following sons and daughters: Phoebe Sleater and Alice Sleater of Salt Lake; Gwynne Page, Hattie Freeman, Maud Butterfield, Marchell Wiberg, Roland Page, Meredith Page, all of Riverton; Pauline Nielsen of South Jordan, Duke Page of Payson; Leici Whetman of Draper; four brothers, William A. Page of Wellsville, John R. Page, Richard Page and Harry Page and a sister, Elizabeth Page, all of London, England. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Journal June 2, 1933

RIVERTON CROPS SAVING IS SEEN

Compromise Proposed to Renew Supply of Water

Through an amicable settlement of a dispute arising over water supplies, crops in the Riverton district valued at $250,000 will be saved, according to Hardin Bennion, former state agricultural commissioner and editor of the Riverton Farm association.

Unpaid water assessments totaling $30,000 at the beginning of the irrigation season caused the Utah Lake Distributing company to refuse to supply more water, on the contention the money was owed the Utah Power and Light company for pumping the water.

A recent conference, however, brought a proposed compromise under which the power company agreed to [illegible] of the power bill [illegible] Utah Power and Light company.

The conference was attended by [illegible] president of the Federal Land bank of Berkeley, Calif., who has said he will [illegible] to [illegible] that the bank will pay the [illegible] company on farms on which [illegible] a mortgage.

OLE PETERSON PIONEER OF RIVERTON, SUCCUMBS

Ole Peterson, 87, died at his home in Riverton at 8:30 a. m., Tuesday of old age. He was the son of Peter and Dorthea Jensen Olson and was born July 14, 1846 in Nyrup, Denmark.

Mr. Peterson emigrated to the United States in June, 1867, on the ship "Emeral Isle," when he accepted the gospel at the age of 21 in his native land and came with his parents. One brother died while crossing the ocean and a sister died while getting off the train at Council Bluffs.

He came to Utah in a company which consisted of 60 wagons. He walked almost all the way across the plains. Mr. Peterson reached Echo canyon September 24, 1 68, helped build the railroad in Weber canyon, and hauled timber by oxteams from Cottonwood canyon. When he quit this work, he sold his oxen and sent money to Denmark to assist his brother, Christian, to come to Utah.

He experienced pioneering in every respect. He came to Riverton in 1872, when there were only eight families, and helped build the first church, and also the first church at South Jordan.

On December 5, 1880, he married Ella Brown, and seven children were born to this union.

He is survived by the following: his widow, Ella Brown Peterson, Ray Peterson, Fanny Rasmussen, and Ella Swenson, all of Riverton, and Agnes Williams, Earl Peterson and Winifred Taylor of Magna, and 19 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter; two brothers, Louis Petersonof Lark and Charles Peterson of South Jordan, and a sister, Sophia, in Denmark.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday at o'clock at the Riverton Second ward chapel, under direction of Bishop Lancelot Bills. Friends may Saturday afternoon and Sunday may call at the home in Riverton Saturday afternoon and Sunday prior to the funeral.

Murray Journal Aug. 4, 1933

Heavy Wind Damages Riverton Vicinity

Heavy wind storm and thunder showers Sunday caused considerable damage at Riverton and vicinity, blowing down chicken coops belonging to Leland Webb, Joseph Mousley, Ren Bills, Mrs. George W. Butterfield and Samuel Turner, and the kitchen of Jack Withers, telephone poles and trees. Several people traveling in their cars had to get out and untangle wire befor they could proceed on their journeys. Pioneer days were remembered on Sunday evening when church services were held with the aid of candles when trees were blown over onto the wires, the putting the light system out of commission. In the Rose canyon area, a heavy flood caused considerable damage to crops, one farmer reporting that he had six acres of hay ready to haul which was all blown away. Vaughn Bills was knocked unconscious by lightning.

The employes of Page-Hansen company and their escorts spent the week-end in Cottonwood canyon. The party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Page and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Stone and children, Miss Jennie May, Gail Peterson, Glendon Nielsen, and Lynn Hart, Henry Schmidt of West Jordan.

The Sentinel

Midvale-Riverton State Bank Offices Go To S. L.

The Midvale State Bank and the Riverton State Bank, formerly having a joint office at Midvale, moved to the Columbia Trust Co., at Salt Lake City Wednesday. All the business of the closed banks of the southern part of Utah will be directed from the new Salt Lake office by Herbert Taylor, former cashier of the Midvale State Bank. Assisting Mr. Taylor as bookkeeper will be Arnold Butterfield, former cashier at the Riverton institution, and as stenographer, Miss Vernice Voyce who has been an employe at the Midvale bank for some time. Charles Schmidt has been appointed as field man for the district covered by the Midvale and Riverton banks. Other districts of the state will have field men to look after the business of the closed banks under direction of Mr. Taylor.

Jan. 12, 1934

The Sentinel

Midvale To Have New Mercantile Establishment

A new business sponsored by the Page-Hansen Company of Riverton will open its doors to Midvale buyers about February 10, according to announcement of Gerald D. Stone, manager of the new concern. The new store will occupy quarters at 52 North Main and will be known as "Pages". The line of business will be general merchandise. Improvements costing over $100 are nearing completion at the new quarters, Mr. Stone announces, and they include installing show cases, tables, and new light fixtures; re-papering and painting; and completely renovating the interior of the building.

Jordan School Board Reviews Improvements

At a meeting of the Jordan district school board held Thursday at the school office, the improvements of the buildings and grounds of the schools in the district in which the C. W. A. is participating were discussed. Many improvements to grounds and to buildings have been made including the reshingling of the South Jordan and Herriman school buildings; the grounds at the Bingham school have been graded and improved; the Highland Boy school building which was burned, has been razed and the brick used in improvments in various places throughout the district.

A combination garage has been built at the Riverton school for the accommodation of the school busses. The material was furnished by the Jordan school district and the labor furnished by the C. W. A.

Feb. 2, 1934

Utc Sentinel

RIVERTON WARDS WILL HONOR OLD FOLKS

Riverton First ward and Riverton Second ward will join together on February 22 at the Riverton Second ward to honor the old folks of both wards. Dinner will be served, beginning at 12 sharp to all over 21 years, with all over 60 as honored guests. Program will begin at 2 p. m. and supper at 6 p. m. for all the honored guests. The following committees are in charge: M. J. Tischner John Hansen, Jr., Mrs. Mabel Freeman, Mrs. Alice Page, Melvin J. Peterson, Joseph Morgan, Bert Battison, Mrs. Judith Morgan, Mrs. Elsie Banks and Mrs. Lydia Ottesen. They are working hard to make it a most successful affair.

Feb. 9, 1945

Riverton Pioneer Observes 84th Birthday Anniversary

Mrs. Emma Butterfield Stockings, one of Riverton's original pioneers ,celebrated the occasion of her 84th birthday anniversary on Tuesday of last week, at the home of her son Ether Stockings. Mrs. Stockings was born February 13, 1950 at Crompton, Gloustershire, England. At the age of 16 she sailed on the good ship John Bright, for America. Arriving in the states in the month of June, she started immediately for Salt Lake City, crossing the plains by ox-team.

Mrs. Stockings is the only living child of a family of twelve, and is the mother of four children—two of whom are living, Mrs. Annie Crane of Herriman and Ether Stockings of Riverton, with whom she now resides.

Members of the Riverton camp of Utah Pioneers visited her Tuesday to congratulate and wish her many happy returns of the day.

Feb. 16, 1934

RIVERTON NEWS

Mrs. Carrie Green was hostess to the Ladies Literary club held at the home of Mrs. John Hansen Thursday. A book review was given by Mrs. Cleo Page. Luncheon was served to eleven members.

—o—

Mrs. Thomas L. Densby entertained at a party at her home Saturday honoring her daughter Fern. The occassion was the birthday anniversary. Luncheon was served to twenty-two guests.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Ensign Thomas entertained at a dinner party at their home Wednesday. The room was decorated in yellow with favors and place cards carring out the color scheme. Covers were laid for Miss Blenda White, Everett Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Ensign Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Zack T. Whitefield, Hugh Thomas and Miss Beatrice Bailey of Copperton. The evening was spent in playing games.

—o—

Riverton First and Second wards held a special quilting and dinner at the respective ward houses Tuesday. Dinner was served to 56 at the Riverton second ward.

Feb. 16, 1934

Opening!

Page-Hansen Company Formerly Open Today

Today marks the formal opening of Page-Hansen & Company's Midvale store, located at 52 North Main street, the city's newest commercial acquisition.

Floral favors will be given the first 150 ladies visiting the Midvale branch on Saturday, February 24

Page-Hansen & Company, dealers in general merchandise for almost a half century in Riverton, will stock a complete general line of staple merchandise at their new store, 52 North Main street, Midvale and will run this store under the same business policy pursued since they began business in 1892.

The actove management of the local branch will be inn the hands of G. D. Stone, who will make Midvale his future home.

This local branch says Mr. Stone will permit Page-Hansen & Company to more adequately serve many families in the section of the local branch will be in the hands of the company for a period of many years.

Midvale business men realizing thegreater variety of merchandise offered in the city and the more complete stocks carried, the better the opportunity to command trade from the adjacent territory, have given the new form a hearty welcome.

Feb. 23, 1934

RIVERTON NEWS

Riverton P. T. A. monthly meeting has been postponed for one week and will be held March 23, with a moving picture show, a novelty program, and a plate lunch.

—o—

Riverton Commercial club was reorganized at a meeting held at the Riverton Second ward Wednesday. D. A. McMullin of Murray was the speaker of the evening. The following officers were elected, George J. Bills, president; Renold Howard, vice-president; Marion Stringfellow, secretary and treasurer. Harold Berett, Vernon Morgan, Forrest Parry and Daniel C. Coy were chosen on the executive committee. The club aims to better the condition of the community, and will meet every two weeks.

—o—

The Ex-Service men of Riverton and Bluffdale held a re-union at the Riverton Second ward chapel amusement hall, Saturday with their parents and wives as special guests. Supper was served to 150. A program was rendered. Joseph Morgan and Robert Turner were in charge of arrangements.

—o—

The Riverton First ward Primary officers entertained at a party in honor of Mrs. Reuben Wiberg and Mrs. Ivy Brady in appreciation of their work in putting on a play for the Primary. Thursday at the home of Mrs. Wiberg. The guests included besides those mentioned, Mrs. Vernal C. Webb, Mrs. Gordan Densley, Mrs. Thomas Goff, Mrs. Roland Page, Mrs. Carl Wiberg, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. George Thaxton, Mrs. Russell Butterfield, Miss Melba Green and Mrs. N. Graham.

—o—

Riverton First ward junior Genealogical class presented a play at the ward amusement hall Wednesday under the direction of Miss Blenda White entitled "Elmer with The Cast." The cast: Gordon Thomson, Gladys Bills, Lola Bills, Ila Graham, Thora White, Harriet Wiberg, Roderick Wiberg, Ivie Bardwell and Leonard Crane. Other parts of the program were furnished by other members of the class.

—o—

Leonard Crane while cranking his car, broke his arm, Thursday.

—o—

Mrs. Alvin H. Miller was hostess to the members of the Columbia Flower club at her home Friday. Luncheon was served by Mrs. Miller, assisted by her daughter, Mrs. D. Nielsen, to Mrs. John Hansen, Mrs. Herbert Hebert, Mrs. Eugene Miller, Mrs. Clarence Page, Mrs. Theona Dallimore, Mrs. Dora Butterfield, Miss Marion Stringham and Mrs. Reynolds Neal.

Utc Sentinel Mar. 9, 1934

Riverton, Bluffdale And Herriman Women Form Democratic Study Club

The Ladies Democratic Study club consisting of Bluffdale, Riverton First, and Second, and Herriman wards, met at the Riverton school Wednesday with precinct chairman, Mrs. J. R. Rawlings in charge.

A reorganization was affected with Mrs. Thomas Callicott as president, Mrs. Spencer Miller, vice-president, Mrs. Jet Bills secretary and treasurer. Also a chairwoman to represent the four districts. Mrs. Heber Crump, Bluffdale; Mrs. Hattie Freeman, Riverton First ward; Mrs. Joseph Park, Riverton Second ward; Mrs. Glenn Freeman, Herriman.

A trio consisting of Mrs. Don Merrill, Miss Bertha Turner and Mrs. Mary Mousley was given with A and B numbers. Next meeting will be held April 11, at Bluffdale.

Utah Farmer, Mar. 23, 1940

Reservoir, Pipe Line Completion Celebrated By Riverton Ites

Stockholders and water users of the Riverton Pipe Line Company celebrated Monday, the completion of the expansion project, which has been under construction for the past ten months. The improvements consisted of new and larger water mains and a 175,000,000 gallon reservoir, which insures a modern and adequate system. The project supplied work for more than 500 men during the period of construction.

A government loan of $200,000 furnished the finances for the improvements. Reports of the expenditures and accomplishments were heard, after which lunch was served to 325, later the celebrants repaired to the amusement hall of Riverton Second ward, where dancing was engaged in during the remainder of the evening.

The Sentinel

Riverton Jr. High To Present Musical Comedy

March 30, "The Gypsy Rover"

The Music Department of the Riverton junior high school under the direction of Miss Mae Rasmussen will present the three-act musical comedy, "The Gypsy Rover," on Friday evening, March 30, in the school auditorium.

Twenty musical numbers by a well prepared cast, a full [illegible] orchestra accompaniment, [illegible]ting and scenic effects, breathing the atmosphere of Gypsy romance—all combine to assure patrons an evening of musical and dramatic festivity.

The cast includes:

Lady Constance, Ruth Hamilton; Rob, Deno Seal; Zara, Beth Pack; Sinfo, Wayne Reynolds; Elgar, Lydia Green; Nina, La Var Myers; Meg, Mona Madsen, [illegible] Ellmer Larson; Lord Craven, [illegible] Butterfield; Sir George, [illegible] Johnston; Sir Toby, Ray Bathe; Sir Francis, Morris Morgan.

There is a chorus of 76 members, Miss Ellen Rasmussen is dramatic coach, and Miss [illegible] Madsen, accompanist.

Civil Service Exams To Be Held, Riverton, Sandy

The U. S. Civil Service Commission has announced open competitive examinations as follows: Postmaster, Riverton, Utah, $1,200 per year, and Postmaster, Sandy, Utah at $1,700 per year. Only residents of these towns are eligible for the examination. Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the postmasters at Riverton and Sandy, Utah.

RIVERTON NEWS

Conjoint meeting of the M. I. A. & the Second ward will be held Sunday, April 29.

—o—

Miss Phyllis Butterfield was guest at a party at the home of W. Dansie in Salt Lake, Monday.

—o—

Riverton Second ward genealogical entertained at an apron and overall dance at the amusement hall, Wednesday.

The Riverton Commercial club have three free picture shows during the week, one for adults, on Wednesday, one for junior high people and one for the lower grades on Thursday.

and family, Mr. and Mrs. Le Roy Steadman and sons, spent Sunday at Tooele.

—o—

Mrs. Oneda Steadman of Bennion spent two weeks as guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Tischner.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Duke Page of Payson spent the week-end visiting with relatives.

—o—

Miss Anna Wiberg spent several days as guest of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Wiberg.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. David Madill of Salt Lake were guests of Mrs. Golda Gamble, Sunday.

—o—

Mrs. Wilford Silcox spent the week-end at Murray with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Sherman.

Utah Sentinel—May 11, 1934

RIVERTON NEWS

Improvements are bing made at the Riverton school, including seeding a new lawn, a sprinkling system, a new garage and remodeling the library room.

—o—

May Health Day was observed at the Riverton Ball Park, Wednesday by the junior high and the elementary school, principal N. K. Thompson, directed. The activities consisted of bicycle races, base ball games, foot races for all ages, baseball throwing, a tug of war, children's dance, fashion show and posture parade. Awards for story telling, essays, and attendance were made, ribbons for first, second and third place winners in fields events were also given. There were approximately 1,000 people in attendance.

—o—

The ladies Democratic study club meeting scheduled to be held the second Wednesday of each month has been postponed until later on account of the Riverton school May Program.

—o—

West Jordan Stake M. I. A. conference was held Sunday at South Jordan school auditorium. A musical program was given by Mrs. N. W. Christiansen and associates of Logan, also Mr. Elray Christiansen of Draper.

—o—

Mrs. Harold Durfee, son and daughter, are visiting in Sacramento, California.

—o—

Mrs. Marion Kirchfeld of Salt Lake was week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. John Banks.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Arlin Garside announce the birth of a son, Friday.

—o—

Mrs. Marvin Dansie and children spent Wednesday in Salt Lake as guests of her grand-mother, Mrs. Ruth Webb.

—o—

Mrs. Connie Newbold will entertain the daughters of Utah Pioneers at her home Friday, May 11, at 2 p. m. She will be assisted by Mrs. Inez Neff. The history will given by Mrs. Marlida Hindbaugh of the life of her grand-mother, Mrs. Crane. The lesson on the American flag will given by Class Leader, Florence Page.

—o—

The Riverton junior high school will spend next Wednesday at Saratoga Springs picnicing and swimming.

—o—

Monday, May 14, John A. Widtsoe will be the guest speaker at the Commencement Exercises of the Riverton junior high school.

—o—

Utc Sentinel May 18, 1934

Miss Beth Stocking, age 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Stockings of South Jordan, has a perfect attendance record through the elementary school and first year of junior high.

—o—

Miss Ruby Bills of Riverton junior high tenth grade has a perfect A record for the year. No marks but A.

—o—

The Ladies' Democratic Study club held their monthly meeting Wednesday with a musical program and Mrs. J. R. Rawlins as the speakers. Refreshments were served. Mrs. Hattie Freeman, chairman of the Riverton First ward, presided.

—o—

Riverton Second ward choir entertainment committee consisting of D. D. Adamson, Rulon Platt, Mrs. I. E. Freeman, Mrs. R. Hodgkinson and Mrs. Zach T. Butterfield, were released at a meeting held Friday and the new committee consisting of Franklin Smith, John Steadman, Mrs. Alvin Miller, and Mrs. John Banks, was chosen.

—o—

The faculty of the Riverton school, consisting of Paul Boyce, Harold Bradley, Alta Crane, W. R. Edgel, Mae Rasmussen, James S. Seal, Blenda White, Ora Aylett, Pearl Bodell, Celestial Dutson, Marjorie Densley, Essie Holt, Ella Mousley, Ellen Sampson with principal N. K. Thomson, honored the tenth grade students at a banquet Friday, with the ninth grade girls cooking and serving a three-course banquet. The officers of the class are Kenneth Crane, President; Fay Butterfield, vice-president; Ellen Jacobsen, secretary and treasurer.

—o—

Monday, Mrs. John I. Wiberg entertained at her home. The guests included Mrs. Thomas P. Page, Mrs. Thomas I. Page, Mrs. Rueben Wiberg, Mrs. Hattie Freeman, Mrs. Zach T. Butterfield, Mrs. Roland Page, and Mrs. William O. Page of Riverton, Miss Anna Wiberg and Mrs. Lester Rugsley of Salt Lake, Mrs. Hans Nielsen of South Jordan.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. N. K. Thomson entertained the faculty of the Riverton school at dinner at their home Thursday.

—o—

Mrs. W. R. Glade, Mrs. Grace Woodbury and Mrs. Edith Holt, officers of the county camp of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers were guests Friday at the monthly meeting held at the home of Mrs. Connie Nowbold, with Mrs. Inez Neff as assisting hostess. Lunch was served to twenty members.

—o—

Miss Betty Durfee won the swimming contest at Municipal Baths Monday out of a class of 16, on Jordan high field day at Liberty Park. Milton Densley of the Riverton Second, was the champion swimmer for the boys.

—o—

Mrs. Ephraim Otteson entertained for members of the Phi Mu sorority at her home Sunday. The guests included Miss Helen Schoenhals, of Rupert, Idaho, Miss Rose Walton of Evanston, Wyo., Miss Arlyn Maack of Salt Lake and Elise and Estelle Hardy.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. George Peterson entertained at their home Sunday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Carlquist and children of Draper.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Tischner announce the marriage of their son Lavan to Miss Velma Brady of Salt Lake, the marriage took place in February and was kept secret until Monday.

The Herald

Riverton Jr.-Hi Grads Hear Dr. J. A. Widtsoe

Dr. John A. Widtsoe, member of the Council of Twelve, addressed the graduates of the Riverton junior high school at the commencement exercises on Monday, May 13. Those who took part in the program were: Carter Grant, Kenneth Crane, Gwen Hawkins, Ellen Jacobson, Fay Stone, Beulah Madsen, Juanita Sorensen, Lois Miller, and Norma Nielsen.

The evening's entertainment was concluded with a dancing party for the graduates.

May 19, 1937

Deseret News June 20, 1934

New Sidewalks Put in At Riverton, Bluff Dale

RIVERTON, June [illegible] and Salt Lake [illegible] Riverton and Bluffdale sidewalks are being built and [illegible]

Deseret News
June 26, 1934 3

WARD SHOW JUNE 29

RIVERTON, June 26.—A free picture show will be held June 29, at the ward amusement hall at 8 p.m. Riverton First and Riverton Second wards will join together. Everybody is welcome.

Bills Family Reunion Held At Riverton

July 13, 1961

A reunion of the descendants of Lorena Smith and David Bills was held Sunday, July 8, at the Bill's home in Riverton. Thirteen of Mr. and Mrs. Bill's fifteen children, together with their families, were present.

Clarence Bills of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Venice Bills Smith of Coots, Canada, were unable to attend.

The following attended: Mrs. Hannah Smith of Draper, mother of Mrs. Bills; Mrs. Ray Peterson, sister of Mrs. Bills; and the following sons and daughters: Bishop and Mrs. Lancelot Bills and family, Mrs. James Madsen and family, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Butterfield and son, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bills and family, Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Bills, and Derrell Bills, all of Riverton; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Glazier and family of Granite, Mr. and Mrs. Duke Page and family of Payson, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Ballard and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bills of Sandy; Mrs. Jack R. Huggins and family of Globe, Arizona; Mr. and Mrs. Leo D. Bills and family of Salt Lake, and Mr. and Mrs. James Butterfield and son of Murray.

The Sentinel

Utah Sentinel Aug. 17, 1934

Valley's Oldest Resident Leads Active Farm Life

(EDITOR'S NOTE:—This is the third of a series of articles on the lives of early pioneers of Jordan valley.)

Said to be the oldest living resident in Jordan valley, Hyrum Beckstead, who was born October 2, 1855, is still active and farms the old homestead that was the site of his birth. Mr. Beckstead has always led an active farm life, and, no doubt, if it came to a test he could still show up many of his younger neighbors. Recently he returned home from a motor tour of Yellowstone National park, and points of interest in Montana and on the return stopped over at Oxford, Idaho, where he visited with his Uncle, Lewis J. Petty, who is the "youngster" of 89 years.

Mr. Beckstead's father, Alexander Beckstead, came to Utah in 1849, from Dumas, Canada, as a convert to the L. D. S. church. His mother, Kesiah Albine Betty Beckstead, was the daughter of pioneer Tennessee stock and journeyed to Utah in 1850, and married Mr. Beckstead in 1854.

As a lad, Mr. Beckstead, worked on the farm with his father thruout the summer months, and during the winter, when there was no work to be done, he was allowed the luxury of attending school, which was a small one-room log cabin and the first school to be erected in Jordan valley. Education was not free in the early days and tuition was paid in farm commodities, such as squash and potatoes. One of his chief duties during the summer was driving crickets and grasshoppers out of the fields.

Oxen were the main mode of transportation with just a few ponies being used as mounts to take farm crops to market in Salt Lake City.

Mr. Beckstead recalls the time when there were less than twenty-five homes throughout the valley, and the many roving Indian bands that made semiannual trips here on their way back and forth to northern and southern camping grounds. The squaws would visit the homes and beg for "white man's biscuit", while the bucks would sit in their wagons and wait for their "better halves" to return with their meal.

"The worst scare I ever got in my life, and, no doubt, that scare is the reason for me not being as large as other members of our family, was from an Indian," he said. "Two Indians had died and members of their tribe came to our home and asked my father to dig a grave to bury them in. When the two departed members had been laid in their robes, along with articles of food, weapons, etc., one Indian took hold of me and said, 'Hump, put um in papoose,' and though he was joking it was anything but a joke to me, and the minute he let me go it did not take me long to run to the house and tell my mother she wanted me," declared Mr. Beckstead.

Mr. Beckstead's father was one of the first sugar beet growers in the valley, and constructed the canal, now known as "Millrace" which was the first canal to be run from the Jordan river to irrigate farm crops in the valley.

$2,350 Received By Riverton Pipe Line

Superintendent Thomas B. Lloyd announces that the Riverton pipe line compsny has received $2.350 of the drouth relief fund. This amount will be used to replace one mile of old wooden pipe with a new iron pipe. Recsuse of this improvement, much water will be conserved.

Mr. Lloyd received a report during the week from the State Board of Health which says that the water from the Riverton pipe line is one hundred per cent pure, so residents need not fear typhoid fever.

Aug. 17, 1934

The Sentinel

Riverton Club Members Entertained Tuesday

Riverton 4-H club members and their mothers were entertained Tuesday evening by Mrs. Mabel Freeman at her home.

A display of the work completed during the summer by the girls was on exhibition.

The guests included: Mrs. Edna Myers, Mrs. Dora Callicott, Mrs. Marilda Rindlisbach, Mrs. Annie Garside, Mrs. Sophia Jahnson and daughter Doris, Mrs. Hazel Butterfield and daughter Leone, Mrs. Maud Butterfield, and daughter Evelyn, Mrs. Foupes and daughter Beth. Mr. Park and daughter Margie, Mrs. Rhea Torkelsen and daughter Millia, Mrs. Cecil Bill and daughter Dorothy, Misses Jean Seal, Mary Lloyd and Nona and Mary Freeman.

Aug. 31, 1934

Riverton FERA Sidewalk Project Nears Completion

Probability that Riverton leaders will petition the F E R A for a fifth appropriation to complete the present sidewalk project was seen in the report of J. W. Crane, supervisor, that only one half mile remains incomplete.

Money given the community at the last allocation is being rapidly used, Mr. Crane said, and will not be sufficient to complete the job. It is hoped that enough cash will be made available to finance construction of the walks through Bluffdale and to State street. The present crew of 28 men, most of whom have been given employment since June, would be given work for approximately another month should the application be approved.

Utah Sentinel
Oct. 26, 1934

Riverton Camp Meets

Mrs. Fred May and Mrs Mahonri Butterfield were hostesses to the members of the Riverton Camp of the D. U. P., at the home of Mrs. May Friday, November 9.

The early history of Riverton was given by Annie Garside, the lesson on Historic Forts was given by class leader Florence Page. Refreshments were served.

The Sentinel

Riverton Parent-Teachers Association Organizes

Mrs. Ruby Broadbent was elected president of the Riverton Parent-Teachers association at a meeting held Friday evening at the Riverton Junior high school auditorium, N. K. Thompson, vice president; Pearl Boddell, secretary and treasurer, and Harry Sandstrom and Meredith Page, councilmen. Retiring officers were Mrs. Mary Egbert and Mrs. Cleo Page.

A special program and dance were features of the evening. The program consisted of introduction of the new school teachers by N. K. Thompson; vocal quartette numbers, N. K. Thompson, Harold Bradley, Mae Rasmussen and Miss Griffith; vocal trio selections, Pearl Boddell, Celestial Dutson, and Mae Rasmussen. Mr. Griffith spoke on adult education. Refreshments were served.

The Sentinel—Dec. 7, 1939

Riverton To Regulate Noon - Time Discipline

The Riverton Junior high school believes it has found a solution to regulate noon - time discipline—that of dancing during the noon period.

As most of the students come to school in buses and have to remain at school during the luncheon period, the experiment of social dancing has been tried, and thus far, is very successful.

In addition to regulating luncheon hour discipline, another object of the experiment is for the students to develop social graces.

Utah Central Dec. 7, 1939

Riverton First Ward To Hold Homecoming Day

The Riverton First ward will hold their annual homecoming day Saturday, December 8.

The days activities will commence at 2 p. m. with a children's dance sponsored by the Primary officers. Music will be furnished by the junior genealogical band under the direction of Gwynne Page.

At 7:30 p. m. the auxiliary organizations will furnish a variety program, to be followed by a dance. All residents and former residents of the ward are invited to attend.

Riverton Relief Society To Present Play Monday

Riverton Second ward Relief Society will present "The Mill of the Gods" Monday evening, December 17, in the ward amusement hall. Mrs. Edna Victor is in charge of the production, with the following cast: Betty Durfee, Rex Peterson, V. F. Victor, Paul Parr, Lafon Parr, Nelda Peterson, Elsie Banks and Mamie Fowlks.

The ward M. I. A. will present a variety program between acts. All proceeds will be used to defray the ward indebtedness.

Utah Enquirer
Dec. 14, 1934

THE UTE SENTINEL

Riverton Pioneer Dies Saturday In Salt Lake

Christian M. Lovendahl, 79, of Riverton, died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mason of 1927 South Third East street in Salt Lake City Saturday, December 1.

Mr. Lovendahl was born in Denmark August 17, 1855, and came to Utah in an emigration train seventy years ago, accompanied by his parents. He walked the entire way across the plains, wearing wooden shoes.

The family first settled in Lehi, later moving to Lovendahl's on State street near Midvale. When Mr. Lovendahl married, he moved to Riverton, where he has since resided.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Rose Hansen Lovendahl, three sons by a former marriage, Richard, Leonard and Charles Lovendahl; a daughter, Mrs. Geraldine Dansie, all of Riverton; a sister, Mrs. Selna Cooper of Salt Lake; 16 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 1 o'clock in the Riverton Second ward chapel.

Dec. 7, 1933

RIVERTON LEGISLATOR ASKS RURAL BENEFITS

Submits Delinquent Tax, Road Improvement Bills

J. R. Peterson, Riverton stockman, one of the house members from Salt Lake county and the only state senator who resides in the western southern portion of Salt Lake County, has stood steadfastly at his guns during the entire session of the pres-

The Sentinel Mar. 16, 1933

J. R. PETERSON

ent legislature, fighting for relief in those matters that have most affected and depressed the farmers, ranchers and the other groups of Utah's population who have no control over the perpetuity, product or remuneration of the vocations in which they are engaged or have made their investments.

For the farmers, ranchers and the other owners of real estate who have by the nature and universal status of their occupations and investments been forced into tax delinquency . . . Mr. Peterson has sought relief for them through bills submitted for legislative enactment . . . providing for the release of the now existing delinquent tax liens and claims through the means of executing a promissory note due in ten equal yearly installments at the rate of three per cent interest, payable each year as the general taxes fall due

Ute Sentinel

Everything Stolen From Riverton Ranch Home

July 19, 1935

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Eldred Hamilton, located between Riverton and Herriman was entered during the week and everything stolen except the stove. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton and family moved a few of their things to Mr. Hamilton's fathers home, where they lived during the winter. When they returned to their ranch home this week, they found that the house had been ransacked and their fruit, furniture and all their wedding presents had been stolen.

Roderick Wiberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. John I. Wiberg, reports that while he was riding home on his bicycle a man, who was standing on the running board of an automobile that was going very fast, snatched his cap from his head. He was unable to recover it.

...e Journal

South Jordan Canal Wate...

Purchase Prevents Crisis

With their water supply practically exhausted, farmers of the South Jordan Canal company were successful Monday in obtaining part of the North Jordan Canal company's allocated amount of water from Utah lake, according to Joseph Hibbard, president of the South Jordan Canal company.

Farms served by the South Jordan Canal from Bluffdale to Granger, which includes some of the best sugar beet farms in the county, would have been waterless, Mr. Hibbard said, had the canal company not been able to purchase the additional water, which will include from 1500 to 2000 acre feet. The North Jordan Canal company was able to sell part of its water because of additional water rights purchased last year.

An inspection of Utah lake made Monday morning, Mr. Hibbard said, showed the water level was 10.1 feet below compromise point which indicates that water conditions at the present time are poor. The water level of the lake, however, is two feet above that of October, 1934, Mr. Hibbard stated.

Riverton 4-H Clubs To Hold Achievement D...

Riverton 4-H clubs will ... achievement day at the River... First ward chapel Wednesday, August 21. Members of the ... will demonstrate to their parents the work being done by them, and a pageant will be given under the supervision of Blenda W. Hamilton. The group which has the best demonstration will participate in the county Farm Bureau day to be held at Magna, August 23.

Several demonstrations were given by the girls of the Riverton 4-H clubs at the junior high school on Monday, August 5, with the following club leaders in charge: Blenda Hamilton, Mamie Fowler, Myrle Butterfield and Vilate Butterfield. Ivy L. Hall, county home demonstration agent was a special visitor.

The following demonstrations were given: The making of fruit cups; the serving of fruits; the making of beverages; how to dance and a demonstration on patching. A special demonstration by members of the fourth year sewing group of South Cottonwood was given by Fay ... and Dor...

Fire Destroys Densley Home In Riverton Sunday Afternoon

Fire, blamed on to a defective flue, destroyed the home of Mrs. Libbie Densley of Riverton on Sunday. Mrs. Densley's son, Claude, and his family also were living in the house.

At the time the fire broke out, Mrs. Libbie Densley was attending Sunday School and Mrs. Claude Densley was home preparing dinner. Noticing that the stove was unusually hot, she investigated and found the roof ablaze. She sent in an alarm to the county fire department, then with the assistance of several neighbors, most of the furniture was removed from the house and saved from damage.

Petition Made For Fire Horse Cart At Riverton

Gwynne Page, representing the Riverton Commercial club petitioned [illegible] commission in a letter Wednesday for the stationing of a fire hose cart at Riverton. The reason for this action was to prevent a reoccurrence of the Sunday fire which destroyed the home of Mrs. Libbie Donaley, a widow.

Mr. Page suggested that the hose cart be stationed at the Riverton Motor company, where a man is employed during the night, as well as the day time.

Utc Sentinel Feb. 28, 1936

Rivertonians Honor Their Old Folks

Four hundred and eighty members of the Riverton First and Second wards over twenty years of age were guests at a banquet of their respective wards at their annual reunion held Saturday.

Mrs. Clara R. Mell, 86, was the oldest member present at the Riverton First ward and received the prize of a bouquet of flowers. Five others of the 38 honored guests received prizes. Apple blossoms were carried out in favors and decorations at the First ward.

At the Second ward the national colors were carried out in favors and decorations, where 26 honored guests were present. The Riverton First ward participated in old-time dancing, with novelty numbers. At the Riverton Second ward the following program was rendered, under the direction of Ruby Broadbent: Welcome address, Bishop Lancelot Bills; reading, Cleasie Furse of West Jordan; girls trio, Norma Nielsen, Ruth Freeman, and Beth Park; dance number, Oneta Day; a playlet, under the direction of Jean Madsen, "The Family Album"; whistling solo, Phyllis Butterfield, accompanied by Zelma Butterfield; a comic skit by the Nut Brothers: Chestnut, Cocoanut, Walnut and Doughnut, under direction of Veloy Butterfield "Old Song We Love", Beth Gardner of West Jordan, and Glandis Dunyon of South Jordan; comic news, Dora Grace Callicot; piano solo, Earl Redman of Midvale; piano and saw solo, A. T. Hawkins and daughter of Bluffdale; solo, Douglas Gardner of West Jordan, and piano solo, Beulah Madsen.

After the honored guests and their partners were served supper, they were then taken to the Riverton Junior high school, for the drama, "He and She" under the direction of Mary Egbert.

The Sentinel Mar. 27, 1936

Riverton Motor To Give Free Show, Free Goobers

On Monday, March 30th, the Riverton Motor company will entertain the families and individuals of South Salt Lake county with a free show and free peanut festivity at the Riverton junior high school auditorium.

Talking motion pictures including "The Texas Ranger" and "Master Hands", will be headline attractions of the multi-featured occasion.

All persons living in the south portion of the county and their friends are invited.

Utah Sentinel 8 Apr 1936

WPA Educational Work Holds Riverton Interest

An open forum on the subject of "Technocracy," will be conducted Thursday evening, April 10, at 8 P. M., free of charge, in the Riverton Junior High school as a project of the WPA.

The interest shown at this forum will determine whether or not the idea is to be continued.

The Adult Educational program has been under way since the first of October and has been well developed. The Women's project under the direction of Mrs. Grace Peterson have completed many articles of clothing and novelties including sweaters, hats and flowers.

Mr Elias C. Butterfield's classes are interested in scientific, current and economic problems. Many books have been discussed as well as the subjects of Heredity, Evolution, Literature, and Politics.

These classes are also free and are held in Riverton each Monday and Friday at 8:00 P M.; in Lark on Wednesdays at 7:30 P. M.; Bluffdale on Thursdays at 7:30 P. M. Classes of practical English and Home Gardening are also taught.

Ute Sentinel Apr. 10, 1936

Riverton Junior High Stages Annual Operetta

The operetta "Crocodile Island", was presented Wednesday, April 8 by the Riverton Junior High school under the supervision of Miss Mae Rasmussen. Libretto by V. F. Victor, dancing Mrs. Joseph E. Day, costumes and art, Miss Carrie Samuelson; setting, Mr. Nicholson; and light by Mr. Edgar Aylett.

The cast included: Keith Foreman, Jay Bills, Margaret Parker, Pearl Eastman, Verdell Jacobsen, Boyd Thompson, Naomia Garside, Dorothy Bills, Howard Richards, Leon Christensen, Keith Batteson, Wanda Grant, Florence Nelson.

The cast was assisted by a chorus of islander and sailors.

Ute Sentinel Apr. 17, 1936

Riverton Singing Club Organized By Matrons

Riverton First ward Matrons have organized the Riverlodian Club, the purpose of which is to promote community singing

Meetings will be held at the homes of members, for practice and arrangement

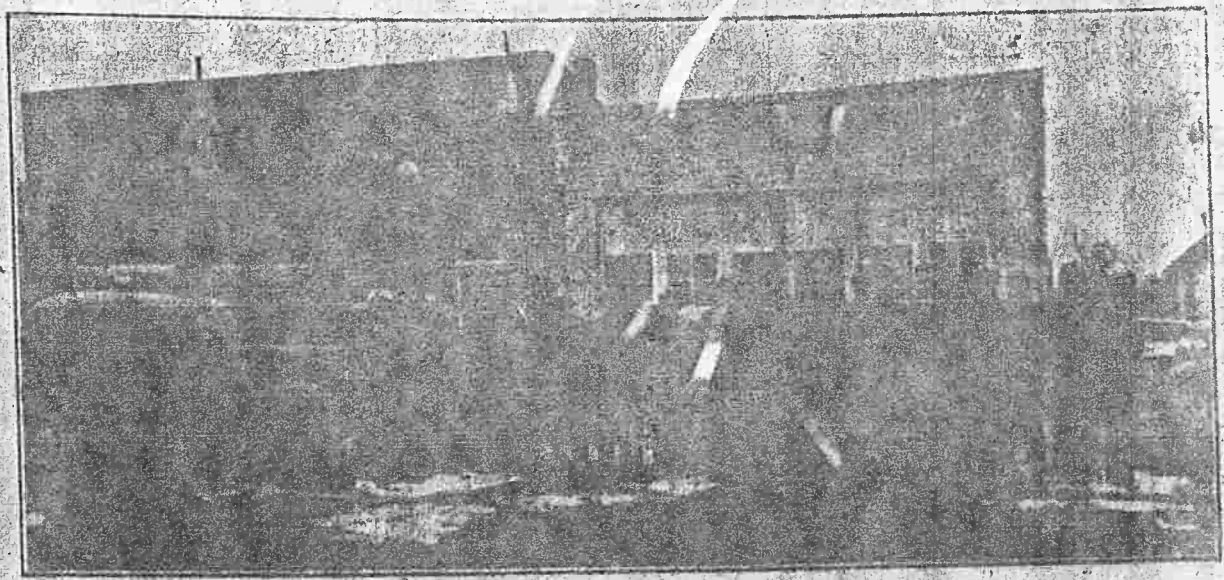
Mrs. Oneda Day was elected president. The musical program of the Easter Sunday Sacrament service was furnished by the club

The members include, Mrs. Dan Mrs. Elmo Hamilton, Mrs. Reynold Bills, Miss Myrle Butterfield Mrs. Rex Hamilton, Mrs. Everett Hamilton, Mrs. Morris Newman and Mrs. Orin Berrett. The Thursday meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Berrett.

The Ute Sentinel

MIDVALE, UTAH, FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1936

RIVERTON CONCERN AMONG LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN VALLEY



Reading left to right—Selyf Page, Vaughn Duke, Lynn Densley; Frank Snyder, Jim Cundick, Sam Cundick, Emory Berrett, Clyde Terry, Gwynne Page, Harry Sandstrum, Orin Berrett, Vern Curtis, Mark Nichols, Dick Brown, Willis Freeman, Jimmy McGuire, Delbert Page, Al Knutsen, La Vern Densley, and John Steadman.

Dust Nuisance Relief Sought By Riverton Citizens

Ute Sentinel

Twenty Riverton citizens living near and adjacent to the Riverton Junior High School ball park, petitioned the Jordan School Board for relief from the dust nuisance emanating from the ball park.

Due to the recent wind storms resulting in unusual damage and inconvenience from flying dust and dirt, those families residing near the Riverton school ball park have suffered to an even greater extent than persons living in semi-protected areas.

Motivated by that condition the nearby residents have petitioned the school board to take steps toward allaying the dust from the athletic field.

May 22, 1941

Riverton Jr-Hi Grads

Honored Wednesday Eve

The Sentinel

The annual banquet honoring the graduates of the Riverton Junior High School was held Wednesday evening, May 20 in the school auditorium. The following graduates were present: Keith Battison, Jesse Bills, Anna Bonecher, Leone Butterfield, Verna Cardwell, Leonald Crane, Iona Codell, Leon Christensen, Donald Dansie, Pearl Eastman, Dorothy Eastman, Keith Foreman, Jay Hardman, Violet Howell, Edward Jones, Verbena Loveendahl, Lorin Miller, La Var Myers, Ruby Osborne, Howard Richards, Leona Silcox Thomas Silcox, Gerald Tischner and Phillis Wiberg.

The faculty, Mr. N. K. Thomson, Miss Carrie Samuelson, Mr. William R. Edgel, Miss Mae Rasmussen, Mr. Paul Nicholson, Mr. Joseph Day, Mr. V. F. Victor, Mr. Isaacson, Mr. Griffiths and their partners, acted as hosts and hostesses.

The banquet was prepared and served by the ninth grade girls.

The graduation exercises were held Friday evening, May 15, superintendent Dr. C. N. Jensen addressed the class. The program was as follows:

Selection, school band; mixed chorus, A and B number, directed by Mae Rasmussen; invocation, by Mr. Griffith; overture, school band; graduate introduction, N. K. Thomas; remarks, student president, Lorin Miller; violin solo, Leonard Crane; Essays, Class members, Howard Richards, Pearl Eastman, Leone Butterfield and Leon Christensen; saxophone solo, Lorin Miller.

May 22 1926

The Sentinel

Former Riverton Girl Married In California June 5, 1931

Rachel Mortensen, formerly o Riverton, was married May 25, a Reno Nevada to Edward Mendon ca of Mountain View, Californi it has been announced.

The ceremony was performe while the couple were enroute t Riverton to attend the weddin of the bride's brother, Rolan Mortensen to Miss Iris Warr o Granger. Miss Mortensen had bee living in California for the pa two years. The couple will mak their home at Mountain View.

Mr. and Mrs. Mendoca wer honored Friday at a party in th Mortensen home prior to their de parture for California.

Herbert May Addressed Riverton Democratic Me

Dr. Herbert B. May, candida for Gubernatorial nomination, a dressed the regular meeting of th Democratic League of Utah, he at Riverton on Thursday evenin of last week. Dr. May discuss the need of an adequate old ag allowance and a revision of th present state social security la that it may provide the needs r garding the maintenance of o aged. S. J. Mickelsen, preside was in charge of the meeting. I addition to Dr. May's speech t regular business routine was fo lowed. June 19, 194

...e Sentinel June 19, 1936

Hamilton-Howard Progeny Annual Meet Thursday

The Samuel H. and Sarah Jane Howard family reunion was held at Riverton First ward chapel on Thursday. More than ninety persons were in attendance.

The officers of the organization are: Samuel H. Howard of Riverton, president; Mrs. Heber Crump of Bluffdale, chairman of the program; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Parkinson of American Fork, chairmen of refreshments. The program included address of welcome, Samuel H. Howard; vocal quartet, by Mrs. Eva Tischner, Mrs. Viola Nicholz, Mrs. Louise Turpin, and Miss Laura Beckstead; remarks, James H. Gardner, N. H. Silcox, and John C. Hansen; piano solo, Miss June Beckstead; vocal duet, Georgia and Arden Bodell; piano solo, Miss Jessie Neal; musical selection, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Olson and son Howard; vocal solo, E. M. Olson. The invocation was offered by J. S. H. Bodell.

Martin Bowen, Riverton, Weds Granite Ward Girl

The marriage of Miss Elizbeth Beckstead, daughter of Mrs. Emma Beckstead of Granite, and Mr. Martin Bowen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alram Bowen of Riverton, took place last week in the Salt Lake temple.

A reception was given by the mother of the bride, Mrs. Beckstead, at the Granite ward amusement hall Thursday evening.

The bride, unattended, was lovely in a smart model of white crepe with matching accessories. The evening was spent in dancing. Refreshments were served.

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Mr. and Mrs. Hans B. Jensen entertained at dinner Sunday, honoring Mrs. Fred Schaerger and Mr. and Mrs. Gardner of Sayt Lake.

Mrs. A. P. Anderson of Burley, Idaho, is spending several weeks as the guest of her daughters Mrs. Rowland Lloyd and Mrs. Thomas B. Lloyd.

Myron Durfee, who has been spending the past year in California with his father, returned to Riverton during the week and will make his home with his grandmother and sister, Mrs. George Peterson and Miss Betty Durfee.

Miss Hattie Bills of Dillon, Montana, spent the week at Riverton visiting with relatives.

Miss Beth Wiseman of Salt Lake spent the past ten days as guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Zach Butterfield. She returned to Salt Lake Friday. On Friday, Miss Evelyn Butterfield entertained at dinner in her honor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Zach T. Butterfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Webster and sons, Mrs. Fred May and family, were released from quarantine of scarlet fever during the week.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Crane of Draper spent last week as the guest of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Newman.

The Genealogical Society of the West Jordan stake will form an excursion to the Logan temple on July 10. Those desiring to go are requested to see their ward chairman as they will be required to get a recommend for the Logan temple.

A farewell party will be given July 8 at Riverton First ward honoring Orgill Aylett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Aylett, who will leave July 9 for a Swiss-German mission. On Friday a family party was held at the home of his parents, with guests from surrounding towns present.

On Thursday and Monday from 3 to 7 p. m. a play period will be held at the Riverton school grounds for all those wishing to attend with Claudia Dunyon in charge.

A 4-H Cooking club was organized during the week with Betty Bonacker as president, Jacklin Thaxton, vice-president; Lucille Nokes, secretary; Nila Morgan, cheer leader and Gwenith Allen as reporter. Their first demonstration was held Tuesday, June 30 at the home of Miss Mavis Page.

Vern Goode will spend the Fourth of July at Pocatello, Idaho.

Mrs. Elmer Yates and children Leola and Murray of Salt Lake were guests at the Newman home during the week.

One hundred chickens were stolen fgrom the coop of Gran Mortensen during the week.

ly, Miss Barbara Jones of Bicknell, Indiana. On Sunday Mrs. Oliver's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Nelson of Salt Lake, formed a party and visited with Mr. and Mrs. John B. Barney at Springville, the occasion being Mrs. Barney's 87th birth anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Stephenson attended the wedding reception of Zina Malouf and Ebban Madouf, who were married Monday. The couple will leave to make their home in Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephensen entertained at dinner Sunday honoring Mrs Anne Hunsaker of Brigham City.

The New Testament Class of Riverton First ward with their teacher, Mary Sandstrom, formed a party in Butterfield canyon on Tuesday, June 30, for a weenie roast. Seventeen were present.

300 Chickens Burned In Riverton Blaze

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed several outbuildings, 30 tons of hay and 300 chickens owned by Reuben S. Hamilton of Riverton on Saturday, July Fourth.

The full extent of the damage or whether it was covered by insurance is not known.

At the time the conflagration was discovered by neighbors the Hamiltons were beside the bed of a daughter who was critically ill and were not aware of the fire.

Utz Sentinel 10 July 1936

Funeral Services Held For Riverton Postmaster

Joseph Park, 54, for three years postmaster at Riverton and a pioneer, died Monday at 6:30 p. m. at his home after a brief illness. Funeral services were conducted for Mr. Park Thursday at the Riverton Second ward chapel, with Bishop Lancelott Bills, officiating.

Born in Dalton, England, December 2, 1881, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Burrow Park, he came to the United States 46 years ago. He first settled in Michigan, coming to Salt Lake county 15 years later.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Lucy Bills Park; four sons, Archie, Earl, John R., and LaVar Park, all of Riverton; four daugh-

(Continued on page 4.)

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First Riverton Settlers Lived In River Dugouts

By ANNIE GARSIDE

The first residents of Riverton lived in dougouts along the river banks. One of the reasons for their locating here was for the ease and convenience with which shelters could be provided and the other was for the protection against the Indians.

The early settlers of Riverton included Peter Garff, Timothy Gilbert, Lars Jensen, W. T. Silcox, Samuel Green, John Hansen, Jesse Smith, Robert Pixton, William Hamilton, David Miller, and Samuel Howard. The first house was built by Peter Garff.

The first public building erected in Riverton was built in 1879 and the early part of 1880. It was a one-room adobe structure that was used for both religious services and school classes. It was used for a school house for over twelve years and as a meeting house for several years more.

As the town continued to grow and a larger building was necessary a new school was constructed on Redwood road. The people had settled west of the old building and the town extended that way. The new school, which was a two-story structure, was built on the site of the present school buildings.

Thomas Phillip Page was the first merchant in Riverton. From the time he opened his store the business district grew along the Redwood road, centered about the school houses. The first amuse-

ent hall was a large light brick ilding. It was built on the cor- r of Redwood road and the Her- nan highway and was for many ars the center of all recreation the town.

The growth of the town soon ought the necessity for a larger ard ch pel. This was construct- near th school house.

Riverton formerly belonged to outh Jordan ward. It was organ- ed in 1879 with Lars Jensen as e presiding Elder under the sup- rvision of the South Jordan bish- pric. On August 6, 1886, when e ward was organized, Orrin iller was appointed the first ishop. In 1900 when the Jordan ake was formed, he was select- as Stake President and Gordon ills was appointed to fill his ace as bishop of the Riverton ard.

In Septe ber, 1927, Riverton as divided into two wards. Vernal Webb was chosen bishop of the rst ward, with W. J. Myers as ishop of the second ward.

Ute Sentinel

Riverton School Entertains

The male instructors of the Riverton School entertained the ladies of the school at a canyon party in Little Cottonwood canyon during the week. The men acted as hosts, cooking and serving the meal.

Those attending the party were: Ella Mousley, Blanche Larsen, Celestial Dutson, Zelma Butterfield, Pearl Bodell, Bessie Holt, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Edgel, Frank Griffith, La Mar Isaacson, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Nielson, Miss Carrie Samuelson, Mr. and Mrs. V. F. Victor, Miss Wells, and Miss Frandson.

2 Oct. 1936

Mrs. Marie Hamilton Riverton Pioneer Buried

Funeral services for Mrs. Maria Seaburn N. Hamilton, 91, old pioneer resident of Riverton, who died Friday at the home of her son and Mrs. Thomas Hamilton, following a lingering illness, were conducted Tuesday in the Riverton First ward chapel. Bishop Vernal C. Webb officiated.

Mrs. Hamilton was born in Bristol, England, on January 5, 1845, the daughter of Thomas Henry and Maria Searburn Nott. She joined the L. D. S. church in 1854 and came to the United States in 1864. She first settled in Millcreek, moving to Riverton later. Mrs. Hamilton was active all during her life in church and civic affairs.

Utc Sentinel 23 Oct. 1936

Ute Sentinel Nov. 13, 1936

GWYNNE PAGE

Riverton Motor Head Will Be Candidate For School Board Member

Gwynne Page, president of the Riverton Motor company, of Riverton, Utah, will be a candidate for the position of school board member, in the Jordan school district, subject to the action of the voters in precinct No. 8, at the December elections, it was learned today. He will seek the post held by the late Soren J. Mickelsen, of Draper, for the past eight years.

Mr. Page, a life-long resident of South Salt Lake county, in the vicinity of Riverton, has been active in the commercial, civic, political and religious endeavors of this area, county and state since he has attained the age of maturity.

Precinct No.8, comprising the communities of Draper, Riverton, Bluffdale, and Herriman, supplies one member of the Jordan district school board, the other members of the board, numbering four, are sent from precincts six, seven nine and ten.

The Riverton Motor company, organized by Mr. Page several years ago, with only three persons actively engaged in the operation of the company, now employs 22 people . . . sells more than 500 automobiles annually . . . and is probably the largest business institution from the standpoint of sales volume in this section of the county . . . privately and locally owned.

Insofar as has been reported to this publication, there are no other candidates for the position which Mr. Page seeks . . . yet anounced, or who has such intentions.

Utah Sentinel 27 Nov. 1936

Riverton Motor Firm Opens Used Car Lot At Midvale Junction

A used car lot was opened durthe week by the Riverton Motor Company on the east side of State street at Midvale Junction.

Jim Cundick will be the manager of the new addition to this progressive Jordan Valley firm, according to Gwynne Page, company head. Sam Cundick and Glen Milne, who are salesmen for Riverton Motor in this territory, will be connected with the new lot.

A good stock of used cars will be maintained at Midvale Junction, enabling the company to give better service to patrons in this territory.

Riverton Man Elected To Serve Precinct 8

John A. Aylett and Dr. Paul S. Richards Re-elected From Precincts 6 and 10 To Succeed Themselves

At the school board elections held in the Jordan school district on Wednesday of this week, Gwynne Page, presiden of the Riv-

Utah Sentinel 4 Dec. 1936

GWYNNE PAGE

erton Motor Company, of Riverton, Utah, was elected to represent precinct number 8 on the Jordan

Riverton Motor Company Suffers Fire Loss

The Riverton Motor Company of Riverton, suffered a loss of approximately $50.00 when a fire broke out in the shop at the rear of the building, on Monday, January 4, at about 5 p. m.

Cause of the fire was a defective flue. The damage was done to the roof and walls of the building.

County fire department responded immediately to the alarm turned in, but the blaze had been extinguished before their arrival.

Through the quick thinking of the employees of the Riverton Motor Co., they were able to put out the fire before much damage was done to the building.

Repairs on the building will be made within several days. Due to the fire being extinguished very quickly there wasn't much of the roof and walls destroyed.

(The Sentinel 8 Jan. 1937

Utah Sentinel 5 Feb. 1937

Riverton Woman To Be Buried Sunday

Isabella Dansie Butterfield, 65, wife of Zachariah Butterfield, died Tuesday at her home following a stroke. Funeral services will be held Sunday at 1 p. m. at the Riverton Second Ward chapel. Bishop Lancelot Hills will officiate.

Born in Herriman August 20, 1872, a daughter of Robert and Jane Wilcox Dansie. She received her early education at the Herriman school and later attended the University of Utah. She resided in Herriman until 1897, when she moved to Riverton to make her home.

Surviving are her husband and the following children: Thelma, Phyllis, Morris, and Lowell Butterfield of Riverton; Mrs. Rheabel Platt of Kanarra; and two stepchildren, Anna May Myen and Z. Butterfield of Riverton; 14 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren; 3 sisters, Mrs. Charlotte Wheeler, Moore, Idaho; Mrs. Ada Webster, Blackfoot, Idaho; Sarah M. Crane, Draper; 3 brothers, James W. Dansie, Riverton; B. W. Dansie, Salt Lake; A. W. Dansie, Herriman.

The Sentinel 12 Feb. 1937

Riverton Man Named

Sandy Bank Director

Gwynne Page, automobile dealer in Riverton, was named member of the Sandy City Bank board of directors, it was announced by Heber J. Burgon, bank head.

Mr. Page succeeds the late S. J. Mickelsen of Draper. Other directors and officers of the bank were named. They include Mr. Burgon, H. A. Smith, August Nelson, L. E. Despain, W. T Hyde, and A. R. Mickelsen. A. A. Gardner was re-appointed cashier and Paul Wilson assistant cashier.

Riverton's Oldest Pioneer Honored On 87th Birth Anniversary By D. U. P.

Utah Sentinel ... 19 Feb. 1937

Mrs. Emma Stocking Butterfield of Riverton, was honored on her 87th birth anniversary Friday, by the Riverton camp of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, at the home of Mrs. Sadie Stocking.

Mrs. Butterfield is the second oldest woman residing in Riverton and the oldest of the original Pioneers of Riverton.

The history of Franklin S. Seal, one of Riverton's pioneers, was given by his daughter, Mary S. Beckstead. The lesson, "Writting and the Preservation of History and Relics," was given by one of the members.

Election of officers of the D. U. P. will take place at the next meeting in March. A nominating committee was selected as follows: Sadie Stocking, Emma Demiley, Annie May Sandstrom, Sadie Morgan and Mary Egbert.

One Of Riverton's Oldest Residents Enjoys Ward Celebration

Among the many Riverton residents that attended the annual Old Folks Day celebration was Mrs. Clara R. Nell of Riverton

Mrs. Nell is 89 years of age, and is one of the oldest residents in that town. She has the distinction of being the only woman in that vicinity that has seen president Abraham Lincoln.

She was married at the age of 15 and shortly following her marriage, she and her husband left for Chicago. She is the mother of 14 children, of whom seven are now living. Her eldest daughter, Etta, is now 72 years of age. Mrs. Nell does her own work and lives in her own home. Most of her children also live in the community.

Dinner was served at noon with the following program: reading, Judith Morgan; current events, Reuben Wiberg; musical selections, Margaret Webb, Mrs. Nieman and Grace Peterson; talk, by ward member; flag ceremony, assembly; vocal trio, Mary Stocking, Geneal Peterson and Mildred Aylett; reading, Iola Newman; chorus; reading, Jenny Morgan; and musical selections, Rivertonians.

Both wards gathered at the school and the drama, "A Stranger Passes," was presented.

Ute Sentinel 26 Feb 1937

RIVERTON TO LAUNCH CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

A Clean-up Campaign will be launched at Riverton and vicinity from April 15 to April 22, and the county board of health will cooperate in the annual drive to make the home and parks more sanitary and beautiful. County trucks will gather up all rubbish which can not be burned and will dispose of it. Those wishing to have rubbish hauled away are requested to have it in front of their place between April 15 and 22.

Historic Riverton Chapel To Be Razed

The Riverton Ward chapel, for many years a landmark in that vicinity, will be torn down, according to a decision made by a committee Monday evening. The chapel was erected in 1904 and was considered quite magnificent in its day.

A site for the new church building has been selected and will be located on the north corner of the Reuben S. Hamilton property, where a new edifice will be erected in the near future.

The committee in charge of the affairs of the new chapel is: Bishop Vernal Webb, N. K. Thomson, Harry Sandstrom, Gwynne Page, Vern Morgan and George Thaxton.

Utah Sentinel Apr. 1937

Riverton School Holds Graduation Exercises

[illegible] May 1937

Riverton school held their commencement program at the school gymnasium Tuesday, May 18, at 8 p. m. A panorama of progress was written and presented by the Riverton school as follows:

Opening overture, school band, chorus of elementary children. Pageant of Early Days, with scenery painted by art students. Family Life in a Typical Pioneer Home, and the old time dance. Children of the old school in 1876 and the modern school.

A march of the graduates followed by a dance concluded the evening's entertainment.

RIVERTON PIPE LINE CO. TO HOLD IMPORTANT MEET

A special stockholders meeting of the Riverton Pipe Line Company will be held at the Riverton First ward chapel on June 7 at 8 p. m. where they will consider and vote upon the matter of refunding the outstanding first mortgage bonds and authorization of the directors of the company to execute and deliver a supplemental mortgage, refunding bonds, and to perform all other things necessary under the requirements of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. John Hansen is president and Louetta E. Madsen secretary of the company.

28 May 1937

JOS. P. BUTTERFIELD OPENS FORD AGENCY IN THIS DISTRICT

The Sentinel 21 May 1937

Announcement was made this week by the Ford Motor Co. that a dealership has been granted to Joseph P. Butterfield of Riverton for the sale of Ford V-8 cars and trucks. The new concern, which will be known as the Butterfield Motor Co., is located in the opera house building in Riverton. A line of cars will be on display at all times, Mr. Butterfield states, and a complete line of parts and accessories will be carried in stock. Mechanical service will be rendered by expert Ford-trained mechanics.

Mr. Butterfield was born and reared in Riverton where he has a host of friends who predict success for him in the automobile business.

Page Family Holds Party in Honor of Departing Members

Utc Sentinel

The Page family of Riverton met together Monday night at a "weenie" and marshmallow roast prior to the departure of four members of the family who will leave in the near future for several months' trip to Europe. Those departing will be Mrs. Thomas E. Sleater and daughter, Mrs. Frank Johnson, and Mrs. Robert S. Sleater, and daughter, Miss Iris Sleater, who will leave June 6 for Montreal, Canada, and will sail June 16 for Europe.

The party was held in the old apple orchard, where several thousands of bushels of apples were raised each year, but due to the drouth the trees have borne no apples for the past six years. During the month of March the trees were pulled up by a tractor at the rate of 30 to 40 trees per hour, and hundreds of people came to see the sight. The wood was sawed up and hauled away.

Those present at the party were: Mrs. Thomas P. Page, Gwynne Page and children, Mrs. Hattie Freeman and grand-children, Mr. and Mrs. Zach T. Butterfield and children, Mr. and Mrs. John I. Wiberg and family, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Page and family, Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Page and family, Mr. and Mrs. William O. Page and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gwynne W. Page, of Riverton; Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Sleater and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Hubon Nielsen, Misses Wilda and Iris Nielsen, and Miss Florence Butler of Salt Lake City; Mrs. Hans Nielsen and family, Miss Mary McMullin, and Miss Elsie Merrill of South Jordan; Mr. and Mrs. George Whetman and family of Draper; and Mrs. Albert Smith of California.

4 June 1937

Riverton Pioneer Feted On 95th Birth Anniversary

18 June 1937

More than eighty descendants of Samuel Lorenzo Howard and Sarah Jane Hamilton Howard, early pioneers of Riverton, met at a family reunion Friday evening at the Riverton school auditorium honoring the 95th birthday anniversary of Sarah Jane Hamilton Howard. Mr. Howard was born in England in the year 1840 and came to Salt Lake valley in the year 1855. Mrs. Howard was born in Canada in 1842 and came to Salt Lake valley in 1852.

The house built by Mr. Howard was one of the first three houses built at Riverton. They both resided in Riverton from that time until their deaths.

Heber Crump of Bluffdale was in charge of the program at the family social. Dancing and refreshments followed the program.

The officers of the Howard family organization include Samuel H. Howard, Riverton, president; Mrs. Edith B. Holt, Salt Lake, first vice president; Mrs. Sarah L. Howard Herriman, second vice president; Mrs. Geneva Crane Salt Lake, third vice president; Mrs. Leonora Olson, West Jordan, secretary; Mrs. Viola Coates, West Jordan, treasurer; Mrs. Edith B. Holt, historian, Mrs. Mary Howard, Magna assistant historian; Mr. and Mrs. Heber Crump, Bluffdale, chairmen of program and sports; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Parduhn of American Fork, chairmen of refreshments.

Ute Sentinel

[illegible]TON PIONEERS 51ST [illegible]EDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Rindlesbach will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary Friday, July 23. Mr. Rindlesbach was born Feb. 2, 1849 in Switzerland. Caroline Conrad, his wife, was born Jan. 15, 1849 at St. Julia, France. They came to Utah in 1885 and have lived in Salt Lake county for the past 51 years, and are the parents of 12 living children, 45 grand-children, and 7 great grand-children.

The Sentinel 13 Aug. 1937

Freak Hail Storm Hits In Riverton

Residents of Riverton and vicinity were unexpectedly visited by a severe hail storm last Saturday, which descended upon this area at about 4 p. m., and lasted for an hour. Hailstones as large in diameter as a half-dollar were said to have fallen in such quantities that the ground was covered with the icy pellets for three hours after the storm had subsided.

Considerable damage to their fields was reported by Horace Noakes and William Page. Many acres of grain were threshed out by the storm in the section south of the Herriman road. Several children who happened to be out during the downpour, received bumps on their heads when struck by the hailstones. A new automobile belonging to V. F. Victor of Riverton, was so pelleted that the top was damaged beyond repair.

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BUILDING DEDICATED BY BRIGHAM YOUNG TO BECOME RELIC HALL

An historic old building in West Jordan, dedicated by Brigham Young 70 years ago, is being restored to its original state by the Daughters of Utah Pioneers of that town.

The building will serve as a community relic hall and recreation center for the community.

The walls of the building are three feet thick, being constructed of red sandstone and granite. The sandstone was brought six miles from the mountains west of West Jordan by ox team, and the granite was hauled from the quarry in Little Cottonwood canyon.

Only two of the original pioneers who were there for the dedication remain. They are Sophey Mary Siepert Gardner, who arrived in Utah in November, 1865, with the Thomas Taylor handcart company, and Joseph Hibbard, who was only six months old in 1861, when his parents walked to West Jordar from Salt Lake City to make their home.

During the early days the building was a gathering place for the people throughout the south end of the county, and was used until 1913. It served as a meeting place for church, school and socials. It is still sturdy with the exception of the old wooden doors.

Modern heating and lighting plants will be installed and will mark the only changes from the original. It was lighted with candles at first and later with kerosene lamps.

Riverton Motor Co. Makes Great Sales Record In August

Sales of Chevrolet cars in this territory have been exceptionally brisk during the present month, according to Gwynne Page, manager of the Riverton Motor company, dealers for Chevrolet and Oldsmobile cars for south Salt Lake county.

On Wednesday it was reported that the Riverton Motor company had sold 27 new Chevrolet cars this month, exceeding the quota of 25 cars set by the factory. It was anticipated a two or three more sales would be made before September 1.

Mr. Page is in receipt of a letter from the Chevrolet dealer praising his organization for their splendid sales record. This company sold more new cars this month than any [illegible] in the state, it is said.

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FUNERAL RITES HELD FOR JAMES STEADMAN

Funeral services for James Steadman, 67, of Riverton were held Sunday at the Riverton Second ward chapel with Bishop Lancelot Bills officiating.

Music was furnished by a double mixed quartet under the direction of Rosmond Butterfield and Nelda Peterson. Invocation was by J. Edgar Aylett; solo, Francis May. The speakers were Rex Winder, Walter Inkley, Zachariah Butterfield, and Bishop Lancelot Bills. A tribute, written by Edward Morgan, was read by Bishop Bills. Solo was given by Jean Madsen. Benediction was by Leo Bills.

Interment was in the Draper cemetery where the grave was dedicated by Edward Beckstead.

Mr. Steadman died at the St. Marks hospital Thursday after a short illness. He was one of the most successful farmers of Riverton where he has lived all of his married life. Surviving are his wife, Mary Ann Winder Steadman; three daughters, Maurine Page, Mrs. Beth Bills, Mrs. Aileen Nielson, of Bluff; two sons, Jay Steadman, Draper, and John E. Steadman, Riverton; one brother, Edward Steadman of Taylorsville; three sisters, Mrs. Jane Winterton and Mary North, Charleston, and Mrs. Sarah Hartle of Murray; also 14 grand children.

Funeral Held For Riverton Matron

Funeral services were held at the Riverton Second ward chapel Wednesday for Mrs. Minnie Silcock who died at her home Sunday at 11:20 p. m. after a illness of 14 months.

Mrs. Silcock was born October 31, 1879 in Salt Lake City, a daughter of Henry Brown and Elizabeth Ann Beck Brown, and was married to Nichols H. Silcock in the Salt Lake Temple on June 1, 1903.

She is survived by her husband, Nichols H. Silcock; a son, Thomas Callicott, Riverton; daughter, Stella Egbert, of Salt Lake City, by a former marriage; six children, Eva Carlisle, Murray, Farrold Silcock, Kenneth Silcock, Donald Silcock, Margaret Silcock and Jack Silcock, Riverton; Eleanore Jenkins of Midvale; 16 grand children and the following brothers and sisters, Mrs. Maud Wilkins, Draper; Mrs. Dora Webb, Garfield; Ella Butterfield, Clara Green, and Thomas H. Brown, Riverton; Mrs. Sarah Day, Hunter, and George W. Brown, Garfield.

Mrs. Silcock was noted for her lovable disposition and will be greatly missed.

Utc Sentinel 8 Oct. 1937

The girls of the Home Economics department, under the supervision of Miss Samuelson, entertained their mothers at a tea on Wednesday from two to four. The Misses Margaret Silcock and Florence Nielsen poured. Thelma Morgan, Gweneth Allen, Naomi Webb, Helen Bowen and Thelda Freeman did the serving. The table was beautifully arranged and decorated with fall flowers. Twenty-eight mothers were in attendance.

Vic Sentinel — 12 Nov. 1937

The third grades, with their teachers, Miss Zelma Butterfield and Miss Blanche Larson, made an excursion Thursday, November 5. They visited the Utah Woolen Mills, the American Bakery, West Jordan Milling company, and the West Jordan sugar factory.

The school enjoyed a picture show Friday. The pictur s were named, "Education in China," "Work Dogs of the North," and "On the Far Eastern Station."

A very exciting football game was held at Riverton Tuesday, between Draper and Riverton. The score was a tie.

The Riverton football team and Midvale played an exciting game Thursday at Jordan, Riverton leading in the end with a score of 14-6.

Everyone seemed to have a good time at the Hallowe'en party. At the first of the evening each person was given a ticket and twice during the evening tickets were drawn and prizes awarded to the ones who held the corresponding number. Prizes were awarded to the best costumed pupils. The following pupils were awarded prizes: Earl Butterfield, WPA worker; Don Morgan, Little Pig; Jessie Jeanne Miller, Spanish Girl; Rae Bastian, Gypsie; Margaret Silcock, Florence Nielsen, Mildred Egbert, triplets. There were many other

Pioneer Store Of Riverton Quits Business

The Page-Hansen Company known throughout south Salt Lake county for the past 47 years, will close its doors as the result of action taken by the stockholders at a meeting held Monday. A decision was made that the corporation be dissolved and a petition has been filed asking for dissolution.

The Page-Hansen Company was started in 1890 by Thomas P. Page in a one-room store building in Riverton. Since that time it has changed names and management a number of times. Before the depression the store had grown to a large establishment, but the lean years of the immediate past caused considerable curtailment of operations.

The Sentinel 12 Nov. 1937

Butterfield Motor To Display New Ford V-8's Today

The new Ford V-8 models fo 1938 will be displayed for the firs time in south Salt Lake Count today at the Butterfield Moto company in Riverton, according t wo'd received here from Josep Butterfield, manager.

The Ford models for the comin year included two distinct lines the standard and the deluxe. Bot line is built on the same whee base, but are either the 60 or horsepower motor, while the d luxe is made only with the large motor.

The Sentinel, Provo, Utah

Riverton Junior High School To Present Opera

Students of the Riverton junior high school will present the operetta, "The Belle of Bagdad," at the school auditorium this (Friday) evening at 8 o'clock. The director is LaVar Isaacson, and the cast includes the following students:

Amelia Thorkelson, LaRee Turner, Marjorie Jones, LaMar Swenson, Margaret Silcox, Orel Hyatt, Lee Miller, Ralph Crane, Seth Wills, Florence Nielson, Dale Butterfield, Janice Crump and Elton Beasley.

Dancing numbers are directed by Vera Wells, and the costumes were designed by Carrie Samuelson.

Leaders Give History Of Riverton

Tribune Broadcast Reveals Battle To Conquer Desert

Seventy years ago only a few settlers inhabited the Jordan River bottom near the present town of Riverton. The area, which was covered with sagebrush, supported coyotes and wild horses, but because of its aridity was hostile to human inhabitants.

The story of Riverton's struggle to conquer the desert by irrigation was dramatized Thursday night over radio station KDYL by The Salt Lake Tribune-Telegram in one of a series of empire building broadcasts.

Goes Back to 1825

Lancelot Bills, M. J. Stringham and Gwynne Page appeared on the program to tell of Riverton's history and present accomplishments.

The first white man's establishment in Utah was built only a few miles from present-day Riverton, on the shores of Utah lake, by William Ashley, a trapper, in the year 1825. Ashley was a close friend of Jim Bridger, who did most of his trapping farther north.

In the early seventies, John Hansen Sr. tried to build a canal along the bench just west of the Jordan river, and although the project failed, it led to the building of the South Jordan canal.

Between 1875 and 1880 farmers who irrigated with water from this canal discovered they needed a larger canal if the community was to increase in size and prosperity. They began the slow and tedious job of constructing the Salt Lake canal, or as it is now called, "the big canal." Difficulties were many, since the pioneers possessed no modern equipment. The whole project was dug with pick and shovel and the dirt moved in wheelbarrows. Since then the canal has been enlarged by modern methods and is now the largest of several canals from Utah lake and irrigates a large number of farms.

Mr. Bills said that only by making frequent enlargements has the canal been kept adequate for the city's irrigation supply. Water for culinary purposes is piped from Bear canyon in the Wasatch mountains, 13 miles away.

Deer Creek Project

He predicted that the Deer Creek project will double the agricultural income of Riverton by placing under cultivation many additional acres of farm land.

Mr. Stringham described the resources of Riverton and the town's location. "Potatoes, hay, grain and sugar beets are the leading crops," he said. "Dairying and livestock feed producing are also largely engaged in by Riverton farmers."

Mr. Page described the educational and political history of the community. "The first school was started in 1889," he declared. "The initial school room was only 10 by 10 feet in size. From this humble beginning, Riverton schools have progressed to the point where they are among the finest in the state."

He pointed to the fact that Riverton is an ideal location for homes for men who work in the mine and smelters of Lark, Bingham or Midvale and who desire the advantages of country life for their families.

Relate History of Progress

Left to right, Gwynne Page, Lancelot Bills and M. J. Stringha who represented Riverton on the radio.

[illegible] 11 Mar. 1933

Former Riverton Man Succumbs At Burley, Idaho

Anders P. Anderson, 78, died in Burley, Idaho, hospital March 1. He was ill about a week with pneumonia.

A native of Ulsted, Denmark, he was born July 22, 1859, and came to the United States in 1902, after joining the L. D. S. church in his native land. He lived in Salt Lake City for a short time, moving to Bluffdale. After living in Bluffdale one year he moved to Riverton. He had resided in Burley, Idaho, for the past 10 years. Mr. Anderson was a devoted Latter Day Saint and in 1926 he returned to his native land and filled a two year mission for the church, returning in 1928 to his Burley home. He was a very successful farmer and stock grower. His wife, Mrs. Matilda Larsen Anderson, preceded him in death, passing away last January 8 at Burley. She was 73 years old at the time of her death.

Surviving Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the following children: Andrew Anderson, Denmark; Mrs. Annie Keaton, Burley; S. C. Anderson, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Thomas B. Lloyd, Riverton; Mrs. F. R. Lloyd, Salt Lake City; J. C. Anderson, Vernal; Mrs. Clifford Johnston, Hayward, Calif.; Otto Anderson, San Diego, Calif.; Mrs. E. D. Bowers, Burley; Martinas Anderson, Chula Vista, Calif; Thorwal Anderson, Burley; Mrs. J. C. Ashcraft, Burley; Mrs. Wilber Vance, Rome Dale, Idaho; Lars E. Anderson, Hayward Calif. Mr. Anderson is also survived by three brothers: N. P. Anderson, Salt Lake City; James and Christian of Denmark. He also leaves sixty-seven grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

Roller Skating

SENTINEL, MIDVALE, UTAH

Friday, September 21, 19

Monday and Wednesday Nights

Balloon Night Every Wednesday

at Riverto

JOHN HANSEN FILES FOR STATE SENATOR

The Sentinel — 5 Aug. 1938

The citizens of the southern part of Salt Lake county will be pleased to learn that John Hansen of Riverton, one of their neighbors, who for many years has been recognized for his public spirit and service, is submitting his name for consideration by Democratic voters at the primary election to be held Tuesday, Sept. 13, as a State Senator. This decision on his part was in response to the request of a committee from the Eighth precinct, composed of Draper, Riverton, Bluffdale and Herriman.

Because of his great interest in farming and agriculture he was appointed seven years ago as a member of the State Board of Agriculture and has served continuously since, being the president of the Board at this time. He likewise served eight years as president of the Salt Lake county farm bureau.

While devoting a great deal of time to agricultural matters as a leader in various organizations, he also has engaged directly in farming and sugar beet raising. But he has not confined his activities to farming alone, as he was one of the organizers of the Jordan Valley Bank; was a large stockholder for years in the Page-Hansen company, a general merchandising company, assisted in organizing a canning factory, and served as president of the Riverton Pipe Line Co. and while such was instrumental in securing a $20,000.00 R.F.C. loan to reconstruct the pipeline so that it could adequately supply domestic water for Riverton and Bluffdale. At the present time he is the manager of the Salt Lake Costume Co. Inc.

From an educational standpoint in addition to his widespread experiences, he was graduated from the Brigham Young Academy a young man, and afterward for a period of 24 years taught school in the Jordan district.

In politics, Mr. Hansen is a life long Democrat. He was one of the organizers of the Sagebrush Democratic club, and is now serving as president thereof. He has served as treasurer of the same organization. Also in many district, precinct and county political organizations. During 1918 to 1920 he was a representative from Salt Lake county in the Lower House.

In speaking of Mr. Hansen's long years of public service one of his neighbors said, "If native intelligence and ability, education, experience and service ever qualified a man to serve the people and represent them as a State Senator, then surely the record of Mr. Hansen presents such a case. He should receive the wholehearted support from every farmer in the county, and especially the districts in the southern portion. And even the city voters should support him in the spirit of balancing the tickets so that it will represent all sections of the county and all classes of business and voters."

By C. H. Carlquist

John Hansen Deserves Mention

Utah Sentinel

Mr. John Hansen of the Salt Lake Costume Company, Inc., performs a real service for the people of this district and his many contributions to civic betterment are too well known to require further repetition in these columns. His personal success has been turned to the advantage of his fellow citizens, and he is always ready and willing to assist in any enterprise which promises to advance the welfare of the community.

Mr. Hansen is deserving of our highest compliments and this small tribute is but a just recognition of the many services which he has performed. His reputation for the successful conduct of his business affairs, is no greater than his reputation for the honest practices which characterize his every transaction.

We congratulate Mr. John Hansen on his splendid record and trust that he shall continue for many years to serve the people of this district.

2 Dec. 1936

THE WEATHER

The Deseret News

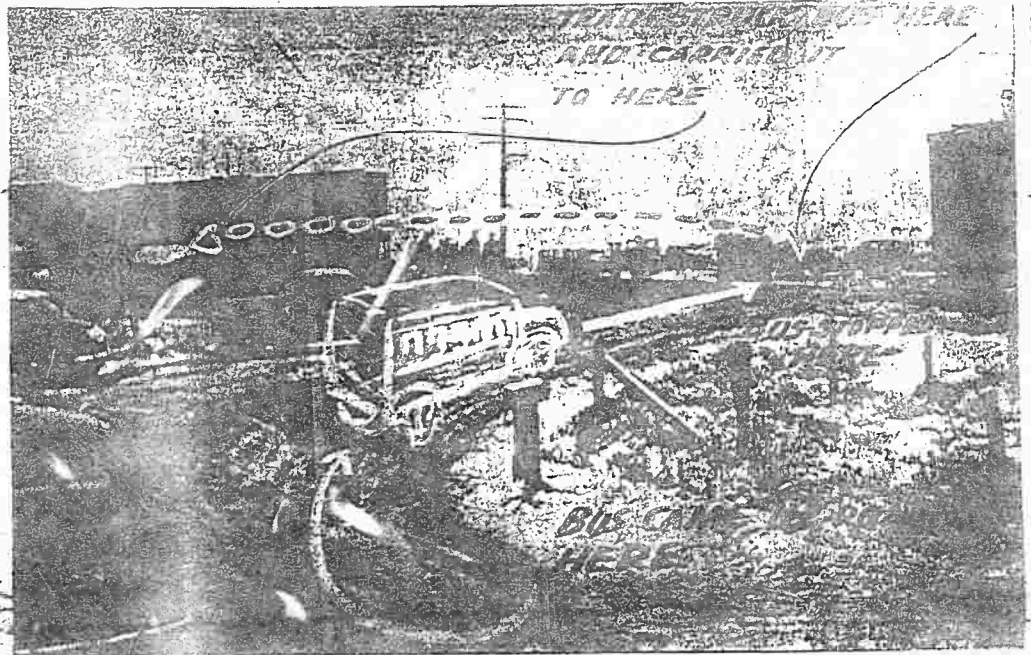
TODAY'S NEWS TODAY

Differences in time zones bring late news from world capitals for today's Deseret News

PRICE—FIVE CENTS | SALT LAKE CITY UTAH THURSDAY DECEMBER 1 1938 | VOL. 352. NO. 53 89TH YEAR

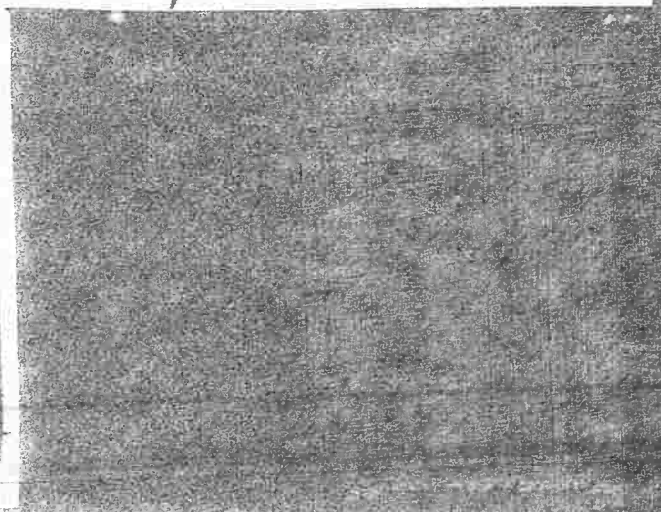
23 KILLED IN S. L. SCHOOL BUS

Artist Reconstructs Details Of What Happened In Disaster



The Deseret News artist has here reconstructed details of the train-bus crash which killed 23 Jordan High School students this morning. Part of the bus was thrown to the left. The driver's seat and motor were carried the full length of the huge freight train.

TRAIN STRIKES CAR; 21 INJURED



Describes Horror

JUNE WYNN
. . . Witnessed tragedy

Girl Standing At Home Door Sees Accident

(Editor's Note: This is an eye-witness account of one of Utah's worst school bus tragedies, as told by a 16-year-old Sandy girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Wynn. She was standing in the doorway of her home, near the crossing, when the Denver & Rio Grande fast freight crashed into a Jordan High School bus, killing a score and injuring a dozen.

BY JUNE WYNN

(As told in the Deseret News)

I was standing in the doorway of our home, about 200 yards from the crossing, when the terrible accident occurred. I guess I was almost the only eye-witness.

Both the bus and the train were roaring and I wondered whether the bus was going to stop. It did stop, and had just pulled on to the track directly in front of the train.

I heard the crash, then screams. When the front of the train got opposite me, I could see the fronts of the truck still on the engine.

The train started slowing down immediately. I and fathers who came from the house, rushed to the track, and trainmen told us to go back and call ambulances and doctors.

It was fuzzy and snowing quietly at the time. I wouldn't have been able to see them if they both hadn't had their lights on. I did not hear the train whistle.

The crossing is at approximately 11 Ott South and Fourth West, sometimes called the Scholars Crossing.

DISASTER FUND AIDED BY THEATRE RECEIPTS

Waterford Times — 9 Dec. 1937

Special picture shows were held Thursday evening at the Burke theatre in Bandy and the Riverton theatre for the purpose of aiding the fund drive for the bus disaster victims.

Proceeds of the shows were turned over to the fund by Manager Burkinshaw of the theatres.

PUBLIC ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE IN MERCY DRIVE

Citizens of Salt Lake county are now being asked to contribute to a fund which will be used to defray funeral expenses of the tragic Jordan school bus disaster, and to aid in rehabilitation of the survivors of the accident.

Already many donations have come in for this worthy cause, but it is expected that a great deal more will be realized within the next week.

Contributions may be left at the banks in Midvale and Sandy, or at the Jordan district school office, or mailed to the Red Cross headquarters in Salt Lake City.

Utah Sentinel 9 Dec. 1938

DAVID O. McKAY TO SPEAK AT RIVERTON

Vto Sentinel—16 Dec. 38

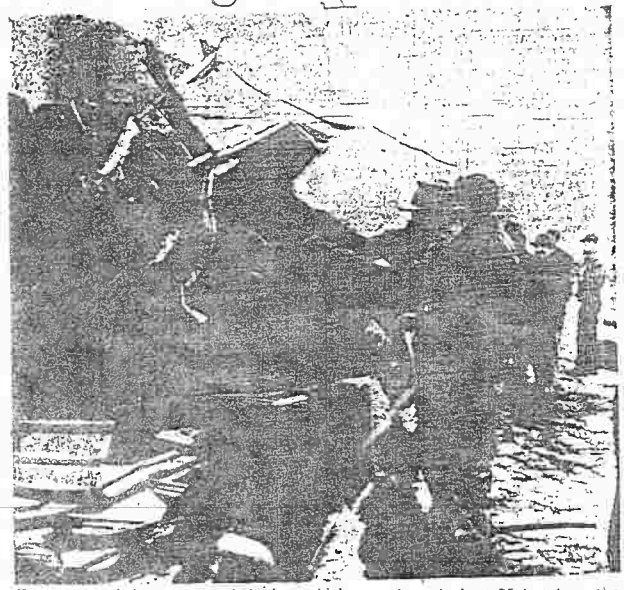
David O. McKay, of the first presidency of the L. D. S. church, will deliver a Christmas address at a special service of the West Jordan stake, on Sunday, December 25, it is announced by Vernal C. Webb, stake president. The service will be held at the Riverton junior high school at 2 p. m.

Mr. McKay was unable to attend any of the funerals of the bus disaster victims, and wishes to contribute some service to the stake, and for this reason offered to address the people of the stake at their Christmas program.

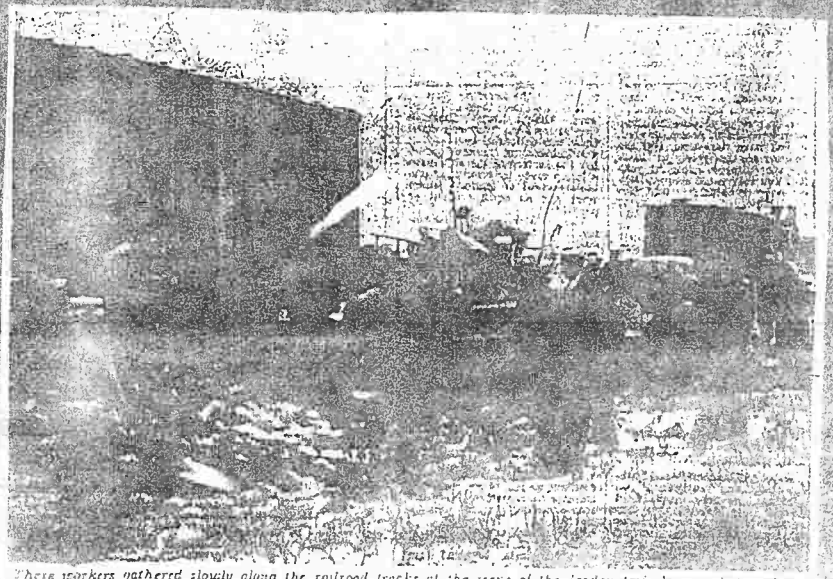
A new public address system will be installed in the school and the public is cordially invited to attend the service.

Where Score Of Students Died In Jordan High Bus Wreck

This is the twisted shell of the Jordan school bus that was ground beneath the wheels of a speeding train this morning, killing a score of students. It was [illegible] wide as the locomotive slowly ground to a stop.



The interior of the rear part of the bus which came to rest about 75 feet from the point of impact is a complete shambles. Seats, springs, glass, note books, bits of clothing, twisted steel are all merged into an unrecognizable mass. The school bus was torn completely in half. The front part of the bus was dragged by the engine for over 2 blocks while the rear half of the bus, shown above, was hurled off the tracks and came to rest on its side. The bodies of several victims were still lying in this part of the [illegible] when ambulances first arrived.



There workers gathered slowly along the railroad tracks at the scene of the Jordan train-bus crash to aid in the work of salvage—what little could be done. The score of dead were temporarily covered with [illegible]

Here's part of the school bus wreckage piled together showing the complete and demolishing effect of the crash. Protruding from the mass in the foreground is the bent rear axle of the bus. It is snapped in half just short of the rear axle housing. The front wheels are still intact, background. Part of the springs of one of the [illegible]

This view shows how the wreckage of the bus was strewn along the right-of-way of the freight train. In the foreground is the frame of the school bus, compressed until its ordinary four-foot spread is only a matter of inches. One of the steel side walls of the bus is on the left, crumpled like tin-foil by the terrific impact. The seat which ran parallel to the side wall of the bus was hardly torn in this section of the wreckage. There was no semblance of shape to this section of the wreckage which had also been dragged for over two blocks along the rails.

Des Moines, Dec. 1, 1938

Scribe Gives Crash Views

Editor's note—This description of the scene of the Jordan School wreckage tragedy was written for The Des Moines News by Wilby Durham, staff writer and eyewitness.

BY WILBY DURHAM

On our way to the accident we passed the first two ambulance loads of injured, dead and dying. It was speeding, the road was dry, and one ambulance narrowly missed hitting us as it rumbled at 70 miles an hour.

The freight train had been uncoupled at the point where the accident occurred. The upper shell of the crumpled yellow school bus lay 75 feet up the tracks where it had been hurled by the terrific impact. The train had rolled nearly two blocks after the fatal crash.

Bodies Strewn 2 Blocks

All around us were hysterical parents, sheriffs officers, police, doctors and milling spectators. Bodies were strewn for two blocks along the railroad tracks. Men were loading them into trucks, ambulances, anything.

Those lying on the ground were crudely covered with whatever was at hand. School books, brief cases, hand instruments, shoes—some with feet still in them, were scattered around the point of impact like chaff.

I watched deputy sheriffs as they loaded 14 bodies into a truck, a make-shift ambulance. Grief-stricken parents looked into each bundle as it was placed on the truck. Most of them turned away with numbed, horror-stricken looks. Identification for the most part was an impossible task.

I walked north along the tracks in the direction in which the train had been traveling. All along the way, in the furrow pits, beneath the freight cars, books and mutilated bodies

deputy reached under one car and picked up a leg.

Motor Torn From Bus

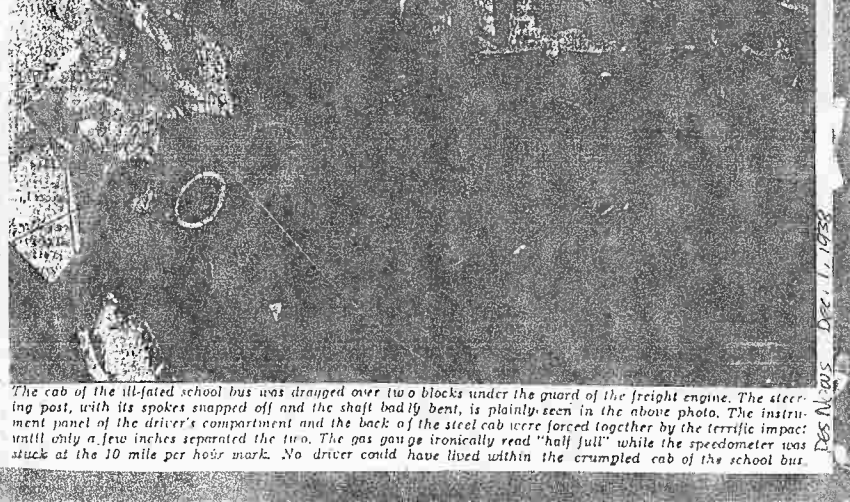
More than a block from the point of impact I saw the motor of the school bus, torn completely away from the bus. Fifty feet farther, lying in the borrow pit where they had been tossed by the speeding train, were the front wheels of the bus, axel, wheels and tires still together. I passed two groups of men sacking up parts of mangled bodies in blankets.

I reached the locomotive. One side of the wrecked school bus still clinging to the front of the locomotive. Crushed underneath the guard of the engine was another large piece of the vehicle.

Part on Top of Engine

Part of it had been flung up to the very top of the engine where it dangled on the headlight. The part of the bus under the guard was identified as the floor of the vehicle. Ironically, one of the seats of the bus still stood upright, undamaged as it nestled under the front of the locomotive.

Sheriff S. Grant Young ordered men to lift up the mangled mass under the guard of the engine to see if any bodies were underneath. There were none.



The cab of the ill-fated school bus was dragged over two blocks under the guard of the freight engine. The steering post, with its spokes snapped off and the shaft badly bent, is plainly seen in the above photo. The instrument panel of the driver's compartment and the back of the steel cab were forced together by the terrific impact until only a few inches separated the two. The gas gauge ironically read "half full" while the speedometer was stuck at the 10 mile per hour mark. No driver could have lived within the crumpled cab of the school bus.

DES MOINES Dec. 1, 1938

Door Is Only Undemolished Part

Another photo of the rear section of the school bus shows the portion which was least damaged in the devastating crash. The rear door swung open and stayed in that position following the crash. Although torn free of the chassis of the bus, it is the only portion of the school bus which retained any semblance of its original shape. Seats are still intact along both sides. It was in this section that the injured were riding.

Here's List Of Students Believed Riding On Bus

Following are students who normally ride the ill fated bus:
Douglas Brown, Riverton.
Marrie Beckstead, Riverton.
Mark Bateman, South Jordan.
Helen Christensen, Hardman.
Neal Beesley, Riverton.
Howard Larsen, Riverton.
Lee Johnson, Riverton.
Rosa Larsen, Bluffdale.
Helen Lloyd, South Jordan.
Manford Osborne, South Jordan.
Ray Miller, Riverton.
Virginia Nelson, Riverton.
Marie Smith, Riverton.
Gloria Stevenson, Riverton.
Boys:
Glen Romp, Riverton.
Dale Aagard, Riverton.
Wilbert Wells, Riverton.
Naomi Webb, Riverton.
Helen Young, South Jordan.
Dexter Pace, Riverton.
Kenneth Peterson, Riverton.
Ole Peterson, South Jordan.
Duane Parkinson, Pierpont.
Jack Stevenson, Riverton.
Jay Smith, Riverton.
Harold Sanderson, Riverton.
Vesta Sandquist, Pierpont.
Naomi Lewis, Bluffdale.
Marrie Groves, South Jordan.
Theneva Green, Riverton.
Robert Egbert, Riverton.
Lorraine Florian, Riverton.
George Gilbert, Riverton.
William Glazier, Riverton.
Louise Hardman, Bluffdale.
George Hunt, West Jordan.
Russell Webb, Riverton.
were scattered all along the injured was.

Rail Official Tells Of Crash

[illegible] impossible for the terrible tragedy to have been avoided under the circumstances, declared Richard A. Hart, public relations man of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad upon his return from the scene of the accident today.

The route followed by the bus driver is what is known as the lower route, and it makes a full S loop over the tracks. The fireman said he saw the bus stop and then start up. Our train struck it, and the result was terrible, fine third of the bus was taken on the locomotive and the balance of the truck was left on the scene. Parts of the bodies

We do not want to blame anyone and we are not trying to shift responsibility, but we do want to avoid the future loss of [illegible] We cannot reverse the hands of those who are dead, but we can work to see that this shall not have died in vain. We suggest, first that a warning signal upon this crossing.

Use of these crossings should be prohibited until they are equipped with signal devices which would afford some degree of safety to the traveling public. This train was one of our fast freights and was not traveling even at its usual speed when the crash occurred. We ask that the public withhold judgment until a full investigation can be made."

Fireman Sees Buss And Yells But Too Late

"Big Holer!" yelled Fireman Alfred Elton.

That cry, ringing through the cab of the "Flying Ute," Denver & Rio Grande fast through freight speeding at 50 miles an hour toward Salt Lake City, told Engineer E. L. Hoffmeyer that something was on the track.

Immediately the engineer dropped the whistle cord and applied all brakes.

A crash and human screams were nearly audible above the sound of the engine and screeching of the brakes. Pieces of humanity and truck were flying in every direction.

The train screamed to a stop. Silence seemed to reign for one brief, horrible second. Then there were more screams and people scurrying about.

That is the shocking human drama haunting the engine crew of the train which this morning crashed into a Jordan High School bus, killing some students and injuring others. The tragedy occurred at "Schulsen's Crossing," near 10th South and Fourth West Streets.

The road, along which the bus was traveling, parallels the track for several hundred feet and then turns at a right angle over the crossing. The bus traveled north along this strip, turned right, stopped, and then drove onto the crossing, directly into the path of the moving freight.

Elton said he yelled "Big Holer!" a railroad term meaning

Missed Bus

SCOTT WHERRY
He missed the bus . . .

7 Miss Bus; Lives Spared

The hand of fate watched over seven Ace Trucking employees Friday when seven failed to catch a bus to work.

The employees, who caught two other buses, were Scott Wherry, Bob Freeman, Ralph Page Larsen, Kenneth Fisher, Gilbert Rogers, Robert Lowe Seal and Jack Stephenson.

Scott Wherry is shown at the bridge that helped save the seven. Because he school bus because the Riverton bus was late in making connections with the death car.

Reaching the connection station late, the students expressed their disappointment because of the delay. Later they were glad something blocks the track, the moment he saw the bus move toward the tracks, but it was then too late. The next thing he saw was the bus doubled around the front of the slow catcher.

"I don't understand how the bus got so far over on the track as it did," said Freeman Elton, "it seemed like the train would catch the back of the engine and pull it off the track, but instead the conductor got it squarely in the middle."

Both Freeman Elton and Head Brakeman of M. Kelly and witnesses of the bus say that the bus came to a full stop and then moved into the track. The only reason the train men could see for the truck to move onto the crossing was that steam on the windows obscured the driver's view.

The train men all reside in Salt Lake. Engineer Bohmer lives at 3301 Fifth East Street. Fireman Elton at 3301 Fifth Avenue. Brakeman Kelly, 1442 Emerson Avenue and Conductor J. P. Ryan, 167 First Avenue.

Deputy J. E. Schenk of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's office interviewed the train men as part of a thorough investigation of the tragedy.

BUS FUND DRIVE SWELLED BY BIG CONTRIBUTIONS

Ore Sentinel—23 Dec. 1938

The campaign to raise funds for the families of the tragic Jordan school bus disaster victims gained new impetus this week, and is now approximately $6,500, according to B. A. Rasmussen, committee member.

Two large contributions were largely responsible for the great increase in the fund since last week. A check for $1,000 was received a few days ago by the committee from the L. D. S. church, and another check for a similar amount was contributed by Salt Lake county.

Those who have not yet contributed are asked not to delay any longer; and to make their donation as soon as possible to any committee member or direct to the Jordan school district office, Mr. Rasmussen said.

Gov. Blood Investigates Bus Accident

Expresses State's Sympathy For Families

Gov. Henry H. Blood, quickly disposing of early office engagements, this morning hurried to the scene of the tragic accident to make a personal investigation.

Before leaving for the scene the governor issued the following statement:

"Such an appalling disaster as early reports indicate stuns the consciousness. It would be my desire to call at each stricken home to express sympathy, but instead I can only avail myself of the press to convey feelings.

"The people of the state are unitedly mourning over this terrible calamity."

Meanwhile four departments of the state government were making independent investigations of the disaster. On instructions from O. F. McShane, a member of the State Industrial Commission, three employes of the commission hurried to the accident.

They were Harold R. Mayo, general inspector of the commission, Ernest Rammelmeyer, inspector for the state insurance fund, and H. Wells Culmer, assistant claims adjuster for the fund.

Will Have No Liability

Interest of the inspector concerns state liability. The state insurance fund carries some insurance for school district. Mr. McShane emphasized, however, that the state would have no liability for the death or injury of the passengers, and would only be interested from an insurance point of view in the driver of the bus.

If the driver were a direct employe of the school district, the fund would be directly interested.

DES. NEWS, DEC 1, 1938

Victim's Lessons Lie Unfinished

Here lie a day's lessons, neatly done, destined never to reach the classroom. Although nearly 30 feet from the scene of the actual crash, this page of grammar rested right side up on the snowy ground, just a few feet from one of the many still bodies. Near it was a corrected spelling lesson, the red marks of the teacher's comments plainly visible. They are just two of the many completed lessons which did not reach the schoolroom today.

Memorial Service Held at J.H.S. for Disaster Victims; Safety Program Outlined

Ute Sentinel 9 Dec. 1938

Alma F. Smith delivered the memorial address at special services held Tuesday at the Jordan high school, under direction of Principal L. W. Nielson, honoring the memory of 24 school mates, who were killed in the tragic bus-train crash December 1.

More than 800 students joined in the solemn service which was conducted by student body president, Warren Thompson. The service opened with the singing of, "Sometime We'll Understand", by the mixed chorus of the Jordan high school, under direction of J. C. Crapo. The invocation was by D. Stanley Adams, instructor of the Jordan seminary; Miss Lucille Tuttle of the high school faculty, gave a reading from the twentieth chapter of John. Dr. C. N. Jensen spoke briefly, commending the students and asked them to have a determination to carry on.

Principal L. W. Nielson gave a talk on, "Our School Mates". He also called attention to the many sympathetic communications received from various places thruout the nation. The services concluded with the chorus singing, "God Be With You, 'Till We Meet Again". The benediction was by Lee Olson, instructor of the Jordan high school.

According to Supt. Jensen, a three-point program which may help to prevent the repetition of terrible tragedy, was outlined by the district board of education and mailed to the state road commission, and to Charles H. Skidmore, state superintendent of public instruction.

Following a careful deliberation the board has the following suggestions to make in order that safety in the transportation of school children to and from school, may be enhanced:

1 Routing of all school buses over specific roads where these roads cross railroad tracks, might very well be made by the state road commission. The number (of crossings) should be reduced as far as it is conveniently possible.

2 Where the roads are designated, it is suggested that the railroads provide both visual and auditory signals.

3 That a general movement be started throughout the nation urging that railroad engines and trains be required to be painted a conspicuous, contrasting color, the same as is required of the school buses.

The Weather

UTAH—Partly cloudy; probably snow flurries in north

TEMPERATURES

7..... 34 10..... 34 1..... 35
8..... 34 11..... 35 2..... 35
9..... 33 12 m.. 34 3..... 37

UTAH'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER — FIRST IN EVERYTHING

Salt Lake Telegram

HOME Edition

VOL. XXXVII, NO. 262. Published evenings except Sunday. Entered at the post office at Salt Lake City as second class matter under act of March 3, 1879. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 1, 1938. Wyoming, month, 30c; year, in advance, $3.60; elsewhere in U. S., and Canada, month, 35c; year, $4.20. PRICE FIVE CENTS

24 KILLED IN BUS CRASH

There Was no Warning Signal

The railroad crossing at which the tragic school bus-freight train collision took place Thursday morning was not marked with a warning signal, investigators revealed.

Officials of the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad said a cross-buck signal, bearing the words "RR Crossing, Look Out for the Cars," which had been placed at the entrance to the crossing, had been knocked down.

Investigators said the scene is entirely open, with no trees, signs or buildings to obstruct vision. The actual crossing is nearly level with the road, with only a "perceptible grade."

The railroad crossing, the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad's fast freight, the "Flying Ute," tore into its cargo.

Railroad officials at first estimated the dead at 26, then cut it to 23. Count of whole or partially whole bodies stood at 24, 21 of them identified.

The Salt Lake General hospital reported receiving 20 of the bus' occupants, two of whom died in the hospital, and six of whom were critically injured.

The death list fluctuated so rapidly no absolutely accurate count could be obtained.

Rescuers worked throughout the morning picking up fragments of bodies along the tracks. They had gathered five baskets of fragments at last reports.

Shortly after the catastrophe rescuers were gathering the fragments in blankets, baskets, boxes, sacks—anything that would hold broken flesh and bone.

Salt Lake county sheriffs' office said "at least two-thirds of the estimated 40 pupil passengers are dead."

The freight train was due in Salt Lake City at 7 a. m., but was late, and a transient, David Witter, Denver, Colo., estimated its speed at "between 50 and 60 miles an hour" when it struck the bus at 8:56 a. m.

So frightful was the carnage, Mr. Witter said, "I thought the train had plowed into a herd of cattle."

The tragedy occurred when the northbound freight plowed into the eastbound bus broadside. The bus had been traveling north, but the road makes a right angle turn east at that point, then swerves north again. The bus was in the middle of the

(Continued on Page Seven, Column Four)

24 Known Dead in Jordan School Bus Tragedy

(Continued from Page One)

tracks headed east, when struck.

Pupils aboard the bus had been picked up at Riverton, South Jordan, West Jordan, Crescent and Bluffdale, school officials said.

No one was able definitely to say how many pupils were on the bus but official records of the Jordan high school listed 61 pupils absent from the district served by the bus. The bus normally holds 50 pupils, it was reported.

Parents Seek Children

Dazed and grief-stricken parents, some hysterical, wandered along the 85-car train trying to identify the fragments of what had been their boys and girls.

Scores of law enforcement officers from Salt Lake City and county tried to bring order out of chaos as nearly a score of ambulances rushed dead and dying to hospitals and mortuaries.

Midvale telephone operators summoned all available doctors and nurses in southern Salt Lake county and Miss Louella Mahaney, superintendent of nurses at Salt Lake General hospital ordered all county school nurses to report at the hospital for instant duty.

Salt Lake County Sheriff Grant Young, L. E. Butler, assistant superintendent of transportation in Jordan school district, and L. W. Nielsen, principal of the Jordan school, basing their accounts, they said, on a description given them by Alfred Elton, fireman of the freight engine, said the bus stopped at the crossing, then started across the tracks and "appeared to hesitate in the middle of the tracks."

The train engineer, E. L. Rehmer, 2700 Fifth East street, they said, sounded bell and whistle in a frantic attempt to warn the bus driver. Silcox apparently did not hear the warning until too late, and is unprotected. The regular crossing is about 500 feet north of that point.

"The freight was the fastest one on the line, is supposed to re as fast as a passenger train and it was late.

"The weather was very bad at the time, with a heavy snow storm and visibility very poor, which apparently prevented the driver from seeing the oncoming train."

R. H. Becker, superintendent of the Salt Lake Division of the railroad is in charge of the investigation.

Although 18 pupils were hospitalized to the general hospital shortly after the crash, seven conditions have improved in the morning, making a total of 13 persons admitted, four of whom, Helen Young, Riverdale, died in the hospital.

Five of the pupils were sent home after first aid treatment and at last reports 24 were still in the hospital, six of them in critical condition.

Other members of the train crew, besides Mr. Rehmer and Mr. Elton, were J. P. Ryan, 187 First avenue, conductor, and George M. Kelly and H. P. Nelson, both of Salt Lake City, brakemen.

Car Overturns

A blinding snow storm, which struck northern Utah Thursday, apparently obscured the driver's vision, investigators said.

Dr. J. S. Alley, Midvale, one of the physicians at the scene, said:

"The freight train, which was about one-half a mile long, was going so fast the caboose was almost on the crossing before the engine stopped."

The huge engine struck the bus broadside, hurled the crumpled body of the bus 50 yards to the west of the tracks. The chassis of the bus rode the front of the engine, twisted under the front wheels and finally derailed the front wheels of the locomotive.

The engine was worked back onto the tracks and sent into Salt Lake City at 11:15 a. m.

The crash occurred about one mile west and one and one-half miles south of the Jordan high school.

Although the highway on which the bus traveled to destruction is known as One Hundred Sixth South street, because of the "S" turn the bus actually crossed at what would be One Hundred Second South street.

State road commission records show the Jordan high school bus was inspected by the state highway patrol on September 14 and was approved as mechanically satisfactory.

Mr. Witter's description of the [illegible] was [illegible]

Hurled to Floor

"I was riding a reefer (fruit car) when the train hit the bus. I was hurled to the floor. When I looked out I thought the train had hit a herd of cattle, there was so much flesh and bone scattered around.

"Then I saw a girl sitting alongside the tracks. She was terribly mangled, but alive. She was screaming horribly, and hanging onto her purse with both hands. I jumped off the car and rushed over, but she died before I could reach her.

"God, that was awful!"

Waiting for Bus

June Wynn, 16, Crescent ward, was waiting at her home for the bus to pick her up. She lives close to the scene of the crash. She heard the impact, ran around the house, saw the disaster. Her father, William Wynn, ran to the tracks and was met by members of the train crew, who told him to summon doctors.

Summon Doctors

All those killed or injured are between 16 and 18 years old, said Mrs. Sarah Bergstrom, business superintendent at the Salt Lake General hospital. Mrs. Bergstrom said she arrived at the scene within 15 minutes of the time of crash and personally assisted in picking up 15 dead.

Hurt at Scene

R. A. Hart, assistant director of public relations for the railroad, visited the scene and said:

"The railroad does not wish to avoid any responsibility in this terrible tragedy. The accident occurred at a crossing where the road makes an S curve. Where the bus was struck is not a regular crossing

RACING TRAIN HITS VEHICLE CARRYING 42 JORDAN PUPILS

18 Children Seriously Hurt; Tragedy Occurs in Snow Storm Near Midvale

PHOTO STORY ON PAGE EIGHT
Other tragedy stories on Pages 7, 9 and 11.

A snowstorm, speed and lost time conspired Thursday to send an estimated 24 Jordan high school pupils to their deaths, with 18 injured, some gravely, when a D. & R. G. W. fast freight train plowed into a school bus near Midvale.

Fragments of torn bodies strewn along the railroad right of way, dangling from the locomotive and twisted into the torn remnants of the bus made immediate confirmation of the death toll difficult, but Dr. R. J. Alexander, superintendent of the Salt Lake General hospital, announced:

Twenty-one bodies have been identified and [illegible] more bodies, which never will be identified except through the process of determining exactly who are missing.

The wreck, described as the worst such tragedy in Utah history, occurred at 106th South and Third West streets at 8:56 a. m. when the bus loaded with what school officials estimated as 42 pupils was proceeding east along 106th South street toward Jordan high school.

As the bus, piloted by Farrold H. Silcox, 25, proceeded over

L OFFICIALS ORDER INQUIRY

rials of the Denver & Rio Western railroad at headin Denver immediately or- an investigation launched e cause of the school bus- train accident.

ning behind schedule, the ing Ute" the railroad's fastest night due in Salt Lake City from ver Thursday at 7 a. m. crashed to the school bus shortly before 8 a. m., when the D. & R. G. W. spatcher received the report.

Although definite details still re lacking at noon, the chief dis- tcher here said the giant locomo- e plowed into the bus at the first road crossing west of Lamplon- with of Midvale. The school bus ter had gathered its young pas- gers around Riverton and South rdan.

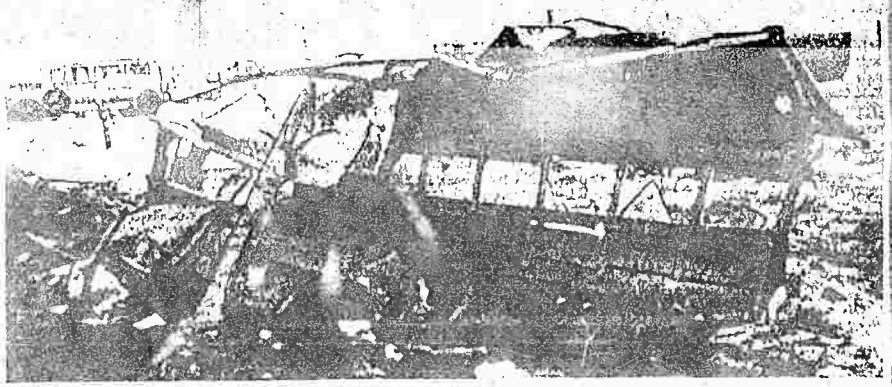
The fast freight had left Denver ediately at 6:30 a. m.

Reports to the dispatcher said ibility was poor because of ther conditions. The bus was shed to bits, his report said. - ntlike train crew are from Salt - City.

L. Rehmer, 2269 Fifth East reet, was at the throttle of the motive. The conductor was J. Styer, 167 First avenue.

As soon as the accident was re- rted to railroad officials they dis- tched doctors, nurses and ambu- nces from Salt Lake City. Rail- d officials immediately left for scene of the accident and sent ers to render all assistance ssible.

Mute Testimony Shows Force of Crash Which Snuffed Live



TWISTED REMAINS OF SCHOOL BUS SHOWN IN GRAPHIC PHOTO
Fragments of flesh, crumpled metal tell story of terrific impact

SORROW STALKS HOSPITAL HALLS

Heart rending grief that made women scream and forced men to weep like babies stalked the corridors of the Salt Lake General hospital Thursday as frantic parents sought to find their children, victims of the train-school bus accident that morning.

Huddled in the waiting room with nurses and attendants parents waited as I made the officials worried as identify the injured. As identification was made a sobbing parent ran to the bedside of her child, too thankful for words.

Nurses tied name tags on the beds while other attendants added names to growing lists of those identified.

Little Lorraine Freeman from Riverton, who was only severely bruised and shaken, found his mother and sobbing himself cried: "I'm the luckiest boy ever!"

Standing bewildered in the hallway was Mrs. Roy Glazier, 1954 East 4th avenue, sobbed: "Francine, only eleven, a child of three, who added his wails to the confusion. "I can't find him; maybe he wasn't on it. He had a cold, maybe he stayed home today." Soon she found out little Bill who lived in Jordan a mile grandmother lives Bill was dead.

Manford Gomen, who only got a great cut on his leg thought he was lucky too, though he wished his family would come. He didn't see what hit the bus, but he said: "Only the little ones got scared after it was over."

Mabel Smith, who lives in Riverton, wasn't badly hurt, but her sister, Ida, was feeling painful but Mabel said: "Isn't it wonderful the bus wasn't as crowded today as it was yesterday—just happened that way."

Nurses brought in scraps of clothing, bracelets and a piece of rock held them up before the parents in the waiting room. "Can anyone identify these?" Each one stared remembering what their child had worn that morning. There was a cut of gay blue plaid. None knew who had worn it. It's owner was dead.

THE SALT LAKE TELEGRAM, THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 1, 1938.

Recent Major Bus Tragedies

Major bus crashes of the last few years include:

Nineteen killed, 25 hurt when bus ran off road and burned near Oostning, N. Y., July 22, 1934.

Six killed, 15 injured in a bus-truck crash near Elyria, Ohio, April 16, 1934.

Fourteen killed in a school bus-train collision at Rockville, Md., April 12, 1933.

Five killed, 20 hurt in bus-auto crash near Bowie, Md., August 21, 19—.

Thirteen killed when bus plunged through a drawbridge at Hopewell, Va., December 22, 1933.

Victim Saw Disaster Nearing

How she saw destruction bearing down on her and her companions was told by Margie M. Groves of Riverton, Jordan high school student, while she was being treated for injuries at Salt Lake General hospital following the school bus-train crash Thursday.

"I was riding on the right side of the bus," Miss Groves explained. "The bus stopped for the crossing and then started across the track.

"Someone yelled, 'Train!' I looked up and saw a blur. It must have been the train.

"There was a terrific crash and all the students yelled.

"Then everything went black. When I came to I was lying beside the track in the snow. My side and back hurt me very badly. I was numb with cold.

"One of the other girls came over to me. She apparently was not hurt. She helped me to stand and just then a man came and told us to get into the caboose of the train. It was warmer in there. Then they brought us to the hospital."

TRAFFIC TOLL HITS DOUBLE 1937 TOTAL

In the split second Thursday in which 21 persons were killed in the train-school bus crash west of Midvale, Salt Lake county's traffic fatality total jumped to nearly double that of a year ago and put the state total to within two deaths of those killed during all of 1937.

The county's toll rose to 45 deaths, a 64 per cent increase over the 28 persons killed in traffic up to December 1, 1937, and far ahead of the 36 persons killed in the county during all of 1937.

TWO MEETINGS SPUR S. L. TRAFFIC SAFETY

Under a few hours after more than a score of school children were killed in a grade-crossing accident two meetings were under way in Salt Lake City Thursday, continuing a fight for traffic safety.

Among 35 truck drivers whose ucks are members of the Utah Motor Transportation association met at the chamber of commerce at 1 p. m. to hear an address by George Among 35 truck drivers whose ucks are members of the Utah Mo- Transportation association met at the chamber of commerce at 1 p. m. to hear an address by George [illegible] executive secretary of the new traffic safety commission. [illegible] H. Hawley, commission member, addressed a Parent-Teacher association group at the Lafayette [illegible].

GOVERNOR VIEWS SITE OF TRAGEDY

Shocked at news of the school bus-train wreck west of Midvale, Governor Henry H. Blood Thursday first sought to appease grief of bereaved parents through a public statement and then went to the accident scene to make a personal investigation.

He issued the following statement:

"Such appalling disaster as early reports indicate stuns the consciousness. It would be my desire to call at each stricken home to express sympathy, but instead I can only avail myself of the press to convey my feelings. People of the state are unitedly mourning over this terrible calamity."

Jordan School Classes Close

Shortly after news had reached the Jordan high school about the Jordan school bus-Denver & Rio Grande Western freight train crash, school officials dismissed classes.

Students, some of whom were classmates of the deceased, were saddened and deeply shocked when the news was spread about the accident.

Classes dismissed about 8:30 a. m.

CITY LENDS AID IN BUS DISASTER

Mayor John M. Wallace, City Commissioners William Mondoch, John B. Matheson and City Auditor Jorrold P. Beesley made a formal offer of assistance to county officials.

Mayor Wallace announced that city emergency hospital doctors and nurses have been released from their regular duties and assigned temporarily to the Salt Lake General hospital.

Reporter Describes Ghastly Crash Scene

By GORDON W. KIRBY
Telegram Reporter

There are dozens of stunned and grief-stricken parents and relatives, parading the length of the train, lifting blankets and coats and papers from the bodies of the 24 dead strewn about, hoping and fearing to find their children.

Sobs and shrieking and crying of all these people can be heard in other parts of bodies were strewn. People walked up and down the tracks picking the parts of bodies into baskets.

The scene of the horror was confusion of the force of the impact with parts of human flesh and [illegible] hanging on it after clearing the wreck [illegible] parts more than half a mile.

The train was going 52 miles an hour when it hit the bus and so far as we can there were no eye witnesses to the accident other than the survivors of the wreck.

The call for blankets was answered by people who arrived at the scene getting them out of their automobiles. The bodies were put into trucks, and I saw five bodies in one truck.

I got to the accident about 7 a. m. and at that time the ambulances were just beginning to pick up the dead strewn from one end of the train to the other. The bodies could be seen where they had rolled from the high bed of the train tracks.

(Continued on Page Nine)
(Column Three)

They Seek What They Dread Finding

VOLUNTEER RESCUERS AID AFTER TRAGEDY
A scene of gruesome activity on railroad right of way

Wreckage and Driver in Worst Traffic Tragedy in Utah's History

WHERE FAST FREIGHT, SCHOOL BUS COLLIDED NEAR MIDVALE

Graphic photograph shows front of locomotive with part of school bus wrapped around it's front

OFFICIAL LIST OF IDENTIFIED DEAD

Official list of identified dead in Thursday morning's Jordan school district train-bus tragedy follows: (Several of the dead were still unidentified late Thursday)

Farrold H. Silcox, driver, of Riverton.

Carol Stephenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Stephenson of Riverton.

Duane Parkinson, son of S. E. Parkinson of Crescent.

Viola Sundquist, daughter of Jack Sundquist of Crescent.

Blaine Page, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Page of Riverton.

Wilbert Webb.

Naomi Webb.

Helen Young, daughter of Parley H. Young of South Jordan.

Dean Winward, son of LeRoy Winward of South Jordan.

Kenneth C. Peterson, son of Mrs. L. W. Peterson of Riverton.

William H. Glazier.

Hyard Larsen, son of M. S. Larsen of Riverton.

Helen Lloyd, daughter of William H. Lloyd of South Jordan.

Lois Johnson, daughter of Oscar Johnson of Riverton.

Rae Miller.

Rosa Larson.

Virginia Nelson.

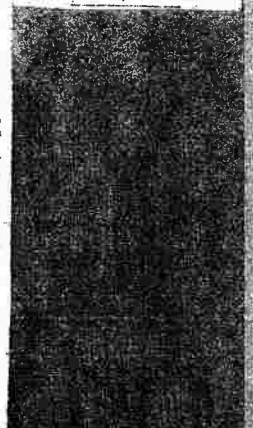
George Hunt.

Harold Sandstrom, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sandstrom, Riverton.

Naomi Lewis, daughter of Mrs. Myrl Lewis, Bluffdale.

Robert Egbert.

Only person who escaped without injury was LaRaine Freeman, son of Mrs. Mabel Freeman.



The Injured

Seriously injured and still in the hospital Thursday afternoon were:

Rela Beckstead, 15, daughter of R. V. Beckstead of South Jordan (critical).

Ann Webb, daughter of W. L. Webb of Riverton (critical).

Charles Beckstead.

Manfred Osborne, son of W. E. Osborne of South Jordan.

Louise Hardman.

Neal Densley, 15, son of Joseph Densley of Riverton (critical).

Gneva Green.

Marjorie Beckstead, 16 daughter of W. L. Beckstead of Riverton.

Russell Webb.

Ida Smith, daughter of L. A. Smith Riverton.

Mabel Smith, daughter of L. A. Smith, Riverton.

Douglas Brown, son of T. H. Brown, Riverton (critical).

Ella Peterson (critical).

The less seriously injured who were treated and released included:

Mack Bateman, whose guardian is Mrs. Minnie Beckstead of Riverton.

Amanuel Beckstead, 15, son of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead Riverton.

Margy Green, daughter of W. H. Green of South Jordan.

Glen Kump of Riverton.

December Opens With Storm; Death, Injury Follow in Wake

Precipitation Figures Exceed Normal to Brighten 1939 Water Prospects

December, following one of coldest Novembers on record in Salt Lake City, opened up with a snow storm Thursday that was blamed as a factor in a train-school bus wreck that killed at least a score of students and in traffic fatalities in Salt Lake City and county that injured at least 11 persons.

One person also was injured in an accident at Logan.

On the credit side, however, was a substantial addition to water and snow storage, already ahead of normal and last year's figures. The localized nature of the storm left state traffic unhampered.

Rain that began falling in Salt Lake City about 4 a. m. turned to snow to yield .26 of an inch of precipitation by 8 a. m., making a precipitation total since October 1 of 3.92 inches, compared with a normal of 2.85.

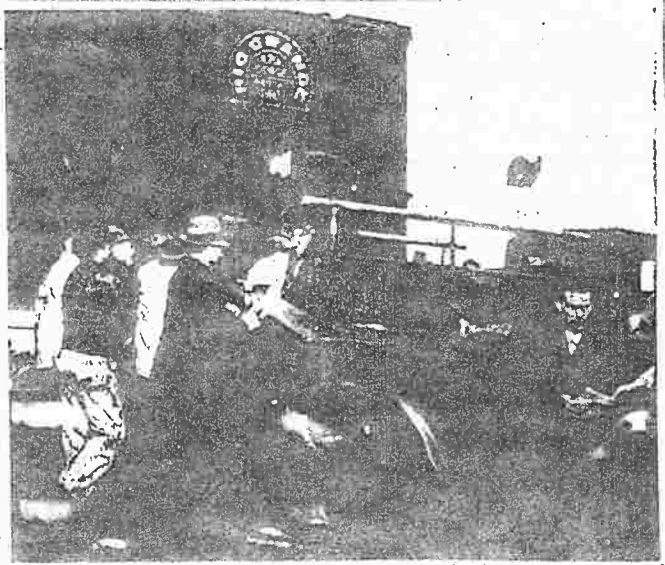
Temperatures suddenly rose above normal after the coldest November

(Continued on Page Twenty)
(Column Two)

DRIVER OF ILL-FATED BUS

Farrold H. Silcox, Riverton . . . Died in wreck

nother exterior photograph of the shattered Jordan school bus which carried score to death.



There were not enough hearses to carry away the dead; trucks were pressed into service to help.

They escaped in crash, Margie Groves and Glen Kump

These pupils miraculously escaped death in tragic bus-train crash. Ida Smith, left; Mack Bateman, Douglas Brown, LaRaine Freeman, Oneva Green, Manuel Beckstead, Mabel Smith

Six Agencies Launch Probe

Blood Investigating Crash Personally

Six different agencies were busy Thursday making investigations into the train-school bus crash southwest of Midvale. Governor Henry H. Blood launched a personal investigation.

A formal investigation is expected to be launched in the next few days, which will bring an inspector of the interstate commerce commission from Washington, D. C., and officials of the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad from headquarters in Denver.

Inspectors on Spot

The public service commission, which has been conducting a campaign to eliminate grade-crossing accidents and recently recommended 137 more or less dangerous crossings for actuated lead signals in the state, had R. N. Stubbler, chief railroad inspector, and Joe S. Fisher, general inspector, at the scene.

The state highway patrol sent all available men to the scene to give assistance under the direction of R. Whitney Groo, superintendent of the patrol, and Captain L. L. Fryer.

Captain Fryer on his return from the accident scene had little to say except that Superintendent Groo was making an investigation.

An informal investigation was carried on throughout Thursday by railroad officials under the direction of B. H. Decker, superintendent of the Salt Lake division, D. & R. G. W., assisted by James R. Loftis, assistant superintendent; C. R. Fitzgerald, claim agent, and D. G. Cunningham, master mechanic.

Insurance Is Factor

In case the driver of the demolished school bus should come under jurisdiction of the state insurance fund, this agency sent Harold R. Mays, general inspector, and H. Wells Culmer, claims adjuster, to the scene. If the driver was a contract driver, they would not be interested as far as the fund is concerned.

In a general survey to determine what official action the county may take, Harold E. Wallace, Salt Lake county attorney, and his chief deputy, Ray Van Cott Jr., went to the Salt Lake General hospital and to the death crossing. There they joined Lote Kinney, investigator for the county attorney's and district attorney's offices.

The Salt Lake county sheriff's office had deputies dispatched to the scene shortly after the accident was reported and this department was making a thorough investigation.

W. K. Granger, state public service commissioner, following an investigation made by his department, said:

"The crossing where the accident happened has often been considered for a train-actuated signal."

"Due to the fact the road and the crossing were so infrequently traveled a crossing signal had not been included in our program, but signals were considered for dangerous spots."

Mr. Granger pointed out that 137 crossings in the state have been recommended for actuated train signals and that this program will be done next year. He said plans for the signals have to be prepared and submitted to the bureau of public roads.

Money Available

Eugene H. Merrill, chief engineer of the public service commission, said Thursday there was more than $100,000 of federal money available for railroad crossing safety and that it did not have to be matched with state funds.

"We will go forward with a program of having warning signals installed at grade crossings rather than attempt to build one or two under or overpasses that cost so much to build," asserted Mr. Merrill.

He recalled that several minor railroad grade crossings in the state had been ordered closed.

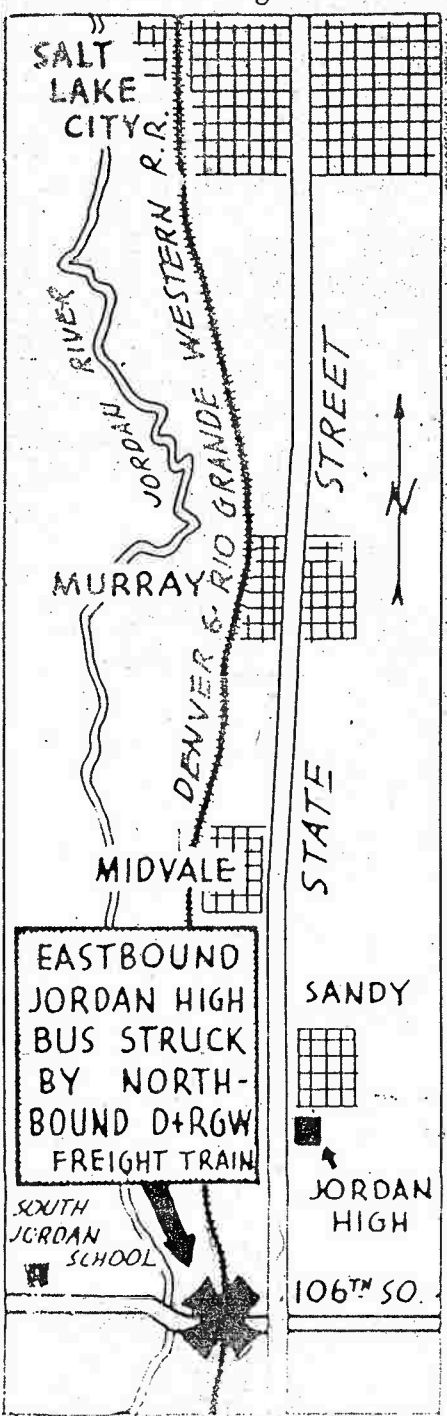
R. A. Hart, assistant relations director for the Denver & Rio Grande railroad, made the following statement on his return from the scene of the accident:

"We do not want to avoid any responsibility and we don't want to [illegible] accident. We desire to cooperate with all agencies in the interest of safety at all times."

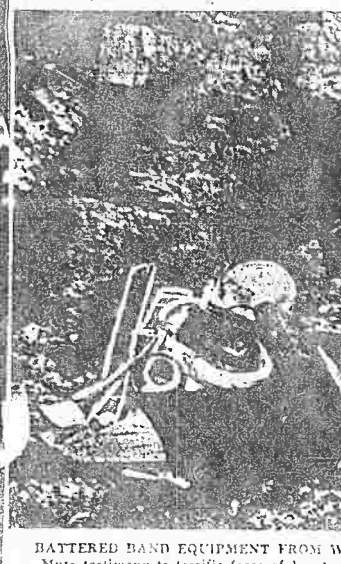
"In this case the accident could have been avoided if travel over this particular R crossing had been closed. This terrible crash happened because there is a dangerous sharp S curve at the point the bus driver attempted to cross over."

[illegible]

Site of Crossing Disaster



Band Instruments From Bus



BATTERED BAND EQUIPMENT FROM WRECKAGE
Mute testimony to terrific force of bus-train collision

Salt Lake Telegram
Thur Dec 1, 1938

List of Major Utah Disasters

Major Utah disasters listed chronologically:

May 1, 1900 — Scofield coal mine explosion, 200 killed.

March 8, 1924 — Castle Gate mine explosion, 172 persons killed.

February 17, 1926—Sap gulch, Bingham Canyon, avalanche 10 killed.

January 12, 1932 — Roosevelt, fire at home of J. H. Mayer Jr., six killed.

February 28, 1934—Near Salt Lake City, airliner crash, eight killed.

December 2, 1935 — Salt Lake City service station fire, two killed.

October 7, 1935—In Great Salt Lake Airplane crash, three killed.

October 7, 1935 — Near Cheyenne Wyo., airliner crashed en route to Salt Lake City, 10 killed.

December 15, 1936—Near Alpine, airliner crash seven killed.

October 16, 1937—Near Coalville, airliner crash 10 killed.

December 1, 1938—Near Midvale, 26 (estimated) killed in school bus-freight train collision.

CRUSHED BODIES FILL UP MORGUE

By WALT REESLEY
Telegram Reporter

A scene of broken hearts and dizzy, real, but unbelievable tragedy, rode with Death Thursday in one of the most appalling tragedies in Utah's history.

Crushed bodies, once alive and warm, lay strewn along the tracks, ground into railroad ties and tossed into pits along the track. The roaring train had blasted through young Life with one merciless smash.

To a fruitless rescue came hundreds of officials, neighborhood farmers and sympathetic citizens. They found Inert forms, silenced. They found screaming youths wracked in agonizing pain, and others unconscious, oblivious of their fate.

Pick Up Bodies

With trembling hands, more than a hundred choked witnesses picked up the broken bodies.

The tracks were lined with men picking up pieces of arms, legs and other scattered remnants of what a few minutes before had been high school students on their way to class.

The body of the bus, sheared off as if by lightning, was a ripped torn hulk of metal. More than 100 yards uptrack was the motor. Tires, wheels and parts of the frame were splattered the entire length of the train. The chassis was dangling on the front of the train, twisted and torn.

Few parents came to the crossing. They were directed to the county hospital.

Students from Jordan high school dismissed soon after, news of the tragedy reached the school, rushed to the scene to help in possible identification.

The train, pulling inexorably, pulled away from the scene to allow searchers to pick up remaining pieces of flesh, ground and torn from the tracks. The sickening process of gathering amputated legs and arms and other parts of the bodies from the underside of the freight cars was performed by railroad employes. Hollow-eyed witnesses looked on.

Shoes, broken band instruments, books and bits of clothing were piled along the side of the track. They were later piled into trucks and carried away.

Roads Clogged

As word of the tragedy spread, roads leading to the fatal crossing became clogged with the curious who soon streamed over the tracks, crushing under their feet fragments of flesh overlooked by others with bushel baskets.

Before noon the ground had been cleared of the remains—all except the unrecognizable, the blood and substance of more than 20 boys and girls.

Officers, sorrowful but methodical, went about their grim work with dispatch and within three hours from the time of the crash had cleared the scene, which, except for the straggling onlookers, stood out in the foggy gloom like a haunted spot.

Houses Deserted

Ranch houses were deserted. Neighbors were out to find who of their friends had been whisked into eternity.

From the death crossing the scene swung more realistically but none the less shocking to the county hospital, a bedlam of sorrowing mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters.

At the hospital it was a race with specters on one side and death on the other.

In separate rooms were groaning forms, some writhing in conscious pain, some too badly injured to realize their condition.

Blood transfusions oxygen tanks and everything at the physicians disposal was being used to keep alive those who were on the brink of death.

In the waiting room parents and relatives wept. Some women fainted and required medical attention.

All available nurses and doctors were frantically applying their skill to the monstrous job at hand.

The hospital morgue was full with bodies. On one table was a pile of flesh and bones all that was left of one—or several—of the youthful victims.

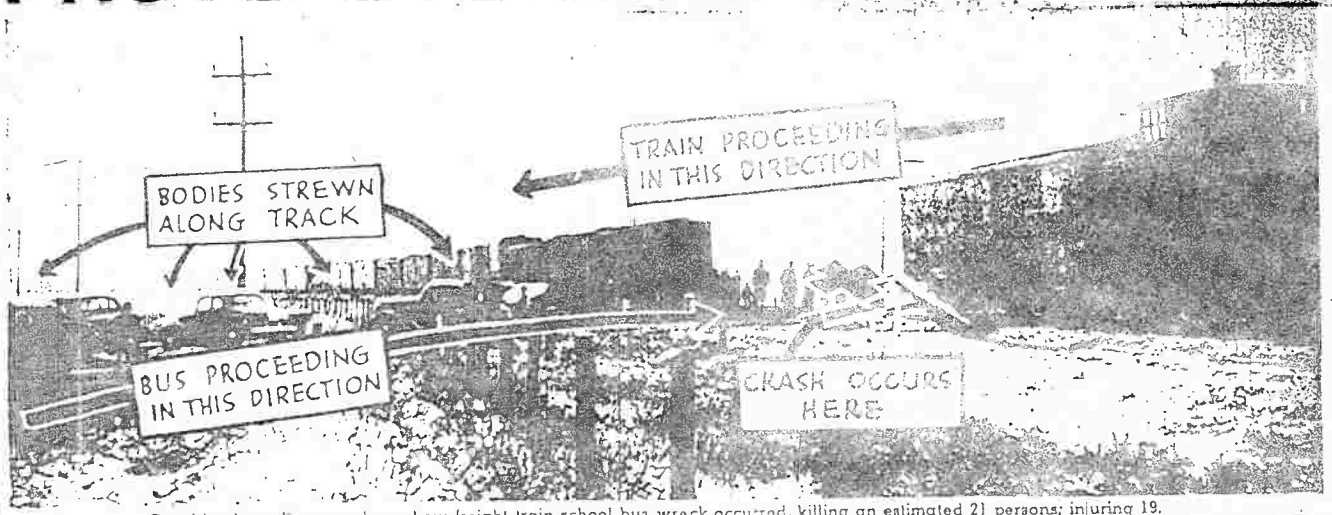
Some of the bodies were so horribly mangled attendants refused to allow heartbroken parents to view them.

Parents and relatives gave the hospital attendants clothes worn through the hours pressing vital information on the condition of those in whom they were interested.

One mother was sent from the morgue. Her son was apparently on the floor below her dead. Wearing one identification tag with his name, address and injuries and a second tag with a number.

Hope was only one of despair when hospital officials were trying

PHOTO STORY OF JORDAN BUS TRAGEDY



Graphic photo-diagram shows how freight train-school bus wreck occurred, killing an estimated 21 persons; injuring 19.

After the crash . . . Mrs. A. R. Beckstead kisses son who escaped with minor injuries

The interior of the school bus: rescue workers probe about wreckage in search of victims

One of "those left behind" . . . Mrs. E. E. Freeman comforts Mrs. Roy Glazier, whose son, William, was killed

David Witter, hobo aboard train, thought it hit herd of cattle

Utah's Pathetic Tragedy

Deseret News ——— Fri Dec 2, 1938

IT is impossible for words to express the deep sorrow which pervades every home in this community over the appalling tragedy which was enacted yesterday morning at the 106th South Street rail crossing one mile west and one and a half miles south of Jordan High School. These boys and girls, bound for the Jordan High School, left their homes and entered the school bus, laughing and chatting, as young people will, full of the joy of life and animated by the glowing dreams and ambitions characteristic of youthful spirits. Less than an hour after grief stricken parents, hysterical and blinded by tears, were searching along the body-strewn railroad tracks, hoping against hope that they might find their loved ones among the living.

So far as we know this is the most appalling school tragedy in Utah history. Twenty-three young lives were snuffed out in a moment and ten or more were terribly maimed and broken, some of whom will undoubtedly join their companions in death.

The bus carrying these school children was north bound along Third West Street which extends parallel to the railroad tracks. The highway makes a sharp right angle turn across the railroad at 106th South Street. On approaching this crossing it is believed that the driver of the bus stopped and inspected the tracks; but visibility was poor and although the railroad track is clear both north and south, no train was in sight. The fast freight, however, running some fifty or more miles an hour, bore down upon the bus and literally tore it to pieces, grinding the bodies of the helpless children under the wheels and strewing them along the tracks.

It is common to say that all accidents of this character are the result of negligence and carelessness. And it is safe to say that this lamentable tragedy might have been prevented by greater care and watchfulness on the part of a number of agencies and organizations. Every angle of this pathetic tragedy will no doubt be carefully investigated and the responsibility for it fixed so far as possible. It is understood that rules and regulations governing the transfer of children in the school buses are prescribed by the state and under the direction of the State Patrol system.

It is evident now that this was a dangerous rail crossing. What heart burning sorrow and loss would have been averted by having a watchman there, until such time as an under or over pass could have been constructed. It is possible that had the driver of the bus been informed that the fast freight was running late and might be expected to pass that point at any moment, he could have prevented the fatality.

But all suggestions by which this terrible tragedy might have been averted are now in vain. The hearts of the parents and kindred of these precious boys and girls are stricken with a grief and sorrow down with a sorrow that only time can soften or heal.

It is [illegible] to attempt to gild a grief, such as this [illegible] words, and yet the heart of The Deseret [illegible] goes out in deepest sympathy and love [illegible] the sorely stricken parents and kindred of these children.

Victims Killed In Jordan High Bus Crash Yesterday

Ole Petersen

Ole Petersen, 21, son of Ray and Martha Smith Petersen, of Riverton, died early yesterday in the Salt Lake General Hospital of injuries received in the fatal Jordan High School bus crash Thursday morning.

Ole was born at Riverton, May 23, 1917, at Sunset, Utah in Davis Co. He attended the Riverton elementary and junior high school and was graduated from the Jordan High in 1933. He took post graduate work at Jordan High School in 1935-36, and was a post graduate at the school this season, specializing in commerce.

Ole was active in Church auxiliaries and was a graduated of Jordan Seminary.

Besides his parents, he is survived by four brothers, Ray Dean Petersen of Draper, Rex Petersen of Murray, Willis Petersen and Robert Petersen of Riverton; two sisters, Mrs. Alton Ulreen of Salt Lake and Nelda Petersen of Riverton.

Virginia Nelson

Virginia Nelson, 15, daughter of Leo and Lillie Johnson Nelson of South Jordan was born March 23, 1923, at Burley, Ida.

The family moved to South Jordan where Virginia attended the South Jordan elementary school, and West Jordan Junior High School.

She was a sophomore at Jordan High School and a member of the Jordan Seminary.

She was active in Church auxiliaries.

Besides her parents, she is survived by one sister, Joyce, of South Jordan, and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson of Sandy.

Naomi Lewis

Naomi Lewis, 17, daughter of Myrl and Leota Frost Lewis of Bluffdale, was born in Francis, Utah, April 12, 1921.

Naomi was an active member of the Church, and at the time of her death was a teacher in Bluffdale Ward Sunday School.

She was also talented in dramatics, having taken part in several ward plays.

She received her early schooling in Marian, Summit County. She had been a resident of Bluffdale for the past eight years she attended the Riverton Junior High School and was a senior at Jordan High School. She was also a member of the Home Economic Club at the Jordan High School.

Besides her parents, she is survived by two sisters, Karine Lewis and Verona Lewis of Bluffdale; three grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lewis of Murray and Peter Frost of Bluffdale.

Miss Lewis died after being taken to a hospital.

Rosa Larson

Rosa Larson, 18, daughter of M. S. and Virginia Howard Larson of Bluffdale, was born Oct. 25, 1920, at Bluffdale.

She was an active worker in the Church auxiliary organizations and at time of her death was a teacher in Bluffdale Ward Sunday School.

She was also a student of the Jordan seminary and expected to graduate from seminary in May. She received her early education at Bluffdale elementary school, and later attended the Riverton Junior High School.

She was a senior at the Jordan High School. Besides her parents she is survived by three sisters, Lola Mae, Donna Jean and Vera Larson all of Bluffdale, and grandfathers, Samuel H. Howard of Riverton and Chris Larson of Salt Lake.

Her brother Ivard Larson, age 13 was also killed in the crash.

The sister of M. S. Larson, father of the two Larson students who lost their lives, Mrs. Vida Larson Webb, also lost her son Wilbert, age 19, and daughter, Naomi, age 16, in the fatal crash, making a total of four grandchildren of Chris Larson of Salt Lake who were taken.

Robert H. Egbert

Robert H. Egbert, 16, son of Hershel and Mary Hansen Egbert of Riverton, was born Sept. 23, 1922, at Midvale. He had lived in Riverton since a small child.

His early schooling was at Riverton elementary and junior high schools. He was a junior at Jordan High School and was a member of the Jordan band. He had played in the school band for six years and together with most of his pals met death in the fatal accident, had played with the high school band at the P. T. A. meeting at South Jordan School, the evening before the fatal crash.

He was active in the Church, having topped the record in attendance at Primary in West Jordan Stake when he was graduated from the Primary in the M. I. A. in Riverton Ward. He also was a member of the Riverton basketball team.

Besides his parents, he is survived by one sister, Barbara Egbert and one brother, Jack Egbert of Riverton; his grandparents, Mrs. Sarah Egbert of West Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. John Hansen of Riverton.

Helen Young

Helen Young, 15, daughter of Parley A. and Ida C. Young, of South Jordan, was born Nov. 4, 1923, at Salt Lake.

Helen, a talented musician, was active in the Church auxiliary organizations, and at the time of her death was the organist in South Jordan Ward M.I.A. She was also a member of the Jordan High School Band.

Her father was formerly a high up in Cumberland and Superior, Wyo., and taught music for the Union Pacific Coal Company.

Miss Young was an accomplished musician, being proficient on the piano and saxophone. She participated in a concert the night before she boarded the doomed bus.

She was a junior of the Jordan High School. Besides her parents, she is survived by three brothers, Richard, Clark and Floyd Young; two sisters, Telma and Carol Young of South Jordan; and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Clark of Farmington.

Wilbert L. Webb

Wilbert L. Webb, 19, son of Wilbert M. and Vina Larson Webb of Bluffdale, was born Nov. 2, 1918, at Bluffdale.

He attended Bluffdale elementary and Riverton Junior High schools and was graduated from Jordan High School last June and was doing post graduate work at the school, where he was completing his training for the carpenter trade. He was an active member of the Jordan High School Band and was with the group from Jordan High School which represented Jordan in the 100 piece band at Kansas City in 1937.

He was also active in Church auxiliary organizations.

Besides his parents, he is survived by three brothers, Calvin E. Reed S., and Allen L. Webb, and two sisters, Caroline and Beverly K. Webb, all of Bluffdale. His sister, Naomi, age 16, was also killed in the crash.

Neal W. Densley

Neal W. Densley, 16, son of Joseph A. and Aurelia Wilson Densley of Riverton, was born Dec. 26, 1921, at Riverton.

He attended the Riverton elementary and junior high schools and was a junior student at the Jordan High School. He was also a member of the Jordan High school band.

Besides his parents he is survived by two brothers, Joseph Elson and Claud Densley; three sisters, Wanda, Doris and Joann Densley all of Riverton; six grandparents, Mrs. Elizabeth E. Densley of Riverton and Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Wilson of Benmore.

Neal was listed among the injured at the time of the accident but died at 3:30 p.m. Thursday following the accident, without regaining consciousness.

The body is at the Deseret Mortuary. He was a member of Riverton First Ward.

George Albert Hunt

George Albert Hunt, 17, was a son of Albert S. and Florence Cook Hunt of South Jordan.

George was born July 2, 1921, at South Jordan. He was an active Boy Scout and Explorer, and was a member of the Teachers' Priesthood Quorum.

He first attended the South Jordan elementary school and later the West Jordan Junior High School. He was a junior at Jordan High School where he was specializing in mechanics and agriculture.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Lawrence G. and Melvin Hunt, and two sisters, Rebecca and Alena Hunt, all of South Jordan.

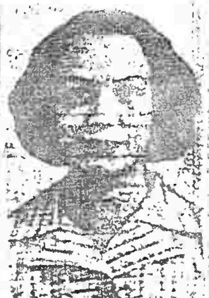
The body of the youth was not recovered early today and the parents have nothing but his coat for identification.

Farrold H. Silcox

Farrold H. Silcox, 28, driver of the Jordan School bus which crashed into a fast-moving freight train Thursday morning, was born June 22, 1910, at Riverton, son of N. H. and Minnie Brown Silcox.

He was active in the Church and was a graduate of the Jordan High School. He was also a former student of the Jordan seminary. He had been driving the Jordan bus for a number of years.

Surviving are his widow, Mary Adamson Silcox and one son, Lawrence, of Riverton; four brothers, Kenneth Silcox, Don Silcox, and Jack Silcox, of Riverton, a half brother, Thomas Calbutt of Riverton; four sisters, Mrs. Eva Carlisle of Murray, Mrs. Elenore Jenkins of Midvale, Miss Margaret Silcox of Riverton, and a half sister, Mrs. Stella Egbert of West Jordan.



Rae Miller

Rae Miller, 16, daughter of George and Julia Casper Miller of Bluffdale, was born Oct. 28, 1922 at Bluffdale.

She was active in Church auxiliaries and at the time of her death, was a student of the Jordan Seminary. She attended the Bluffdale elementary school and Riverton Junior High School. She was a junior at the Jordan High School.

Besides her parents, she is survived by two sisters, Lois and Marilyn Miller, and one brother, Stanley Miller, all of Bluffdale, and a grandfather, J. G. Casper of Bluffdale.

William Glazier

William Glazier, 17, son of Roy and Max Bills Glazier of 1954 Claybourne Avenue, Salt Lake, was killed in the fatal bus crash. He had lived the past several years with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Bills of Riverton, and attended school at Jordan.

William was born April 5, 1921, at Riverton where he resided until the past six years when the family moved to Granite, and then to Salt Lake a year ago.

He received his early education in the Riverton school, later attending school at Granite. He also attended the Riverton Junior High School. He was a junior at Jordan High School at time of his death.

He was an active member in the various Church auxiliary organizations.

Besides his parents he is survived by three brothers, Clarence, Calvin and Harold Glazier of Salt Lake; seven sisters, Mrs. Venice Peterson of [illegible], California; Mrs. Rosetta [illegible], LaVaughn, Marjorie, [illegible] Carroll, and May all of Salt Lake City, and grandparents Mr. and Mrs. David Bills of Riverton and Charles William and Rosetta E. Glazier of Mesa, Arizona.

The body is at the [illegible] Goff Mortuary in Midvale.

Funeral services will be held Sunday at 1 p.m. at the Grandview Ward at 2802 South 9th East Street, Salt Lake City, Bishop Howick will be in charge.

Interment will take place in the Wasatch Lawn Cemetery.

Roland B. Page

Roland Blaine Page, 17, son of Roland and Cleo Bateman Page of Riverton, was born March 27, 1921, at Riverton.

He attended the Riverton elementary and junior high schools and was a junior at Jordan High School.

An active member of the Church, he had been ordained a Teacher in the Priesthood. He was a member of the M Men basketball team of Riverton First Ward.

Blaine died at the fatal crossing and his childhood sweetheart also was killed in the same accident.

Besides his parents, he is survived by one sister, Mavis; three brothers, Noel J., Glen and Lynn Page all of Riverton, his grandparents, Mrs. Harriet E. Page of Riverton, and Patriarch and Mrs. James A. Bateman of West Jordan.

Viola Sundquist

Viola Sundquist, 17, daughter of Jack and Ida M. Sundquist of Crescent, was born March 5, 1921 at Crescent.

She attended the elementary school at Crescent and Draper Junior High School and was a senior at Jordan High School.

Besides her parents, she is survived by four brothers, Hugh Sundquist, Salt Lake; George Sundquist and Kenneth Sundquist of Crescent, and Alvin Sundquist of Guam Island; two sisters, Leona Sundquist of Berkley, Calif., and Ruby Sundquist of Crescent and a grandmother, Mrs. Marie Sundquist of Crescent.

Dean Lee Roy Winward

Dean Lee Roy Winward, 15, son of Lee Roy and Mildred Densley Winward of Riverton, was born Jan. 7, 1923, at Riverton.

He attended the Riverton elementary and junior high schools and was a sophomore at the Jordan High School where he was a member of the school band.

He was a teacher in his priesthood quorum and active as a Boy Scout.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two sisters, Veloy and Donna and four brothers, Grant, Gail, Donald, Dennis and Frank Winward all of Riverton, also his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Moses Densley of Riverton and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Winward of South Jordan.

He was a member of Riverton First Ward.

Byard Larson

Byard Larson, 15, son of M. S. and Virginia Howard Larson of Bluffdale, was born Jan. 20, 1923 at Bluffdale.

Active in the Church, he had been ordained a Teacher in the Priesthood. He was a first class Scout in the Bluffdale troop.

He attended Bluffdale elementary school and Riverton Junior High School. He was a junior at the Jordan High School, and a member of the Jordan High School Band.

Besides his parents, he is survived by three sisters, Lola May, Donna Jean and Fern Larson, all of Bluffdale, and grandparents, Samuel H. Howard of Riverton and Chris Larson of Salt Lake.

His older sister Rosa, also was killed in the fatal crash. His elder brother, Elmer, died a few years ago of pneumonia.

Carol V. Stephensen

Carol V. Stephensen, 16, son of Steven Y. and Hazel Giles Stephensen, was born Aug. 20, 1922, at Riverton. He was an active member of the Church.

He received his early education in the Riverton elementary school later attending the Riverton Junior High School. He was a junior at the Jordan High School at the time of his death.

Besides his parents he is survived by five brothers, Mont, Max, Jack, Mark and Gaild Stephensen; three sisters, Beverly, Colleen and Carma Stephensen, all of Riverton, and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse H. Giles of Ogden.

Helen Lloyd

Helen Lloyd, 17, daughter of William H. and Mary A. Newbold Lloyd of South Jordan, was born Dec. 12, 1921, at South Jordan.

She was an active worker in the Church auxiliary organizations and at the time of her death was secretary of the South Jordan Ward Y. W. M. I. A. She received her early education at South Jordan elementary school, later attending the West Jordan Junior High School. She was a junior at Jordan High School and was a member of the West Jordan Junior High School Band.

Besides her parents she is survived by four brothers, Melbourne Lloyd, Crescent; Henry F. Lloyd, Riverton; Lawrence W. and Harold Lloyd of South Jordan; two sisters, Mrs. Ruth Garside of Ogden, and Mrs. Muriel [illegible] of Tremonton.

Harold W. Sandstrom

Harold Wilford Sandstrom, 15, son of Harry W. and Anna Mae Crane Sandstrom of Riverton, was born July 29, 1923, at Riverton.

He attended the Riverton elementary and junior high school and was a sophomore at the Jordan High School. He was a member of the advanced Jordan High School Band, and he, with many of his classmates who met in yesterday's accident had played in the Jordan High School Band which furnished music for the South Jordan P.-T. A. social Wednesday evening at the South Jordan School.

Harold was a teacher in the Priesthood and an active Boy Scout.

He was graduated from the junior genealogical class at the stake genealogical convention held Sunday at Riverton Second Ward.

Besides his parents he is survived by one brother, Carrol Henry, and two sisters Diane Merl and Violet Mae Sandstrom of Riverton, and his grandmother, Mrs. Jeannette Crane of Herriman. He was a member of Riverton First Ward.

Naomi Webb

Naomi Webb, age 16, daughter of Wilbert M. and Vina Larson Webb of Bluffdale, made the second victim in the same family in the fatal bus crash Thursday morning. Her 13-year-old brother, Wilbert L., was also killed.

Naomi was born Aug. 29, 1922, at Bluffdale. She was active in the Church auxiliary organizations and was a student of the Jordan Seminary.

She attended the Bluffdale elementary school and the Riverton Junior High School.

She was a junior student at the Jordan High School. Besides her parents she is survived by three brothers, Calvin C., Reed S. and Allen L. Webb; two sisters, Caroline and Beverly K. Webb, all of Bluffdale; and a grandfather, Chris Larson of Salt Lake.

Lois Johnson

Lois Johnson, 17, daughter of Oscar Johnson of South Jordan, was born Nov. 15, 1921, at South Jordan.

She was an active member of the Church auxiliary organizations. She attended the South Jordan Junior High School, and was a junior at the Jordan High School. She was the junior class editor of the yearbook at Jordan at the time of her death.

She is survived by her father, one brother, J. Leonard Johnson of South Jordan; two sisters, Mrs. Irene Smith of Pleasant Grove, and Mrs. Violet Price of South Jordan.

Louis Parkinson

Louis Duane Parkinson, 15, son of Samuel E. and Alice M. Parkinson, was born Jan. 26, 1923 at Screscent.

He attended the Crescent elementary school and Draper Junior High School, and was a junior at the Jordan High School.

He was a member of the Church and active in the priesthood quorum of his ward.

Besides his parents, he is survived by three brothers, Thomas R. and Eugene S. Parkinson of Crescent and Joseph L. Parkinson of Salt Lake; two sisters, Mrs. Lillian Hughes of Salt Lake and Mrs. Evelyn Young of Los Angeles.

Kenneth C. Peterson

Kenneth C. Peterson, 17, son of Louis W. Peterson and Grace Vaudrey Peterson of Riverton, was born Feb. 28, 1921, at Riverton.

His early education was at Riverton elementary and Riverton Junior High School. He was a senior student at the Jordan High School. Kenneth was active in Church organizations.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Gayle Peterson of Salt Lake, and Bruce Peterson of Riverton; five sisters, Mrs. Mary Bennett, Mrs. Alda Lovel, and Mrs. Gladys Morrow, all of Garfield; Mrs. Velma Orr and Mrs. Ivie Brady of Salt Lake.

Crashes Kill 203 In State During 1938

Utah Road Toll Increasing; S. L. Has Black Mark

By THERON LIDDLE

Utah today stands branded with the worst traffic record in the nation.

This state was the scene of the greatest highway tragedy in the history of the United States when 23 persons were killed 15 miles south of Salt Lake City yesterday morning as a giant freight train plowed into a Jordan District High School bus, leaving the dead and dying scattered half a mile up the railroad right-of-way.

Utah has one of the three highest traffic mortality rates in the nation, for each 100,000 persons in the state, 44 will have died during 1938 by the time this month has ended.

Traffic Death Increase

But the blackest mark against Utah is that traffic deaths are increasing each year in the state. So far this year, 203 persons have died. At this time last

Two more black marks have been chalked up against Utah's traffic record in just two days of December. Utah has the nation's worst traffic record, according to figures compiled today. Each day there is a traffic fatality in Utah, this calendar will be blackened to mark the day. Both black marks this month were due to the tragic crash in Jordan District yesterday. The dead today of the Petersen, 17, injured in the crash yesterday, added the second black mark against the state in just two days.

year, 182 persons had been killed.

During the first seven months of this year, 41 states reported traffic fatality reports to the National Safety Council. Utah reported same—with the largest fatality increase in the nation.

The Beehive State reported an increase of 19 per cent in traffic deaths. Only two other states, Minnesota and North Dakota, reported increases—but these gains were only eight per cent and four per cent, respectively.

Other 39 Can Tell

The other 39 states reported more able to tell the National Safety Council that new laws of their traffic death toll—some of them as much as 45 per cent.

Based on percent figures, Utah

Jordan High Flag Flies At Half-Staff

The Jordan High School flag, above, flies at half-staff in tribute to victims of yesterday's train-bus disaster; below, left to right, Dr. Claude Richards, president of the Jordan School District Board; Dr. C. N. Jensen, superintendent and L. W. Nielson, principal, confer on plans for funerals for the 23 victims of the disaster.

New Crash Death Boosts Bus-Train Fatalities To 23

Ole Petersen Latest Victim; Families Prepare Funerals As Investigation Continues

(See additional stories and pictures of Jordan bus-train crash victims and funeral arrangements on pages six and seven.)

Stunned by the horror of yesterday's high school train-bus crash carnage, Utah today watched the death toll mount to 23 as one more victim succumbed to the tragedy which already had snuffed out the lives of 22 youngsters.

Yet while stricken homes were receiving friends and relatives gathered to bury their loved ones,

Complete Death List

A revised list of the dead in the Jordan High School bus tragedy, as of 11 p. m., follows:

Farrell Harding Sikes, 16, Riverton, driver; husband of Mary Sikes, and son of Sicnel Ira H. Sikes of Riverton.

Diane Perkinson, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Perkinson, Crescent.

Dean LaRon Winegard, 16, son of LeRon and Mildred Hawley Winegard, Riverton.

Kenneth H. Peterson, 17, son of Lenia and Grace Lundin Peterson, Riverton.

William H. Gibb Carter, 15, son of Ben Hadley and Gertrude Rolland and Ellen Bateman Page, Riverton.

Carol Stephenson, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Stephenson, Riverton.

Robert Egbert, son of Hershel and Mary Hansen Egbert, Riverton.

Rosa Larson, 17, daughter of Sylvester and Virginia Howard Larson, Bluffdale.

Naomi Lewis, 15, daughter of Mervil and Leona Frost Lewis, Bluffdale.

Vida Sundquist, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sundquist, Crescent.

Willard L. Webb, 19, son of Willard and Vina Larsen Webb, Bluffdale.

Naomi Webb, 16, sister of Willard L. Webb.

Neal Wilson Densley, 16, son of Joseph Aaron and Vorella Wilson Densley, Riverton.

Ole Petersen, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Petersen, Riverton.

son of Mr. and Mrs. David Dills, Riverton.

Helen Young, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Parley A. Young, South Jordan.

Ilo Ard Larson, 15, son of Sylvester and Virginia Howard Larson, Bluffdale.

Helen Loyd, 16, daughter of William H. and Mary New Loyd, South Jordan.

Harold Sanders, 15, son of Harry and Annie Mae Clarke Sanderson, Riverton.

Lois Johnson, 16, daughter of Oscar Johnson, Riverton.

Lola Mae Miller, 16, daughter of George and Jona Carnes Miller, Bluffdale.

Virginia Nelson, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Nelson, Riverton.

George Hunt, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Hunt, South Jordan.

Roland Blaine Page, 17, son of

Deseret News Dec 2, 1938

Doctors, Nurses Praised For Aiding Injured In Bus Crash

Ambulances And Medical Men Rush To Scene Of Accident To Give Efficient Service

As the hysteria and panic of Utah's major disaster quieted today, the availability and efficient work of Salt Lake County's medical men and resources, especially work of the General Hospital staff, were highly commended.

Just as soon as the accident report came in every available ambulance in the city and county rushed to the scene. County hospital internes, accompanied by two nurses were sent in taxicabs and by the time the patients arrived at the hospital surgeons were ready to give them immediate attention.

Staff members and nurses from other hospitals offered their services. The D. & R. G. W. sent a staff to the hospital. A temporary morgue was established in the psychopathic ward and county and city school nurses were called to aid in the identification of the bodies. The Metropolitan Nursing Service sent nurses to the scene. Two teams of doctors handled the cases with dispatch throughout the day.

Traffic policemen were sent to the hospital to maintain order and corridors were kept clear.

Patients already in the hospital were transferred to other places in the hospital to allow one entire 12-bed ward and the emergency ward to be used by the accident victims.

By 1 p.m. yesterday all victims had been identified.

Fifteen persons called the hospital to offer blood if transfusions were necessary.

Dr. R. J. Alexander superintended the entire handling of the tragedy with the result there was little or no confusion in spite of the fact that the hospital was thronged throughout the day. Regular visiting hours were observed in the afternoon.

Bus Crash

(Continued From Page One)

scribed at hospitals as gravely injured. Three others were in slightly less serious condition.

Expressions of sympathy poured upon family survivors of the 23 crushed to death as the bus in which they were riding to Jordan High School was ground into a mass of twisted metal under the wheels of the "Flying Ute", crack freight train of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad at 8:40 a.m. yesterday.

Investigation Resumed

County and state officials resumed their separate investigations, and word was brought to Salt Lake City that the federal government, through the Interstate Commerce Commission, intends to make a thorough probe of the crash which occurred four miles south of Midvale.

The twenty-third death was recorded in a local hospital at 6 a.m. The victim was Ole Petersen, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Petersen of Riverton. He succumbed to fractures of the skull, right arm, and one leg.

Reported near death today at the Salt Lake County General Hospital were Ann Webb, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Webb of Riverton; Chloe Beckstead, 17, daughter of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead of Riverton; Louise Hardman, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hardman of Bluffdale, and Marjorie Beckstead, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Beckstead of Riverton. Reta Beckstead, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal V. Beckstead of South Jordan, was reported in poor condition at St. Mark's Hospital.

Comes To Salt Lake

L. F. Wilson, assistant general manager of the D. & R. G. W. Railroad, came to Salt Lake City this morning to make a personal investigation of the crash. He brought word from Denver that investigators of the Interstate Commerce Commission have been assigned to probe the accident. He said he did not know when the operatives would arrive here.

Mr. Wilson described the tragedy as "most deplorable" and said it was his intention to learn every detail of the circumstances as soon as [illegible]. "Our railroad", he declared, [illegible] determined to know [illegible] of this horrible thing."

Condolence

While Gov. Henry H. Blood already had expressed the sympathy of the people of the state for the survivors of the crash victims, and himself personally visited the scene of the tragedy, other messages of condolence poured into the Jordan district.

Mayor John M. Wallace received a telegram from Mayor H. G. Burgess and the commissioners of Williamsport, Pa. It read: "We extend to you and through you to parents and friends of the children killed in the bus accident our heartfelt sympathy."

With classwork at the Jordan High School suspended indefinitely, members of the board of education of the Jordan district were called into an executive session today at the district office to discuss matters concerning the disaster.

To enable fellow students of the dead to attend the funeral services, which are mostly scheduled for Sunday and Monday, the Jordan district board members decided to suspend class work at Jordan High School until Tuesday morning.

Scheib Probes Crash

J. E. Scheib, chief traffic deputy sheriff, who, with George Beckstead, chief deputy in the office of Sheriff S. Grant Young, is making the principal investigation made for the county or state, said today that his men would prepare a report for submission to County Attorney Harold E. Wallace "just as soon as possible." The investigation is being made in cooperation with Lote Kinney, special investigator of the County Attorney and District Attorney's office.

The County Attorney explained that since the cause of the deaths is clearly evident, there will be no need for an inquest. He declared, however, that he would make a close study of the report from the sheriff's office to determine whether any criminal action on the part of a now living person was a factor in the horrible disaster.

Prepare Reports

Investigators for various departments of the state government were preparing reports. Officially interested are the State Public Service Commission, the State Industrial Commission, State Department of Public Instruction, and the State Highway Patrol.

Comment was forthcoming today only from one of the departments. W. K. Granger, a member of the State Public Service Commission, explained that his department has no jurisdiction in determining the cause of the crash, since the railroad involved operates in interstate commerce. He said, however, that a report is being prepared to serve as a guide for the commission in its program of eliminating grade crossing hazards and a general drive against traffic accidents.

Signal Discussed

Mr. Granger had explained yesterday that the commission had considered the desir[ability] of installing a signal [at the] point where the accident [occurr]ed, but the work was [...] deferred because the [...] felt there were other pl[aces in] the state far more hazard[ous].

State Boar[d] To Probe [...] Bus Crossi[ngs]

Information as to the [...] and condition of crossing[s ...] by all school buses is [re]quested by the Public [Service] Commission of Utah, [in an ef]fort to avert recurrence [of] the Midvale tragedy of [yester]day.

The operation of scho[ol bus]es is specifically from the [juris]diction of our commission[,"] a statement signed by [the] commissioners, Chairman [...] P. Holbrook, Walter K. [Grang]er and Otto A. Wiesley, "[the] commission is requesting [in]formation as well as req[uesting] school districts to inform [of] any changes in the use of [cross]ings and also asking for [...] of instructions issued [...] tricts to drivers."

For some time, the [Public] Service Commission has [been] conducting an investigat[ion of] crossings. Nearly 150 h[ave] have been scheduled, [and a] movement started to elim[inate dan]gerous crossings and also [...] to those that can be [...] protected.

The commission also [suggest]ed that it might be well [for] districts to require that so[meone] in charge of the school bus [...] and flag the bus across [...] crossings. The commission [...] was announced, will co[ntinue] to pursue vigorously its pr[ogram of] removing necessary pro[tection for] the railroad crossings.

Inspectors of the depa[rtment] are conducting a thorou[gh in]vestigation of all phases [...]

Jr. Easton Parratt, dire[ctor of] finance and research for [the De]partment of Public Instr[uction] will submit a report to [Supt.] Skidmore as soon as the [superin]tendent returns from [out of] town. Mr. Parratt said he d[id not] know what use Mr. Sk[idmore] would make with the repo[rt, but] it was expected he would [...] the superintendents of [schools] throughout the state to [...] the factor of safety.

From the office of Gov. Blood came the announcem[ent of] the intention to have the [Ameri]can flag at the Capitol [flown] at half-staff during the [funeral] services Sunday and Mond[ay].

Funeral services for the [vic]tims, including Farrold H. [...] of Riverton, driver of the [bus], were being arranged as [...] eral of the victims would [...] ried at the same time [...] rites.

It was Mr. Silcox who [...] the bus, loaded with school [chil]dren, at the train track [and] then drove onto the track, [appar]ently without seeing the [ap]proaching train. The crash [that] followed was the first acc[ident] experienced by E. L. Belnap [...] of 220 Fifth East Street, [en]gineer of the train, in h[is ...] years of railroad service.

Utah Reco[rd]

Continued From Page On[e]

Council estimates that [...] the safety drives through[out] the nation will save [...] in 1938. Lack of efficient [safe]ty measures will leave [...] traffic toll from the 20[...] of last year to the 220 mark [this] year, if facilities continue [at the] present rate.

S. L. Sets Record

Salt Lake City has chalk[ed up] its own black marks this [...] ties. During the first [...] months, 27 persons were k[illed], the highest figure of any en[...]

the United States [...] population from 100,000 [...] last. Three cities in the [...] population group—New Bed[ford], Mass., Lowell, Mass., and [...] N. Y.—each reported only [one] traffic death from Jan[uary] through July. Utica last year [had] 10 deaths during those [months] but this year launched a [well] planned safety program [of edu]cation, enforcement and [engi]neering that cut the traffic [toll] 20 per cent.

Evanston, Ill., with a popula[tion] of 50,000, had a perf[ect] traffic safety record during [the] first seven months of the ye[ar]. The safety program in that c[ity] is handled by a civil serv[ice] traffic bureau under the dir[ec]tion of trained safety engineer[s]. All employes of the bureau [are] hired on a competitive examina[tion] basis and are not subject [to] political hiring or firing.

23 Die In Crash

Yesterday, 22 Utah school ch[il]dren and a bus driver pe[rished] crushed to death by a speeding freight train driven by a million pound engine.

Those grade crossings within [...] mile of the tragedy site could have been served by one we[ll] placed underpass. A warning [sig]nal, either bell or light ty[pe], would have cost from $2,000 [to] $2,500. Human life seems [cheap] in Utah—less than $100 for e[ach] person who died in that crash.

Perhaps this tragedy w[ill] bring the attention of Utah public officials to the need of long-range safety program. [We] hope it will merely bring another example of looking back[ward]—or ahead—and the city will bring only the installation of one crossing signal which will ring a sad dirge for 23 young Utahns.

$10,000 Will Be Raised To Bury Victims

A decision to solicit subscriptions to raise $10,000 within five days to defray expenses for the funerals of the 23 victims of yesterday's Jordan High School bus disaster, was reached today by school officials.

The decision was made by the Jordan District Board of Education during a special meeting in the district offices. The board named a committee to have charge of the solicitation, and scheduled the committee's first meeting for 7:30 p.m. today in the district offices.

T. A. Dewey, president of the Jordan District Teachers' Association, named a member of the committee, pledged his association to make a donation of $1,000.

The others named to the committee are Dr. Claude Richards, president of the Board of Education, chairman; Heber J. Burgon, president of East Jordan Stake; Vernal H. Wells, president of West Jordan Stake; H. A. Rasmussen, of Jordan Post No. 45, American Legion; E. H. Potter, of Post 802, Veterans of Foreign Wars; W. E. Hamilton, assistant secretary of the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce; S. D. Rendon, general manager of The Deseret News, and J. F. Fitzpatrick, publisher of the Salt Lake Tribune.

Funeral Rites Planned For Most Of Jordan Bus Victims

With the American flag at the Capitol probably flying at half-staff to symbolize state-wide mourning, funeral services for most of the 23 victims of yesterday's tragic Jordan High School bus crash will be held Sunday and Monday.

So that fellow students will have an opportunity to attend the services it was decided by the Jordan District Board of Education today to continue suspension of classwork until Tuesday morning.

Last rites for victims of the crash who resided at Bluffdale are scheduled for Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Riverton Junior High School, with Jesse West, first counselor in the bishopric of the Bluffdale Ward, in charge. The services will honor Rosa Larson, Naomi Lewis, Naomi Webb, Wilbert L. Webb, Ryant Larson and Lois Rae Miller, 16.

Services Sunday

Bishop Royal R. Beckstead of the South Jordan Ward will have charge of services Sunday at 2 p.m. in the South Jordan school auditorium. The services will be for Virginia Nelson, 15, Helen Young, Helen Lloyd, George Hunt and Lois Johnson.

Services will be conducted in the Riverton Junior High School Monday at 10 a.m. for Farrold H. Sikoux, Ole Petersen, and Robert Egbert. Bishop Lancelot Dills of the Riverton Second Ward will officiate.

Bishop N. K. Thompson of the Riverton First Ward will conduct services Monday at 2 p.m. in the junior high school for Roland Blaine Page, Neal Densley, Harold Sandstrom, Carol Stephenson, and Dean LeRoy Wiscard.

Funeral Ready

Funeral services for William Glazier will be held in the Grandview Ward Chapel, 2102 Twentieth East Street, Sunday at 1 p.m. Friends may call at the family home, 1864 Claybourne Street, from 5 p.m. tomorrow until the time of the services.

Speakers at the funeral will be James M. Whitmore, R. Peter Petersen, Bishop Lancelot Dills, and Bishop James H. Howick. The Grandview Ward Choir will sing. The grave will be dedicated by David Dills.

Deseret News Dec 2, 1938

The Weather

UTAH—Generally fair; little change in temperature.

TEMPERATURES

7.....	30	10.....	38	1.....	39
8.....	30	11.....	39	2.....	39
9.....	32	12 m..	39	3.....	40

UTAH'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER — FIRST IN EVERYTHING

Salt Lake Telegram

HOME Edition

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STATE PROBES BUS TRAGEDY

Dec. 2, 1938 — Salt Lake Telegram

Death Toll in Collision Is Officially Fixed at 23; Relief Agencies Offer Aid to Bereaved Families

Three Civic Groups Seek to Alleviate Suffering

In the wake of Thursday's stunning school bus tragedy, city and county agencies Friday swung into line in a whole-hearted effort to alleviate the suffering of surviving relatives of the 23 victims of Utah's worst traffic accident.

While messages of condolence poured in from all parts of the nation, civic and private groups lent their aid in offering and in some cases actually giving assistance.

Although the grief-stricken parents and relatives of the children generally still were too dazed to realize full import of the tragedy that struck them, channels of relief were opened from all angles.

J. R. Rawlins, chairman of the county commission, said "the county is behind any move to help those burdened by this great catastrophe and will be more than willing to cooperate in any way."

JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PLANS VICTIMS' FUNERAL RITES

E. D. Potter, left; Gwynne Page, J. C. Hansen, Rubin M. Wyberg, Vernal C. Webb, Lawrence T. Dahl, Dr. Paul S. Richards, H. A. Rasmussen, Allison Bills, John A. Aylett, J. P. Jensen, J. Leonard Larson, Stanley A. Rasmussen, Heber J. Burgon

Snow, Moisture on Truck Panes Seen as Possible Reason for Fatal Crash

As order came from tragic confusion, four developments stood out Friday as a result of Thursday's tragic school bus-train collision that took 23 lives in southern Salt Lake county:

1 The state public service commission, acting under its jurisdiction over railroad crossings, moved to prevent recurrences of the nation's worst recorded school bus accident.

2 The interstate commerce commission prepared to open a formal investigation here Saturday. Two representatives were en route from Washington, D. C.

3 The possibility arose that a common plague of motorists...snow on the outside of windshields and windows and condensation on the inside . . . may have been a major factor in the tragedy.

List of Dead And Injured In Disaster

The official list of persons killed and injured in the Jordan school bus-fast freight crash Thursday follows:

DEAD

Farrold Henry Silcox, 28, the driver, of Riverton.

Neal Wilson Densley, 16, son of Joseph Aaron and Aurelia Wilson Densley of Riverton.

Robert, Egbert, 14, son of Herschel S. and Mary C. Egbert of Riverton.

Calvin Behle, chairman of the Salt Lake county chapter, American Red Cross, said field workers were continuing investigations started shortly after the crash and were authorized to lend assistance wherever needed.

A telegram from national headquarters was received Thursday night, offering the support of the Red Cross organization and placing any part of its finances at the disposal of the Salt Lake chapter.

Walter H. Anderson, county commissioner of health and safety, ordered all regulations suspended to take care of the emergency condition and authorized Sharon L. Hatch, director of the department, to dispatch investigators to all points to determine whether any aid was needed.

Meanwhile a meeting of the Jordan school board was held Friday and a committee of 10 was appointed to conduct a campaign for funds to defray burial and hospital expenses.

Dr. Paul S. Richards, general chairman of the committee, said he expected the group to raise approximately $10,000.

Other members of the committee are B. A. Rasmussen, representing American Legion post No. 35; Vernal C. Webb, president of the West Jordan L. D. S. stake; Heber J. Burgon, president of the East Jordan L. D. S. stake; E. D. Potter, V. F. W. No. 409; T. A. Dewey, Jordan Teachers association; J. F. Fitzpatrick, publisher of The Tribune-Telegram; S. O. Bennion, the Deseret News; W. E. Hamilton, Salt Lake City chamber of commerce and Ray Alstrom, Red Cross.

Committee to Meet

The committee will meet at 7:30 p. m. Friday in the Jordan school offices to complete plans for the drive.

The board expressed its appreciation to the L. D. S. church for its offer of the tabernacle and tabernacle choir for mass funeral services, but said other arrangements had been made.

Services for Bluffdale victims [illegible] be conducted at 10 a. m. [illegible] in the Riverton junior high [illegible] auditorium. Services for Riverton Second ward will be conducted in the auditorium at 10 a. m. Monday and the Riverton First ward services are scheduled for 1 p. m. Monday.

South Jordan services will be conducted at 2 p. m. Sunday in the South Jordan junior high school auditorium.

Gus P. Backman, secretary of the Salt Lake City chamber of commerce, said he had offered the

(Continued on Page Four, Column One)

RAIL OFFICIALS INVESTIGATE TRAIN-BUS CRASH
R. H. Becker of Salt Lake City, and L. F. Wilson of Denver, D. & R. G. W. officials

S.L. Telegram Dec. 2, 1938

S. L. Disaster Relief Unit Explains Failure to Act

Proper Authorities Weren't Notified in Excitement of Big Tragedy

The Salt Lake City disaster relief set-up, organized in 1934 for great emergencies, failed to function in the Jordan district school bus tragedy Thursday because proper authorities were not notified, and most of them had forgotten it in the excitement, it appeared Friday.

The group was organized in 1934 following a local earthquake scare and provided for immediate action by doctors, nurses, ambulances, hearses, hospitalization and first aid.

Never Heard of It

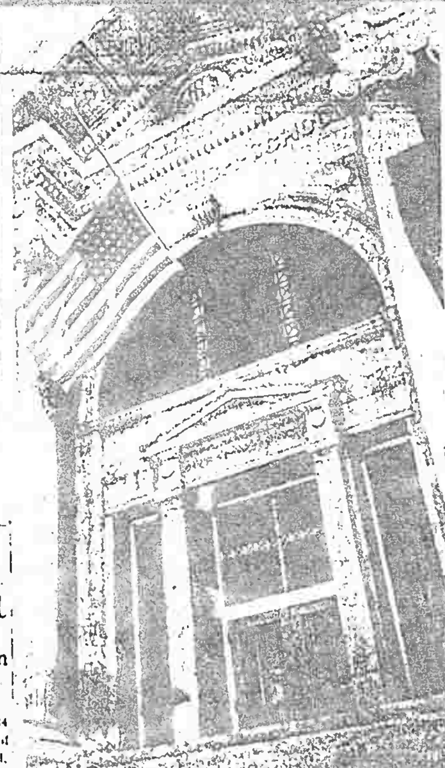
However, some of the authorities assertedly responsible for carrying out the program said they had never heard of the set-up and others said they had not been notified.

Dr. T. J. Howells, city health commissioner, said he had never heard of the disaster relief set-up, but that things were handled so expeditiously anyway it would have been unnecessary.

Police Inspector Giles H. Reed said it was the duty of the sheriff's office to call for aid of the set-up if the disaster occurred in the county.

Workers Praised

Salt Lake County Sheriff Grant Young said he had never been notified the set-up was in operation and that the Salt Lake general hospital ambulance crew and others did [illegible]



TRIBUTE TO SCHOOL BUS VICTIMS
Flag at Jordan high school flies at half mast

William Glasier, 17, son of Roy and Mae B. Glasier of Salt Lake City, living with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Bills, in Riverton.

George Albert Hunt, 17, son of Albert J. and Florence Hunt of South Jordan.

Lois Johnson, 17, daughter of Oscar J. Johnson of South Jordan.

Rosa Larson, 13, daughter of Martin S. and Virginia Howard Larson of Bluffdale.

Byard Larson, 15, brother of Rosa.

Naomi Lewis, 17, daughter of Myrl and Leota Frost Lewis of Bluffdale.

Helen Lloyd, 16, daughter of William H. and Mary A. Newbold Lloyd of South Jordan.

Rae Miller, 16, daughter of George and Julia Casper Miller of Bluffdale.

Virginia Nelson, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Nelson of Riverton.

Roland Blaine Page, 17, son of Roland and Cleo Bateman Page of Riverton.

Allen Ole Peterson, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Peterson of Riverton.

Duane Parkinson, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Parkinson of Crescent.

Kenneth C. Peterson, 17, son of Lewis William and Grace V. Peterson of Riverton.

Harold Sandstrom, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sandstrom of Riverton.

Viola Sundquist, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sundquist of Crescent.

Carol Vincent Stephenson, 15, son of Stephen F. and Hazel Giles Stephenson of Riverton.

Naomi Webb, 16, daughter of Wilbert and Vina Larsen Webb of Bluffdale.

Wilbert Webb, 12, brother of Naomi.

Dean Leroy Winward, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Winward of Riverton.

Helen Young, 15, daughter of Parley A. and Iris Clark Young of South Jordan.

INJURED

Chloe Beckstead, 17, daughter of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead of Riverton, lacerations of right leg and possible internal injuries, condition poor.

Marjorie Beckstead, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Beckstead of Riverton, fractured right leg and mangled left leg, condition poor.

Reta Beckstead, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal V. Beckstead of South Jordan, fractured left thigh, compound fracture of right leg, scalp wound and general bruises, condition poor, at St. Mark's hospital.

Louise Hardman, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hardman of Bluffdale, fractured left leg and shock, probable internal injuries, poor.

Ann Webb, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilford L. Webb of Riverton, fractured vertebra, condition poor.

Manford Osborne, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Osborne of South Jordan, lacerations and possible fracture of right leg, severe lacerations right leg and both arms, fair.

Ila Smith, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Smith of Riverton

4 Dr. Paul S. Richards, president of the Jordan district board of education, said the board had started its own investigation of Thursday's school bus-train crash. Each member of the board is taking part and their findings will be reported at the regular board meeting December 8, Dr. Richards said.

The accident shot Salt Lake county's traffic fatality toll for the year to 44, or 71.4 per cent more than the 25 killed up to December 2, 1937, and far ahead of the 31 deaths recorded in the full year 1937.

Toll Climbs

Utah's fatality toll, as a result, stood at 204 for the year to date, or 12 per cent more than the 182 killed up to December 2, 1937. The 204 figure was close to the 207 killed in the full year 1937.

After conferring with its railroad inspector, Robert N. Slaughter, who investigated the accident, the public service commission announced it would ask all school districts in Utah to submit detailed information on school bus routes and rail crossings traversed.

The commission "has not yet reached a conclusion and the investigation is continuing," it was announced.

Steps to Be Taken

Not waiting, however, for conclusion of its probe, the commission immediately will take steps under its safety program to guard against similar tragedies.

"The operation of school buses is exempt from jurisdiction of this commission," a statement said. "But the commission is requesting all school districts operating buses to furnish information regarding the location and condition of crossings used by buses.

"It is asking also that the commission be informed of any changes in school bus routes and that districts furnish copies of instructions issued to bus drivers."

Suggestion Made

The commission suggested that whenever a school bus approaches a crossing, that some occupant get out, scan the right-of-way and then flag the bus across the rails.

The suggestion was in line with one offered by Mayor John M. Wallace of Salt Lake City and concurred in by Sheriff Grant Young.

The commission announced it would press its program of protection at rail crossings, launched some time ago. It has recommended 137 crossings for train-actuated signal devices, to be furnished by a $325,000 federal grant.

The program now is being drafted for approval of the United States bureau of public roads.

The representatives of the interstate commerce commission [illegible]

Crash Death Toll Officially Set at 23; State Opens Probe

(Continued from Page One)

names were not known here are due in Salt Lake City sometime Saturday.

Their duty, it was explained, is to visit the scene of the tragedy, take measurements, view physical evidence, question witnesses and hold a formal hearing.

Jurisdiction Cited

Jurisdiction over determining cause of the accident rests with this commission, since the Denver and Rio Grande Western railroad, whose fast freight, the "Flying Ute," crashed into the bus, is in interstate commerce.

It was believed that as much as two months may elapse before the commission finally announces its findings.

County Attorney Harold E. Wallace was delegated to represent Salt Lake county at the I C C hearing.

Reports Compiled

County officials were compiling reports on the tragedy for possible use before the I C C representatives.

E. S. Gini and Charles F. Hurke of the county surveyor's office made a survey of the accident locale and took measurements to go into the record.

Sheriff Young and his chief deputy, George Beckstead, returned to the accident locale Friday to interview survivors and gather more information.

All reports were to be turned over to Mr. Wallace.

"Mr. Beckstead and J. E. Scheib, chief traffic deputy, will try to learn every possible angle of the accident and probably will have a report to make later," Sheriff Young said.

Sheriff Young also assigned D. Weston Thuenster, assistant chief traffic deputy, to conduct a poll of all schools in the county and seek reaction to a plan of assigning a junior deputy sheriff to each school bus.

Duties Outlined

The junior deputies' duties would be to man every bus and assume responsibility for flagging the vehicles over railroad crossings.

"I believe the plan is fine and, if we get the cooperation from school officials and students we have had in the past, I believe the system will go into effect shortly," Sheriff Young said.

Another investigation was being carried on by the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad. L. F. Wilson of Denver, assistant general manager, arrived in Salt Lake City Friday morning and met with R. H. Decker, superintendent of the line's Salt Lake division. He scanned reports of the tragedy.

The train was composed of 50 cars and a caboose, according to R. A. Hart, assistant director of public relations for the railroad. It was traveling at an estimated 50 miles an hour, it was reported at offices of the railroad.

Train Is Held

The "Flying Ute" train was kept in the yards, awaiting an inspection by the I C C men.

"I came to get all details of the accident and confer with the I C C officials Saturday," Mr. Wilson said. "I believe Wilson McCar[illegible]stee of the railroad) will co[illegible] to Salt Lake City in a day or two. He may see the I C C men in Denver."

The possibility that snow and steam may have obscured vision of the bus driver, Farrold H. Silcox, 29, of Riverton, who was killed, was seen in the stories of survivors.

However, C. R. Nelson, superintendent of transportation for the Jordan school district, said the bus, as are others of the district, was equipped with frost shields in the driver's compartment and at the rear, which serve to keep off steam.

Snow Reported

Marjorie Groves, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Groves of South Jordan, said there was snow on the windshield, but that the wiper was working.

"The windows were steamed up quite badly," she said.

Mark Bateman, 16, son of Mrs. A. R. Beckstead, South Jordan, said the bus windows were "all steamed up."

Amanuel Beckstead, 15, son of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead, said there was "snow on the windshield when I got on the bus, but the wiper on one side was working."

"I noticed that the windows were all steamed up and that we couldn't see out," he said.

Mr. Nelson said that the frost shields have "functioned perfectly" in the Jordan buses.

He said that as far as he could determine, there was no steam on the inside of the windshield and the side windows in the driver's compartment. As to snow on the outside of these panes, he said, "No one can be sure."

The windshield had one wiper, he said. It was on the driver's side, in compliance with regulations, he explained.

"It was the first fatality on a Jordan bus since 1931 when a student tried to jump aboard and fell under the wheels," he said. "It was the first crash fatality."

Dr. C. N. Jensen, district superintendent, said that the district had been criticized for expenditures on buses, but that he was "thankful the buses have been perfected as much as science allows."

Dr. Jensen said it was not intended to reroute buses as a result of the accident.

"We believe the routes are the safest," he said. "I can't see where either the railroad or the school district was at fault. It was one of those things. Mr. Silcox was one of our most efficient drivers."

The death toll, which fluctuated rapidly for many hours after the tragedy, was fixed at 23 after Jordan high school teachers, under direction of Principal L. W. Nielson, visited homes along the bus route and accounted for all students.

UTAH RAIL-AUTO FATALITIES SOAR

With Thursday's school-bus accident, railway-automobile collisions in Utah claimed nearly as many lives in 1938 as for the seven previous years. Thirty-nine railroad-automobile fatalities were recorded from December 31, 1930, to January 1, 1938, as compared to 31 for this year.

RELIEF AGENCIES MAKE AID OFFER

(Continued from Page One)

organization's help to any group aiding the survivors and was willing "to go the very limit on anything that would alleviate the suffering of those left behind."

In Serious Condition

Dr. R. J. Alexander, Salt Lake county physician, said the remaining patients in the general hospital were in "serious" condition, and their recovery was problematical.

"Whether they recover depends largely on any possible complications that arise," he said.

Tribute to the hospital staff and city and county nurses, as well as Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad company surgeons, was paid by Dr. Alexander, who declared the hospital "handled masterfully the worst catastrophe it has ever been called upon to face."

"As soon as word of the seriousness of the accident reached us, our organization was under way and I am certain the situation was taken care of as well as any hospital could have managed."

Staff Wins Praise

"Various wards were turned into emergency rooms immediately and surgeons established operating teams that worked marvelously.

"All county and city school nurses were called and the board of health cooperated fully with us.

"I am grateful, exceedingly grateful, to the police, who maintained such splendid order under such trying conditions, to all the physicians and nurses who helped with the patients and to all others who in any way gave assistance during such a trying time.

"With [illegible] volunteer aid, identification was completed by 3 p. m. and complete order was maintained."

The Red Cross investigation was being conducted Friday by Charles G. Paull, field representative for the San Francisco office, and Mrs. Celestia Coulson, field nurse.

May Need Assistance

Mr. Behle said that up to the present time none of the families had been reported in needy circumstances, but that later probably some assistance would be required.

"Our job substantially is one of rehabilitation," he said. "We have the money in our local chapter and the promise of further help from national headquarters if it is needed. We are now trying to determine if any of the families need financial or other aid.

"We're ready to go ahead with anything that is asked of us."

Further pledges of assistance were given by Mayor John M. Wallace, City Commissioners William Murdoch and John B. Matheson and Governor Henry H. Blood, who extended a personal expression of sympathy Thursday to the bereaved families.

Mothers Collapse

Riverton and Bluffdale, communities which received smashing blows by the tragedy, still remained shrouded in gloom Friday, despite manifestations of sincere neighborliness by sorrowing friends of the surviving relatives.

Realism of the catastrophe drifted into homes upset by the sudden stroke of death and several mothers were reported to have collapsed finally under the strain after courageously withstanding the first few hours of the terrific shock.

POLICE EMPHASIZE NEED FOR CAUTION

Appalled by the train-school bus accident that had snuffed out the lives of 23 persons Thursday, the Salt Lake City police department warned motorists utmost care must be exerted the remainder of the winter months to avoid further traffic horrors.

Chief of Police William C. Webb was joined by Sergeant Harvey F. Peters, head of the police traffic

Yesterday's Appalling Tragedy

NEVER before in this state has there occurred such an appalling tragedy as that of yesterday which snuffed out the lives of 23 young school children—a toll which yet may be increased.

Racing through a blinding snowstorm, a delayed freight train crashed into a school bus carrying 39 students of Jordan high school. Of the dead, all but two died at the scene.

Some gravely hurt, others less injured and some who sustained only cuts, bruises or shock were taken to the Salt Lake general hospital.

Parts of the little bodies were picked up bit by bit along the whole length of the train, covering a distance of about one-half mile. The cab and chassis of the bus were almost welded to the fore part of the giant locomotive by the impact. The body of the bus was thrown 30 feet from the tracks and had to be cut by torches in order to clear away the wreckage.

Six investigations were immediately set under way by public bodies and the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad. In addition, Governor Henry H. Blood visited the scene and began a personal investigation. No inquest was ordered.

There is no signal installed at the grade crossing to warn of approaching trains.

The road over which school buses travel crosses the railroad tracks almost immediately after making an "S" turn from a long north-south road close to and paralleling the tracks.

Margie M. Groves of Riverton, a student in the bus who survived the accident, said the driver, Farrold H. Silcox, stopped the bus before venturing to cross the tracks. Almost at the instant the bus was on them, she saw a blur, someone yelled "Train" and the engine bore down on the screaming children. Silcox was killed.

Fireman Alfred Elton says he saw the bus stop, then start across the tracks, seeming, he said, to hesitate in the middle of the tracks. Engineer E. L. Rehmer said he sounded whistle and bell.

The bus was inspected and approved by the state highway patrol on September 14.

Said W. K. Granger, state public service commissioner: "The crossing where the accident happened had often been considered for a train-actuated signal. Due to the fact that the road and the crossing were so infrequently traveled a crossing signal had not been included in our program." The loaded bus normally carries 50 pupils twice daily over the crossing.

Where does the blame for the tragedy lie?

In all fairness, judgment ought to be withheld until all ascertainable facts can be assembled—even then any testimony from the bus driver must be lacking. On the surface, nevertheless, the fact that the crossing was wholly unprotected and without warning devices stands out as a contributing cause. We fail to see how this can be disputed. If their absence is defended on the ground that the road was lightly traveled and that the crossing was in open country, the tragedy overthrows such defense and gravely implies an error of judgment and false official economy.

How many other grade crossings in the state threaten similar disaster? The investigations must go deeper than a probe of this single accident. They should lay the groundwork for measures to give greatest possible assurance that no such harvest of death can occur again.

Praise is due to state, county and city police agencies, to physicians, nurses and hospital officials, to neighbors and others who lent aid at the wreck scene, to telephone operators who were helpful in summoning doctors, nurses and ambulances. As the tragedy struck they were quick to do their part selflessly and humanely.

The Telegram extends condolence to the bereft families, relatives and loving friends in the hour of their great sorrow, its sympathy to the little victims suffering in beds of pain.

Ute Sentinel

Accident Victims Improve; Others Hurt Reported OK.

Marjorie Beckstead, Chloe Beckstead, Louise Hardman, and Ann Webb, students still in the hospital as a result of the bus wreck of December 1, are all reported to be doin "very nicely."

Ann, who was recently removed to the Bingham hospital, and Marjorie, who is still in the General hospital, are reported to be suffering a considerable amount of pain, but they are both coming along "as well as can be expected."

Oweneva Green is the only student injured in the bus accident and not in the hospital who has not yet been able to return to school.

Oweneva is mending, but is still not well enough to attend classes.

Junior Rindlesbach is recovering rapidly from head injuries received in a freak acident which happened near his home a few days before Christmas. It seems Junior sailed through the windshield of his car and tried to break up the highway with his head.

Mildred Sisam is recovering at the General hospital following an operation for appendicitis. Her condition has been critical for the past weeks because the appendix had ruptured.

John Marchant, a member of the staff and a resident of Midvale, failed to observe his Boy Scout safety-first rule January 12, and accidently cut off three of his fingers.

27 Jan, 1939

Boy Tells of Noticing Snow on Windshield

Another who avowed that the in[illegible] of the bus windows were [illegible] making it impossible to [illegible] was Amanuel Beckstead, [illegible] son of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead.

Amanuel said that he took particular notice when he climbed into the bus and declared: "There was snow on the windshield when I got on but the wiper on one side was [illegible]."

"Also," he declared, "I noticed that the windows were all steamed up and that we couldn't see out."

Young Beckstead reiterated Bateman's statement that he didn't see or hear the train and that no one screamed.

Mrs. Jack Sund[illegible] mother of Viola Sundqu[illegible] of Crescent.

Mother Mo[illegible] Daughter Killed in Bus Crash

Another mother who Friday mourned the loss of a daughter was Mrs. Jack Sundquist, mother of Viola Sundquist, 17, of Crescent.

Mrs. Sundquist, alone in her tiny home situated about a half mile from the scene of the wreck, received the condolences of friends and relatives during the morning and went to the mortuary in the afternoon.

CHEZ OUTLINES INQUEST RULE

Duties of calling an inquest into accidents such as that occurring near Midvale Thursday rest with the county attorney, Attorney General Joseph Chez said in an informal opinion Friday.

In the event the accident takes place in a city, then the city attorney may call the inquest.

Harold E. Wallace, Salt Lake county attorney, announced that no inquest would be held in the accident.

State statutes do not make it mandatory for the jurisdictional attorney to call the inquest, Mr. Chez explained, but the attorney may exercise his own discretion in determining whether an inquest is necessary or not.

W. Q. Van Cott, president of the Utah State Bar, and Leland M. Cummings, secretary, said they knew of no movement to get the law changed so as to make mandatory the calling of inquests after accidents.

Lewis V. Trumen of Ogden, Weber county attorney and head of the criminal law section of the state bar, which would institute any such action to change the law on inquests, said that his section contemplated no such movement and characterized the inquest as somewhat of an antiquated institution.

"Under our present law set-up, criminal action can be instituted any time without recourse to inquest," he said.

"What we do need is some state agency, such as a branch of the highway patrol, with trained men, who would investigate accidents and bring competent evidence to the county attorney or the city attorney."

STATE WILL PAY BUSMAN WIDOW

With their investigation nearly completed, administrators of the state insurance fund were preparing Friday to arrange payments for Mrs. Farrold H. Silcox of Riverton, widow of the driver of the ill-fated bus that collided with a freight train near Midvale Thursday.

Mr. Silcox, who died from injuries received in the accident, was employed by the Jordan school district and therefore comes under jurisdiction of the fund.

O. F. McShane, state industrial commissioner, ordered investigation into Mr. Silcox' standing and said Friday the fund assumes liability in the case.

Mrs. Silcox is entitled to receive 60 per cent of her late husband's weekly salary, provided it does not exceed $16 a week. She also is entitled to receive an additional [illegible] per cent for each dependent minor, one in this case, Mr. McShane said.

TRAINMEN TELL STORY OF CRASH

Saddened by the worst school bus tragedy in the history of the nation, members of the crew on the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad's fast freight which struck the Jordan high school bus Thursday didn't feel like talking much about it Friday.

Engineer E. L. Rehmer, 57, of 2209 Fifth East street, whose hand was on the throttle of the giant locomotive felt deeply moved over the accident Friday.

"I immediately applied the brakes when Fireman Alfred Elton yelled 'Big hole'er,'" said Mr. Rehmer, who has been driving locomotives for 31 years. "Big hole" is a railroad term in case of an emergency stop.

"I was blowing the whistle for the crossing at the time. I had to let go of the whistle to apply the brakes. I couldn't see anything in front of me, because I was on the opposite side from the bus. When I heard the cry of my fireman I didn't stop to do anything but apply those brakes," he asserted.

In his report the engineer said a light snow was falling and there was visibility of [illegible] 2300 feet.

"When we hit, things began to fly pretty fast," recounted the engineer. "I saw the hood of the car on the engine. It's not a nice feeling . . . I know how the parents of those children must feel, because I have a son and a daughter and two grandsons. I can't tell you how badly I feel. It's the worst thing that has happened to me in 35 years of railroading, 32 with the D. & R. G."

Fireman Elton's eyewitness story is this:

"When we were near the public crossing at milepost No. 731 I saw the school bus on my side of the train. At this time the train was an engine and two car lengths from the bus. The bus had stopped. When the driver started the bus again I yelled 'Big hole'er,' and Engineer Rehmer set the emergency brakes. The whistle was blowing. A light snow was falling, but I could see the bus distinctly. The locomotive struck the bus in the center.

"It was terrible. We did everything we could to prevent it," said Mr. Elton, who lives at 146 Edith avenue.

Brakeman G. M. Kelley of 234 East Fifth South street was a bit nervous Friday. He saw the bus moving north on the road near the railroad tracks.

Family of Victim Bereaved On Eve of Annual Merrymaking

Rebecca Hunt, left; Mrs. Albert Hunt, Lawrence, Melvin, Mr. Hunt and Alena Hunt; Rebecca was 10 years old Friday

Almost stoic in their grief, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hunt, parents of George Hunt, 17, Friday morning found a yearly joy saddened by the death of their son.

Rebecca Hunt, their oldest daughter, was to have celebrated her tenth birthday Friday at a small family party at their home in South Jordan.

George Hunt, one of those killed outright by the crash, was the most horribly mangled of any in the entire death list and was identified only after a minute inspection of his clothing and personal effects.

Survivor Says Windows Fogged by Steam

Oweneva Green, 18, of Riverton, was recovering at her home Friday morning from a broken ankle.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Green, thankful for her narrow escape and almost tearful in their joy, put her on a special couch in the front room, propped her up with three pillows and greeted the many neighbors and friends who called to join them in their thanksgiving.

Oweneva, one of the oldest students on the bus, said that the side windows of the bus "were steaming terribly when she boarded it."

"I can't remember hearing anyone yelling that the train was coming," she declared.

Nobody on Bus Saw Train, Says Youth

Mack Bateman, 18-year-old son of Mrs. A. R. Beckstead, South Jordan, when interviewed Friday regarding events preceding the wreck said that "the windows of the bus were all steamed up" and further emphasized his statement by saying:

"You betcha, we couldn't see out of them."

Young Bateman, who escaped with a cut over his left eye, said that no one on the bus screamed or saw the approaching train. He also said that "I never knew anything about the train hitting us until I woke up in a lucern patch."

Oweneva Green, center, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Green, Riverton.

LIST OF CRASH DEAD, INJURED

(Continued from Page One)

possible internal injuries, multiple cuts and bruises, condition fair.

Russell Webb, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilford L. Webb of Riverton and brother of Ann Webb, undetermined internal injuries, condition fairly good.

(All the injured were being treated at the Salt Lake county general hospital except Rela Beckstead, who was transferred to St. Mark's hospital.)

With minor injuries, released from hospital:

Mack Bateman, 18, son of Mrs. A. R. Beckstead of South Jordan.

Manuel Beckstead, 15, son of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead of Riverton and brother of Chloe Beckstead.

Douglas Brown, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Brown of Riverton.

LaRaine Freeman, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac E. Freeman of Riverton.

Oweneva Green, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Green of Riverton.

Marjorie Groves, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Groves of South Jordan.

Glen Kump, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Kump of Riverton.

Mabel Smith, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Smith of Riverton and sister of Ida.

GROUP EXPLAINS FAILURE TO ACT

(Continued from Page One)

efficiently "no one could have done it better."

The police desk sergeant referred questions to Inspector Record.

The telephone operators referred questions to the desk sergeant, saying "We have no orders regarding that situation."

The set-up provided that in case of disaster such as an earthquake all persons were to report at points of duty without being notified. The points of duty were designated in 1934. In a case like Thursday's bus-train crash workers were to await information.

Thomas W. Dee, superintendent of first aid for the public safety department, said the process of notification provided that the police department telephone operator or desk sergeant was to notify Superintendent Dee, who in turn was to notify the commissioner of public safety, city health commissioner, city physician and captains of various designated sectors in the city, who in turn notified first aid workers and ambulance crews.

Superintendent Dee said he was at home at the time and was not notified. Dr. Henry Raile, city physician, said he did not learn of the disaster until 11:45 a. m.—it happened before 9 a. m.

Lives Snuffed Out in Crossing Disaster

Naomi Lewis, K. C. Peterson, Helen Lloyd, Rae Miller, Harold Sandstrom, Wilbert Webb, Virginia Nelson, Viola Sundquist, Naomi Webb, Ross Larson, Byard Larson, C. V. Stephenson, Robert Egbert, Neal W. Densley, Roland B. Page, William Glazier, Duane Parkinson, George Hunt, Lois Johnson, Helen Young, Allen Peterson

DISASTER TOPS U. S. BUS-TRAIN CRASHES

The Jordan school bus-D. & R. G. W. freight train crash in which 23 persons died Thursday was the worst bus-train accident in world or United States history, research revealed Friday.

With exception of a truck-train crash in Canada in August, 1936, when 25 persons were killed instantly, Salt Lake county's disaster is the worst such accident on record in the world.

PROBER OF TRAGEDY LEARNS KIN'S DEATH

For J. Easton Parratt, director of research and statistics for the state department of public instruction, the school bus-train crash in south Salt Lake county meant personal sorrow.

Mr. Parratt, with Howard B. Gundersen, director of vocational education, and A. C. Matheson of the department's certification division, went to the tragedy scene Thursday to make an investigation for his office.

The three officials made their study, noted all the facts available and prepared to make their report.

Then Mr. Parratt found that one of the students who met horrible death was his niece.

She was Naomi Lewis, 17, daughter of Myrl and Leota Frost Lewis of Bluffdale.

STATE OFFICE MAPS BUS SAFETY MOVE

A pledge to "do all in its power" to prevent similar tragedies in the future came from the state department of public instruction Friday following the tragic collision of a school bus and train in Salt Lake county.

In the absence of Charles H. Skidmore, state superintendent of public instruction, who was in eastern Utah, J. Easton Parratt, director of research and statistics, issued this statement:

"This office is deeply shocked at the terrible tragedy. It is imperative that everything possible be done to assure the safety of children in buses.

"I am sure this office will do all in its power to prevent catastrophes such as that of Thursday."

THE SALT LAKE TELEGRAM, FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 2, 1938.

1935 News

ICC Starts Fatal Crash Investigation

Efforts Launched To Give Relief To Families

Dec. 31 1935

The federal government today formally launched an investigation into Thursday's tragic high school bus-train crash which has resulted in the death of 23 and the serious injury of eight.

Today's major development was intensification of efforts to bring financial relief to the families of the victims and to lay the groundwork for rehabilitation of some of the children so seriously injured they will be lifetime cripples.

Other developments were:

Completion of plans for funerals of the dead.

Announcement that the sheriff's office will submit an official report on the tragedy to County Attorney Harold E. Watson Monday.

Ball Official Arrives

Arrival in Salt Lake City of Wilson McCarthy, coroner of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad, whose crack freight "The Flying Ute", plowed into the school bus four miles south of Midvale.

Under direct instructions from Washington, D. C., five investigators of the Interstate Commerce Commission's Bureau of Safety began driving into the maze of facts and superstitions involved in the disaster. Their findings of facts in the deadly

Sunday School Groups To Pay Dead Tribute

Thousands of Sunday School members in Salt Lake City and County tomorrow morning will observe a five minute period of silence in respect to the 23 persons killed Thursday in the Jordan Landrale crash and to Dr. Frederick A. Fisk, of the Federal Board, who died yesterday afternoon.

Instructions to observe the silent tribute were issued today to stake and ward superintendents by George R. Pyper, general superintendent. The silence is to be observed immediately after the Sacramental Song, before the passing of the Sacrament.

All but one of the 23 high school children killed in the train-bus crash Thursday morning were active Sunday School members in wards of the East and West Jordan Stakes.

crash which turned a Jordan High School bus into twisted scrambles will be submitted as soon as possible to Washington.

To Fix Responsibility

The data to be compiled by H. E. Lindsay of the Interstate Avenue, Salt Lake, and Roy Park, Denver, safety investigators, will be used as the basis of an official report listing responsibility. The final report likely will not be issued from Washington for several days.

Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Park, who arrived this morning from Denver, where they have been engaged in ICC business related to prominent on the Sugarite coliery train crash in which nine men were killed, declined to make statements to reporters, because the U. S. and D. W. Railroad operates in interstate commerce and, therefore, is under jurisdiction of the commission.

Until this morning, the two men motored to the U. S. & D. W. station with Lindsay and Park, and Mr. Lindsay made a personal report of the crash to Park, and E. H. Jensen conferred with Mr. McCarthy from Denver in an effort to get the latest investigation report by after the crash. Park also got in touch by telephone with E. A. West, general manager, who is on business in Los Angeles.

Visits Crash Scene

After a brief conference at the station, the group left to visit the crash scene and to meet with other persons closely identified with the tragedy.

Meanwhile, the American Red Cross committee for relief and rehabilitation, appointed at a meeting last night in the offices of the Jordan District Board of Education, was to meet today.

Funds will be solicited in the rural communities gravely affected by the horrible accident, it was announced today by Calvin Bellis, chairman of the Salt Lake County Chapter, American Red Cross. Voluntary contributions, however, will be accepted from any other people desiring to aid. Donations will be received by members of the committee and at the business offices of The

Rail Chief Extends Sympathy To Victims

Sympathy to families bereaved by the Jordan School bus disaster and appreciation to relief workers was expressed in a formal statement issued here today by Wilson McCarthy, co-trustee of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad.

He declined to comment on causes of the disaster and procedure of his company's investigation.

Naming individually each group of workers and various authorities responsible for relief work in the emergency, Mr. McCarthy said:

"I want to express my deepest sympathy to the families saddened and bereaved in this loss. These are my people—families many of whom I have known all my life. My heart goes out to them.

"To the men and women who did such a wonderful humanitarian service in this crisis, we express our sincere appreciation.

"To Gov. Henry H. Blood, to Mayor John M. Wallace and the County Commission, and to all State, County, and City officials—To Sheriff Grant Young and his force of men, to Dr. R. J. Alexander of the County Hospital, his staff and nurses, to the City Commission, to the doctors of Midvale, to the County Fire Department, to the Salt Lake City and Midvale police departments, to the Jordan School officers and teachers, to the L. D. S. Ward units, to the County Red Cross, to the neighbors and friends, and to the men within our own local organizations, to our operating officials and medical staff—to all these men and women, we express our sincere gratitude."

Crash Probed

Continued From Page One

Deseret News, Salt Lake Tribune, Salt Lake Telegram, and Radio Stations KSL, KDYL, and KUTA.

Contributions Accepted

Mr. Behle said also that contributions may be taken or mailed to the Red Cross office at 413 Beason Building. Meanwhile, he explained, the Red Cross has pledged its full financial resources for the immediate relief and rehabilitation needs. The Relief Society of the Church also has pledged to aid in the furnishing of food and clothing which may be needed.

During last night's meeting, a sub-committee consisting of Miss Louise Van Ee, school nurse, and Miss Mary L. Storey of the supervisory staff of the Jordan High School, with Red Cross case workers, was named and today began a survey of the present future needs of the affected families. This committee was authorized to take whatever action is necessary and to draw such funds as required from the Red Cross until such time as the general fund is raised.

Mr. Behle said the survey is expected to determine generally the amount of money that will be needed for relief and rehabilitation work. Contributions to the fund will be deposited in the Sandy bank to the credit of the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

Last night's meeting was called by the Board of Education of Jordan District, and brought sympathetic response not only from those formally invited but also from civic groups desirous of helping. Among those present were representatives of the State Department of the American Legion, and Norman L. Sims, director of the Salt Lake City Disaster Relief Committee.

Rehabilitation Planned

It was decided that not only present medical and funeral expenses will be paid for the stricken families, but that a long-time program of rehabilitation would be undertaken for the seriously injured children. Dr. Paul S. Richards was named committee chairman.

The special Red Cross Committee, of which Miss Van Ee, Miss Storey and the case workers constitute a subcommittee, consists of Dr. Richards, president of the Jordan District Board; Dr. C. N. Jensen, Jordan District superintendent of schools; B. A. Rasmussen of American Legion Post No. 33; Vernal C. Webb, president of West Jordan Stake, and T. A. Dewey, president of the Jordan Teachers' Association.

All speakers at the meeting urged that the funds should be distributed, not as "relief," but rather as the helping hand of neighbors.

The original committee called to meet last night included Dr. Richards, Mr. Rasmussen, Mr. Webb, Mr. Dewey, S. O. Bennion, general manager of the Deseret News; J. F. Fitzpatrick, publisher of the Salt Lake Tribune; Heber J. Burgon, president of the East Jordan Stake; E. D. Potter, representing the United Veterans' Council; W. E. Hamilton, assistant secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and Ray Alstrom of the Red Cross.

Fight for Lives

While arrangements for the funerals of the dead progressed, physicians waged a desperate fight to save the lives of critically injured students in local hospitals.

Described by attendants at the Salt Lake County General Hospital as in poor condition today were Ann Webb, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilford L. Webb of Riverton; Marjorie Beckstead, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Beckstead of Riverton, and Louise Hardman, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hardman of Bluffdale. Reta Beckstead, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal V. Beckstead of South Jordan, was reported in critical condition at St. Mark's Hospital.

The condition of Chloe Beckstead, 17, daughter of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead of Riverton, while reported improved, continued grave at the Salt Lake County General Hospital. Others injured were reported slightly improved.

Funeral services for the victims of the crash will be held tomorrow and Monday. It is intended to have the American flag at the Capitol flown at half-staff during those two days. A ten-second period of silence will be observed in all Sunday Schools of the county tomorrow morning in respect to the dead.

The Jordan District Board of Education today issued the following statement:

To Pay Mute Tribute

"By order of the Board of Education and Supt. C. N. Jensen, all school children in the Jordan School District, with the exception of Jordan High and Riverton, will assemble in their various schools Monday at 10 a.m., and be kept in session for a short period at which time they will stand at attention and pay silent tribute to the memory of their deceased schoolmates. Schools will then be dismissed for the rest of the day."

The Board of Education asked that students, regardless of which schools they attend regularly, go to the nearest school to their homes Monday morning for the brief memorial period. Buses will not be in operation to carry students to their regular schools as usual.

Classes at the Jordan High School are not scheduled to resume, having been suspended since the crash, until Tuesday morning.

Ogden City Commissioners are sending messages of condolence and sympathy to communities which have been bereaved by the disaster. Mayor Harman W. Peery today said that Ogden will lend its support to all movements for increased safety on highways. He recommended greater safety measures at railroad crossings and in the operation of school buses and other public conveyances.

Junior Patrols Formed

Meanwhile, junior traffic patrols were being formed in Weber County to increase safety for passengers riding in school buses. Junior officers will ride in the buses, which will stop at railroad crossings while the young officers get out to see if a train is approaching.

Joint funeral services for Duane Parkinson and Viola Sundquist will be conducted tomorrow at 10 a.m. in the Crescent Ward Chapel, with Bishop Homer W. James officiating. Burial will be in the Crescent Cemetery.

Services Arranged

Services for Rosa Larson, Byard Larson, Naomi Lewis, Naomi Webb, Wilbert Webb, and Rae Miller, will be held tomorrow at 10 a.m. in the Riverton Junior High School. Jesse West, first counselor in the Bluffdale Ward Bishopric, will preside. All will be buried in the Bluffdale Cemetery.

Rites for William Glaser will be conducted tomorrow at 1 p.m. in the Grandview Ward Chapel, 2930 Twentieth East Street.

Royal V. Beckstead, bishop of the South Jordan Ward, will officiate at services tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the Riverton Junior High School for Helen Young, Helen Lloyd, George Albert Hunt, Lois Johnson, and Virginia Nelson.

Other Rites Planned

Funeral services for Farrold H. Silcox, driver of the ill-fated school bus; Ole Petersen, and Robert Egbert will be conducted Monday at 10 a.m. at the Riverton Junior High School. Lancelot Bills, bishop of the Riverton Second Ward, will have charge.

Services are scheduled for Monday at 2 p.m. in the Riverton Junior High School for Neal Wilson Densley, Roland Blaine Page, Dean LeRoy Winward, Kenneth C. Peterson, Carol Vincent Stephenson, and Harold Wilford Sandstrom. N. Kimball Thomson, bishop of the Riverton First Ward, will preside.

ICC Probes Bus Tragedy

Task of Aiding Stricken Kin Begins

A cool, matter-of-fact quest for vital information and a warm, humanitarian task of caring for the needs of stricken friends and neighbors began Saturday in the school bus-train tragedy that took 23 lives and injured 16 in south Salt Lake county.

Amid government-imposed secrecy, a formal investigation was begun by two inspectors of the interstate commerce commission.

On another front, a drive to care not only for immediate needs of stricken families, but for possible future rehabilitation of injured victims, was under way.

The inspectors, A. C. Lindsay and Roy Park, arrived from Denver and went into conference with officials of the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad, whose fast freight, the "Flying Ute," smashed a Jordan school district bus on the railroad's right-of-way at a crossing at 102nd South street Thursday morning.

The inspectors left railroad offices hurriedly with L. F. Wilson, assistant general manager of the railroad, and B. H. Decker, Salt Lake division superintendent.

Presumably, they planned to visit the crash scene, but the inspectors would not divulge their plans.

Later Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Park returned to offices of the railroad and interviewed members of the crew of the "Flying Ute."

The inspectors, among other things, were expected to take measurements at the scene of the crash and inspect the locomotive of the "Flying Ute," which was taken to the roundhouse after the accident.

The inspectors did not disclose whether they would conduct a public hearing.

"We are just trying now to get a skeleton idea of the thing," Mr. Lindsay said.

"Our instructions from Washington are to build a brick wall against newspapers."

Meanwhile, eight of the injured still were in hospitals. Five of them were fighting for life, reported in "poor" or critical condition.

Plans rapidly went ahead for aid to the stricken and bereaved families . . . not from the standpoint of "relief," but from that of a helping hand of friends, neighbors and other sympathetic persons.

Calvin Behle, chairman of the Salt Lake county chapter, American Red Cross, outlined plans adopted Friday night at a meeting of a special committee of 10 named by the Jordan district board of education.

The group will accept individual contributions, Mr. Behle said they could be sent or taken to Red Cross offices, 413 Beason building, or to the Red Cross, in care of The Tribune and Telegram, and the three local radio stations, KSL, KDYL and KUTA.

Money from various sources will be used not only in meeting funeral and medical costs, but for future

(Continued on Page Three) (Column Six)

PLANNING TO MEET NEEDS OF THOSE STRICKEN BY BUS-TRAIN TRAGEDY
Mrs. Celestia Coulson, left; Miss Martha E. Stowers, Miss Louise van Ee confer at Red Cross office

MASS FUNERAL RITES SET FOR CRASH VICTIMS

Services Are Planned at Riverton School

Mass funeral services for the students killed in the bus-train crash Thursday will be conducted Sunday at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. and Monday at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m., Superintendent C. N. Jensen, Jordan school district, announced Saturday.

Rites for the six students from Bluffdale will be held in the Riverton junior high school at 10 a. m. Sunday.

They are:

Byard and Ross Larson, 15 and 16, children of Martin S. and Virginia Howard Larson; Rae Miller, 16, daughter of George and Julia Cooper Miller; Naomi and Wilbert

Memorial Service Set for Schools

Dr. C. N. Jensen, superintendent of the Jordan school district, Saturday morning released the following instructions for a memorial tribute from the district as follows:

"By order of the board of education, all school children of the Jordan school district, with exception of those from Jordan high school and the Riverton school, will assemble Monday at 10 a. m. in schools of communities in which they live, instead of schools they attend, because no buses will run Monday, and will be kept in session for a short period at which time they will stand at attention and give silent tribute to the memory of their deceased schoolmates. All schools will then be dismissed for the rest of the day."

Webb, 16, children of Wilbert and Vina Larsen Webb, and Naomi Lewis, 17, daughter of Myrl and Leona Frost Lewis.

Services for the following students from South Jordan will be held at 2 p. m. Sunday in the Riverton school auditorium:

Helen Young, 15, daughter of Par-

(Continued on Page Three) (Column Eight)

ICC Probing Bus Tragedy; Aid for Families Is Planned

(Continued from Page One)

aid of some of the victims who may face life with permanent injuries, Mr. Behle said.

The disaster committee of the Red Cross chapter, headed by Norman Sims, has made available its funds, Mr. Behle said.

Midvale firemen have proffered $50. The Jordan Teachers' association will give financial aid.

Another $100 came from Sheriff Grant Young and his force.

An account has been opened at the Sandy City bank, Mr. Behle said. All receipts will be deposited there. All funds will be accounted for publicly.

Immediate expenditure of funds for funeral and medical costs will be directed by Miss Louise van Ee, Jordan district nurse, and Miss Mary L. Storey of the Jordan high school supervisory staff. Miss van Ee and Miss Story Saturday began a survey of immediate needs.

The L. D. S. Relief society is cooperating by furnishing food and clothing. In at least one case it was found members of a bereaved family needed clothing in which to attend funeral services.

The fund drive and expenditure of receipts is in the hands of a special group which will function as a Red Cross committee. It includes Dr. Paul S. Richards, president of the Jordan board of education, chairman; Dr. C. N. Jensen, Jordan district superintendent; B. A. Rasmussen of American legion post No. 35, Vernal C. Webb, president of the West Jordan L. D. S. stake; T. A. Dewey, president of the Jordan Teachers' association; Miss van Ee and Miss Storey.

Miss van Ee conferred Saturday with Miss Martha E. Stowers, executive secretary of the county Red Cross chapter, and Mrs. Celestia Coulson, chapter case worker.

In respect to the memory of the 22 students and their bus driver, Farrell H. Silcox, 29, of Riverton, who died in the crash, the county commission will not hold its regular meeting at 10 a. m. Monday, said Chairman J. E. Rawlins.

Postponement of the session to 10 a. m. Tuesday will enable commissioners to attend funeral services Monday.

The first presidency of the L. D. S. church issued this statement in connection with the tragedy:

"We are deeply shocked and grieved by the tragedy of yesterday at West Jordan. We mourn with the families and, indeed, with the whole community which has suffered such an appalling loss. We earnestly pray that the Lord will bring to those bereft of their loved ones the peace and consolation that He alone can give.

"We trust that the entire state will not forget or cease to heed the grave lessons which the frightful accident teaches."

Condition of eight injured Jordan high school students who still are in hospitals was reported as follows:

Reis Beckstead, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal V. Beckstead of South Jordan, "critical," at St. Mark's hospital.

Marjorie Beckstead, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Beckstead of Riverton, "critical," at Salt Lake general hospital.

Chloe Beckstead, 17, daughter of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead of Riverton, "poor," at Salt Lake general hospital.

Ann Webb, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilford L. Webb of Riverton, "poor," at Salt Lake general hospital.

Louise Hardman, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hardman of Bluffdale, "poor," at Salt Lake general hospital.

Manford Osborne, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Osborne of South Jordan, "fairly good" at Salt Lake General hospital.

Ida Smith, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Smith of Riverton, "fairly good" at Salt Lake General hospital.

Russell Webb, 12, brother of Ann Webb, "fairly good" at Salt Lake General hospital.

MASS FUNERAL SERVICES SET

(Continued from Page One)

ley A. and Iris Clark Young; George Hunt, 17, son of Albert J. and Florence Hunt; Lois Johnson, 17, daughter of Oscar Johnson; Helen Lloyd, 16, daughter of William H. and Mary A. Newbold Lloyd.

Services for victims who reside in Riverton will be held in the Riverton school auditorium at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. Monday.

The 10 a. m. services will be devoted to a last tribute for Allan Ole Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Peterson; Farrold H. Silcox, 29, driver of the bus, and Robert Egbert, 16, son of Herschel S. and Mary C. Egbert. All belonged to the Riverton Second L. D. S. ward.

Afternoon Rites

At 2 p. m. services will be held for remaining victims, all member of the Riverton First ward, as follows:

Neal Wilson Densley, 15, son of Joseph Aaron and Aurelia Wilson Densley; Virginia Nelson, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Nelson; Roland Blaine Page, 17, son of Roland and Cleo Bateman Page; Kenneth C. Peterson, 17, son of Lewis William and Grace V. Peterson; Harold Sandstrom, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sandstrom; Carol Vincent, Stephenson, 16, son of Stephen F. and Hazel Giles Stephenson, and Dean LeRoy Winward, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Winward.

Rites for William Glazier, 17, son of Roy and Mae B. Glazier, Salt Lake City, who lived with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Bills, Riverton, will be held at 1 p. m. Sunday in the Grand View L. D. S. ward chapel.

Last rites for the two students who boarded the bus at Crescent but a few minutes before the crash, Viola Sundquist, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sundquist, and Duane Parkinson, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Parkinson, have not been set.

Man's Humanity to Man

UNTO the gloom pervading the homes from which Thursday's tragic grade crossing accident snatched 23 lives and cruelly hurt 17 other children, a shaft of light penetrated Friday as understanding sympathy and compassion set in motion organized efforts to aid the stricken families. The little victims were schoolchildren merrily on their way to Jordan high school in their school bus. Little realizing it, for those ground under train wheels their kisses that morning were last good-bys. Many of the injured must suffer for long as they fight for recovery in hospital beds. Even those spared by fate from serious consequences were not altogether unharmed.

It has been a fine thing that friends and neighbors were so quick to appear in the homes where grief and desolation were ushered in without premonition or warning. They have comforted and sustained the bereft and performed the many kindly services so surely needed in such time of overwhelming distraction.

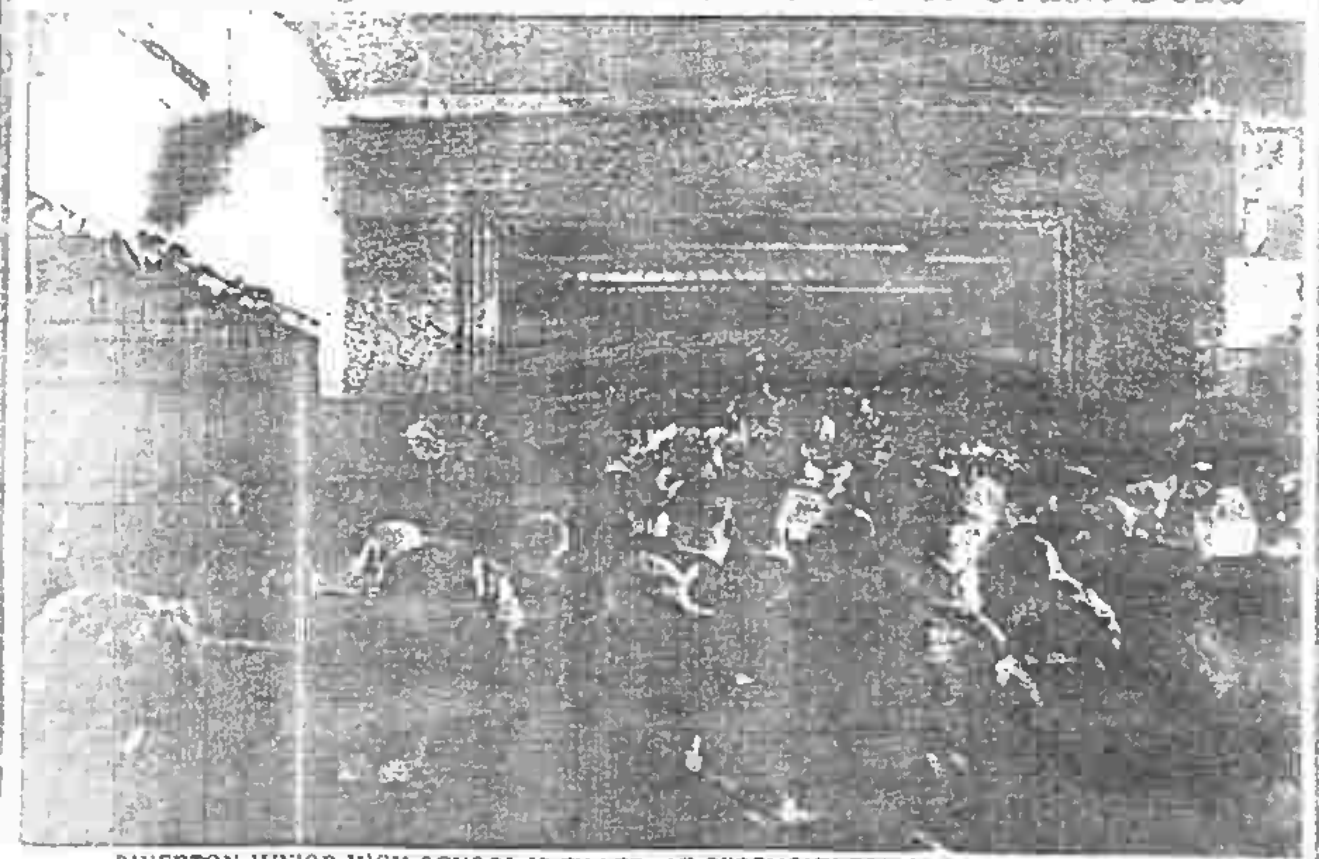
But the tragedy brought other problems calling for practical and material help. There will be funerals for more than the score of children. There will be hospital costs, doctor bills and many another incidental, all unforeseen in family budgets.

It is for these that immediate efforts have been undertaken to assemble funds. The county commission has come forward to help. The Salt Lake county chapter of the American Red Cross promptly offered aid. The Jordan school district, with a representative committee from L. D. S. church organizations, veterans' groups, Jordan teachers' association, Red Cross and the chamber of commerce, seeks $10,000 for payment of funeral costs and hospital expenses. Mayor Wallace and the city commission offered the city government's helpfulness in whatever quarter needed.

All this is heartening. In an hour of great misfortune, friends arise on all hands, moved by the noblest human emotions to stand by the side of those bowed down. This is man's humanity to man emerging and standing apart from self, apart from all preoccupations. It is a primal virtue enduring in human hearts, a spark of divine grace that is not quenched by materialism.

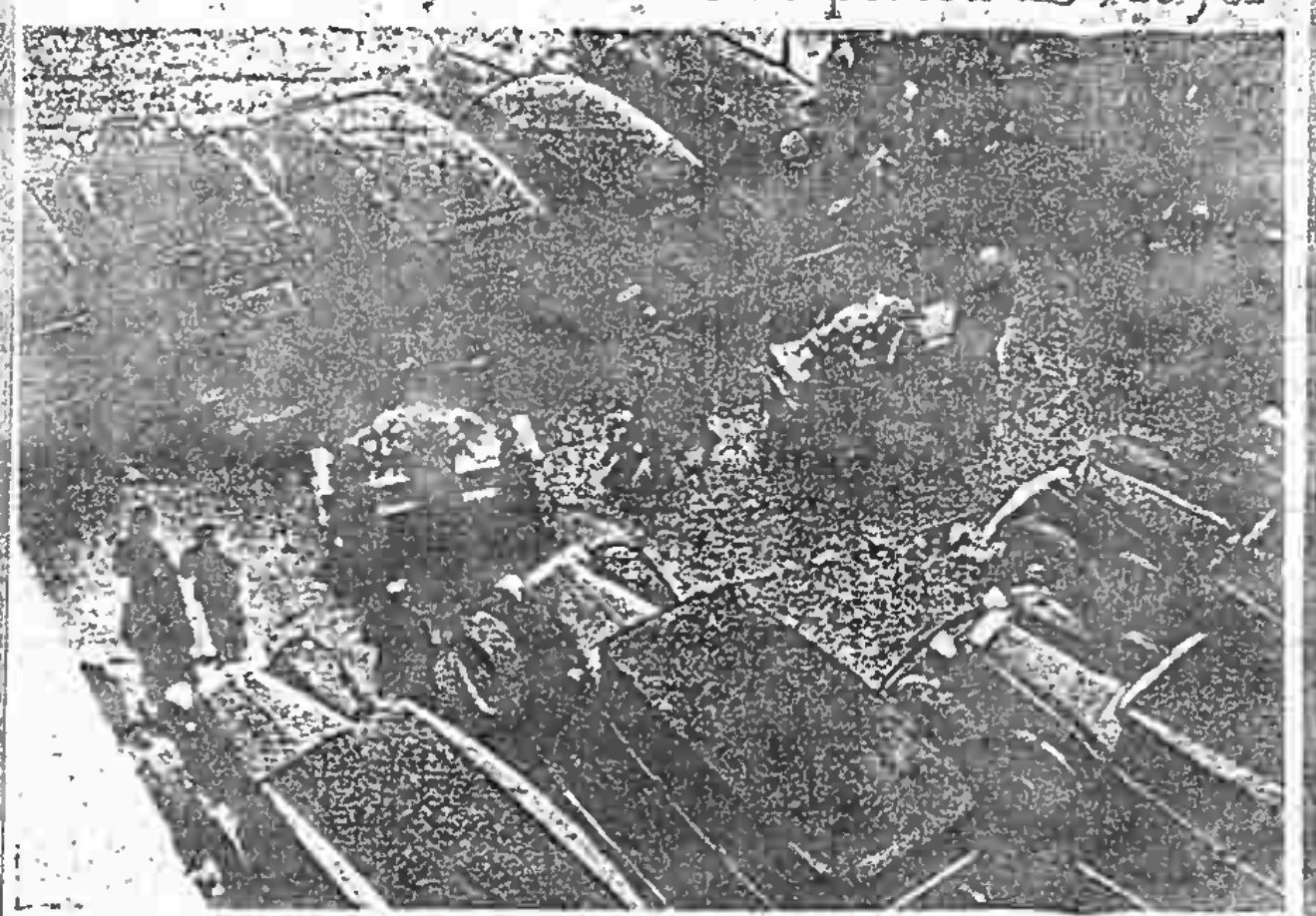
Whatever part any of us is called upon to play in this warming enterprise of friendship, let us all respond in the spirit that dominates it, wholeheartedly, cheerfully, compassionately and generously.

As Sorrowing Crowd Attended Rites for Crash Dead



RIVERTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL IS FILLED AT CEREMONY FOR SCHOOL BUS VICTIMS
Second-day services in mass funeral rites that will extend through three days

That Loss May Never Be Repeated Is Prayer



FUNERAL CORTEGE FOR SIX BLUFFDALE VICTIMS OF BUS TRAGEDY
Riverton school is scene of mourning during mass services

MASS FUNERAL SERVICES HELD; TOLL HITS 24

Mourners Are Given Solace in Bus Tragedy

As a tragedy stunned community Monday continued into the second day its funeral services for the 24 persons killed in Thursday's school bus-train collision, its members sought to find solace in the thought that some good—in the form of safety for future groups of school children—would come out of the depths of their suffering.

As Riverton junior high school became a mourning hall for nine more of these victims—rites for 14 were held Sunday—the speakers attempted to assuage grief of the parents, relatives and friends of these young people with the thought that possibly these students did not die in vain if society is thus spurred to eliminate future such tragedies at crossings.

Death Strikes

But even as the bereaved planned to conduct their funeral ceremonies in two days death made it necessary to extend these rites into the third day. Rela Marie Beckstead, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal V. Beckstead, died Sunday night, the twenty-fourth victim of the crash. Her funeral services will be held at 1 p. m. Tuesday in the South Jordan L. D. S. ward chapel.

At services in the Riverton junior high school Monday for the three of the victims who lived in Riverton L. D. S. Second ward, Lancelot Bills, ward bishop, who officiated

Mass Funeral Services Held; Toll in Bus Tragedy Hits 24

(Continued from Page One)

was the first to voice the hope that "out of this tragedy may come some good."

The services were for Allen Ole Peterson, 21, son of E. R. and Martha Smith Peterson; Farrold H. Silcox, 29, the driver of the bus, and Robert Hansen Egbert, 16, son of Herschel S. and Mary C. Egbert.

Glee Club Sings

The Jordan high school glee club members had difficulty in singing through their emotions, opening the services with "Sometime We'll Understand."

For Mrs. Silcox, widow of the bus driver, the height of her emotional strain appeared to come with the singing of "Face to Face" by Ray E. Shelley. In an attitude of prayer, she repeated the words after the singer as if in them she sought the strength to face her burden.

John Hansen of Midvale struck the keynote of the mourning when he suggested: "One by one, He claims His own."

Gwynne Page of the Jordan board of education, urged those gathered to "do the best we can to carry on in the memory of Slim, Bobby and Ole."

Of the victims, William R. Edgel, a teacher in the Riverton school, said:

"These boys were our choicest souls in the quest of education, and out of this tragedy will come, I know, means of preventing its recurrence."

Reads From Notebook

What one of the victims—Allen Ole Peterson—might have said of the tragedy was offered by Clarence E. Smith, principal of Bear River high school at Garland. He read excerpts from a notebook kept by that youth, in which he had written:

"Death is a solemn thing," and, "There is no tragedy in death; there is tragedy in life."

Other Speakers

Other speakers were Eugene C. Miller; M. Cachner, who offered the invocation, and Joseph P. Butterfield, who pronounced the benediction.

Attending the services were Charles H. Skidmore, state superintendent of public instruction; Dr. Calvin S. Smith, superintendent of Granite school district; Lorenzo H. Hatch, principal of Granite high school; Dr. P. T. Farnsworth, supervisor in the Granite district; T. Ray Kingston of Murray, school board president; Ernest Smith of Murray, and Royal Stone, Boy Scout leader.

After the services the procession moved under a cool, clear sky to Riverton cemetery. Henry Jensen dedicated the grave of Robert Hansen Egbert, Mr. Butterfield that of Mr. Silcox, and Herbert B. Mawhinney that of Allen Ole Peterson.

Riverton Services

Services for the other six residents of the Riverton L. D. S. Third ward, were held in the junior high at 2 p. m., under charge of Thomson, principal of the rton school and bishop of the ward.

The services were for:

Neal Wilson Denaley, 16, son of Joseph Aaron and Aurelia Wilson Denaley.

Roland Blaine Page, 17, son of Roland and Cleo Bateman Page.

Kenneth C. Peterson, 17, son of Lewis William and Grace V. Peterson.

Carol Vincent Stephenson, 16, son of Stephen F. and Hazel Giles Stephenson.

Dean LeRoy Winward, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Winward.

Harold Sandstrom, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sandstrom.

Speakers included Vernal C. Webb, Principal L. W. Nielsen, of Jordan high school; Superintendent C. N. Jensen of Jordan district; Eldred R. Hamilton, ward first counselor; W. J. Myers, Reynold Bills, J. Edgar Aylett and Ruben M. Wiberg, stake first counselor.

The Denaley, Page and Stephenson youths were to be buried in the Riverton cemetery; the Sandstrom boy in Sandy, the Winward youth in South Jordan and the Peterson boy in the Bluffdale cemetery.

Graveside speakers were scheduled as J. H. Giles, B. H. Beckstead, J. A. Bateman, W. Cyrya Vawdrey and Walter E. Crane.

Saddened, bereaved families, friends and neighbors Sunday gathered at the two mass ceremonies in the Riverton auditorium and at two other ceremonies to pay their respects, and countless others paid silent tribute to the prehoiday crash victims with 10 seconds of silence when they assembled for regular Sunday services in churches.

First to gather for final rites Sunday were the grief-stricken families of the six Bluffdale pupils. The six, all of whom were buried in the Bluffdale cemetery shortly before services began for five South Jordan students, were:

Byard and Rosa Larson, 15 and 14, children of Martin S. and Virginia Howard Larson; Rae Miller, 16, daughter of George and Julia Casper Miller; Naomia and Wilbert Webb, 16 and 19, children of Wilbert and Vina Larsen Webb; Naomi Lewis, 17, daughter of Myrl and Leola Frost Lewis.

Outstanding among messages of condolence read at Sunday's funeral services was one from the parents of the 455 children killed on March 18 1937, in the New London, Texas, school building explosion.

"From piney woods of east Texas, across the Rocky mountains and into your broken homes we send to you a brand of heartfelt sympathy which could have originated nowhere else on earth in more sincerity."

At the afternoon services, held at 2 p. m. in the Riverton school auditorium, last rites were conducted for the five South Jordan students meeting death in the crash.

Governor Talks

Speakers including Governor Henry H. Blood offered sympathy to families of the victims who were:

Helen Young, 15, daughter of Parley A. and Ida Clark Young, George Hunt, 17, son of Albert J. and Florence Hunt; Lois Johnson, 17, daughter of Oscar Johnson and Virginia Nelson, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Nelson, and Helen Lloyd, 16, daughter of William H. and Mary A. Newbold Lloyd.

Only two of the five Miss Johnson and Miss Lloyd, were buried in the same cemetery, South Jordan. Miss Young was buried at Farmington; Miss Hunt, Midvale and Miss Nelson at Sandy.

Services for two other victims from South Jordan, Viola Sundquist, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sundquist, and Duane Parkinson, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Parkinson, both of Crescent, were held in Crescent L. D. S. ward.

Graves Dedicated

Burial of the two victims was in the Crescent cemetery, where Alma Fairbourne dedicated the grave of Mr. Parkinson and the Rev. Mr. Anderson the one of Miss Sundquist.

Nearly 700 attendrd services in memory of William H. Glazier, 17, son of Roy and Mae B. Glazier, Salt Lake City, held in the Grandview L. D. S. ward at 1 p. m.

Meanwhile students who escaped with their lives in the bus tragedy but were left with serious injuries continued their battles for recovery in Salt Lake General hospital.

One of them, Marjorie Beckstead,

RELA MARIE BECKSTEAD
Twenty-fourth victim

16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Beckstead, Riverton, was reported in critical condition. Ann Webb, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilford L. Webb, also of Riverton, was reported in "fair" condition, having taken a turn for the better. Miss Webb was reported in poor condition Sunday.

Conditions of other victims:

Chloe Beckstead, 15, daughter of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead, Riverton, fair.

Louise Hardman, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hardman, Bluffdale, fair.

Ida Smith, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Smith, Riverton, fair.

Russell Webb, 13, brother of Ann Webb, fairly good.

Manford Osborne, 16 son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Osborne, South Jordan, fairly good.

Aid Unit Arranges For Fund Handling

A Red Cross committee, directing raising and expenditure of funds for aid of families stricken by the tragedy, met Sunday night at Midvale and named Stanley A. Rasmussen, clerk of the Jordan district board of education, as fund treasurer.

It was decided to bank the fund at the Midvale branch of the Sandy City bank.

Dr. Paul S. Richards, president of the Jordan school board and chairman of the committee, presided.

Rela Marie Beckstead Services Arranged

Rela Marie Beckstead, 15, of South Jordan, the twenty-fourth person to die in the December 1 school bus-train collision, was a sophomore at Jordan high school at the time of her death Sunday night.

She was born at South Jordan, March 21 1923, daughter of Royal V. and Coradine Smith Beckstead. She attended South Jordan grade school. West Jordan junior high school and was a member of the high school band and a member of the L. D. S. church.

Besides her parents, she is survived by one brother, Keith; five sisters, LaRoyce, Myrl, Ilene, VeLoy and Lois, all of South Jordan, and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Beckstead. Also of South Jordan.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 p. m. Tuesday in the South Jordan L. D. S. ward chapel.

Salt Lake Telegram,

Mon. Dec. 5, 1938

Solemn Throng Hears Memorial Talk

A. F. Smith delivers the memorial address at special services at Jordan High School honoring the victims of last Thursday's train-bus tragedy.

Jordan Schools Suggest Painting Engines Bright

Safety Recommendations Also Include Rerouting Of Buses, Rail Signals

A three point program intended to reduce school bus hazards was recommended by the Jordan District Board of Education in the State of Utah today.

The program was announced as 500 Jordan High School students met in their auditorium to honor the memory of 24 school mates who were killed in the tragic bus-train crash four miles south of Midvale Last Thursday.

The program was outlined in a letter mailed to the State Road Commission and Charles H. Skidmore, state superintendent of public instruction, over the signature of S. A. Baum, clerk of the Jordan district board. The letter read:

Clerk's Letter

"The Board of Education of your very careful deliberation has the following suggestions to make in order that safety in the transportation of school children to and from school may be enhanced:

1—Routing of school buses over specific roads where they can be observed from both directions very well be made by the state Road Commission. The number of crossings should be reduced as far as is consistently possible.

2—Where these roads intersect railroads it is suggested that railroads provide both visual and auditory signals.

3—That a general movement be started throughout the nation urging that railroad engines and trains be required to be painted a conspicuous, contrasting color, the same as that required of school buses."

Attend Funeral

The memorial services for the victims of the crash, which were arranged by the student body organization, ended in time for the high school students to attend the funeral services for Rula Beckstead, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal V. Beckstead of South Jordan. The services were held this afternoon in the South Jordan Ward Chapel. Last rites for the 23 other victims were conducted yesterday and Sunday.

Meanwhile, the condition of Marjorie Beckstead, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Beckstead of Bauregard, continued grave at the Salt Lake County General Hospital. She suffered severe injuries in the crash, believed to be winning a hard fight for life in the hospital.

Although Plainfield reopened its elementary schools at Jordan district control at South Jordan this morning, a period of sorrow prevailed over the schools and little effort was made to return to routine. Parents stricken at South Jordan and Midvale by the disaster were at the bedside of their children.

Remain Over Time

Principal Clarence Nelson announced that all school activities would be suspended for the remainder of the week as a result of the tragedy. Students remained after the memorial services. They were requested by Principal J. W. Nelson, however, to be excused for regular study tomorrow.

Warren Thompson of Midvale, president of the student body, was in charge of the memorial services. Another student, Ardis Hamilton, played the familiar dirge, "Nearer My God to Thee." Invocation was given by Lee N. Queen, of the Jordan Seminary.

Nearer to Thee

The memorial services opened with the singing of "Nearer My God to Thee," conducted by Miss Gwendolyn Hall, instructor in the school music department. Invocation was given by Lee N. Queen, of the Jordan Seminary, following the invocation. Following Mr. Smith's address, Miss Estelle Biddle of the high school faculty read from the twentieth chapter of I John.

Dr. Jensen Speaks

Dr. N. Jensen, superintendent of Jordan district schools, spoke briefly, commending the students on the memorial services. Prayer was offered at the close of the memorial services by Bishop Ernest L. Wilkinson of the South Jordan Ward.

Following the singing of "Abide With Me" by the student body, Principal J. W. Nelson announced that the bodies of the victims would be viewed at the Jordan district office, and expressed his appreciation for the consideration given during this period of sorrow.

The program concluded with the singing of "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" by the school chorus, and benediction offered by Lee N. Queen, of the Jordan Seminary.

Services for Miss Beckstead this afternoon were conducted by John Wheatley, first counselor to Bishop Beckstead, father of the girl. Elder Samuel Gailey, one of the First Council of Seventy representing the General Authorities of the Church and attended their sympathy to the bereaved family. Musical selections were given by members of the Jordan High School music department.

Following the opening song by members of the music department, Elder Walter V. Maley, former counselor in the South Jordan Ward bishopric, offered the invocation.

Speakers, in addition to Elder Bennion, who was president of the Central States Mission when Bishop Beckstead served there, were Hyrum Stocking of Salt Lake, former South Jordan Ward bishop; Henry C. Jorgensen, former principal of the South Jordan School; Superintendent Jensen, and Verdal C. Webb, president of the West Jordan Stake. Other music was given by Verda McMullin and Golden Holt, a vocal duet, accompanied by Mrs. Fern Holt. Verda Asplund gave a vocal solo. Thomas S. Butterfield, second counselor to Bishop Beckstead, pronounced the benediction. The grave in the South Jordan Cemetery was dedicated by Henry Holt, superintendent of South Jordan Sunday Schools.

County To Give $1,000

The County Commission today voted an appropriation of $1,000 to a fund being raised for the relief and rehabilitation of the victims of the Jordan High School bus-train crash and their families.

The fund is being raised under the direction of an American Red Cross special committee appointed to solicit voluntary contributions to aid in defraying funeral expenses and helping the family stricken victims of the accident make a new place for themselves in society.

Condolence Sent

Elder Richard R. Lyman of the Council of the Twelve sent the following message of condolence to the families of the victims from Portland, Ore., last week end, while he attended a Church conference.

Dec. 4, 1938—Portland, Ore.

To Pres. Vernon C. Webb.

The press of the nation carries the front page headlines to express the gravity of the great disaster that has come to your community. The families names of the unfortunates indicate that they are all friends of mine. To us all your great suffering has caused deep distress. The Saints of the Portland Stake and of the Southwestern States Mission in conference assembled join me in sending deepest sympathy to you all from the innermost depths of our hearts we say God bless you every one.

RICHARD R. LYMAN.

Elder Clarence Smith, Garland, president of Bear River Stake and principal of the Bear River High School, and Cl[illegible]na Page, member of the Jordan District School Board, were speakers at yesterday's mass funeral for Farrold H. Sheen, driver of the bus. Ole Peterson and Robert Egbert, held at Riverton.

At funeral services in the Riverton Junior High School yesterday for six crash victims, Elder Joseph Fielding Smith of the Council of the Twelve, brought consolation to parents of the crash victims from General Authorities of the Church.

Elder Smith said: "Don't grieve too much. If you could see beyond, you could see that your children are happy. For them new life will come. They will all come from death. Because of their good lives, nothing will be denied them; and they will be given back to parents in due time.

"The faithful will come forth and reveal the fullness of the Kingdom of God. Often, because of the wickedness of the world, the too pure are taken home."

REPORT ON BUS DISASTER MADE

A formal report on the railroad factors involved in the train-bus collision of December 1 that killed 24 Jordan school district high school students west of Midvale was submitted Wednesday to W. K. Granger, state public service commissioner, by Robert N. Slaughter, railroad inspector for the commission.

He reported that his investigation disclosed that the crew of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad company freight train had had proper rest before taking charge of the train at Helper and that all rules of the commission and of the company had been adhered to in operation of the train.

The fact that the train stopped in 49 car lengths, or 2100 feet, indicated that the brakes were operating properly, he reported, and he found that the crossing was protected by a standard, crossbuck sign that was in good condition and clearly visible.

The highway was found to be in good condition and, although it was snowing slightly, there was more than one-half mile of visibility along the track in both directions from the crossing. He reported that he found the engine's whistle and bell to be in good working order and to have been in operation before the engine reached the crossing.

Girl Bus Crash Victim's Condition 'Very Poor'

Physicians attending Miss Marjorie Beckstead, 16, one of six remaining seriously injured as a result of the train-bus crash Thursday, reported her in "very poor" condition at the Salt Lake county hospital Wednesday.

Condition of the other five—Ann Webb, 16; Louise Hardman, 15; Chloe Beckstead, 17; Russell Webb, 18, and Manfred Osborne, 16, remained "fairly good."

Ida Smith, 16, sister of Mabel Smith and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith of Riverton, was released from the hospital Tuesday night.

At the Jordan school routine classwork returned to normal for the first time since the crash. In some rooms, where permanent seats had been assigned to class members, teachers requested that students change their seats and thus dull the reminder of missing classmates.

Meanwhile, organization work to collect an emergency Red Cross fund to lessen the suffering of sorrowing families continued in Draper, Sandy, Union, Crescent, Riverton, Bluffdale, West Jordan, South Jordan, Herriman, Lark, Murray and Midvale, with officials of the American legion designated to receive funds from business [illegible]

Voluntary contributions from county residents and others desiring to contribute will be received at headquarters of the American Red Cross in suite 343 Beason [illegible]

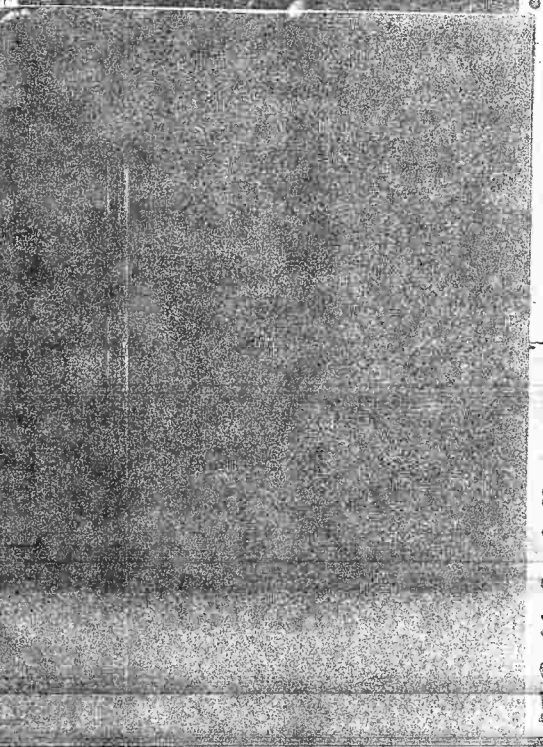
According to Calvin Rampton, chairman of the Salt Lake county Red Cross, money from the $200 emergency disaster fund will be used only to supplement [illegible] necessary.

Salt Lake Telegram, Wed. Dec 7, 1938

2 Dec. 1938

Worst Tragedy in Utah's History Kills 22 Jordan H. S. Students When Train Hits Bus at Crescent

Utah Sentinel



Grim tragedy struck swiftly and horribly in the Jordan valley at 8:40 Thursday morning when an estimated 21 Jordan high school students, en route to their studies, and their driver, were killed in the worst accident in Utah's history, when a fast Denver & Rio Grande Western freight train crashed into a school bus at the Lampton crossing, west of Crescent. Seventeen were injured.

The wreck, described as unparalleled in Utah, occured as the bus, occupied by an estimated 40 students, from the Herriman-Bluffdale-Riverton district, and driven by Farrold H. Silcox of Riverton, was crossing the railroad tracks when the freight train running at 52 miles per hour and carrying 84 cars, crashed into it broadside, dealing destruction never before known in this section or in the entire state.

A terrible sight greeted the horrified eyes of the first arrivals at the site. Only a few of the bus occupants were conscious, and only two were able to walk. Bodies and parts of bodies littered both sides of the rails.

The body of the bus driver rolled to the south of the tracks approximately 40 yards from the intersection. The motor was on the north side of the tracks, and was carried 225 yards.

The frame of the bus literally wrapped itself around the locomotive and was so firmly wedged onto the engine that acetylene torches were used to free it.

School books, battered band instruments, purses and clothing lined both sides of the right of way.

Doctors, nurses and other rescuers located the living and put them in ambulances to be taken to hospitals. The dead were covered with blankets and later taken away in trucks or ambulances after all the living had been given attention.

Most of the injured and dead were taken to the Salt Lake County Hospital, where frantic relatives called to find whether their children had been killed in the accident.

Fireman Alfred Elton and Head Brakeman G. M. Kelly confirmed stories of survivors that the truck came to a full stop and then moved on to the track. The engineer said he whistled as the train approached the crossing and applied all brakes at the fireman's warning cry.

Dazed and grief-stricken parents, some hysterical, wandered along the train trying to identify the fragments of what had been their boys and girls.

Scores of law enforcement officers from Salt Lake City and county tried to bring order out of chaos as nearly a score of ambulances rushed dead and dying to hospitals and mortuaries.

Midvale telephone [illegible] summoned all available doctors and nurses in southern Salt Lake county and Miss Louella Mahaney, superintendent of nurses at Salt Lake General hospital ordered all county school nurses to report at the hospital for instant duty.

Salt Lake County Sheriff Grant Young, L. E. Butler, assistant superintendent of transportation in Jordan school district, and L. W. Nielsen, principal of the Jordan school, basing their accounts, they said, on a description given them by Alfred Elton, fireman of the freight engine, said the bus stopped at the crossing, then started across the tracks and "appeared to hesitate in the middle of the tracks."

The train engineer, E. L. Rehmer, 2200 Fifth East street, they said, sounded bbell and whistle in a frantic attempt to warn the bus driver. Silcox apparently did not hear the warning until too late.

A blinding snow storm, which struck northern Utah Thursday apparently obscured the driver's vision, investigators said.

The freight train was due in Salt Lake City at 7 a. m., but was late, and a transient, David Witter, Denver, Colo., estimated its speed at "between 50 and 60 miles an hour" when it struck the bus.

So frightful was the carnage Mr. Witter said, "I thought the train had plowed into a herd of cattle."

School Dismissed

As news of the terrible catastrophe spread throughout the Jordan valley, the high school was dismissed immediately, and all students were sent to their homes to calm their parents and relatives and to assure them they were safe.

The Jordan high school will remain closed for the rest of the week, Principal L. W. Nielsen announced.

OFFICIAL LIST OF VICTIMS

20 Dec. 1938

(Special to The Ute Sentinel)

THE DEAD

Following is the official list of identified dead in Thursday morning's Jordan school district bus tragedy, as furnished The Ute Sentinel last night, direct from the district school offices:

Ferrald H. Silcox, driver, of Riverton.

Carol Stevenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Stevenson of Riverton.

Dunne Parkinson, son of S. E. Parkinson of Crescent.

Viola Sundquist, daughter of Jack Sundquist of Crescent.

Blaine Page, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Page of Riverton.

Helen Young, daughter of Parley H. Young of South Jordan.

Dean Winward, son of LeRoy Winward of South Jordan.

Kenneth C. Peterson, son of Mrs. L. W. Peterson of Riverton.

William Glazier, son of Roy Glazier, Riverton.

Niel Densley, son of Joseph Densley, Riverton.

Bayard Larsen, son of M. S. Larsen of Riverton.

Helen Lloyd, daughter of William H. Lloyd of South Jordan.

Lois Johnson, daughter of Oscar Johnson of Riverton.

Ray Miller, son of George Miller, Riverton.

Naomi Webb, daughter of Wilbert Webb, Riverton.

Wilbert Webb, son of Wilbert Webb, Riverton.

Rosa Larson, daughter of Martin Larson, Bluffdale.

Virginia Nelson, daughter of Leo Nelson, Riverton.

George Hunt, son of Albert, South Jordan.

Harold Sandstrom, son of M[r] and Mrs. Harry Sandstrom, o[f] Riverton.

Naomi Lewis, daughter of Mr[s] Myrl Lewis, Bluffdale.

Robert Egbert, son of Hersh[el] Egbert, Riverton.

THE INJURED

Seriously injured and still in th[e] hospital Thursday afternoon were:

Rela Beckstead, 15, daughter o[f] R. V. Beckstead of South Jordan (critical).

Ann Webb, daughter of W. [H.] Webb of Riverton (critical).

Manford Osborne, son of W. [H.] Osborne of South Jordan.

Louise Hardman.

Oweneva Green.

Marjorie Beckstead, 16, daughter of W. L. Beckstead of Riverton.

Russell Webb.

Ida Smith, daughter of L. [A.] Smith, Riverton.

Mabel Smith, daughter of L. [A.] Smith, Riverton.

Douglas Brown, son of [E.] Brown, Riverton (critical).

Ole Peterson (critical).

The less seriously injured who were treated and released included:

Mack Eskeman, whose guardian is Mrs. Minnie Beckstead of Riverton.

Amanuel Beckstead, 16, son of Mrs. Minnie Beckstead, Riverton.

Marjorie Groves, daughter of W. G. Groves of South Jordan.

Glen Kump of Riverton.

Chloe Beckstead, daughter of Mrs. A. R. Beckstead, of South Jordan.

Only person who escaped without injury was LaRaine Freeman, son of Mrs. Mabel Freeman.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SWAMPED WITH CALLS BY EXCITED PEOPLE

Ute Sentinel

Perhaps the busiest persons in Midvale Thursday were the operators of the Midvale telephone exchange, who received first word of the school bus tragedy. After the news had gotten out, the exchange was swamped with calls from parents, relatives and other people requesting information concerning the tragedy.

Mrs. Jessie Humphreys, manager of the local exchange, put on extra operators, and all calls were handled efficiently. Several long distance calls were received, one from Herculaneum, Missouri, from a relative of one of the victims.

FALSE REPORT SPREADS PANIC IN MIDVALE

A report circulated immediately after the school bus crash, stating that the Midvale bus had been hit, caused a near panic in the city for a few minutes, until the report was found to be false.

2 Dec. 1938

Jordan Bus Disaster Fund Drive Approaches $4,000

Ute Scalpel 16 Dec. 1938

Donations to the fund for alleviating the distress of families stricken by the tragic Jordan school bus disaster of December 1, has nearly reached the $4,000 mark, B. A. (Bern) Rasmussen, committee member, said today. All persons and organizations which have not as yet contributed, are asked to do so within the next few days, Mr. Rasmussen said.

Picture shows were given this week to aid the fund, a show being held at the Pearl Theatre in Draper on Wednesday night, and one at the Iris Theatre in Midvale last night. Shows were given last week at the Riverton Theatre and the Burke Theatre, and the proceeds donated to the fund.

Members of the central committee in charge of the disaster campaign include Dr. Paul S. Richards, Dr. A. C. Jensen, B. A. Rasmussen, Vernal C. Webb, T. A. Dewey, Miss Van Ee and Miss Storey. Contributions may be handed to any member of this committee, or left at the district school office.

In the meantime it is reported from the Salt Lake county hospital that the condition of the three remaining disaster victims is as follows: Marjorie Beckstead, 16, of South Jordan, poor; Chloe Beckstead, 17, of Riverton, and [illegible], 16, of Bluffdale

A special sacrament service was held at 2 p. m. Sunday at the Riverton junior high auditorium for the West Jordan stake under the direction of Vernal C. Webb, president of the stake. A new broadcasting system was installed in the building to accommodate the people.

The musical program consisted of carol singing by the audience, under the direction of Joseph J. Schmidt. The invocation was offered by Heber J. Burgon, president of the East Jordan stake. Special musical numbers were rendered by a mixed quartette from the Riverton First ward, and a male quartet from the West Jordan ward.

President Burgon gave a Christmas greeting and expressed sympathy for the bereaved in the bus tragedy. Elder Samuel O. Bennion, of the First Council of Seventy, another speaker, asked the parents not to worry or be too sad on this Christmas, but to put their faith and trust in God. He commented on and read the poem, "Earth's Angels", composed by Naomi Lewis the night before her death. The girl was one of the bus victims.

President David O. McKay of the general presidency, the special speaker for the meeting, gave a very comforting talk to the parents and friends of those who had children and friends in the recent bus disaster. President McKay explained very nicely of the plan of life and salvation. He also extended Christmas greetings to everyone, especially to the survivors of the bus tragedy.

Benediction was offered by Lawrence T. Dahl, member of the West Jordan stake presidency. At the close of the services President McKay was presented with a bouquet of American Beauty roses, contributed by the mothers of the West Jordan stake.

The majority of the parents of the bus crash victims were in attendance, among the congregation of 600 people. 30 Dec. 1938

Ute Sentinel

Damage Suits For $365,500 Filed by Bus Victims' Parents

24 Feb. 1939

Fourteen lawsuits seeking aggregate damages of 365,500 from the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad company and Emil Rehmer, engineer, and Alfred Elton, fireman, of the train which struck a school bus December 1 with loss of 24 lives, were filed Saturday in Third district court.

Wilson McCarthy and Henry Swan, trustees of the railroad company, also are named defendants.

The Jordan district school bus-train crash occurred at a grade crossing near Crescent. Other suits, one in federal court, alread have been filed as a result of the tragedy.

Specifically, the defendants in Saturday's suits are charged with operating the train "negligently, failing to sound the whistle of the engine, failing to ring the bell of the engine and approaching a grade crossing at a speed in excess of 50 miles per hour."

Those who filed the complaints, children killed and specified amounts each seeks to recover are:

Stephen F. Stephensen, whose daughter, Carol, 17, was killed, $25,000; George Miller, daughter, Rae, 16, $25,000; Roy Glazier, son, William B., 17, $25,000; Wilber M. Webb, son, Wilbert L., 19, $50,000; Lee Roy Winward, son, Dean Lee Roy, 15, $25,000; Roland Page, son, Roland Blaine, 17, $25,000; Martin S. Larsen, son, Byard L., 15, $25,000; Myrl Lewis, daughter, Naomi, 17, $25,000; Leuos W. Peterson, son, Kenneth C., 17, $25,000; Harry Sandstrom, son, Harold, 15, $25,000; Jack Sundquist, daughter, Viola, 17, $25,000.

Martin S. Larsen, father; Virginia A. Larsen, mother, Lola Mae, 10; Donna Jean 5, and Fern, 11, sisters, all are named plaintiffs in another complaint seeking $25,000 for the death of Rosa Larsen, 18.

Le Raine Freeman, 15, represented by his father, Isaac E. Freeman, seeking $10,000 for bruises and severe shock, and Louise Hardman, represented by her father, Clarence C. Hardman, seeking $30,500 for injuries to her legs, general bruises and severe shock, are complaints in other suits.

Midvale Sentinel 13 Oct. 1939

Riverton Razes Ancient Building

An historical landmark, the old Commercial building in Riverton, is being torn down this week by a wrecking concern, while old-time residents look on with sadness.

The structure was built 50 years ago by Carl Madsen, and since that time has housed many and varied business establishments, including the Riverton Commercial company, the Jordan Valley Bank, the Riverton Implement company, the Parry Implement company, Rol-Save store, Pollner's store, and many others.

In days gone by the Commercial building was used in part for an opera house, where traveling stage troupes presented [illegible]plays with the best actors and [illegible]esses then on the road. It has also been used for a dance hall, skating rink, and amusement hall. The Riverton postoffice used part of the building in two different epochs.

The ground on which the building stands was originally homesteaded by the late Charles E. Miller. It is understood that the old edifice was sold for $491.20.

BUS - TRAIN ACCIDENT VICTIMS GET DAMAGES

Fifteen high school students of Jordan district injured in the accident of December 1 when a crack freight train crashed into a school bus and killed 24 persons, received $23,400 of the $80,000 compromise settlement made by the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad company.

Of the remainder of the sum, $56,000 will be paid families of the 24 victims at a rate of $2400 for each death. $200 was divided among four county physicians. Dr. Lawrence C. Snow of Salt Lake City, Dr. J. S. Alley and Dr. John A. Hosmer of Midvale, and Dr. Paul S. Richards of Bingham, who apportioned money to injured students.

Riverton Second Ward Chapel Dedication To Be Held November 12

With the ward now completely out of debt, the dedication of the Riverton Second ward chapel has been set for Sunday, November 12, it has been announced by Bishop Franklin E. Seal. The exercises will begin at 2 p. m. and Heber J. Grant, president of the L. D. S. church, and other general authorities will be present.

The Riverton Second ward was organized September 18, 1927, with Wilford J. Myers as bishop, and Heber S. Crane and Thomas Callicott as counselors. A chapel was erected at a cost of $63,000, and in a short time trees and lawn were planted, making the church property a place of beauty.

Following bishoprics worked hard to pay off the church debt, and at the same time carrying on a program of beautification of the ward property, with the assistance of the Relief society and other auxiliary groups.

The dedicatory prayer at the exercises will be offered by President Grant.

Midvale Sentinel 2 Nov. 1939

"OLD RIVERTON L.D.S. WARD CHAPEL SOON WILL BE TORN DOWN FOR MODERN BUILDING."

RIVERTON—Plans were being drafted here Thursday to tear down the old Riverton L. D. S. ward chapel in preparation for building a new chapel, according to Niels K. Thompson, bishop. Members of the board of education of the Jordan school district, at a meeting Wednesday night, granted a request by Mr. Thompson that the ward be permitted to hold services in the Riverton junior high school, starting Sunday, until the new chapel is completed.

C. N. Jensen, superintendent of the district, said permission was granted on condition that the ward pay the additional maintenance incurred by the ward's use of the building.

Work will start immediately to tear down the old chapel, it was announced. Plans for the new chapel are being drafted by church architects, Mr. Thompson said.

The old chapel, which served all L. D. S. residents in Riverton until a few years ago, when a second ward was organized, was completed at the turn of the century. It required 30 years to build it, because work on the chapel was delayed several times, Mr. Thompson said.

"The old chapel doesn't suit our purpose and to remodel would be too expensive to be practical," Mr. Thompson said, explaining the need for the new building.

In addition to being bishop of the ward, Mr. Thompson is also principal of the junior high school here, where the church services will be conducted until the chapel is completed.

Above taken from The Salt Lake Telegram of Nov. 23, 1939.

Journal History, December 15, 1939, p. 4

Riverton Ward Chapel Razed

12/15/1939

RIVERTON, Utah, Dec. 15.—Wrecking of the present chapel of the Riverton First Ward will soon be completed to make way for a new building to replace the historic Church edifice built in 1890 by early settlers.

Preliminary work was begun Thanksgiving Day by men and boys of the ward who helped in moving furniture and fixtures. Meetings have since been held in the Riverton Junior High School. Crews of men now have torn down more than a third of the structure.

Above taken from The Deseret News of Dec. 15, 1939.

Midvale Sentinel 1 Dec. 1939

Razing of Riverton First Ward Chapel Begun Last Friday

Work of tearing down the historic Riverton First ward chapel was underway last Friday, and members of the ward held their Sunday meetings at the Riverton school auditorium.

The old chapel has served the ward for the past 32 years. Construction commenced on the building in 1899 and it was completed in 1907. The land for the building was donated at that time by the late Thomas B. Page. The unique construction of the old chapel has made it a well-known landmark for many years.

A new chapel will be constructed on a nearby site, and it is anticipated that a modern, up-to-date building will be the result. The project is being carried on by the ward priesthood, under the direction of Reuben Wiberg. Much of the labor is being donated by ward members.

Bishops of the Riverton First ward since 1907 have been R. P. Miller, Gordon S. Bills, David Bills, Vernal C. Webb and M. Kimball Thompson.

County to Draft Water Franchise

The Salt Lake county attorney's office has been directed by the county commission to draw up a franchise embodying an application for extension of water lines for which an application was filed by the Riverton Pipeline company. The franchise will be considered at a later meeting.

The company asked permission to extend its mains from 11800 South to 12600 South street on 2200 West street; from 1700 West to 2700 West street on 14400 South street; from 12600 South to 11800 South on 2700 West street; from 2700 West to 2300 West street on 11800 South street, and for a short distance on Church street in Riverton.

Salt Lake Trib., Jan. 27, 1941

Riverton Gets 11 New Lights

RIVERTON.— Riverton officially received 11 units of a new lighting system in the business district Wednesday night when Gwynne Page, Salt Lake county commissioner, presented the town with the lights at a public meeting.

Each of the 11 units was installed at a cost of $60 and produces 600 candle power. Two more units will be installed when the new L.D.S. ward chapel is completed in the southern part of the town.

W. R. Carlquist, Salt Lake county electrician, said the new lights will cut the overhead operation cost for the year in half. He appealed to members of the Parent-Teacher association, who participated in the meeting, to cooperate with the county in eliminating vandalism which has caused considerable damage to lights throughout the county.

Salt Lake Trib. May 20 1941

Students Speak On Patriotism

RIVERTON—"Americanism" was the theme of Riverton junior high school commencement exercises held Monday night in the school auditorium. Sixty-eight students of the ninth grade were granted diplomas.

Student addresses were given by Vivian Johnson, who spoke on "The Junior High as a Workshop for True Americanism," and Lowell Parry on "What America Has the Right to Expect of Me." Burton K. Farnsworth, director of secondary education in Utah, spoke on "New American Frontiers." Roberta Thomson acted as reader.

The invocation was pronounced by Frank Butterfield following the opening march of graduates and singing of the class song, "My Own U. S. A." Principal N. K. Thomson introduced the graduates. Student singers and instrumentalists provided a program of music.

Eighth year students will give a banquet Tuesday at 6:30 p. m. for members of the ninth grade graduating class to [illegible]

Riverton Receives New Street Lights

RIVERTON—Seven new street lights are twinkling on Church street, School street and Sixteenth West street here.

The installations were completed this week by the Salt Lake county street lighting department at a cost to the county of approximately $25 per light. Annual energy cost for all the new lights will approximate $40.

W. R. Carlquist, county electrician, who supervised the work, said the installations were the result of petitions filed early last year and that similar installations in 1942 probably would be few due to the lack of strategic materials.

Salt Lake Trib. Jan. 10, 1942

The Salt Lake Tribune

October 24, 1942

Flames Produce $1500 Damage

RIVERTON — Fire of undetermined origin wrought damage estimated at $1500 to a shed at the Riverton Motor company late Thursday.

Six automobiles stored in the shed were damaged, County Commissioner Gwynne Page, coowner, reported, but eight others were removed safely by company employes.

The Salt Lake county fire department extinguished the blaze, which was reported at 11:30 p. m. by residents in the vicinity of the garage.

Midvale Sentinel 26 Feb. 1943

Men of Riverton Form Lions Club

Organization of a Lions club at Riverton was announced last Friday, by the Sandy Lions club, sponsors of the new group.

Following an organization meeting last week, Leonard C. Beckstead was elected president of the new club; S. R. Anderson, first vice-president; Marion Stringham, second vice-president; N. K. Thomson, third vice-president; Joseph C. Frost, secretary-treasurer; Arthur J. Orr, lion tamer; J. Rex Hamilton, tail twister, and Joseph P. Butterfield, Elmo Hamilton, Charles Turner and Dr. S. C. B. Sorenson, directors.

Charter night is being arranged for April 10, when T. Ray Kingston, of Murray, district governor, will present the charter.

The Riverton club will hold meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month at the Riverton junior high school, beginning next Monday, it was announced.

Salt Lake Tribune
Morning, February 15, 1944

Pipe Line Company Reelects President

Stockholders of the Riverton Pipe Line company reelected Franklin E. Seal as president of the board of directors for a two-year term at annual meeting Monday.

Zachariah Butterfield was elected to the board for a term of two years. The following directors were elected for one-year terms: Vice president, John Hansen, William A. Turner and Heber S. Crane.

S.L. Trib., June 11, 1945

Plaque Dedicated

Those who survive the dangers of battle and those who remain at home in safety should feel eternally grateful to those whose greater sacrifices have helped perpetuate standards of decency, Atty. Gen. Grover A. Giles told members of Riverton L D S ward Sunday at dedication of a memorial plaque honoring ward members who have served or are serving in the armed forces.

OLD FOLKS FETED

RIVERTON—Persons over 60 years of age will be honored at annual "old folks" party at Riverton Second L D S ward Friday in the ward amusement hall.

Luncheon will be served from noon until 2 p. m., followed by a program. Supper will be served at 5 p. m., after which Riverton Second and First L D S wards will present another program and dance.

SLTrib, Oct 10, 1946

S. L. Trib. Apr. 27, 1946

Present Petitions

Petitions signed by a majority of the electors of Riverton asking that the town be incorporated, were presented Friday to the Salt Lake county commission and referred to the county attorney's office.

Legal description of the Riverton area, and a map, accompanied the petitions. Population of the area is more than 100 and less than 7000, the petitions stated.

Salt Lake Tribune
Thursday, June 6, 1946

Incorporation Move Stirs Court Battle

Incorporation of the town of Riverton developed into a court battle after a public hearing on a proposal to incorporate Wednesday before the Salt Lake county commission.

Salt Lake county commissioners granted the petition to incorporate in response to a petition containing 424 valid signatures from among 651 registered voters.

A petition in opposition to the incorporation was also presented at the hearing, but was withdrawn after J. Patton Neeley, chief deputy in the county attorney's office, said it did not comply with legal requirements since names had not been certified as registered voters by the county clerk's office. A total of 137 persons who signed the original petition asked to have their names withdrawn.

Immediately after the hearing a temporary order restraining further proceedings in incorporation of the town was issued by district Judge Joseph G. Jeppson. Action followed filing of a suit by Morris Butterfield of Riverton against County Commissioners Goerge W. Morgan, Roscoe Boden and Gwynne Page.

The suit asked that the commission be cited to show cause why it shouldn't be permanently enjoined from allowing incorporation of the town.

S. L. Tribune
July 21, 1946

Riverton Due For Status Test on Tax

Riverton's "to be or not to be incorporated" question moved nearer judicial airing Saturday when District Judge Albert H. Ellett signed the order for the Salt Lake county commission to show cause why it should not levy a two mill tax, as requested by the Riverton trustees.

Riverton's incorporation, granted by the county commission on June 5, has been protested by a group headed by Morris Butterfield, which through his counsel, Edward B. Cannon and Rex J. Hanson, charges that at least 150 persons signed the incorporation petitions, thinking it was for a new sewer project.

Subsequently the commission's appointed Riverton trustees—A. J. Orr, Meredith Page, Eldred Hamilton, S. R. Anderson and Almon Butterfield—applied to the county commission to levy a two mill levy upon Riverton property to be collected this fall.

The court ordered that the county commission and the town board be required to show on Aug. 3 why they should not be restrained from the collection of taxes and also enjoined from withdrawing services granted the town prior to its incorporation, such as the local fire department, garbage collection, dog catching, street lights and part maintenance of the town's cemetery and sprinklers.

The county, under the incorporation, will be required to cancel the services, and the town must finance those facilities itself or do without, Morris Butterfield and other protestants contend.

The petitioner further argued that his taxes as well as other residents will increase through the incorporation, explaining that he now will pay the county's seven mill levy, and the county could set an additional four mill levy if the town board so indicated.

This would bring in only between $2000 and $2600, it was claimed, an amount far short of giving the town the services it has been receiving from Salt Lake county.

Salt Lake Tribune Aug. 4, 1946

Court Weighs Riverton Fight To Dissolve Incorporation

Riverton's questioned incorporation and the alleged illegal trustees' levy of a town tax were aired Saturday before District Judge Ray Van Cott Jr. The court then took under advisement a motion for an injunction to restrain the board from assessing a tax this year.

The fight to dissolve the incorporation is expected to be heard at the fall term of court.

The court ordered that the town trustees—A. J. Orr, Meredith Page, Eldred Hamilton, S. R. Anderson and Almon Butterfield—be made parties to the action, which already named the Salt Lake county commission.

Morris Butterfield, who instituted the action on behalf of himself and others opposing the incorporation, charged the commission was without jurisdiction in refusing to allow 141 Riverton residents to withdraw their signatures from incorporation petitions. Mr. Butterfield said that he and others thought they were signing petitions for Riverton's participation in the county's new sewer program.

Mr. Butterfield declared if the town's incorporation is sustained, that residents will be deprived of the county's sewer benefits, as well as county fire protection, street lighting, sheriff's services, cemetery maintenance and that even with the additional town taxes, the revenue would be far short of financing such benefits.

RIVERTON CITIZENS LOSE OUT, INCORPORATION REMAINS

Citizens of Riverton must wait until the next municipal election of 1947 to place the question of disincorporation of the town on the ballot, according to an opinion received Tuesday by County Attorney Harold E. Wallace from State Attorney General Grover A. Giles.

Mr. Wallace said he had sought the legal opinion from the attorney general at the request of Riverton citizens opposed to the recent incorporation by the Salt Lake county commission as well as from members of the new town board.

Mr. Wallace said he asked the attorney general to determine whether or not a special election could be called for the purpose of submitting to the electors of the town the question of disincorporation or whether the electors of the town must await the municipal election.

Accordingly Attorney General Giles called attention to provision of the state statute which provides:

"Whenever one-fourth of the legal voters of any city or town shall petition the district court of the county wherein such corporation is situated for the disincorporation of such city or town, it shall cause to be published for at least 30 days a notice stating that the question of disincorporation such corporation will be submitted to the legal voters of the same at the next municipal election, and the form of the ballot shall be 'for disincorporation' and 'against disincorporation.' Such question shall not be submitted oftener than once in any two years."

The attorney general also referred to a statute which reads: "Special elections are such as are held at other times for any purpose required by law, except municipal and school elections."

Unfortunate as it may be the electors of Riverton, in my opinion, must await the municipal election of 1947, to present the question of disincorporation, Mr. Giles concluded.

Salt Lake Tribune, August 7, 1946

Court Issues Orders

Third District Judge Ray Van Cott Jr. issued an order Friday to the Salt Lake county commission and the newly appointed town board of Riverton to desist from levying taxes for the town for 1946.

SL Trib Aug 10, 1946

S. L. Trib. Feb. 2, 1947

Damage in Fire At Riverton Set at $10,000

RIVERTON—While the occupants were absent, the $7000 home of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Hamilton, 13400 S. Redwood rd., was reduced to ashes by fire which broke out Saturday at 4:45 a.m.

Total cost of the blaze, including furnishings, clothing, and personal items, was estimated at nearly $10,000 by Mr. Hamilton. A defective oil stove was blamed for the blaze.

The house was owned by Elmo W. and Eldred Hamilton, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, who were at the home of a son-in-law, Clifton Densley, Riverton, when the fire occurred.

J. E. Stockings, a neighbor, was the first to notice the fire. He aroused Elmo Hamilton and the pair attempted to fight the fire while Mrs. Hamilton tried to call fire station No. 3, Riverton. Failing to get the number, she called station No. 1 in Murray, but before trucks arrived the blaze, fanned by a strong wind, had nearly destroyed the house.

S. L. Trib. Feb. 20, 1947

Town's Water Row Brews

RIVERTON—Opposition to incorporation of Riverton is coming principally from original and major stockholders of Riverton's water lines and canals, Arthur J. Orr, president, Riverton town board, disclosed Wednesday.

Riverton needs more water, Mr. Orr declared, and before she can get it incorporation is necessary.

Defending the stand of the water stockholders were two who argued that supporters of the incorporation idea were mostly those who thought they could wrest control of the water from its rightful owners by incorporation.

Almon T. Butterfield, president, Riverton Lions, said there is sufficient water for Riverton and only fund lack stalled needed developments. He accused incorporation opponents of selfish motives in that they refused to develop the water facilities and also stymied the town in its efforts.

Hearing Opens On Riverton

The town squabble over incorporation of Riverton emerged into a legal battle Friday with the opening of a hearing before Third District Judge [illegible] Ellett on a suit filed by Morris Butterfield seeking to have action of the county commission incorporating the town declared null and void.

Following a full day of testimony regarding details of the county commission's transaction in incorporating the town, the hearing was adjourned until Monday morning.

Citizens of Riverton opposed to the incorporation have a double-barreled court attack pending. If they fail to gain a court ruling that the county commission's act was unconstitutional, they hope to bring a petition before the court for dissolution of the town.

S.L. Trib. Feb. 15, 1947

S.L. Trib. Apr. 29, 1947

County Refused Attorney Fees

Salt Lake county commissioners Monday refused to pay $485 attorney fees requested by two of Riverton's former five-man board of trustees as a result of prolonged court litigation over the status of the town.

Members of the town board were losers of their jobs as well as the attorney fees as a result of a ruling by Third District Judge A. H. Ellett declaring the town unincorporated.

The legal battle over status of the town followed action by the Salt Lake county commission last June declaring the town incorporated.

RIVERTON MOVES TO SETTLE TOWN CHARTER ARGUMENT

RIVERTON—In an effort to settle once and for all the year-old squabble of the proposed reincorporation of Riverton, the special survey committee hopes to have all petitions signed Tuesday enabling further action, committee members reported Monday

The town was disincorporated last fall as a result of disagreement between residents, and those in favor of the incorporation immediately took steps to regain the town's charter.

Attempting to learn the exact wants of the people, 12 committeemen were appointed last July—six in favor of the incorporation and six opposed—who have been petitioning every home in the town to get either a positive or negative answer from residents.

In order to avoid further contention, petitioners traveled in pairs—one for and one against the incorporation—and each resident was requested to sign one of the two petitions presented him. None of the petitioners were allowed to give residents "sales talk" or use any other means of persuasion.

If the survey is completed Tuesday as is hoped, the committee will meet Tuesday evening to tabulate results and then turn the petitions over to Elmo W. Hamilton, chairman of a group of four chosen to take action toward the reincorporation.

AROUND S. L. COUNTY

S.L. Trib
Feb. 18, 1947

Judge Urges Riverton Vote On Issue of Incorporation

RIVERTON—An election to determine whether Riverton should disincorporate was suggested Monday by Third District Judge A. H. Elleit when he took under advisement facts presented in a two-day hearing of a suit brought by citizens opposed to incorporation.

The judge said he had been advised that his court's decision would be appealed, and that another case asking dissolution of the town, incorporated by the Salt Lake county commission, was pending.

Best solution of the local entanglement would be an election under court direction, the judge averred.

CALL MASS PARLEY

RIVERTON — A mass meeting for Riverton residents will be held Saturday at 8 p.m. in Riverton junior high school auditorium to discuss feasibility of incorporating Riverton, Elmo W. Hamilton, temporary chairman, said Tuesday.

The Saturday meeting is an outgrowth of another sponsored by persons seeking incorporation held May 10 with approximately 150 persons present.

S. L. Trib. May 15, 1947

S.L. Trib. May 24, 1947

Riverton to Vote

RIVERTON — An election in which residents of Riverton will vote on incorporation of the community will be planned by a committee authorized at a mass meeting here Saturday night, Elmo W. Hamilton, temporary chairman, said Friday. Six members of the committee will be appointed this week by the temporary board of four which initiated the incorporation proposal, according to Mr. Hamilton.

Salt Lake Trib. Oct. 9, 1947

County Board Settles Dispute, Grants Riverton Charter

RIVERTON—A year-old argument concerning reincorporation of Riverton came to an end Wednesday when the Salt Lake county commission voted to grant a charter to the town.

The first charter was granted last fall. Contention and disagreement mounted and those opposing the incorporation filed suit in the Third district court. Judge A. H. Ellett ruled the original petition invalid and declared the town unincorporated last May.

Immediately the committee instigating the incorporation plan, believing the residents to be in favor of such a program, began proceedings to regain the charter.

Work Out Plan

Representatives both for and against incorporation met to work out a program to learn the exact desires of the people. A program was formulated where two persons, one representing each side, canvassed the community together. Each resident was asked to sign one of two petitions indicating definitely whether or not he wanted incorporation.

This plan was followed but on the date named to return the signed petitions for tabulation, the opposition failed to do so, according to Elmo W. Hamilton, chairman.

However, the committee tabulated the signatures on the petitions in favor of the incorporation and found it to be signed by 62.5% of the registered voters still residing in the community.

Okeh Incorporation

Upon the presentation of this petition to the commission Wednesday by headed b Elias C. approval given.

The co town boa day cons four tru election be held Otherwis will rat the nex 1949.

S. L. Trib. Oct. 26, 1947

Opposers Win Riverton Town Offices

RIVERTON — Politics make strange bedfellows — but the newly appointed Riverton town board is in a class by itself in such matters.

Though successful in reincorporation attempts, a group responsible for the action has but one representative on the board, while the "opposition" has the president and three board members.

When the county commission approved a petition Oct. 8 for incorporation, the group was asked for a list of 15 names for the board. But, as Commissioner Robert L. Cranmer put it, the list was not acknowledged because a "Republican-controlled commission could hardly be expected to appoint an all-Democratic board."

Homer W. Jaynes, county commissioner of roads and bridges, a resident of Crescent who is familiar with the Riverton situation, was appointed to find other persons for the board. One of the 15 men suggested for the board later was approved by the commission while four others who had opposed incorporation were named.

Finally named to the board were E. L. Butterfield, president, and F. E. Seal, Harry E. Page, Joseph Morgan and Melvin Petersen, trustees. Mr. Petersen is the minority member.

Riverton Rule Under Attack

RIVERTON — That the Salt Lake county commission has acted "unwisely" and "failed in its purpose" was a complaint the commission heard during its meeting Wednesday with irate Riverton residents.

Forty representatives of the town, with hopes of having the recently-appointed town board reorganized because four of the five members were opposed to incorporation of the town Oct. 6, met with the officials.

Commissioner Homer W. Jaynes, to whom the job of recommending members of the board was assigned, was accused of ignoring the majority group's list of recommended names and acting in favor of the minority.

In answer, Commissioner Jaynes said he had selected men on their qualifications as representatives of farming, labor and industry in the area.

In disputing that those recommended by residents were all Democrats, as the commission contended, Gladys Densley, district Republican vice chairman in the town, said that according to information she has obtained in surveying the town as a Republican leader, 10 of the 21 persons recommended are strong Republicans and another three have been "strongly anti-new deal."

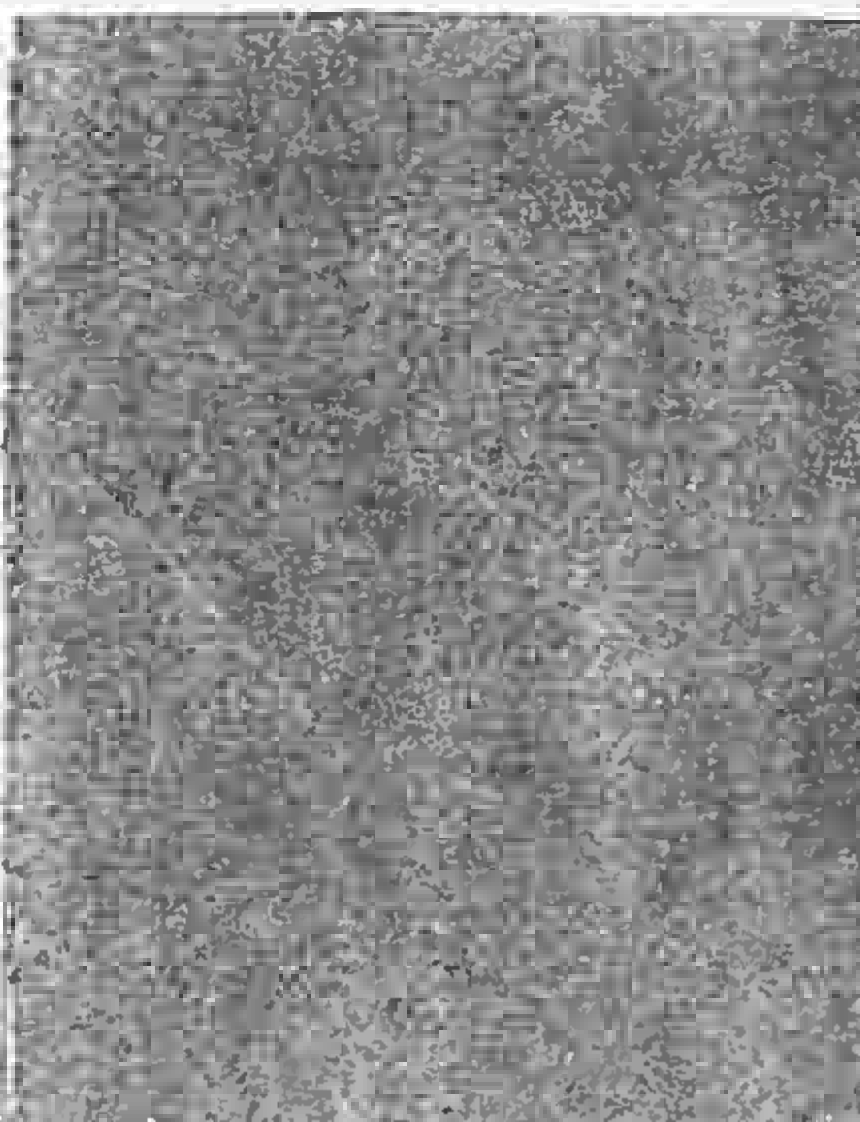
The commission has requested Edward M. Morrissey, county attorney, to study state laws and see if there is a possibility for the town to hold a special election to choose its own leaders within the next few months.

S.L. Trib. Oct. 30, 1947

12 Salt Lake Trib. Feb. 17, 1948

COUNTY NEWS BRIEFS

West Jordan, Riverton Set Reunions, Old Folk Fetes



Salt Lake county's elderly residents will be honored with reunion, homecoming and general festivities during the next week end, according to plans scheduled Monday by county wards of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In West Jordan, First and Second L D S wards will fete all persons 70 years of age and older with a luncheon Saturday noon and a program at 2 p.m. In the evening free movies will be shown at the West Jordan L D S ward chapel.

All persons more than 60 years of age will be guests of honor at a dinner and program Monday at 2 p.m. in the Riverton First L D S ward chapel, said William Caldwell, general chairman.

he said.

S.L.Tr. March 8, 1948

Raise Band Fund

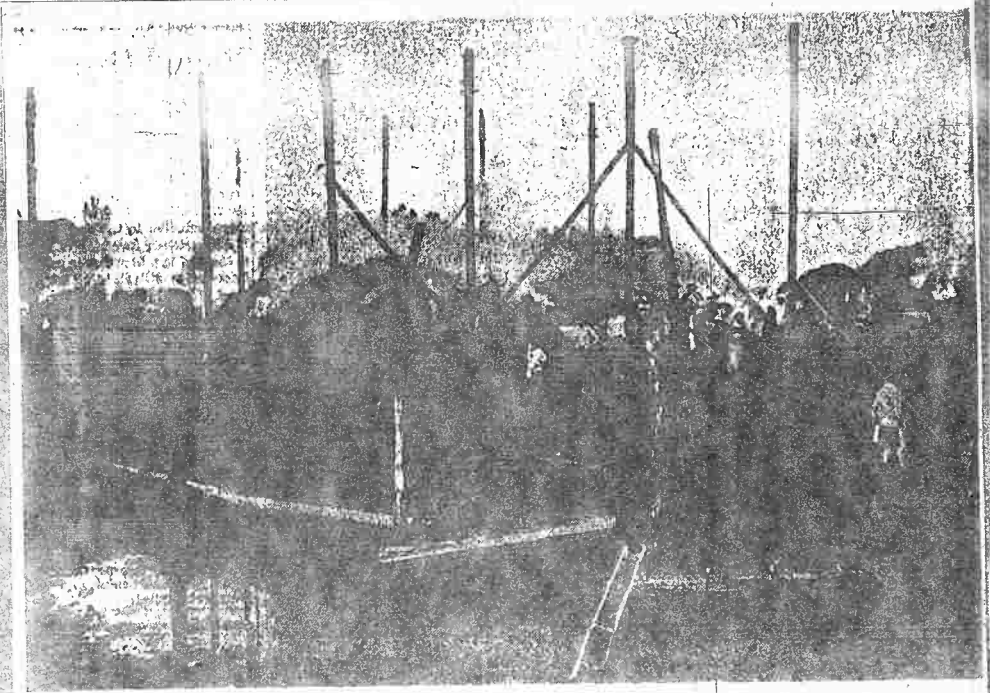
RIVERTON, March 3—A three-act play will be presented Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Riverton school auditorium to buy school band uniforms and to pay Riverton's share of the expense of putting a Salt Lake county exhibit in the state capitol according to a joint announcement by A. L. Butterfield, chairman of the town board, and Arthur J. Orr, Riverton Lions club vice president, cosponsoring organizations.

S.L.T.Tr. 6, March 10, 1948

$1800 for Uniforms

Campaigning by two Salt Lake county schools to raise funds for new band uniforms was completed Tuesday.

Officials of Riverton and Union junior high schools said they collected approximately $1800 through community projects in both areas. Remaining costs of about $3700 will be provided by the Jordan district board of education, they added.



Smoking Ruin of Dairy Barn After Five-Hour Fire

The smoking ruin of the J. A. Park dairy farm was all that was left after a raging fire consumed the entire barn and adjoining buildings. Salt Lake county firemen who fought the flames for five hours, set damage at more than $11,500. Some of farm livestock were killed when would-be rescuers were unable to fight through intense heat to open barn. Only a crippled cow escaped from burning building.

Capt. Jones, who returned from the scene late Wednesday, said origin of the blaze will not be determined until a more complete examination can be made.

Headed by Selyf Page, chief of Riverton station No. 3, volunteer firemen began fighting the blaze within minutes after it started.

Only One Truck

The station's one piece of fire-fighting equipment was unable to stop the flames however, and by the time trucks from county station No. 1 arrived, it was almost impossible to approach the yard because of heat.

Twenty firemen, most of them volunteers, controlled the fire in slightly more than one hour.

Mr. Park estimated 40 tons of hay were destroyed and more than 1000 bushels of grain in a small adjoining building.

Ray Flanders and Mart Neilsen, family friends, aided in rescuing some farm implements.

In one unusual instance, a crippled cow escaped death by walking through the flames while Mr. Flanders held open the barn door.

$11,500 Blaze At Riverton Strikes Farm

RIVERTON, Oct. 13—A raging fire leveled the J. A. Park dairy farm here Wednesday in 35 minutes, destroying livestock and reducing to a skeleton the largest barn in Riverton.

Damage was set at more than $11,500 by Salt Lake County Fire Capt. F. P. Jones.

The blaze apparently started with an explosion in the northeast corner of the barn, firemen said, and in a matter of seconds engulfed the farm yard.

Family Home Spared

The family home was untouched.

Three horses, three pigs, two purebred registered calves and several chickens perished in the flames when volunteers were unable to fight through the intense heat to rescue them.

SLTrib Oct. 15, 1948

Dairy Fire Probe Stalled by Death

RIVERTON, Oct. 14—The death Thursday morning of Christopher Allen Robinson, assistant Salt Lake county fire chief, halted temporarily the investigation of a fire which destroyed most of the J. A. Park dairy farm here Wednesday.

Fire Capt. F. P. Jones said investigators will continue Friday in an attempt to establish origin of the $11,500 blaze.

Meanwhile, members of the family still were uncertain as to plans for replacement of destroyed buildings and livestock.

S.L. Trib. Aug. 15, 1950.

Riverton Fun Fest Events Today

RIVERTON -- Riverton Fun day will be held Tuesday night.

It will get underway with a miniature parade at 6 p.m. followed by a concert by the Riverton junior high school band at 7 p.m. and a softball game between married and single men at 8 p.m.

It is sponsored by the Mutual Improvement Assns. of the Riverton First and Second wards, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake county recreation dept., Riverton Lions club and the town board.

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE, Tuesday, December 5, 1950

Show, Popularity Contest Due For Riverton Junior High

RIVERTON (Special) — Highlighting community Christmas festivities, a show entitled "It's a Date," featuring local talent and audience participation will be presented Thursday and Friday at 8:15 p.m. in the Riverton junior high school auditorium.

A tiny tot popularity contest for youngsters under 6 years of age is being held in connection with the stage program, and a king, queen and royal family of "toyland" will be crowned at the Friday night performance.

Miss Frieda Nikolai has been invited from Saginaw, Mich., to direct production of the variety type show. The cast will feature residents of Riverton, Herriman and Bluffdale.

Committeemen are Gwynne Page, Meredith Page, S. R. Anderson, Elmer Beal, Henry Jensen, Thomas E. Butterfield, Owen Hamilton, Thomas R. Butterfield, Eldred Hamilton, George Thaxton, Mr. and Mrs. John Stedman, Mr. and Mrs. Nichols and Mr. and Mrs. Elma C. Butterfield.

Proceeds will go to the proposed community park project.

S.L. TRIB. Dec. 12, 1950

Riverton Leaders Call Park Meet

RIVERTON (Special) — Committee of representatives of the various church and civic organizations of the Riverton area will meet Wednesday to name a subcommittee to study selection and purchase of a site for the long-sought community park.

The meeting will to held at 8 p.m. at the N. K. Thomson residence, announced Elmer Seal, Liona club president and acting chairman of the general committee on the proposed park project

S.L. Trib., Jan. 2, 1951

Riverton Chooses Light Winners

RIVERTON (Special) — First, second and third prizes in Riverton's annual holiday home lighting contest went to Elias C. Butterfield, Elroy Dandie and Wilford Crane, respectively, it was announced Monday by Elmer Beal, president of Riverton Lions club.

The awards of $15, $10 and $5 were sponsored by the town board and the contest was conducted by the Lions club.

S.L. Trib. Oct. 29, 1951

Riverton Readies Halloween Fete

RIVERTON (Special) — Prizes for the five best costumes will be awarded at the teen-agers' Halloween dance and party in Riverton School Wednesday. The dance will start at 8:30 p.m.

Pre-school children and those up to the sixth grade will be treated with games and a movie, starting at 6 p.m. Both annual events are sponsored by Riverton civic clubs.

22 S.L. Trib, Dec. 22, 1951

E. Riverton Drainage District Accepts RFC Bid on Bonds

RIVERTON (Special) — East Riverton Drainage District supervisors Friday accepted a bid of Reconstruction Finance Corp. to buy $85,000 in district bonds.

Proceeds will be used to finance an extensive drainage program on 529 acres near Riverton.

R F C was the only bidder. The offer was to buy the bonds at par and accrued interest at 4%, explained the district's attorneys, Glenn C. Hanni and R. A. McBroom.

Contracts for trenching and closed tile drains are expected to be awarded in January and February.

22 S. L. Trib, Jan. 3, 1951

Area for Park Bought by Riverton Unit

RIVERTON (Special) — Riverton Recreation and Development organization Tuesday announced purchase of a 15.6-acre site for a long-sought community park.

E. R. Hamilton, project committee chairman, described the site as "centrally located and accessible from several roads."

The chairman said that although specific terms of the purchase are being negotiated, a down payment of $500 has been made on the property, owned by Dr. J. Irving Hansen, Salt Lake City.

The site is east of the South Jordan canal and south of the Herriman road. The committee has not agreed upon details for its development, the chairman said.

The park movement was initiated by the Lions club. The project was taken over recently by the recreation and development organization, comprising representatives of all civic groups, and was indorsed by the town board.

Committeemen are Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Wilford Crane, Mrs. LeRue Jensen, Mrs. Mark Nichols, Kiding Petersen, Leonard C. Beckstead, Horace [illegible]okes, Mrs. William Reynolds, Earl Hatch, Eldred Beckstead and N. K. Thomson.

SLA Trib. Feb. 13, 1952

Riverton Awards Drainage Pact

RIVERTON (Special) — Contract for the initial construction work of the Riverton Drainage District was awarded Tuesday night to T. G. & J. B. Rowland, Salt Lake City.

Their bid was for $36,573.82, said Ralph Bastian, president of the Riverton Drainage Board. Work on the drainage district is expected to start about March 1.

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE,

Saturday, February 16, 1952

Drainage Contract Let

RIVERTON (Special) — T. G. and J. B. Rowland have been awarded a contract for initial construction work on Riverton Drainage District. Their bid was $30,679.

Work on the drainage system is expected to start about March 1, Ralph Bastian, president of the Riverton Drainage Board, said Wednesday. First phase of the project will be building of drainage outlets, main lines and main laterals. Supplemental laterals will be installed later if needed.

S.L. Trib. July 20, 1952

$1,000 Blaze Destroys Barns

RIVERTON (Special) — Fire destroyed two barns, a stack of new hay and the corral Saturday afternoon at the farm of Bert L. Brown, 1380 E 13th West.

Losses were estimated at more than $1,000.

Flames were roaring up the runways to the third and largest barn when Salt Lake County firemen from the Riverton and Murray stations arrived. They were able to save this barn—a new $3,000 structure—and the chicken coop.

There were 12 tons of baled hay in the stack—the farmer's whole new crop harvest.

Fortunately the cows were out to pasture when the barns caught fire, Mr. Brown said. Firemen said the blaze apparently was set by children playing with matches. They were two hours putting it out.

Eldred Hamilton, left, makes the final payment Tuesday for the 15-acre site of proposed Riverton Park to Dr. Irving Hansen.

RIVERTON PROJECT

Final Payment on Park Site Spurs Recreation Plans

RIVERTON (Special) — First major step in obtaining a park for Riverton was taken Tuesday when the final payment on a 15-acre site was made.

In less than three years the Riverton Recreation Committee, headed by Eldred Hamilton, has raised approximately $5,000 for the purchase of the site east of the school. The land was purchased from Dr. Irving Hansen.

To celebrate the occasion, the committee will hold a mortgage burning ceremony next Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the park. This will be followed by a dance in the school auditorium. Eldred Beckstead, chairman of the affair, said.

The committee is composed of representatives of all civic clubs, and church organizations in the community. Special projects have been sponsored, including the Riverton-Bluffdale pheasant hunting area which raised a good portion of the funds required.

Mr. Hamilton said the committee will go forward with landscaping, planting of trees and shrubs to give Riverton one of the finest parks in the state for the size of the town.

Salt Lake Tribune, July 27, 1953

Probe Continues In $3,800 Fire

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON — Firemen Sunday were continuing investigation for the cause of a fire that caused $3,800 damage here Friday evening to a garage, shed and contents.

Fire struck property occupied by Frank Roberts, 12550 S. 17th West. The land is owned by Wilford Dansie, 12545 S. 17th West.

Called to the scene at 5:56 p.m., Salt Lake County firemen struggled for three hours to quell the blaze.

S.L. Trib. Sept. 8, 1955 B 11

Fire Destroys Two Coops In Riverton

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON—A sweeping fire late Wednesday night destroyed two 80-ft.-long chicken coops, a number of fowl and rabbits, caused $2,000 damage and attracted hundreds of curious people to the farm of Hugh Cannon, 13552 S. 1300 West, Riverton, before firemen brought flames under control.

Salt Lake County Fire Chief F. P. Jones said the fire is believed to have started as a result of sparks from a nearby burning rubbish pile. Firemen under the chief's direction battled for more than an hour to successfully kept the blaze from spreading to another large coop and the Cannon home.

Flames which were seen from all points in south Salt Lake County attracted more than 1,000 persons to the area in cars which lined the lower road for more than a half-mile in each direction.

The alarm had been turned in at 10:20 p. m. by Mr. Cannon who said the coops contained "only a few" ducks, chickens and rabbits.

Daring Bandit Takes $4,710 In Riverton Bank Holdup

Shabby Gunman Gets Away With Companion in Auto

By Harold Schindler and George A. Sorensen
Tribune Staff Writers

RIVERTON—A shabbily dressed bandit robbed the Riverton Branch, Walker Bank and Trust Co., 1750 W. 12600 South, Tuesday afternoon and escaped with $4,710 in a stolen car driven by a waiting accomplice.

The car was located some two hours later by a Fish and Game Department airplane about a half-mile west of Utah Highway 111 on 7800 South.

Although the pilot, Don Demming, saw two men run from the car into another auto, by the time Federal Bureau of Investigation agents and Salt Lake County sheriff's deputies arrived the pair had eluded them.

Bandit Description Sketchy

Description of the bandit who entered the bank was sketchy and there were no witnesses who could describe the get-away car driver.

Lawmen swarmed into the area within minutes of the alarm at 1:26 p.m. but the suspects slipped past before roadblocks could be formed.

FBI agents made a door-to-door check in the neighborhood for information, but apparently were unsuccessful.

At the bank, Merrill Worsley, 30, Herriman, said he was talking to Mrs. Ruby Young, West Jordan, a bank secretary, when the gunman entered.

"I walked to my cage and the fellow leaned way in and tossed a money sack at me and began to whisper," Mr. Worsley told investigators.

"When I asked him to repeat, he pulled a revolver from his coat and spoke louder."

Mr. Worsley said the gunman cocked the hammer of the pistol and said, "I want the bank's cash."

Scribbles License

Manager of the bank, Stanley Burgon, and Mrs. Young were curious about the gunman but were unaware of what was taking place.

The bandit walked from the bank and Mr. Worsley shouted, "It was a stickup!"

He ran to the window and scribbled the license number of a two-tone blue and white sedan the gunman entered.

Outside the bank, T. E. Butterfield, 13006 Redwood Rd., was driving past when the bandit ran out with the money bag in his hand.

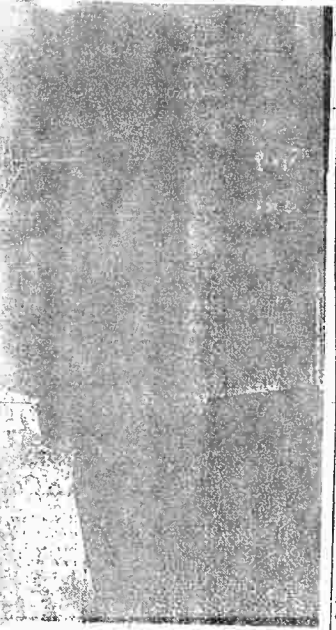
Descriptions Check

"I didn't know then what was going on, but I stopped my car and ran into the bank," he said.

Mr. Butterfield's description of the car and bandit coincided with that given by the bank cashier.

He did not, however, get a

See Page B4, Column 6



...nter, Stanley Burgon, left, the branch ... vice president, determine loss.

Joe Butterfield, in truck, tells Sheriff George Becksted how he saw getaway car turn and speed along Pole Line Road.

Sat. Trib. Oct. 3, 1957

Citizens Party Lists Ticket at Riverton

RIVERTON — Riverton Citizens Party Wednesday night nominated Wendell Grover for president and William T. Freeman and Dell E. Beckstead for trustees on the town board.

They will compete in municipal elections Nov. 5 with an expected six other candidates for three board va-

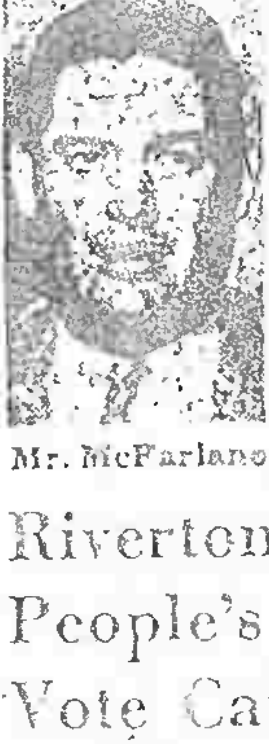
Mr. Grover

Mr. Beckstead

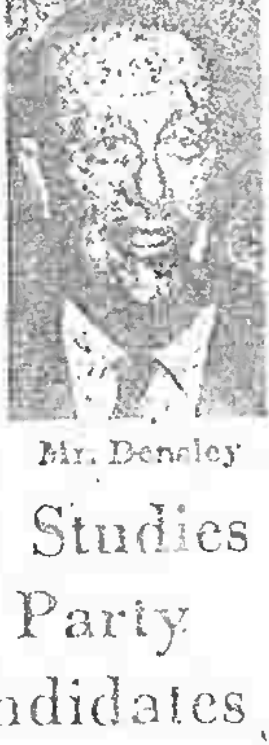
Mr. Freeman

cancies. The town board has five members. Two terms ex- in 1959.

S.L. Trib. Oct. 13, 1957



Mr. McFarlane

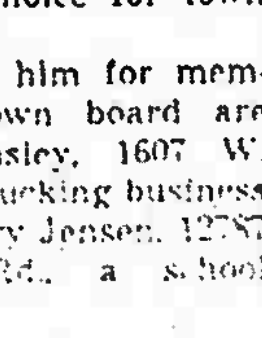


Mr. Densley

Riverton Studies People's Party Vote Candidates

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON — The People's Party has filed its list of candidates for town board president and members of the town board in the November elections, it was announced Saturday by Mrs. Phyllis Taylor, town recorder.



Mr. Jensen

Hardy M. McFarlane, 12872 S. 1800 West, an employee of Kennecott Copper Corp., and cafe owner, has been selected as the party's choice for town board president.

Running with him for members of the town board are Golden E. Densley, 1607 W. 128[illegible] South, a trucking business owner, and Henry Jensen, 1287 S. Redwood Rd., a school teacher.

In Riverton

Bank Bandit Nabs $4,710

Continued from Page B-1

good look at the man driving the car.

Another motorist, Joe Butterfield, Riverton, was driving east on 12600 South when the bandit car passed him and turned north on Pole Line Road (2700 West).

With the combined descriptions of all witnesses, federal agents and deputies theorized the bandit was about 5 feet 10, 20 to 25 years old, 140 pounds, wearing a brown hunting cap and a khaki jacket.

Meanwhile, Pilot Demming, who had been asked to aid in the search, radioed he had located a car matching the wanted vehicle.

As cars raced to the scene, several autos, thought to contain the bandits, were halted and searched when the pilot reported two men had run from the abandoned vehicle to another auto.

Federal agents were first to the scene but the suspects had vanished.

Four beer cans were found near the car and taken as evidence.

The license number obtained by Mr. Worsley was checked and found to have been stolen

S. L. Tribune Oct. 17, 1957

Officers Hunt 'Leads' in Bank Holdup

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents and deputies of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's office were checking hundreds of leads Wednesday into the robbery of the Riverton Branch, Walker Bank and Trust Co., 1750 W. 12600 South, without apparent success.

A flood of information poured into both offices during the day as interest in the robbery investigation gained momentum in Salt Lake County.

Federal agents were checking the neighborhood of the robbery from door-to-door looking for a solid clue which would identify the two robbers who escaped Tuesday afternoon with $4,710.

W. Mark Felt, special agent in charge of the Salt Lake City FBI office, and Sheriff George Beckstead urged persons with information to come forth.

Mr. Felt said, "The car was a 1956 Buick Super Riviera hardtop convertible. It had white sidewall tires, new blue quilted seat covers, white top, dark blue body, white bottom.

"This car was stolen Monday night from Freed's Motorville, 1100 S. Main. During commission of the robbery, the car bore stolen Utah license plates B/D 5950.

"Any information pertaining to the car during the time it was stolen until the time it was recovered Tuesday afternoon, or any information concerning the license plates, should be furnished to the FBI, EL 5-7521 or the Sheriff's Office, EL 5-2911.

Bank Robbery Clues Elusive

S.L. Trib. Oct. 18, 1957

Investigation went into the third day Thursday without a break toward solution of the armed robbery at Riverton Branch, Walker Bank and Trust Co., 1750 W. 12600 South.

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents and Salt Lake County sheriff's deputies continued to wade through a flood of information uncovered in the case.

Despite the mountain of work connected with the case, citizens were urged to report any piece of information even possibly connected to the crime.

Tuesday afternoon a lone gunman entered the bank and escaped with a confederate and $4,710 in loot.

Salt Lake Tribune
21 Oct. 1959

Annex Action In Riverton Gains Tracts

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON — Riverton Town Board annexed two areas Tuesday.

AT ITS MEETING in the Town Hall, the board brought an area severed from the town a year ago back into the community and added a section cut from South Jordan by a court order Tuesday morning.

The area separated a year ago and annexed back into Riverton Tuesday is between 1300 West and 2200 West, starting at 11800 South and continuing south one-half mile.

THE ANNEXED area, formerly part of South Jordan is between 1300 West and 2200 West, a quarter-mile strip with its south boundary at 11800 South on the north edge of Riverton.

With the annexation, Riverton gained about a 30th of the assessed valuation of South Jordan. Wendell Grover, president of the Riverton Town Board, estimated.

SALT LAKE TRIBUNE, DEC. 12, 1959 15

3 Groups Unite to Promote Yule Events in Riverton

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON—Three organizations have combined to promote Christmas activities and decorations in Riverton.

The Riverton Recreation Committee, with Ralph Bastian as chairman, has made arrangements for Santa Claus to arrive Dec. 19 at 3 p.m.

ARRIVING in a sleigh, Santa will drive through town and remain at town hall until 6 p.m. to meet the children.

The annual home-lighting contest will be sponsored by the Riverton Junior Chamber of Commerce with Lynn Page and George Showell as co-chairmen.

PRIZES will be awarded to the three best decorated homes. Judging will take place between Christmas and New Year's Eve.

Riverton Rough Riders will install the street lights and illuminate a large Christmas tree near the center of the town under the direction of Bruce Peterson, chairman.

Deseret News

Wed. Nov 1963

Death Claims Ex-Official Of Riverton

RIVERTON — Edwin Leslie (Les) Butterfield, 69, first president of the Riverton Town Board, died Wednesday at 1:50 a.m. of natural causes in a Salt Lake hospital.

Mr. Butterfield

Mr. Butterfield presided over the town board at the time Riverton was incorporated. He was a retired employe of the Utah State Road Commission and had been an agent for 23 years for the Salt Lake and Utah Railroad, Orem Line.

A member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he was a high priest in the Riverside Stake and had been a ward organist. He served a Central States mission from 1913 to 1915.

Mr. Butterfield was born Oct. 20, 1894, in Herriman, Salt Lake County, a son of Edwin J. and Vilate Sophia Newman Butterfield. He married Amy Winters Feb. 9, 1916, in the Salt Lake Temple of the Church.

Survivors: widow; two sons and two daughters, Leslie M., Riverton; Franklin H., Orem; Mrs. Dean E. (Vilate) Terry, Provo; Mrs. Fred J. (Chloe) Adams, Bountiful; 23 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. in the Riverton First Ward chapel, 12888 S. Redwood Rd. Friends may call at 8090 S. State Friday, 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday at the chapel one hour prior to services. Burial will be in the Herriman Cemetery.

New Pavilion Lighting

RIVERTON — New pavilion lighting will be installed as soon as weather permits in the Riverton Town Park, local Lions Club members announced this week.

Better lighting will be installed in other parts of the park and a complete ring of lights will go over the horseshoe court, Chairman Douglas K. Peisley said. The Riverton Lions will finance the improvements, he reported.

MAR 12 1964
DESERET NEWS

S. L. Trib Aug. 12, 1964

Health in the County

Most dutiful Utah citizens discharged their responsibilities at the polls Tuesday. But qualified taxpaying voters of Riverton, Draper, Bluffdale and South Jordan in south Salt Lake County have a second rendezvous with the democratic process Wednesday, August 12.

For the third time in three years, a sanitary sewer bond issue is being submitted in the district. Voting from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. today will be at the same polling places as at the Tuesday primaries. Registered voters in the communities are eligible to ballot on the proposal if they have paid a tax on real or personal property (including automobiles) in the district during the last year.

The first election in 1961 failed. In 1962 the sewer bonds were approved, but the Utah Supreme Court held the election invalid because, among other things, of the method used to determine qualification of voters.

Voters whose eligibility may be questioned should present proof, such as a tax receipt or ownership papers, at polling places today.

The need for the sewer project is beyond question. The State Health Department has called attention to numerous health hazards in the district. Even before the 1961 election some areas had become so saturated with human wastes from overflowing septic tanks that abatement orders were issued against 38 offending homes in the Draper area alone. This district is one of three in the Great Basin which do not have modern sanitary facilities or plants under construction. The value of property and growth are adversely affected by failure to meet such health hazards. Ordinarily lending agencies decline to invest in areas lacking such facilities.

We urge south Salt Lake County citizens to vote for health and progress.

S.L. Tr-T. Aug. 13, 1964

Downed the Second Time

Vote Nips Sewer Bond In 5 S.L. Area Towns

A $1,826,700 sewage project bond issue was defeated by 200 votes as voters from Riverton, Draper, Crescent, Bluffdale and South Jordan balloted Wednesday.

SUPPORTERS OF the project lost six to eight voting precincts by a close margin, and carried one precinct by only three votes.

Wendell Grover, chairman of the board of trustees of the South Salt Lake County Sewage Improvement District [illegible] said, "We faced a well-[illegible]ized opposition and apathy on the part of the general public."

THIS WAS THE second time the project has been defeated; the first was in an election held in December, 1961.

Voters approved the bond issue in an election held Nov. 6, 1962, but the election was ruled invalid by the Utah Supreme Court later that year.

S.L. Trib. Aug. 14, 1964

Backward Step Again

The majority of the voters of rapidly-growing south Salt Lake County have at best gained a little time before assuming their responsibilities in disposing of sewage.

The failure of a $2,826,700 bond issue for a sewage collection, disposal and treatment system for the communities of Riverton, Draper, Crescent, Bluffdale and South Jordan, will prove a severe setback for the area.

THIS IS THE THIRD time that the program has failed, twice at the polls and once in the courts.

The majority voters in the south end of the county have joined those of Logan and Payson in rejecting modern sanitation progress.

A difference is that Logan and Payson dump raw sewage wholesale into streams while the south Salt Lake unincorporated towns have no sewage collection system but use septic tanks and cesspools. Although the main pollution is theoretically removed from the water before it reaches the Jordan River, actually overflowing waste contributes to surface water contamination and poses a serious health problem.

ANOTHER DISADVANTAGE to the south Salt Lake County residents is that eventually they will pay for two sewage systems, their private septic tanks, costing about $300 each, and later a modern system. Septic tanks are a complete loss when replaced.

Health authorities and lending agencies have legal weapons to force sanitation. The most effective long-term effect, however, is the adverse property values and lack of general development.

The bond issue will have to be submitted again in some form. We only hope that a serious epidemic of infectious hepatitis or other filth-related disease does not force emergency action in the meantime. In this the whole area is concerned because disease germs observe no political boundaries.

SLTrib June 20, 1965

Vicky Kyriopoulos . . . Will reign over Riverton fete.

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON — A 17-year-old, brown-haired girl with blue eyes captured the judges' eyes Monday night and will reign as Miss Riverton at this community's Fourth of July celebration.

SHE IS VICKY Kyriopoulos, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Kyriopoulos, 12705 S. Redwood Rd. (1700 West).

He attendants selected in the contest sponsored by the Riverton Junior Chamber of Commerce will be Caron Annette Pickett, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. Owen Pickett, 12670 S. 1800 West, and Deanne Bills, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray C. Bills, 1219 W. 13200 South.

SL-T-6 Nov. 2, 1944

Street Project Likely Topic

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON—Construction of a street on private property by county crews likely will be discussed during a meeting of the Riverton Town Board Monday at 8 p.m.

Work on the street was ordered by C. W. Brady, Salt Lake County commissioner, but a Riverton resident, R. L. Butterfield, has protested that blacktopping of a street serving four or five homes should not be paid for with county funds.

Trib Nov. 3, 1954

Citizens Flay Tax Tab in Street Fuss

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON — Riverton Town Board will seek the advice of its attorneys and meet with the Salt Lake County Commission before funding over any tax monies to help pay for a 1,160 foot road-way on private property at 1200 W. 13400 South, George Usher, Town Board president, announced at the conclusion of a meeting Monday night.

Approximately 35 townspeople attended the meeting of the board, most of them to protest the town's participation in paying for the road.

Takes Responsibility

County Commissioner C. W. Brady Jr. admitted at a meeting last week that he was responsible for the construction, which serves four or five homes in the area.

Mr. Usher took exception to a statement attributed to Mr. Brady in newspapers which said the town turned over the road funds and sales tax to the county.

"We have never turned over the sales tax to the county, although we give them our Class C road funds and in turn they maintain our streets," Mr. Usher said.

Asks Cooperation

Elmo Hamilton, a town resident, asked for cooperation in settlement of the dispute. He suggested that the property owner, county commission and the town board get together to work out payment for the road.

"I believe the property owner (George Thaxton, 13290 S. 1700 West) should stand a large share of the expense because he is the one to benefit most from it," Mr. Hamilton said. "However, the road also benefits Riverton and the county, so those two groups should be willing to help also."

'Sweat It Out'

Many people did not agree, and R. L. Butterfield, who lodged the initial protest at the county commission meeting, asked the town board to "sit tight and let Brady sweat it out."

The town board voted to get the opinions of its attorney and then try and arrange a meeting with the commissioners before taking any further action. The board agreed to let the people know when this meeting will be held.

Midvale Sentinel June 29, 1967

3 Towns Will Become Cities In New Ruling

Seven Utah towns—three of them in Salt Lake County—will become third class cities as a result of an attorney general's opinion that towns with populations exceeding 800 must be proclaimed as cities.

West Jordan, population 3,609, Riverton, 1,629, and South Jordan, 1,354 will thus become third class cities as soon as the proclamation is issued by Gov. Calvin L. Rampton. Populations are as set by the 1960 federal census.

In moving into the city classification the towns will come under the Utah Fiscal Procedures Act, requiring a standardized form of bookkeeping and adoption of an annual budget after holding a public hearing.

Other changes will be that they will have a mayor and five councilmen instead of a town president and four board members; and as cities they must provide such services as street lighting, garbage collection, road building and maintenance, and similar services.

The other Utah towns involved included Enterprise, Washington County, 859; Maeser, Uintah County, 929; Plain City, Heber County, 1,162; River Heights, Cache County; 880.

Dr. Bruce Egbert, president of West Jordan town, said that West Jordan is better prepared than some for the change, for the town has been budgeting for six years and has been following the fiscal accounting procedures.

Dr. Egbert added that the town's class C road money would have to cover street lighting, as there is no opportunity to raise more local revenue. He said that the town's system of garbage collection in sanitary sacks, inaugurated several months ago, saves 45% on the route pickup time and will enable the city to utilize a flatbed dump truck instead of an expensive garbage packer truck.

South Jordan and Riverton officials could not be reached for comment.

Midvale Sentinel Oct. 26, 1967

W. Jordan, S. Jordan Sentinel

To Elect First City Officials

Three communities in South Salt Lake County will hold elections as cities instead of towns this fall as they take the first step in moving from town government to third class cities.

A Supreme Court decision ruled that when towns advance to the proper population bracket they automatically become third class cities. Actually, the transition is rather gradual, permitting government to move smoothly from one classification to another.

The chairman of the town board finds himself being called mayor; board members become councilmen; election procedures follow city laws instead of town laws, though elected officials continue to serve out their terms.

Riverton, South Jordan, and West Jordan find themselves in this transitory position this year.

They join Midvale and Sandy in the category of third class cities. But their election procedure parallels that of Sandy rather than Midvale, for Midvale has, by ordinance, adopted the election procedure of first and second class cities, including by petition rather than by party conventions and holding a primary which is not provided for third class cities.

In South Jordan, two parties have nominated candidates for three city councilmen.

The Democratic party has named [illegible] incumbent town board members to seek election as councilmen. They are Donald [illegible] Jr., 10630 South 1625 West, A. Jack Sebastian, 10[illegible] South 1700 West, and L. Neil Haviland, 10405 South 1700 West.

Candidates of the Progressive party are Mr. H. Mcfarlin, [illegible] South 1540 West, M. Jay [illegible], 10483 South 1700 West, and Sherman W. Mabey, 10[illegible] South 1300 West.

West Jordan has only four candidates, a slate of three nominated by the Progressive party, and one filing by petition.

The Progressive party candidates are Grandin Pederson, 8[illegible] South 700 West, Ray Copeland, 2[illegible] West 7[illegible] South, and Fenton Bates, 6[illegible] Anderson Way.

Filing by petition is Willis L. Jacobson, 1125 West 7[illegible] South.

In Riverton no party conventions have been held and four candidates have filed nominations by petition.

Only one candidate, Douglas T. Brown, 3[illegible] West 12[illegible] South, is presently a member of the town board.

Others filing are C. Miller Roberts, 1[illegible] South 1[illegible] West, George A. Beagle, [illegible] West 12[illegible] South, and F. Miles Petersen, 11[illegible] South 1[illegible] West.

Burglary at Riverton Foils; Two Arrested

Two men burglarizing Page's Furniture & Appliance in Riverton last Wednesday evening were surprised and apprehended when the owner, Thomas R. Page returned to the store unexpectedly.

When Page drove up in front of his place of business he saw a large plate glass window broken, and a car parked in front had four television sets from the store in the back seat.

The hour was early and Page quickly obtained help from nearby business places. Page saw another man inside the store and gave chase, and the burglar jumped through a heavy plate glass window without so much as a scratch as [illegible].

Other citizens gave chase and caught the men and held them for sheriff's officers. Sgt. [illegible], Jon Peterson, J[illegible] took charge [illegible] later [illegible] remand [illegible] against [illegible] and J[illegible], in [illegible] [illegible].

Midvale Sentinel
Dec. 7, 1967

Salt Lake Tribune, July 5, 1966

Action-Filled Fourth Draws Area Crowds

2 Counties Revel in Fun-n-Sun

While thousands of Salt Lake and Davis county residents retreated to the canyons or lakes for their Independence Day celebrations Monday, still more thousands enjoyed the holiday at community celebrations throughout the two counties.

Sunny skies and soaring temperatures combined to provide fun-seekers with the best possible weather as dozens of community parks and baseball diamonds rang with laughter and music.

Varied Events

Events ranged from skydiving exhibitions to boxing demonstrations, from tugs-of-war to greased pole climbing contests.

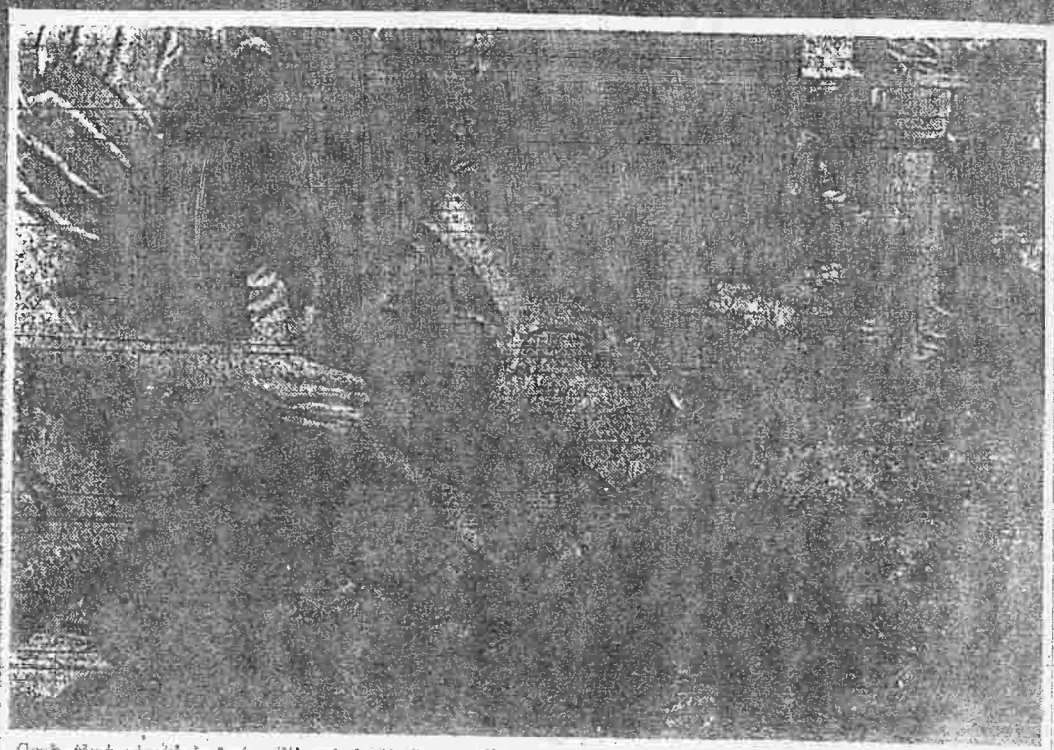
A "Funorama" celebration, sponsored by two stakes of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was held in Rose Park during the day, featuring a parade, tug-of-war, a greased pig contest and a band concert.

In Magna, blue-eyed Diane Duckworth, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Duckworth, 8166 S. 8400 West, reigned as "Miss Copper" over a day of activities at Magna City Park. Also included was a parade and vaudeville show and fireworks at dark.

Miniature Parade

Other community celebrations were held in East Mill Creek, where a flag-raising and breakfast opened the day's events, and a miniature parade closed the activities in the forenoon; Riverton, where activities were highlighted by a teen-age battle of the bands which followed a parade, flag-raising and breakfast; Midvale, where a breakfast and parade opened the celebration and fireworks concluded events, and Murray, where the traditional breakfast and parade preceded races and games a parachute jump, a variety show and fireworks.

In Davis County, area resi-



Grab that pig skin! A traditional football cry, the phrase nicely describes this mad scramble for a greased pig by youngsters at Riverton's Fourth of July celebration Monday. They caught the porker.

Riverton Voters Agree, Elect Mother To Council

Deseret News
NOV 3 '71

RIVERTON — The only woman among 10 candidates was the big vote getter Tuesday as citizens filled three positions on the Riverton City Council.

Mrs. Nichols

About 50 percent of the town's registered voters turned out to choose from the biggest number of candidates in the community's history.

Maurine Nichols, with 387 votes, led the field, followed by Robert Cowdell, 327; Richard Schouten, 264; Selyf Page, 188; Owen D. Silcox, 148; Wayne [illegible]ellsen, 134; G. Eldon Roberts, 128; Gail Bench, 114; Albert N. Crowton, 101, and George A. Dansie, 86.

Mr. Schouten

Mr. Cowdell

Mrs. Nichols, Cowdell and Schouten were the winners with Cowdell being re-elected to the council after being appointed a year and a half ago to fill an unexpired term of another councilman.

Dansie, who finished last, was an incumbent councilman who was elected four years ago and was seeking another term on the City Council.

Mrs. Nichols, a mother of three and a bank assistant cashier, told the voters in her election campaign that "in this day and age a woman's viewpoint is needed." Riverton citizens obviously agreed.

Cowdell, a truck repair electrical foreman at Kennecott Copper Corp. where he has been employed for 27 years, was the youngest of the winners at age 43.

Schouten, also an employe at KCC, has been with the firm for 36 years and is a lineman.

No major issues confronted the voters and the campaigns were run on community improvement questions. Mrs. Nichols apparently struck the right chord when she said she would "just try to make Riverton a clean, pleasant place to live."

Would Withdraw From District

Riverton to Mull Own Sewer Setup

APR 16 '71 P.12B

By George A. Sorensen
Tribune Suburban Editor

RIVERTON — A proposal that Riverton withdraw from Salt Lake County Sewerage District No. 1 and construct its own sewer collection system was made Thursday night at a mass meeting of 300 persons.

The proposal was made by Councilman George Dansie, who said petitions asking to withdraw from the county district were available after the meeting. He said 51 percent of Riverton's citizens would have to sign the petitions to make the withdrawal effective.

W. S. Mickelsen, chairman of the district trustees, and Larry Alsop, district engineer, reported total cost of the county sewer system would be $5,940,000. They said the district has been assured of more than $2 million in grants and a loan from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the federal Water Quality Control Agency.

Top Proirity

Orrin Beckstead, South Jordan mayor, said the project has been given top state priority.

Costs to the individuals would be $6 monthly service charge; eight to 10 mill tax levy, and a connection fee of $350.

Speaking at the request of Mr. Dansie for the Riverton collection system, Alton Sorensen, a Salt Lake engineer, suggested that Riverton and South Jordan construct their own sewer collection systems, then join the rest of the district in operation of a single treatment plant.

Mr. Dansie and Elden Roberts, another engineer, placed the Riverton collection system cost at $739,000. Outfall line to the Tri-City Treatment Plant, Midvale, would be $754,000.

Line Cost Reduction

It is believed that a federal grant of more than $300,000 could be obtained and, if South Jordan decided to join, the outfall line cost would be reduced to Riverton residents.

They said the Riverton system could be operated on a four-mill tax levy, a connection fee of $350 and a monthly charge of $3.50.

County sewer district spokesmen said that only one-half of the area in the Riverton vicinity would be included in the withdrawal proposal compared to what is in the district now. The area withdrawn would be confined within Riverton's boundaries.

Mr. Alsop estimated the cost of the sewer for each of the five communities in the district, South Jordan, $829,000; Riverton (including the area which would be left out if the withdrawal proposal succeeds), $786,500; Bluffdale, $162,000; Crescent, $160,000 and Draper, $862,000.

Mr. Mickelsen said the district is ready to call for a bond election to provide for the additional funds needed for construction of the sewer in all five communities.

MAY 10 '72 Salt Lake Tribune

Riverton to Improve Water System

Special to The Tribune

RIVERTON — General fund money will not be used for improvements in the Riverton water system as the city council is looking at ways to raise the needed funds, Mayor Paul Mortensen announced Monday.

The money will come from preassessed connection fees for new home owners and builders who will connect on to the system.

These fees start at $865 for a three-quarter inch connection and go up depending upon the size of the connection, Mayor Mortensen said.

Because some of the water received by the city from the Salt Lake County Water Conservancy District will be cut off this summer, there is a definite need for residents to curtail the use of as much water as possible, he said.

The main reason for restrictions is the system does not have the capacity to carry all the water the city can produce from its wells.

Water from the wells enters the system at 13400 South and the water from the conservancy district at 12600 South. With water entering from both connections, the pressure was equalized throughout the city, but with most of the water coming from the well source, it is difficult for the lines to carry all the water needed, he said.

At the present time the city is producing 850,000 gallons of water from its wells, but could produce three million gallons daily if the water mains were ample.

The improvement plans call for the construction of a large reservoir.

'Growing Pains' Starting To Trouble Riverton

By George Sorensen
Tribune Suburban Editor

RIVERTON — Located in the southern end of Salt Lake County, Riverton is beginning to experience growth problems which have plagued the suburbs to the north since the end of World War II.

Growth of this city, located approximately 20 miles south of Salt Lake City, has been slow — until the past two or three years. And, from the requests to develop land, the population growth is about like a filled balloon ready to explode, as more pressure is applied.

"We had a request last week from a developer to annex 180 acres so he could build 700 new homes," Mayor Paul Mortensen said.

"The population of the city has doubled to about 6,000 since the 1970 census and we expect it to double again in the next three years," Mayor Mortensen said.

"We are receiving one or two inquiries a week from people who have bought some land out here or are considering it and want to know what they can do with it," the mayor said.

One of the interesting aspects of the growth, the mayor, who is in the middle of his first four-year term, said, is that the old-timers — those who have lived here 15 years or more — welcome the newcomers. The newcomers are the ones who are opposed to any further growth.

The mayor, a life-long resident and a former businessman in the city, lives about 150 yards north of the home in which he was raised, and has noted the ebb and flow of the growth.

"Professional planners tell us we should keep the land agricultural. But how can you when land values have inflated so much that a farmer can sell his land on contract and make more off the interest than by farming it?" the mayor asked.

"It isn't practical to farm on a small scale anymore. You need $100,000 in machinery to farm 40 acres, or 240 acres, so part of the answer has to be to keep the land in large parcels and only allow it to be developed logically, one parcel following another," he said.

Riverton has just finalized land use, flood control and culinary water master plans. Builders developing away from the next logical area must bear all the extra costs of getting the service to their area, Mayor Mortensen said.

Sewer lines have been hooked up in Riverton for only a year and a half, and about 25 percent of the homes, including the mayor's, still don't have access to the sewer lines.

Running of sewer lines from the development to the present system is one requirement the city makes of developers as one means of controlling the growth along efficient patterns.

Owning 24 percent interest in the Midvale Sewerage Treatment Plant as a member of the Salt Lake County Sewer Improvement District No. 1 will help to assure that the sewer lines will be adequate to handle the growth of the city.

Because nearly two-thirds of the wastewater being treated is now ground water infiltrating the system, Mayor Mortensen favors the two-plant regionalization of the sewer system.

METRO

Deseret News OCT 30 '79

Riverton, Utah.

Riverton race near boiling point

By Richard D. Hall

Deseret News staff writer

RIVERTON — Call it small-town politics. Call it rivalry between a city and the county. Call it the old-timers against the newcomers. Call it a family feud.

It is the City Council election in Riverton — shaping up to be one of the most hotly contended in the county — with Mayor Lowell S. White, a relative newcomer who is not even up for election, and Don L. Beckstead, a long-time Riverton resident seeking a seat on the City Council, leading opposing factions.

Several issues have surfaced in the race — not the least of which is personalities. But one issue — law enforcement — seems to be the hottest.

Problems began last January when White demoted then Police Chief Leonard Smock to patrolman. Smock at one time was the entire Riverton Police Department. But growth necessitated increasing the size of the force, and Smock soon found himself in charge of an eight-man department.

But "it became evident Smock could not adapt; he was not a leader. There were no policies and procedures, no training, no anything. We tried to work with him, but he refused to cooperate," White said.

So Smock was demoted to patrolman. He later resigned.

That was no small incident in Riverton.

Smock supporters filled the City Council chambers at each meeting. White received abusive phone calls and his house and car were vandalized. Though things had settled somewhat by late March, White still sent his wife and children to Colorado for the summer "so they wouldn't have to put up with any more."

Enter, in White's belief at least, Beckstead.

Beckstead is Smock's brother-in-law and, according to White, Beckstead's platform is: "If my brother-in-law can't be police chief, then we won't have a police department."

Beckstead says that's simply not true.

"I wasn't even involved in this thing until May or June. I'm running because I think I'm qualified and I think I can save the city money.

"I believe in investigating an issue before making a decision — something I don't think the current City Council does very well," Beckstead said.

Coincidentally or otherwise, the issue Beckstead believes the current council has not investigated is law enforcement.

He simply states that Riverton could save money by contracting for law enforcement with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office.

White says he was told verbally that law enforcement from the county would cost $70,000 per officer a year. The city provides its own protection for about $27,000 per officer, he said.

Beckstead says White just hasn't done his homework.

Wielding a copy of the "Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office Estimated Contractual Law Enforcement Costs for Riverton," Beckstead says the county will provide Riverton with five deputies (all the county says are needed) for $120,804 a year — a cost of $24,160 per officer.

See RIVERTON on B-2

would cost $184,771 — $23,096 per officer.

Contacted by the Deseret News, the sheriff's office verified those figures.

Beckstead also insists that county enforcement would be much better because of its already-established resources.

"It's just a simple matter of economics," Beckstead said. "The county service is better and cheaper."

"I'm not head-hunting and I'm not out to get anybody. I decided to get involved because I didn't want others who are not qualified to sneak into office," he said.

But White is not convinced that Beckstead is so well-intentioned.

"I very strongly disagree with Mr. Beckstead on that point. The word has come back to me that he has said that, if elected, he will force me to reinstate Smock as police chief. That's something that is never going to happen," White said.

Contacted by the Deseret News, Smock said he'd rather not talk about his demotion or the election. He said he got his old job back and that "was the best thing that ever happened."

White admits that the county did estimate law enforcement at the figures Beckstead lists. But, "unfortunately, we've learned that we just can't trust the county," White said.

"Whenever the county gives us a bid, it's always an estimate and it's always so ridiculously low that I defy them to provide the service at that cost. Then when the bill comes we find out the truth."

White cited the county's estimated cost for law enforcement on a per capita basis. He said the figure was derived by dividing the total cost by the number of residents served. The county, he said, includes more than 100,000 people who live in cities and receive no county protection, and that significantly decreases the cost per capita.

The cost per capita is actually almost double the figure listed by the county, he said.

"This is the kind of stuff we have to put up with. We try to grin and bear it, but I question the ethics of some county officials," White said.

Calvin Smith, an accountant in the sheriff's office, said he believes the estimate is a "very responsible figure." If costs go up, however, they would be passed through, he added.

"But that shouldn't take this out of perspective. Every local police department would experience similar cost increases."

Beckstead said he's not afraid of the county.

"Sure the county can rip you off — but so can Riverton.

"It seems to me that the only reason these mayors are fighting the county is so they don't lose their empires. I'm more scared of a little city than of the county," he said.

He stops short of advocating disincorporation; he said there was talk of that but he shunned it. "The big advantage to incorporation is control over planning and zoning," he said.

Two other City Council candidates — Curtis P. Collard and Steve L. Brooks — have aligned themselves with Beckstead. Others are running on their own.

White said he hasn't decided how he'll vote. He believes any of the candidates, except Beckstead, could make good councilmen.

Riverton Kills Politic

Riverton, Utah

FEB 20

Salt Lake Tribune

By George A. Sorensen
Tribune Suburban Editor

RIVERTON — Efforts to pass an ordinance restricting political activities by city employees died in the Riverton City Council Tuesday night when only two votes could be mustered in favor of its adoption.

Voting for the ordinance were Don L. Beckstead and Steve Brooks.

Abstentions were voiced by Curtis Collard and Ove Christensen while Noel Page voted no.

Run City

Mr. Collard abstained after learning that the ordinance would apply to employees after regular working hours.

In pushing for the ordinance Mr. Beckstead said, "We don't want 26 volunteer firemen and 16 police officers coming in to tell us how to run the city."

After the meeting The Tribune was informed that certified petitions which will give the city a recall law were ready for circulation. Riverton Citizens For Constitutional Government will circulate the petitions calling for initiative, referendum election on this and other matters, Paul R. Petersen said.

Tho petitions must have 214 signatures of qualified voters to have the issue placed on the ballot, Mr. Petersen said.

"The council can call for an election on the petitions as quickly as it wants but in any case it will have to be placed

2 councilmen in Riverton air charges

B1

FEB 25 '80

By Corey Peterson Deseret News
Deseret News staff writer

RIVERTON — Two Riverton City Council members say they have discovered irregularities in the city's administration.

Steven Brooks and Curtis Collard, who were elected in November, said they made the discoveries after being in office about one month.

The two councilmen outlined their charges:

— Two automobiles were purchased without council approval.

— A city water tank was not satisfactorily completed, but no penalty was levied against the contractor, as called for in the contract.

— Supplies, fuel and materials could have been purchased at large savings with proper bids.

— An attorney, in addition to the already retained city attorney, was hired without council approval.

— Capital improvement projects have not been let out for bid.

"We have taken steps to correct these problems and bring them under the control of the council as a whole, and we will continue to investigate any other irregularities which come to our attention," the councilmen said.

The charges were the latest in a continuing controversy that has divided the city.

Friday, Mayor Lowell D. White filed a suit in 3rd District Court charging that the council illegally stripped him of several duties required by state law for mayors of third-class cities. The suit also said the council is considering changing the city to a city manager form of government. Such a change can only be made by the voters in an election, according to the suit.

The City Council has also voted to negotiate with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office for police services. A contract would result in disbanding the city's police department.

A contract is opposed by White and a newly organized citizens' group, Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government. The group is circulating petitions calling for citywide elections on the police department and city manager issues.

Council in Riverton Demotes Mayor, Votes Regime Change

Salt Lake Tribune

MAR 5 '80

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — The Riverton City Council Tuesday night voted to change the city's form of government, stripping Mayor Lowell D. White of many executive functions and apparently widening an already deep rift between the mayor and the council.

Also at the meeting, Dale F. Gardiner, Riverton city attorney, and Rich Woodworth, the city's manager, submitted their resignations.

The council, with one abstention, voted in favor of the manager-council form of government, turning over most of the executive functions of the mayor and many of the council's administrative functions to a city manager.

Mayor White was not present during the vote, having excused himself earlier in the meeting so he could attend a city-related meeting in Arizona. However, last week he filed a lawsuit in 3rd district court claiming the council was usurping his powers.

Mr. Gardiner, whose resignation does not become effective until March 31, said he has some "serious questions" as to the legality of the ordinance. "We'll let the court decide if you can do away with an elected official's position without a vote," he said.

"What the council effectively has done is transfer the power of an elected official to an appointed official," he said.

The city manager ordiance, approved by all councilmen except Blaine Page, who abstained, is modeled after an ordinance passed last summer by the West Jordan City Council after problems in that city.

Privately Gives Approval

Councilman Curt Collard said a special citizens committee appointed to investigate the police department has privately given its approval of the manager-council form.

City Manager Rich Woodworth said he "more or less" favors the new approach to government, but privately feels that "personality conflicts" between the mayor and council will preclude any progress being made toward the solution of problems in the city.

"This city has been operating with no direction. I would call it chaotic at best," he told the council after his resignation announcement. "I've ended up with all the responsibility and none of the authority. Everywhere I turn, I'm being circumvented by the council or the mayor."

He said the council has refused to cooperate with him because they consider him "the mayor's man."

The controversy in Riverton began with the election of Don Beckstead, Curt Collard and Steven L. Brooks to the city council last November. Mr. Beckstead indicated that he and the others were considering doing away with Riverton's police department and contracting services with the county sheriff's department.

This set off a long string of accusations and political in-fights between Mayor White and the council. The passage of the manager-council form of government is the latest demonstration of the gap formed between the mayor and city council.

Citizens at the meeting were divided between backing the mayor, who they claim is being usurped by the council, and those who support the council, calling the mayor "power hungry."

Tired of Bickering

But, it was apparent at Tuesday's meeting, most are simply tired of the council and mayor bickering so much.

"I'm almost sad to say I'm a citizen of Riverton anymore," said Mrs. Bonnie Mousley. "We elected you all to make this city a better place, instead of throwing mud so much."

All of the council members expressed the opinion that Mayor White would not be willing to sit down and work out the problems anymore.

Mr. Woodworth, addressing the 50 or more persons in the small town hall, said "personalities here are involved too much to do anything constructive anymore. At least not with the existing people."

Police Officers Union Files Suit Against Riverton City Council

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — The Riverton police union Wednesday filed a suit in 3rd District Court against the city council, alleging the governing body violated the Utah Sunshine Law.

Plaintiffs in the suit are Mark Pratt, Steve Cook, Dave Davis, Barton Nutt, Bill Poulsen, Nick Roberts and Leonard Whipple, all Riverton police officers, and other members of the recently formed Professional Police Officers of Riverton. The group is represented by Salt Lake attorney Joseph E. Tesch.

The suit alleges that on Jan. 25, the city council "refused to enter into collective bargaining with the plaintiffs. . ." and that such "final action was made in secret and not open to the public, in violation of the Sunshine Law. . . also referred to as the "Open and Public Meetings law."

Seeks to Void Action

The suit asks that the court order the action taken by the council at the meeting be made void, and that it order the council to "properly place the matter on the agenda for its next regularly scheduled Riverton City Council meeting for open discussion and decision . . ."

It also asks that the council be made to pay court costs and attorney fees.

Wednesday's suit is the latest action resulting from a bitter political battle which has been raging in Riverton since three new councilmen were sworn into office in January.

The councilmen want to abandon Riverton's police department in favor of a contract with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department. However, a group of citizens — headed by the councilmen who lost the election — wants the city to maintain an autonomous police department.

Judge Denies Motion

The Professional Police Offices of Riverton filed another suit earlier attempting to stop the city from negotiating the contract with the sheriff's department. The motion was denied by 3rd District Court Judge G. Hal Taylor on Feb. 4.

Since that time, the city has been involved with negotiating full-time law enforcement services from the county. However, at a meeting March 4, the council voted to set a one month deadline for the county's proposal, after a majority of the council claimed it had given the sheriff's department more than enough time to come up with figures. Also, officials said, the county's figures have escalated from $120,000 to more than $150,000 for police services.

Both Riverton Mayor Lowell D. White and Councilman Donald L. Beckstead — considered the leaders of the opposing groups — said Wednesday that the city attorney has advised them that the actions taken by the council Jan. 25 were proper. They claim the meeting was actually an executive session, however they do not agree as to whether that session was open to the public.

Mayor White said the session was closed, while Mr. Beckstead said the "door was open."

Request for Letter

Mr. Beckstead also said that the council's request basically was for the city attorney to write a letter to Mr. Tesch, explaining the council refuses to recognize or negotiate with the police union.

The suit filed Wednesday said the "closed door" meeting was held Jan. 25. Mayor White said the meeting actually occurred Jan. 15, but that the letter was not written until Jan. 25.

Mayor White said the only action decided by the council at the Jan. 15 meeting was that the body should "study the matter" of contract negotiations.

No date has been set for a hearing regarding Wednesday's suit.

Riverton Council Oks Resolution

To Contract for Police Services

Riverton, Utah

By Mike Carter

Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — The Riverton City Council Tuesday night approved a resolution to contract law enforcement services with Salt Lake County deepening a widening rift between the mayor and the council.

The contract was approved by a 4-1 vote, with councilman J. Blaine Page voting negatively. Mayor Lowell D. White, who has disapproved of such a contract since it was brought up, could not vote.

Salt Lake County Sheriff Pete Hayward appeared at Riverton City Hall to explain the contract, which will provide Riverton residents with one deputy on patrol 24 hours a day, plus various support services — including detectives, secretaries The 12-month contract is scheduled to go into effect April 15.

Forecasts Trouble

However, before th first sheriff's deputy serves a patrol in Riverton, there's likely to be trouble.

Attorney Joseph Tesch, a former deputy county attorney, representing Riverton's current eight—man police force, explained to the crowd that what he termed a "domestic quarrel" between the council and the mayor regarding police protection "likely will cost the city more in attorney's fees than it would have for two more police officers."

Mr. Tesch had been scheduled to appear before the council as the first item on the eight-hour agenda— moved up from item number 43 — to discuss the settlement of a lawsuit the police department filed against the council, and be given deciding not to consider entering into negotiation with the union behind closed doors.

However, councilman Steven Brooks made a motion at the beginning of the meeting to move the sheriff's office proposal to the first agenda item. He was seconded by councilman Don L. Beckstead. That motion passed unanimously.

After more than an hour of discussion, the proposal was passed

S-. .heriff Hayward answered dozens of questions from the audience.

The question of police services in Riverton has been controversial since councilmen Beckstead, Brooks and Curtis Collard took office in January. Mr. Brooks has repeatedly said he favors doing away with the local police force, claiming the city would do better financially if it contracted with the county.

Mayor White, backed by the three ousted councilmen, and the police force, disagree.

The political infighting in Riverton has led to a new form of government — the council-manager form — which was passed by the council 4-1 a month ago. Since that time, Mayor White has filed a suit claiming that ordinance is illegal.

The ordinance, patterned after a similar one passed . last year in West Jordan, effectively strips the mayor of many of his executive functions and gives them to a city manager.

But, at this time, the Riverton government is functioning without a city manager. Rich Woodworth, the former manager, resigned at the meeting a month ago, as did city attorney Dale Gardiner. The council functioned without the help of the city attorney Tuesday night.

Mr. Tesch told The Tribune that even though the council has accepted the contract, he "doubts seriously it will ever go into effect."

"You've got two Republican commissioners, one Democratic commissioner , and a Democratic sheriff. They (the Republicans) don't want them (the Democrats) to get any more powerful," he said.

Addressing the council, Mr. Tesch said "you ain't giving in, and we ain't giving in. Let's sit down and talk about this together.

"With all the publicity this thing has turned up, it's tantamount to the rest of the county having fun looking into a barrel of monkeys. It's really nothing more than a domestic argument. . . which has spilled into the street.

Riverton Council Fires Police Department

By George A. Sorensen
Tribune Suburban Editor

RIVERTON — The Riverton City Council Monday night fired its nine-man police department and approved a contract effective April 15 for the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office to provide the service for the city.

The action was taken in a 4 to 1 vote during a special meeting in the Riverton City Hall, which had spectators peering through windows to participate in the action. Councilman Blaine Page voted no.

Under the contract, the sheriff's office will provide 4½ officers to operate a patrol unit 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for a total cost of $154,908.

Provide Interim Service

Councilman Don L. Beckstead said the sheriff's office has agreed to provide police services during the interim period until the contract takes affect.

However, the situation involving the police, which has split this city wide open, seems to be far from settled.

Council members admitted that the Salt Lake County Commission has not ratified the contract which was signed

APR 8 '80 Salt Lake Tribune

by Mayor Lowell D. White during the meeting.

Mayor White, who has been opposed to the contract, said he was signing the contract on advice of his attorney and wrote across the face of the contract, "The mayor disapproves of this contract."

This action was taken because the first item on the agenda was to appoint a mayor pro-tem to sign the contract if Mayor White did not.

Clouds Issue

The issue was further clouded when Gaylord Johnson, spokesman for the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government, said he will file a petition calling for an initiative referendum election on the issue. He expects to have 1,000 signatures on the petitions by Thursday.

Bob Morris, another citizen, cited a Utah Supreme Court ruling in the case of Martindale & Anderson which defines the seperation of powers between the city council and mayor. The council makes the laws and the mayor enforces them, he said.

Mr. Johnson said he will try and meet with County Commissioner William E. Dunn and Sheriff N. D. (Pete) Hayward in an effort to prevent the signing of the contract. His group is holding a mass meeting, 7 p.m., Thursday in the Riverton School and invited the council members to attend to explain their side.

Seeks Election

Bob Sweet, another member of the citizens group, asked the council to consider a special election to let the Riverton voters decide the issue.

"This is one way you can save face," Mr. Sweet said.

Excluded from the action of the council were the two crossing guards and the animal control officer. These three persons will remain on the payroll.

Councilman Beckstead said the action is taken to provide tax savings for the residents of the community.

"You have three non-supervisory officers, the chief, secretary, detective and a juvenile officer, on the payroll," Councilman Beckstead said.

He pointed out these services will be provided by the county on an as-needed basis and that the residents of Riverton are now paying for these services in their county taxes.

Scuffle Outside

As the meeting closed, a scuffle developed outside the building, but was over by time the first deputy sheriff arrived on the scene.

Earlier in the day a summons for the Riverton City Council was served on Peggy Green, city recorder, in a lawsuit filed by Mayor White in 3rd District Court.

The defendants are councilman Beckstead, Ove L. Christensen, Steven Brooks, Curtis Collard and John Does One and Two, individually and as councilmembers of Riverton City.

The lawsuit lists six counts in which the council allegedly is attempting to usurp the mayor of his powers by an [illegible] of a council-manager [illegible] without a vote of the electorate.

'Emergency' Meet Axes Riverton Police Force

S. L. Tribune
Wed. Apr. 9,
1980

By Mike Carter
And George A. Sorensen
Tribune Staff Writers

RIVERTON — Four members of the Riverton City Council met in emergency session Tuesday and appointed a mayor pro tempore, who immediately acted to disband the city's nine-man police force.

Councilman Don Beckstead signed nine "blue slips" — one for each of eight officers and the secretary — after council-members Ove L. Christensen, Steven L. Brooks and Curtis B. Collard voted him temporary mayor in the 4 p.m. meeting in Riverton City Hall.

The police ceased patroling at 8:25 p.m. after a closed meeting with Mayor Lowell D. White in the department offices. Sgt. [illegible] R. Burbidge, Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department, immediately shifted assignments so deputies could patrol the city.

Mayor Wasn't There

Mayor White said the move was "illegal." Neither he nor Councilman Noel Blaine Page — who voted against similar action Monday night — was present at the meeting.

Councilman Beckstead said Mayor White precipitated actions when failed to give the blue slips to the police officers as they came to work Tuesday. The council had ordered the police fired Monday night.

The mayor believes the resolution firing the officers does not take eff until April 15 — the date chosen by council to begin purchasing law forcement services from the Salt La County Sheriff's Department.

"Legal counsel advised me that resolution passed by the council d not become effective until the 15th," said. "They advised me to keep police force on despite Brooks' (Co cilman Steven Brooks) insistence the serve the blue slips today."

But the copy of that resolut obtained by The Tribune has the d "April 15, 1980" scratched out "April 7, 1980" penned in its place. Beckstead said that's the way council adopted the document.

It also says that "all police offic employed by Riverton City will terminated at the earliest possible da but in no event shall any police offi employed by Riverton City be e ployed after the effective date of contract for police protection with S Lake County."

Another clause reads that "... Mayor, or if he refuses to act, Mayor pro tempore, be and hereby authorized and directed to forthw notify all police officers employed Riverton City of the action taken by City Council."

Emergency Meeting

So when Riverton officers showed on patrol Tuesday, Councilmen Be stead and Brooks arranged for th p.m. "emergency meeting." T Riverton patrolmen — Barton Nutt Steve Cook — were dispatched to hall and were handed their blue s there by Mr. Brooks. Detective M Pratt was given his notice by Beckstead. The remaining six noti were locked in the city safe and wil delivered Wednesday.

Sheriff Pete Hayward said that, sin midnight Monday, an extra sheri patrol car has been covering River City. Although the contract adopted the city council does not take eff until April 15 — providing it is adop by the county commission — the she assured Riverton residents that t "won't be without protection."

The sheriff, Mayor White and Dep Salt Lake County Attorney Donald Sawaya conferred Tuesday morni and Mr. Sawaya indicated afterwa that the county would bill the city services rendered before the contr took effect.

When the council's actions we revealed Tuesday afternoon, seve questioned the legality of the emerg cy meeting.

Utah Code Section 52-4-6.4, The Ut Public and Open Meetings Act, sta that the governing public body can c an emergency meeting "to consid matters of urgent nature; the (24-ho public) notice requirements of secti 52-4-6.2 may be disregarded and, best notice practicable given.

Continued From Page B-1

its members and a majority votes in the affirmative to hold the meeting."

Mayor White maintains that the council made no effort to contact him. Councilman Page, who voted against disbanding the police department, also said that to the best of his knowledge, no effort was made notify him.

"I was a touch tone away," Mayor White said. "They could have called me in the city offices, at work or at home. My wife was home all day and said I received no such call."

Mr. Page said he contacted both his wife and secretary at work, and was unaware of the emergency meeting.

Left It to Peggy?

Mr. Beckstead said he left the notification of Mayor White and Councilman Page "up to Peggy Green," the Riverton City recorder.

Mrs. Green said Tuesday night she received no such instructions and was unaware the meeting was to be held until it convened at 4 p.m.

Riverton Police Officer Mark Pratt said that, after receiving his blue slip, he told Mr. Brooks, Mr. Beckstead and Mr. Christensen that he felt the council may have violated the Sunshine Law.

He said Mr. Brooks replied, "What the hell are they going to do? The law doesn't have any teeth to it." Mr. Pratt said the comment was overhead by Barton Nutt and Steve Cook, two other police officers.

Attorney's View

Mr. Brooks said that the council's attorneys informed them that all was "good and proper" with the way the emergency meeting was set up and executed. He said proper notification was given and that, since Mayor White did not immediately expedite the firing of the officers, the council was correct in appointing a mayor pro tempore to carry out its legislation.

Tuesday's actions were the latest development in the complicated and volatile controversy over law enforcement in this small but growing community. The issue is clouded by a deep personality conflict between Mayor White and the majority of the council — Mr. Beckstead in particular.

The conflict has resulted in the loss of a city attorney and city manager, several lawsuits and a change in the Riverton city government over the mayor's objection. Mayor White has challenged the change, calling it illegal and improper.

Basic Issue

But the council members — particularly Mr. Beckstead and Mr. Brooks — feel that the basic issue is saving the city money. With a total of $271,000 budgeted for law enforcement this fiscal year, the majority of the council preferred to contract with the sheriff's department for round-the-clock protection for $154,098. They feel that the sheriff's 4½ man force is enough protection, and that the large, well-equipped sheriff's department can provide better backup services.

The council also claims that the department was wasteful and shoddily run.

Local Control

But Mayor White feels the city has an obligation to provide the best services possible to its residents, and that the lack of local control over law enforcement (under the new contract) is not worth the money the city will save.

The council has scheduled another "marathon meeting" — scheduled to last until 3:30 a.m. —for April 15. If past meetings are any indication, much city business will be passed over and the police department will again be the number one topic. The agenda includes several police-related items.

A group calling itself "Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government" — which supports the Riverton Police Department — will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Riverton Elementary School.

County Delays Signing

Salt Lake Tribune APR 10 Rive

By Dave Jonsson
and George A. Sorensen
Tribune Staff Writers

Expressing reservations that a proposed law enforcement contract with Riverton City may seriously depart from county policy, Salt Lake County Commissioners Wednesday postponed signing the document until possibly Monday.

But meanwhile, Commissioners William L. Hutchinson and Robert G. Salter agreed, Riverton will not be without police protection from the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office.

Tuesday night the city disbanded its police force, consisting of eight officers, in order to go ahead with a proposed $154,900 annual contract to have the county provide police coverage.

The contract was up for approval before commissioners Wednesday morning — carrying an April 15

...ct With Riverton

...but Commissioner ... acting as chairman in the ... Chairman William E. Dunn, ... ready to sign it yet."

... properly ... Commissioner Dunn is ... problems with ... the commis- ... review," Commis- ...

... listed on the commission's routine agenda, available in advance of each meeting, and that fact could have posed a problem under the state Open Meetings Act, the commissioner indicated.

He said he questions the appropriateness of negotiating Herriman and Bluffdale into the contract and is concerned the contract would set a precedent that could affect negotiations

[illegible] with a riverside official matters except for negligence.

Commissioners agreed to provide protection to the city the remainder of this week. The "cost is immaterial," Commissioner Hutchinson said.

Riverside Councilman Steven L. Brock told commissioners "we went to the sheriff, he didn't come to us," over nine months ago to discuss the cost of county protection.

The county contract, at $154,000, would be considerably below the city's own annual cost of $271,000, he indicated.

"It is in the best interests of the county [illegible] to sign the contract," he said.

Hutchinson set discussions on the contract for an informal meeting [illegible] Monday, one-half hour before the regular commission meeting at which approval could be given.

Resignations Called for In Riverton

Salt Lake Tribune
APR 1 80

By George A. Sorensen
Tribune Suburban Editor

RIVERTON -- A call for resignation of the Riverton City Council and Mayor and holding new elections drew strong support Thursday night.

Councilman Noel Blain Page made the recommendatio during a meeting considering a contract with Salt Lake County to provide police service for the city. The meeting was called by the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government and was attended by about 100 persons.

Mr. Page was the only councilman to vote against a contract which was presented to the county commission by the city council.

Both denied they were informed of the emergency session.

The issues n asking recall of city officials and interlocal agreements with other agencies will appear on the November ballots. The police questio could remain unresolved for months. However, the city council could call for elections earlier

Mr Page received a standing ovation when he called Tuesday's action, "clever and perhaps wise, but immoral, unfair, shady and unjust."

Both Councilmen Don L. Beckstead and Steven Brooks said they will not resign and suggested Councilman Page spend as much time looking into the matter as they have.

Mr. Brooks explained the Tuesday action was taken because "the decision was made Monday night and the mayor failed to act. After consulting with the county attorney's office and Sheriff Halyward, we felt that Riverton had the potential of a lawsuit if a Riverton officer arrested a person after Monday's action."

A detective and juvenile officer will be provided by the sheriff's office under state law. If the city decides it needs these officers one-quarter to three-quarters of the time, this can be added into the contract, Ralph Crockett, the sheriff's representative in the county attorney's office said.

'Uncool' in Riverton

APRIL 1 Salt Lake Tribune

There is something very unseemly about the squabble going on in Riverton over who and how the community is to be policed.

A majority of the city council have voted to abandon the city's 8-member police force and contract with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement services. The mayor, however, has resisted.

The contract with Salt Lake County is to be effective on April 15, but council members couldn't wait that long. Tuesday they voted, during a meeting that might be subject to challenge under the state sunshine statute, to fire the police department immediately.

Appearances might not be all revealing, but in Riverton's case they are suggestive of something about as sophisticated as a cat and dog fight. The whole affair smacks of a bunch of supposed adults who have decided to act like children. In contemporary teen-age parlance they are "uncool".

Contracting for law enforcement services from the county sheriff offers one major attraction, a savings annually of about $116,100 for the taxpayers of Riverton. The city's police department current budget totals $271,000, while the contract with the sheriff's office would cost $154,900 a year. That is a 42.8 percent saving.

Whether this will be a "good deal" for the citizens of Riverton ought to be decided on a single factor alone: Will the level of law enforcement services be at least the same with the sheriff's office doing the job as it is with Riverton maintaining its own police department?

Sheriff Pete Hayward has agreed to assign the manpower equivalent of 4 and a half deputies to Riverton [illegible] additional services such as [illegible] narcotics, detective on an [illegible] Considering [illegible] would also [illegible] to maintain an [illegible] or services [illegible] savings [illegible] Contract [illegible] smaller communities [illegible] enforcement [illegible] gested, a [illegible] professional [illegible] studies, including [illegible] federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Close to home, several Utah communities have contracts with county sheriffs to provide their police protection.

But all such rational consideration seems to have been sunk beneath a sea of acrimony, abusive rhetoric and legal uncertainties. Considering the negativeness and controversy embroiling the proposed law enforcement contract, the reluctance to signing it displayed by County Commissioners William L. Hutchinson and Robert G. Salter, without the benefit of a detailed analysis, is not only understandable, but highly commendable; the action of reasonable and prudent men.

The contract might be all right, but the bitterness and border-line irrationality generated in the wake of its fashioning definitely suggests any finalization of the agreement be preceded by careful, cool and calculated examination.

Riverton probe begins

APR 14 '80 Deseret News

County delays signing contract

By Ann McCreary
Deseret News staff writer

Salt Lake County commissioners delayed signing a contract Monday to provide law enforcement services to Riverton City, allowing the troubled city 30 days to put its affairs in order.

Joseph E. Tesch, an attorney representing the city's eight police officers who were fired last week by the City Council, advised commissioners to delay signing the contract with Riverton until questions concerning the Riverton City Council's actions are settled.

Tesch said the Salt Lake County attorney's office has begun an investigation into the turmoil in Riverton City government.

"I think that perhaps a grand jury would be in order" to resolve questions about Riverton government, Tesch said.

He said the council:s action in firing the city police force may have been in violation of the State Open Meetings Law and against the will of the majority of Riverton citizens.

Riverton citizens filled the County Commission chambers Monday morning, carrying signs saying "We want our local police department back" and "We want to keep local control."

In delaying the contract with the county sheriff's office, commissioners warned Riverton citizens that they would receive a lower level of police service than the contract would provide.

Donald Sawaya, chief deputy county attorney, said the sheriff will be responsible for preserving the peace and upholding state law in Riverton. Specific city ordinances, however, will not be enforced, Sawaya said.

Five different petitions and referendums are circulating in Riverton regarding the police question, said Gaylord Johnson, chairman of Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government, a group fighting to restore the local police force.

Johnson said he filed a petition Monday morning seeking to stop the transfer of city funds to the county to pay for the sheriff's contract.

"We think the county sheriff's department is excellent, but we are very concerned about local control," Johnson said.

See RIVERTON on B-

Riverton pact delayed

Continued from B-1

Tesch argued that county commissioners should look beyond the formal action taken by the Riverton City Council in seeking the law enforcement contract.

"When you say we have to listen to the speaking governing body, you have to look at this governing body and ask . . . 'Are they acting legally?:'"

Tesch said citizens of Riverton are petitioning for a public vote to decide the question of police service.

"This is a case where you need to sit back a bit and let the people have their voice, because, I think if you sign this contract, you will be forcing yourself on this community," Tesch told county commissioners.

Commission Chairman William E. Dunn said the county:s policy is not to force services on cities. He stressed that in considering the Riverton contract, commissioners should only concern themselves with the official action of the City Council in drawing up the proposed contract, and avoid becoming involved with internal city conflicts.

Dunn noted the contract was signed by Mayor Lowell White. However, White wrote above his signature, "The mayor disapproves of this agreement."

The City Council's four-person majority argued for a contract with the sheriff on the basis of economics. The sheriff agreed to provide a patrol car for $154,908 per year, while the city's eight-man police force cost $271,000. The council had hoped to initiate sheriff's services on April 15.

In police controversy

Riverton, Utah

Citizens want meeting with Riverton Council

Deseret News APR 15 '80 B

By Doug Palmer
Deseret News staff writer

RIVERTON — The chairman of a group fighting to restore the Riverton police force said Tuesday that a meeting will be sought with the mayor and Riverton City Council to resolve differences in the troubled community.

Gaylord Johnson, who heads Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government, told the Deseret News he believes disputes between the City Council and other citizens can be settled.

The disputes arose last week when four of the five council members voted to fire the police force and to contract for services with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office.

Johnson's statements were made after a Salt Lake County Commission decision Monday to delay signing a contract to provide law enforcement services to Riverton City.

Joseph E. Tesch, an attorney representing the city's eight former police officers, advised the commission to delay signing the contract with Riverton until questions concerning the council's actions are settled.

The long-standing dispute on whether Riverton City or the county sheriff's office should provide police protection has resulted in numerous lawsuits and petitions being filed or circulated.

Johnson said his organization's plans ar nebulous. But he said he has called a Thursda evening board meeting in a private home t discuss plans for requesting a meeting wit the mayor and City Council.

The council is scheduled to meet Tuesda night at 7 in the city hall, but Johnson said tha would be too soon for the city officials an representatives of his organization to meet Mayor Lowell White was out-of-state o business Tuesday but is expected to return fo Wednesday's meeting.

"Besides, we would rather meet in a executive session, where discussions could b more productive," Johnson said.

"We (the group headed by Johnson and city officials) need to get together to come to some kind of understanding," Johnson said.

Johnson was asked about the prospects o solving differences between his organizatio and city officials.

"I have optimistic feelings. Otherwise, I wouldn't have called the meeting for Thurs day," he said.

Don L. Beckstead, one of the four councilmen voting to fire the police force, said Tuesday he has questions whether the law enforcement issue can be settled until overall fiscal issues facing the city are faced.

He said problems include runaway costs

See POLICE on B-

and budget requests for not only police protection but for the fire and other departments.

Beckstead, who was critical of Johnson and others in the organization, said if the city cannot get a contract negotiated with the county, then Riverton citizens should "look to a substantial tax increase" so law enforcement and other services can be provided.

The councilman said he doesn't consider the commission's decision a defeat.

"I think the commission would have signed the contract had not the attorney (Tesch) really done a job on us . . .," Beckstead said referring to statements made by Tesch regarding criminal investigations.

Beckstead said he had been assured by Chief Deputy Charles Shepherd of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office that the county would provide the city with police protection, as required by law.

The councilman said many of the city's problems stem from unrelenting campaigning by those who failed to win council posts in the election.

"We (councilmen Steven Brooks, Curtis Collard and Beckstead) ran on the same platform to save money for the city if we could contract for services at a savings and still maintain a high level of services," Beckstead said.

"Our city budget for law enforcement services is $271,000 for this year. You can safely figure that it will run way over $300,000 (for the next fiscal year)," Beckstead said.

Beckstead said that if Johnson "had spent as much time investigating what's available through the sheriff's office and less time undermining the council, then he would have had to come up with the same conclusion as the council."

Johnson said Beckstead accused the citizens' group on television of causing Riverton to be without adequate police protection because of petitions filed and other action taken.

"It is our feeling that if the council was really acting in the best interests of Riverton City, it would have made arrangements for a continuation of protection until a transition could have been made in the police force. The firing was very premature," Johnson said.

"The council's whole thrust was to put us (Citizens for Constitutional Government) in a position of having to back off and withdraw our petitions. It is the council that has left Riverton without adequate protection. We certainly did not fire the police force before adequate protection was available to Riverton," Johnson said.

Heated Debate

Riverton, Utah

APR 15 '80

Salt Lake Tribune

Councilman's Gasoline Purchase Prompts New Riverton Rift

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — Not 20 minutes after a passionate plea to bury the hatchet and work out their differences, the Riverton City Council and Mayor Lowell D. White were involved in a heated argument Tuesday night over a controversial purchase of gasoline last month.

Again, personalities clashed and Mayor White was forced to pound the gavel repeatedly to bring order to the council chambers. The argument began immediately following a plea by resident Betty Dansie to the council and mayor to forget past disputes and "compromise, negotiate and talk to one another."

Following Mrs. Dansie's speech, the council turned to the first item on the agenda — "Accounts Payable" — and it was brought out that the city owes more than $3,600 to the Beckstead Oil Co., 12500 S. Redwood Rd., resulting from an allegedly unauthorized purchase of gasoline by Councilman Don L. Beckstead (no relation) March 24 when the city ran out of gasoline.

'Emergency' Action

Mr. Beckstead told the council and crowd of about 50 people that his action was done in an "emergency" — the city was out of gasoline for emergency vehicles — and that there was no other person available to authorize the purchase.

However, City Treasurer Paul McLemore told the council that he will not sign the check, claiming that there is an "impropriety" in the way the purchase was made. He said his attorneys have advised not to sign, claiming that Mr. McLemore may be made liable and possibly an after-the-fact accomplice in any wrongdoing. Without his signature, the debt cannot be paid.

Mr. McLemore pointed out an ordinance passed Feb. 19, stating that the "Riverton City purchasing agent is authorized to purchase goods and service for Riverton City on an emergency basis and not in excess of ($ open) without city council approval. . . ."

But, Mr. McLemore pointed out, the "purchasing agent" referred to in the statute is the city manager. Riverton City Manager Rich Woodworth tended his resignation March 5.

In the past, gasoline in Riverton was purchased from Ray and Toby's Service Station, 11999 S. 1700 West. However, that account was in arrears and the owners would no longer sell bulk shipments to the city. Police cars and other emergency equipment were forced to purchase gasoline at the pumps at one point.

Councilman Beckstead, who declined to comment privately to The Tribune when asked about the purchase, authorized the purchase of more than $3,600 worth of gasoline without council approval when then-city manager Rich Woodworth refused to make a purchase.

He went to Beckstead Oil Co., for that purchase, claiming that he got the gasoline "at three cents cheaper a gallon."

City ordinances state that any purchase by the city of more than $2,000 must be bid upon, and no less than three bids accepted and opened during a regular council meeting.

Mr. Woodworth, in a letter dated March 24, said, "The City is presently out of gasoline. In the past council meetings the accounts payable have not been approved. Since the accounts payable have not been approved the supplier will not deliver more gas to the City.

Unfair Situation

"As Purchasing Agent for the City I feel that I have been placed in a very unfair situation. The city is unwilling (for whatever purposes) to pay a vendor, how can I in good conscience request gas from another vendor when past payables have been overlooked.

"This is notice to you that I refuse to be put in the middle of this situation and ask that the Council take immediate action.

"I feel this is a political move on the part of a councilman and I do not want to be party to these actions. Especially when we have gone after bids and have not received one bid in over a month. Especially when council persons are not concerned with maintaining a constant allocation in light of the gas and fuel situation.

"Public safety vehicles are out of gas as well as other departments: this needs your immediate attention, this is the council's emergency, they created it," the letter said.

[illegible] Says Contract Delay [illegible]

APR 16 '80

Special to The Tribune

[illegible]TON — Councilman Don L. [illegible]d, who spearheaded last [illegible] firing of the Riverton City [illegible] department, said Monday the [illegible] decision to postpone signing a [illegible] enforcement contract for a month [illegible] what I term a defeat."

[illegible] one minute consider this a [illegible]," Mr. Beckstead said. "[illegible] than a stall [illegible] by [illegible] police officers.

[illegible] might have won round one, but [illegible] are we going to give in," [illegible]

[illegible]

to law enforc[illegible]

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Charles Shepherd said the county will furnish Riverton with police protection, as we are [illegible] by law. We cannot let them [illegible] protection, and I assured the council that we will furnish them with whatever protection they [illegible]

Mr. Shepherd could not say whether the city would be charged for the services rendered during the interim.

Councilman [illegible] of Mr. Beckstead, said [illegible] upsets him about the county commission's decision is that the Riverton officers [illegible] by the city council [illegible] additional [illegible] whether they will be hired as deputy sheriffs.

[illegible]

Salt Lake Tribune

It should be noted, however, that the contract signed by the council with Salt Lake County calls [illegible] the Riverton force [illegible] and a secretary, all of whom were dismissed.

The county commission put off signing the contract in hopes, as one commissioner put it, giving the council and mayor time to solve its family problems.

Mayor Lowell [illegible] of the local police department, was out of [illegible]

However, [illegible] head of a local citizen's [illegible] the police force said [illegible] was [illegible] that [illegible] have [illegible]

[illegible]

Staff Reporter

have made provisions to cover the city in the interim, rather than having to rely on the good graces of the county [illegible].

"My one question to the council is this: Why did you fire the police department a week before the contract became effective? And especially, why did you fire those men before the county had agreed to provide these services?"

'Premature'

"In my opinion, that action was childish and very premature," Mr. Johnson said.

To date, the committee — Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government — has filed three referendum petitions and two initiative petitions aimed to block the council's actions on both the police department and other related items.

Initiation [illegible] signatures [illegible] before the [illegible] which the citizens [illegible] city ordinance. If the council [illegible] general election.

Initiative petitions filed thus far include a petition calling for a recall ordinance to be placed on city records, allowing the city's residents a recourse in recalling an elected official [illegible] feel has not properly represented them. Johnson [illegible] to point out that petition [illegible] presently [illegible] the city.

The second initiative petition would give citizens a chance to vote on what types of city services they want to contract for.

The referendum petitions are basically in opposition of actions the council already has taken.

The three referendum petitions deal with (1) blocking action of the ordinance changing the form of government in Riverton from a council-mayor to a council-city manager form (which took place a month ago, and [illegible] police controversy); (2) giving citizens a chance to vote on the police contract or whether to return to a city police force; and (3) blocking transfer of city funds to the county to pay for the sheriff's contract.

Mr. Johnson said most of these questions will have to be settled in court.

Mr. Johnson, a schoolteacher, is a former city councilman in Riverton who ran against Mayor White three years ago. "It looks like I might have won, after all," he said.

County Commission

Salt Lake Tribune

APR 15 '80

Delays Signing Riverton Police Pact

Riverton, Utah

By Dave Jonsson
Tribune Staff Writer

Salt Lake County commissioners Monday postponed signing a law enforcement contract with Riverton City to give that community what one commissioner called time to "solve its family problem."

About 35 Riverton residents filled the commission chamber as commissioners decided to put off signing a contract for 30 days.

Delay 'Wise'

Commission Chairman William E. Dunn said a delay "is wise, because the contract carries a minimum 180-day escape clause."

Riverton city officials, in a controversial split vote April 1, decided to disband the eight-man police department and contract with the county to provide protection from the Sheriff's Office at $154,000 a year. The city's own department had a budget of $271,000 annually.

In the 30-day interim, commissioners said, the community will get standard level protection from the sheriff — a lower level of service than would be provided under the contract.

Escape Clause

The one-year contract proposed provides for a 180-day escape clause, meaning the city must give six months' notice if it wishes to drop the county service.

Commissioner Dunn said in light of threatened lawsuits, citizen petitions and possible citizen court action, it would be wise to delay approving the contract.

Gaylord Johnson, a Riverton resident who is head of the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government, said citizens against disbanding the city police agency have filed two initiative petitions and three referendum petitions to reverse the action of three city councilmen. The initiatives would recall the councilmen and set down the kinds of services that citizens would maintain power to control. The referendums aim to stop the county contract, stop payment of city funds on the contract, and stop implementation of a manager-council form of government.

Joseph E. Tesch, attorney representing the dismissed policemen, said county commissioners should consider a delay because "the question is whether this contract is what the Riverton citizens really want."

'Runaway Council'

"I've never seen government operate like this (Riverton Council)," he said. He termed the panel a "runaway council" not responsive to local residents' wishes.

The eight officers "are hanging together on this and stay totally ready to be reinstated." Mr. Tesch said a lawsuit would follow to test the city's rights to fire the officers.

Lloyd Bright, a Riverton resident, told commissioners "many of our citizens are responsible for this contract. . . "

The council's vote to seek county services was in line with "campaign promises to get a handle on the budget of Riverton City," he said.

Deputy County Attorney Donald Sawaya said deputies will respond to

See Page B-2, Column 1

calls within Riverton but will provide a level of service not as intense as that provided unincorporated areas surrounding the city. Only state laws will be enforced. (They cover felonies and most misdemeanor situations.

City and county ordinances will not be enforced. Commissioner William L. Hutchinson proposed the "cooling off period" and Commissioner Robert G. Salter warned that residents "have 30 days to solve your family problems." Commissioner Dunn had begun the meeting by stressing the county was entering into the contract at the instigation of the city, and that a city failing to provide its own protection would have to be covered by the sheriff's office under the law. He said commissioners had to view as valid a request by a majority vote of the council, headed up by Mayor Lowell D. White's formal application to provide police protection.

Revisit the Drawing Table

X Riverton, Utah

Salt Lake Tribune APR 17 '80

A 10

Gaylord Johnson, head of a Riverton citizens committee supporting the community's police force, thinks the city council's action dismissing the entire 8-member department was "childish and very premature." The first part is conjectural, but the latter assessment has a solid basis in fact.

The dismissal of the Riverton police department, en masse, was mistakenly done on the hasty assumption that approval of a proposed law enforcement contract with Salt Lake County was pre-ordained.

Just the opposite has happened. The Salt Lake County Commission postponed signing the contract for 30 days. Original plans, and on which the Riverton City council apparently based its impetuous actions, was that the contract would become effective on April 15.

Instead, the county governing board took into consideration a rash of threatened lawsuits, Riverton citizen petitions and possible other court actions and wisely agreed to a month's "cooling off" period in order, as Commissioner Robert G. Salter said, to allow Riverton City time to "solve its family problem."

Meanwhile, the community must get along with what minimal police protection the Salt Lake County Sheriff's office can provide and eight police officers are without work.

Our understanding is that the eight former Riverton officers were expecting to be hired as deputy sheriffs soon after the law enforcement contract became effective. That eventuality is now at least a month off.

We won't pretend to understand what prompted this less than exemplary example of public administration, however, we will offer the observation that two groups of people are caught in the middle of some bad decision making by the Riverton City Council.

First, are the eight officers who are left to draw unemployment compensation and to wonder where, or if, they will find other law enforcement jobs.

Then, and probably most important, are the citizens of Riverton who must endure the uncertainties and apprehensions of the dubious status of law enforcement in their town.

A telephone caller the other day told us he feels "double crossed" by the city council he helped elect. His anger is understandable, and not without a certain validity.

A way out of this piece of civic blundering is available to the Riverton City Council. Its members can, albeit with a large swallowing of pride, rescind the firing of the police department; reinstating the eight officers immediately. And then proceed to rationally reconsider all the advantages and disadvantages, in totally open public debate, of a law enforcement contract with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office.

While that matter is being considered Riverton residents would at least know what the status of local law enforcement is and eight experienced police officers would not have to worry excessively where the next house payment was coming from.

Group in Riverton Files Suit,

APR 17 80

Salt Lake Tribune

Seeks to Nullify Council Acts

Riverton, Utah

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — The Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government and Mayor Lowell D. White filed asuit in 3rd District Court late Wednesday, hoping to nullify several actions taken by the city council in recent weeks.

Named as defendants in the suit are Riverton City councilmen Don L. Beckstead, Curtis Collard, Steven Brooks, and Ove Christensen. Councilman Noel Blaine Page is not named. The suit asks for a total of 10 judgments against the council, and contains eight causes of action.

Mayor White said the suit could result in the Riverton City Police Department being back on the job by the end of this week.

Latest Development

The suit is the latest development in the Riverton controversy, which began with the election last November of Mr. Beckstead, Mr. Collard and Mr. Brooks.

These councilmen spearheaded a drive to contract law enforcement in Riverton from Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department, claiming the local force was inefficient and shoddily managed.

This has resulted in the controversial firing of the entire Riverton police force in an "emergency meeting" held two weeks ago; the resignation of the city attorney and city manager; a change in the form of government which stripped Mayor White of several of his executive powers; and an investigation into alleged improprieties in city government by the county attorney's office.

The Riverton citizenry is split over the controversy, and the council meetings every other Tuesday — once quiet and businesslike — have recently been packed with angry, frustrated and vocal residents. The mayor has stated that work in the city has virtually ground to a halt.

Represents Citizens Group

The suit, filed by Kenneth M. Hisatake, an attorney who represents the citizens group —formed of former city councilman and one-time mayoral candidate Gaylord Johnson, and residents Christine Savage and Joe Mascaro — includes as a plaintiff Mayor White. The suit asks for several judgments by the court, but perhaps the most important are the reinstatement of the city's police force and request for a court order restraining the council from implementing any proposed contract with the county sheriff's department until the issue can be decided by vote. A referendum petition for this action has been filed with city recorder Peggy Green, as has one regarding the adoption of the city manager form of government, which also is addressed in the suit.

Here are, in the order listed in the suit, the judgments asked for by the plaintiffs:

— A judgment "declaring the proposed contract for police protection between Riverton City and Salt Lake County void and unconstitutional for violation of the plaintiffs' equal protection and due process rights in that . . . (the) contract comtemplates the payment of double taxes by the plaintiffs and other taxpayers of Riverton City . . ."

The suit contends that Riverton citizens already pay taxes for sheriff's protection into the Salt Lake County general fund, and to contract for protection already paid for constitutes double taxation.

Presently, the sheriff's department is patroling Riverton as required by law— since the police department has been fired. The proposed contract approved by the city council remains in limbo, after the county commmission refused to approved it — at least temporarily — last week.

— The suit asks the court to declare unconstitutional a portion of the Utah Code which states that a referendum vote does not apply to interlocal agreement acts.

Asks Court to Issue Order

It asks the court to issue an order directing the council to "cease and desist any implementation of any

See Page B-2, Column 1

Continued From Page B-1

resolutions and ordinances passed to contract for police services with Salt Lake Coutny . . . until the plaintiff's referendum petion has been duly submitted to the electorate of of the City of Riverton . . ."

— Likewise, it asks the court to issue a similar order restraining the council from implementing its city manager form of government, passed over the objections of the mayor and then-city attorney Dale Gardiner — until authorized to do so by a vote of the citizenry.

— The suit asks for the firing of the eight-man Riverton Police Department — done at an emergency session in which Councilman Don L. Beckstead was appointed temporary mayor so he could sign the blue slips — to be declared null and void "for violation of the open meetings act (Sunshine Law) and for further order reinstating the police officers of Riverton City . . ."

Mayor White and Councilman Page both claimed they were not informed of the "emergency meeting" in which the police officers were fired. The Utah Open Meetings Act says, in part, "No such emergency meeting of a public body shall be held unless an attempt has been made to notify all of its members and a majority votes in the affirmative to hold the meeting."

The suit asks that a permanent order be issued to stop further violations of the open meetings act. Also, it asks for $2,500 in attorney's fees in regard to this action.

— The suit also asks for a declaration by the court declaring the defendants assumption of various administrative functions null and void.

Riverton, Utah

Salt Lake Tribune

APR 17 '89

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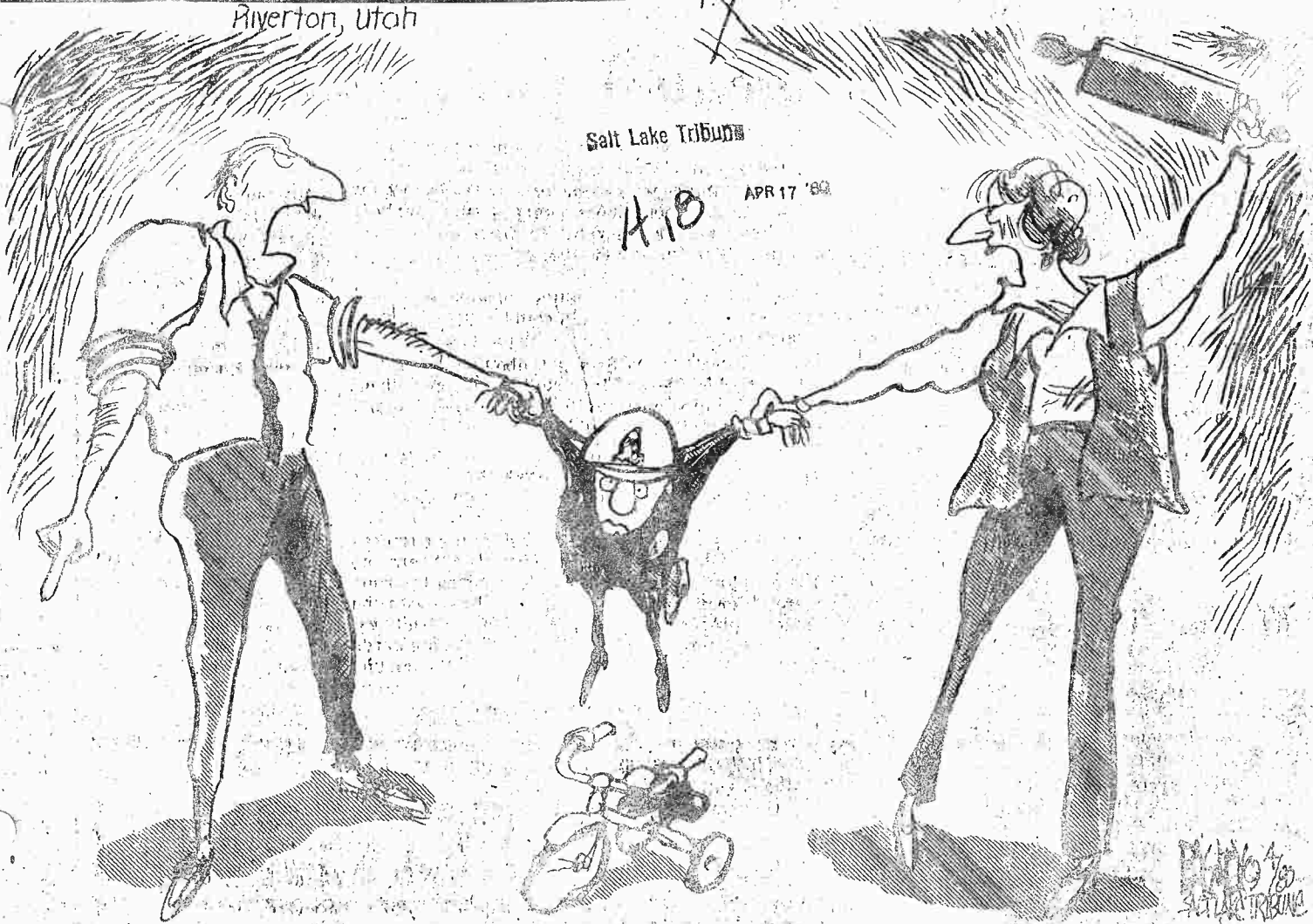


Riverton Vs. Riverton

Riverton's eight police officers arrive at City Hall Thursday morning to go back to work.

Deseret News photo by Don M. Grayston

Ron Ballantyne

Riverton police back on job

Deseret News

APR 17 '80

Riverton, Utah

By Douglas D. Palmer
and Michael White
Deseret News staff writers

RIVERTON — Riverton's fired police force went back to work Thursday morning in the latest development in the city riddled by controversy during the past four months.

The officers went back to work under orders of Mayor Lowell D. White on the heels of a lawsuit filed Wednesday in 3rd District Court asking that the officers be reinstated and that several actions by the City Council be nullified.

The officers are also back to work on the strength of a referendum petition filed Monday asking that Riverton voters be able to decide the future of law enforcement in that city.

The Riverton police were fired 10 days ago in an emergency meeting held by four members of the City Council. The council had earlier voted to contract with Salt Lake County for police services, but the Salt Lake County Commission has delayed action on the contract for 30 days.

White met with the eight full-time officers and at least one reserve officer at a 7 a.m. meeting Thursday.

Detective Mark Pratt, president of the Professional Police Officers of Riverton (the local union), said White ordered them back to work and told them to perform their duties as outlined in state and city law. The mayor told the officers they will get paid.

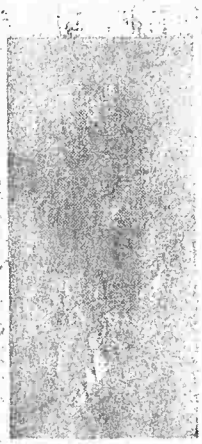
After the meeting, White said he had no alternative but to direct the officers to return to work.

The 36-year-old mayor said the County Commission's refusal to sign the contract essentially left Riverton without police protection.

"Under state law the mayor and the police department are responsible for enforcing the law and providing police protection. In order to fulfill this obligation and to protect ourselves from legal liability, police officers had to go back on the job," White said.

But, two of the city councilmen who had voted to fire the officers appeared at city offices Thursday morning and said they disagree with the mayor's statement.

See RIVERTON on B-8



Lowell D. White

Riverton police back to work

Continued from B-1

Councilman Steve Brooks questioned whether the officers were legally sworn in.

"We could be sued for $1 million if something happens — if someone gets in a car wreck or an officer pulls a gun and shoots someone," he said.

Earlier Brooks appeared during the middle of White:s meeting with police and asked the officers to sign a waiver of any claim they might have against the city that would arise out of their working as a police officer. The officers refused to sign and said they would go about their normal duties as requested by the mayor.

Brooks and Councilman Don Beckstead said the attorney for the four councilmen is out of town, and they will take no action until they talk to him Friday.

"I don't know what will happen. We're trying to save money and give the people a good level of service and keep taxes down. All we're trying to do is to cut waste out of government," Beckstead said.

Mallinson is attorney for him and the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government, which filed the suit Wednesday, said the officers were not legally fired and are still employees of the city.

Responding to a comment reportedly made by Beckstead that the officers would have to be paid by the mayor, White said it is his opinion the referendum petition blocked the council's actions.

"The referendum petition restores the budget and the funds to the police department until the citizens vote on the matter Nov. 4," he said.

The signatures of 1,132 people, or 84 percent of the registered voters in Riverton in the last election, were on the referendum petition filed Monday, White said.

White called Brooks' statement that he handed to the officers "sheer baloney" and said the issue of pay will be determined by the courts. White advised the officers not to sign the waiver.

White said no meetings with the council are planned before the regularly scheduled May 6 meeting.

The lawsuit filed by White and the citizens committee Wednesday asks for a judgment on nearly all of the controversies that have divided Riverton officials for the past four months. It charges that the meeting in which the police department was fired was held in violation of the Utah Open Meetings Law in that White and Councilman Noel Blaine Page were not notified.

The suit asks the court to reinstate the police department, prohibit the proposed county contract from being put into effect until the November vote and to restore the mayor:s administrative powers taken away from him by the council.

Those duties include the power to hire and fire employees and control spending. The council passed an ordinance taking those powers away, claiming the mayor had mismanaged the city.

The suit also asks that the council be enjoined from again violating the Open Meetings Law.

Named as defendants in the suit are Beckstead, Brooks, Curtis Collard and Ove Christensen. Page, who voted against the contract and was not at the meeting in which the officers were fired, is the only councilman not named.

Police Chief Ron Ballantyne said the officers feel a great loyalty to the city and the citizens of Riverton are behind them.

"This is obvious by the fact that they (the officers) show up here on such short notice," Ballantyne said. Two of the officers were working on other jobs and a third had a job lined up, but all three reported for duty, he said.

"In my 16 years of police work, I've never seen camaraderie like it is here," he said.

The one thing White, Beckstead and Brooks did agree on is that city government in Riverton is virtually at a standstill.

White said the city administrator, who resigned 17 days ago was blocked by the council in almost everything he tried to do.

Brooks said the city must have a budget prepared in 15 days, but the dispute has made drafting one difficult.

Riverton antagonists both agree that the community is no Camelot

Deseret News

APR 21 '80

Riverton, Utah

By Richard D. Hall
Deseret News staff writer

RIVERTON — The controversy that has plagued Riverton for at least 5½ months appears to be rooted in philosophy.

That is, a philosophy of political purism as opposed to political pragmatism.

The factions of the controversy are headed by City Councilman Don L. Beckstead and Mayor Lowell D. White. Each is a dedicated public servant. Each desires to serve Riverton's citizens. Each wants what he thinks is best for the city.

But each sees "best" differently.

Beckstead is a pragmatist; White, a purist.

Beckstead, a lifelong resident of the city, believes his chief responsibility is to reduce costs.

In his own words, "It's all a matter of economics."

White, a relative newcomer to the city, is motivated by deep-seated political philosophies. He likes diffused political power.

In other words, he can't stand big government.

"People just don't want to pay any more," Beckstead says. "We're chasing our children out of the area because we have the highest taxes in the area. It just shouldn't be that way."

The move to abolish the city's police department is only one of several cost-cutting moves Beckstead and his bloc support, he says.

He points to a change in the payment of water-connection fees and the removal of the city's 4 percent franchise tax as other steps the council has made to cut costs. (Others say, however, the move to cut the franchise tax began before Beckstead was elected to the council.) In addition, he would like to cut

news analysis

impact fees charged to developers and rewrite city ordinances governing developments to allow developers to provide less expensive building lots.

He says he will cut the city's expenses by better management.

White is a student of the Freeman's Institute Constitutional Seminars and a doctorate in industrial hygiene whose chief job for ASARCO Inc. is fighting the Environmental Protection Agency. He says he is very much an advocate of small cities. He would even

See BOTH on B-9

Both antagonists agree that Riverton is no Camelot

(Continued from B-1)

support breaking Salt Lake City into four or five smaller entities, each, he asserts, with better local control.

That penchant for small government includes a dislike for the large Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office or anything that even sounds similar to city-county consolidation.

Big government, he says, violates the economy of scales. A government, he says, has to be large enough to get good prices and handle its problems. But when it gets too large, it becomes unmanageable. Then you've lost that economy of scales, he says.

"Once a police department (or sheriff's office) gets larger than 60 to 70 men, you begin to lose control over it," he says.

"You don't get the action with big government and there is more chance for influence by well-financed special interests. In a small city, the mayor and council are your neighbors."

He would like to see 30 or so wall-to-wall cities in the valley. And he "would rather see three or four small cities going through what Riverton is going through than have one large city being polluted from within."

In simple terms, Beckstead favors contracting for law enforcement with the county sheriff's office because he believes it will save money. White, however, sees it as a move toward functional (city-county) consolidation and a loss of local control.

The strong feeling each has for his own belief is indicative of the strong personality each has. That strong will has exacerbated the problem — the harder one pushes one way, the harder the other pushes back. That has given rise to ugly rumors, rancor and strained relations.

The controversy moved further to the fore with a great deal of citizen involvement. But even though it is an extremely volatile situation, it may not have drawn such attention if Beckstead's bloc had been a little more tactful.

Beckstead mildly says that if the people understood the situation better, they would like what he is doing.

White says Beckstead has realized that his approach has hurt him.

Councilman Noel Blaine Page — often called the man in the middle because he has not aligned himself with Beckstead but doesn't always side with the mayor — simply says it was a case of bad public relations on Beckstead's part.

"The people were more upset at the fact that they weren't allowed to be heard than they were at contracting with the sheriff's office," he says.

"Their (the Beckstead bloc) attitude was that they had done the study, they knew what they wanted and that this (a public hearing) was a waste of time," he adds.

Oddly enough, amidst all this, Beckstead, White and Page agree on one thing: The dispute has been good for the city.

But, having not yet arrived in Camelot, they see it as being beneficial in different ways.

"If this is what it takes to bring down the cost of government, then it's just not bad," Beckstead says.

"When the council didn't argue, the budget jumped from about $464,000 to $1,064,000 in two years. We are taking the hard way. Anybody can raise taxes, but it isn't easy to trim costs."

White accepts that the bitterness will probably persist, but he is "thrilled about the fact that the people are now concerned about constitutional government.

"I tried (before the current controversy) to get people to serve on committees, but got no response," White says. "But now there is an eagerness to get involved, and many people want to serve on committees. It's a great sign that the republic is in action."

White also says that he has had to keep himself better prepared and that he has learned more because of the dispute.

Page agrees that the dispute has forced the council to be well-versed in the law. "No one is going to bluff anyone else. It is a very educated group and they are using every tool very effectively," he says.

The dispute, he says, has not polarized the city but has forced people to use legal means to be heard. "We should be proud the people are involved and using their constitutional rights."

Both factions say they saw indications of reconciliation in last Tuesday's City Council meeting. For the first time, the two groups have agreed to openly discuss some of the problems.

A quick resolution, however, is doubtful. Perhaps the thoughts of each group are best summed up by Beckstead: "There are a lot of reasons why I should quit, but I can't because of the people who voted for me. If we give in, then it would be just as if the other group had won the election."

Riverton Council hires lawyer

Deseret News

APR 24 '88

B 1

By Michael White
Deseret News staff writer

RIVERTON — Only hours after being named in an $800,000 lawsuit, Riverton's City Council members voted to hire former 3rd District Judge Stewart M. Hanson Jr. to defend the council against an accumulation of lawsuits.

The newest suit was filed Wednesday on behalf of the city's police officers, fired May 8 in what they say was an illegal council meeting. Because the council's action denied the officers due process of law, the suit says, they are seeking $800,000 in total damages.

The council hired Hanson during a special meeting Wednesday to attend to business not completed in the last regular meeting. In another vote, the councilmen directed City Recorder Peggy Green not to put on the November ballot five issues raised by initiative and referendum petitions. The council said it wants the courts to decide whether the petitions are legal.

Mayor Lowell D. White was out of town and did not attend the meeting. Councilman Noel Blaine Page conducted and abstained from voting.

The court will begin deciding the issues raised by the petitions on May 1 when it hears a suit filed by Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government and White.

Hanson, who resigned as a district judge two years ago, said he took the Riverton case because he feels he can help solve Riverton's problems.

"I take a great deal of pride in my profession and the ability of the legal profession to solve disputes," he said. "There are some tremendous difficulties here. The fundemental issue is who has the authority to run the city government of Riverton."

The council members have authorized Hanson to defend them against the present lawsuits and any future lawsuits. It also authorizes him to prosecute any legal actions the council may deem necessary. He will not act as the regular city attorney.

Hanson said he plans no suits on behalf of the council, but said it may be necessary to file for a writ of mandamus to pay some city bills. Payment of some of the city bills has been halted because of the disputes between the mayor and the council, he said.

Hanson said if lawsuits had not been filed, the mayor, police and citizens group probably could have talked out their disagreements with the council. Although he has not ruled out an out-of-court solution, he said it will have to be worked out among attorneys. Tuesday night he advised the four council members named as defendants in the suits not to attend a planned reconciliatory meeting with the Citizens for Constitutional Government.

Gaylord Johnson, spokesman for the citizens group and planner of the meeting, said he no longer thinks an out-of-court solution is possible.

"There's too much at stake here. I don't think they could get to all this. There are some constitutional questions that will have to be settled in court," he said in an interview following the council meeting.

See RIVERTON on B-4

Joseph E. Tesch, attorney for the police officers, was skeptical about an out-of-court settlement, but also would not rule out the possibility.

"There hasn't been a suit brought in the country that couldn't have been settled. I don't know if that's going to happen," he said.

The police officers' latest suit, filed by Tesch in U.S. District Court Wednesday afternoon, claims that when the council fired the police department April 8 in an allegedly illegal meeting, it violated the officers' right to due process of law guaranteed by the Constitution.

It also challenges a section of the Utah Code that requires a hearing and show of cause in the firing of any city employee except police officers and firefighters.

"We think the exclusions of police officers and firefighters are without rational basis and therefore unconstitutional," Tesch said.

The suit names as defendants Councilmen Don Beckstead, Steve Brooks, Curtis Collard and Ove Christensen. Noel Blaine Page, the fifth councilman, was not named. Page was not at the meeting in which the police officers were fired.

The suit asks $25,000 in damages from each defendant be awarded to each police officer and to the police department's secretary.

The police have filed two other suits against the council in 3rd District Court. One charges the council with violating the state open meetings law. Another which asked for a preliminary injunction to prevent the council from negotiating for police services from the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, was overturned. It is now on appeal to the Utah Supreme Court.

Tesch said the third lawsuit was filed in federal court because it involves constitutional issues.

"It's a civil rights violation, and the best forum for a violation of that kind is federal court, although it could have been brought in state courts," he said.

The council also instructed City Clerk Peggy Green not to put five issues on the November ballot.

The Citizens for Constitutional Government has in recent weeks filed the initiative and referendum petitions calling for a public vote on several controversial council actions.

The council had the option Tuesday night to accept or reject the petitions. Normally, by rejecting them, the issues represented by the petitions would automatically go on the November ballot. But attorney David Church advised the council that all but one of the petitions are illegal.

The petitions call for a vote on the council's decision to create the position of city manager, creation of an ordinance establishing recall elections of city officials, any contracts for services with other governments, the removal of the budget for local police and on the prooposed contract for police service from the county.

Church, who has been attorney for the council on some matters, said the petition for a vote on the city manager petition was proper under state law because it was a legislative act by the council. Each of the other issues, he said, involved an administrative act, and therefore were not subject by law to an initiative or referendum petition.

The council voted not to act on the city manager petition after Church said it would be settled in court anyway.

Riverton Appoints Attorney

Salt Lake Tribune — Deseret News — APR 24 '80

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — The city council Wednesday in a special meeting authorized the appointment of former 3rd District Court Judge Stewart M. Hanson Jr. as special counsel. David R. Olsen, who works with Mr. Hanson in the law firm of Suitter, Axland & Armstrong, was appointed deputy counsel.

In related action, the Riverton Police Officers' Union filed a lawsuit in federal court claiming the employees of the department, excluding the chief, had their civil rights violated by the city council. The suit asks for $25,000 damages for each employee from each of the four councilmen named in the suit.

Call Special Meeting

The special meeting was called by those four councilmen — Don L. Beckstead, Ove Christensen, Curtis Collard and Steven Brooks — to take action on several of the controversial issues which have split opinions in this community and virtually brought city government to a standstill.

And the council did take action. Basically, it instructed city recorder Peggy Green to ignore three referendum petitions and an initiative until those issues can be addressed in a court of law.

A citizen's group — Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government — and Mayor Lowell D. White filed a lawsuit in 3rd District Court against the four councilmen last week. That suit addresses most of the items on Wednesday's agenda. The council was advised by attorney David Church — who has been filling in as city attorney since Dale Gardiner resigned that post last month — to let the court decide the issues.

That suit will be heard May 1, 10 a.m.

The basic trouble in Riverton City surrounds law enforcement: Whether the city should employ its own police force or contract that service from Salt Lake County.

Intense Debate

The debate has become so intense that the council two weeks ago called an "emergency meeting" and fired the entire eight man force. However, a week later, the force returned to work at the request of Mayor White, who alleges in the suit — among other things — that the firing was done improperly and that the council had usurped the administrative powers of the office of mayor.

Three of the items on the agenda Wednesday addressed the police issue. Those items mostly pertained to interlocal agreement acts. Mr. Church told the council that it was his opinion that the matter is not fit for either referendum or initiative petitions because these petitions, according to state statutes, can only apply to legislative actions. Mr. Church said the three items in question were administrative items and thus unfit for being placed on ballot.

The council voted four in favor and one abstention — Councilman [illegible] Blaine Page — to [illegible] Mrs. Green not to [illegible] the items on the [illegible] ballot unless "ordered to do so by a court of law." Mr. Page was acting mayor, as Mayor White was out of town on business.

Another item on the agenda — regarding an initiative petition for an ordinance to remove elected city officials from office — was also effectively ignored by the council.

A third referendum petition, asking for a vote on a controversial city manager ordinance which strips the mayor of several executive functions, was deemed "a good [illegible] a referendum [illegible] however, since [illegible] passed in [illegible] the law-[illegible] [illegible] and let the courts decide."

Judge Vows Timely Ruling on Restraining Order in Riverton

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

Third District Judge Jay E. Banks Thursday took under advisement motions by a Riverton citizens group to issue restraining orders against four members of the city council.

Judge Banks also is considering reinstating the Riverton Police force, which was fired by the council in an "emergency" meeting held April 8.

Kenneth M. Hisatake, an attorney representing the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government and Mayor Lowell White — co-plaintiffs in a suit filed three weeks ago — requested the court to issue the injunctions and allow Riverton citizens to vote on whether they want local law enforcement in a referendum ballot.

Judge Banks, after hearing more than four hours of arguments from both sides, said he would take the matter under advisement.

Matter Urgent

"But there is an urgency about this matter," he said, adding that he would make a ruling sometime early next week. And, as presiding judge, he said he most likely will appoint an early hearing date for a trial on the lawsuit.

Thursday's hearing asked the defendants in the case — councilmen Don L. Beckstead, Curtis P. Collard, Ove Christensen and Steven Brooks — to show cause why a total of five restraining orders should not be issued.

It stems from a lawsuit filed by the citizens group and the mayor which, among other items, claims that the council held an illegal meeting to fire the officers and that the council is attempting to "usurp" the mayor's executive functions.

Mr. Hisatake asked that the court issue injunctions which would: (1) restrain the council from entering into an interlocal agreement with Salt Lake County for law enforcement and put the issue on a referendum petition; (2) restrain the council from further violations of the state Open Meetings Act (Sunshine Law); (3) restrain the council from purchasing or contracting goods or services for Riverton City without proper authorization; (4) restrain the council from interfering with the mayor or the administrative assistant during the performance of the duly authorized duties, and (5) restrain the council from "further threatening or harassing" Riverton city employees. It also asks that the court reinstate the police force.

Patrolling City

Currently, the Riverton Police Department is patrolling the city at the request of Mayor White. Legal controversy looms on whether they actually are employed as police officers or employees of Riverton City. The county sheriff's department is handling major felony investigations and state law violations in case it is ruled at a later date that the police, were, indeed, legally fired April 8.

Wednesday was payday in Riverton for the officers, however none received checks. Mayor White said counsel has advised him not to pay the officers until the question is settled in court.

Mr. Hisatake said the April 9 "emergency" meeting in which Councilman Beckstead was appointed mayor pro tempore to fire the officers — since the council claims Mayor White refused to do so even after the council had voted to do away with the department — was illegal because Mayor White and Councilman Noel Blaine Page were not notified.

Not at Meeting

Not only that, he said, but he introduced signed affidavits stating that councilman Collard — reported in the minutes of the meeting to be present — actually did not attend the meeting.

Requirements for a court to issue a restraining order are that permanent loss will be sustained if the order is not issued; that the parties involved have no further legal recourse; and that there is a possibility of favorable results when the issue comes to trial.

Stewart M. Hanson Jr., former 3rd District Court Judge and special counsel to the city council, rebutted Mr. Hisatake's presentation.

Mr. Hanson said that the fundamental question which needs to be addressed is "Who has legislative authority in Riverton City: the mayor or the council?"

He submitted to Judge Banks several legal cases which, he said, show that the council does, indeed, have the power to hire and fire, and, indeed, shares the administrative functions of running a city with the mayor.

On the first request for an injunction, Mr. Hanson said he feels that Salt Lake County should be represented, since it would be affected by such a restraining order. The county commission refused to enter into the interlocal agreement with Riverton for 30 days, stating they wanted the city to work out its problems.

Also, Mr. Hanson said, the referendum petition "floating around out there somewhere" has yet to be verified as being sufficient.

He said the governing body — in this case the city council — has the authority to enter into an interlocal agreement act. A referendum election, he argued, is by statute only held on legislative matters. The interlocal agreement is an administrative matter so the referendum does not apply.

On the injunction referring to the Sunshine Law, Mr. Hanson claimed Mr. Hisatake "failed to carry the burden of proof" that the meeting actually was illegal. And, he added, "you will merely be saying, obey the law."

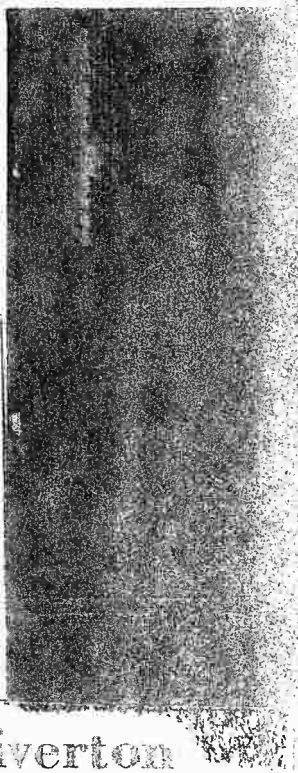
Judge Banks stated, "I'll grant that injunction, then."

Regarding the purchasing of goods or contracting without authority, Mr. Hanson referred to a statement made by Richard Woodworth, former Riverton administrative assistant who resigned six weeks ago, called to the stand earlier in the hearing. Mr. Woodworth stated that councilmen Beckstead and Brooks had refused to purchase a computer system the council had authorized "because they had were trying to save the taxpayers some money."

"Would you issue an order restraining them (the council) from saving money?" Mr. Hanson asked. That, and the restraining order would presume that something wrong had been committed, he said.

Regarding the interference with the mayor and administrative assistant, Mr. Hanson said that no evidence was presented that such a position exists in Riverton City. The position, he said, "must be created and funded. They have presented no evidence in this vein."

Regarding the alleged threats and harassment by council members, Mr. Hanson said no such evidence exists. Earlier, Mr. Hisatake had said that some council members told a vendor that, "for his own good," he should no longer provide services to Riverton. Also, some city employees had been threatened with their jobs.



Riverton Dismissals Ruled Illegal

Utah

Third District Court Judge Wallace Banks has refused to allow the Riverton police department to proceed with plans to dismiss [illegible] city employes.

Judge Banks ruled during a hearing Wednesday on six requests for restraining orders against the council filed by the mayor and the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government. The judge [illegible]

Since the department was fired April 6, it has been patrolling Riverton streets, but officers have not been paid for their services. After the council [illegible] Jurisdiction to [illegible] Sheriff's office [illegible] would be assigned to the area.

[illegible] terminated two motions [illegible] Riverton councilmen.

He explained that the hearing dealing with temporary relief sought by the mayor and the majority of the lawsuit will be considered during a trial which he said could convene within two months if attorneys are willing.

The judge denied a request that the council be restrained from entering into contract negotiations with Salt Lake County to provide law enforcement service.

Judge Banks denied a mayor and citizen's council motion asking the council be barred temporarily from purchasing goods or services on contracting for same without authorization.

The judge also denied a request for

See Page 2-D, Column

[illegible] against the council [illegible] interfering with the mayor in [illegible] duties.

Judge [illegible] ruled that the [illegible] that [illegible] too broad, to [illegible] lawyer for [illegible] wording is [illegible] you'd like [illegible] not [illegible]

Judge stated that plaintiffs [illegible] to [illegible]

[illegible] a motion prohibiting the [illegible] with a [illegible]

[illegible] that the [illegible] ding," [illegible] some of the [illegible] down [illegible]

[illegible] all [illegible] mayor to [illegible] councilmen [illegible] order, to show cause why they should not be [illegible] contempt of the court" if they should take [illegible] this as [illegible] employes.

[illegible] denied a request to reinstate [illegible] department [illegible] April 8.

The mayor said that [illegible] meetings were held in secret [illegible] violation of Utah's "Sunshine [illegible] over original arguments in the suit last [illegible] Judge Banks granted a request that the council be restrained from holding any more such meetings.

Legal counsel for the city police [illegible] Jo[illegible] S. Tesch told Judge Banks that he would like a [illegible] of days to prepare affidavits of evidence to sh[illegible] the dismissed officers deserve payment and reinstate[illegible] Judge Banks told Mr. Tesch that arguments would be heard during a trial over the la[illegible] and any arguments that must be addressed be[illegible] the request for restraining orders.

Judge told Mr. Hisatake, Mr. Tesch [illegible] St[illegible] Mr. Hanson Jr., lawyer for the council, that he is willing to "set a firm date for tr[illegible] the issue because this is an important matter th[illegible] should be resolved."

Riverton police fail to win reinstatement

MAY 9 '80 Deseret News

Riverton, Utah

By Corey Peterson
Deseret News staff writer

Third District Judge Jay E. Banks refused Wednesday to reinstate the Riverton Police Department, which was abolished by the City Council April 7.

Riverton Mayor Lowell D. White had filed a lawsuit asking that the court take temporary action, pending a trial, to reinstate the eight-man police department.

Banks heard testimony from White and members of the City Council named in White's lawsuit last Thursday. Because of the complex issues, Banks called the parties together Wednesday to explain his decision.

Although the Riverton police officers were fired by the City Council, they have been working under the orders of White, but they have not been paid since April 8.

Attorney Joseph Tesch, representing the police offfcers, told the judge that the men have not been paid and that foreclosures on the homes of some of the men are pending.

Banks said, however, he couldn't make the order reinstating the police department because that is the obligation of Riverton's governing body — the City Council.

A trial on the issues will be set as soon as possible, Banks said.

Attorney Stewart M. Hanson Jr., attorney for the City Council named in the lawsuit, said he can be ready for trial within 30 to 40 days.

The decision is now up to the officers whether to keep working and possibly remain unpaid until the trial.

Police Chief Ron Ballantyne said he will discuss the decision with the officers.

White said he will work with the council to see if the men can be paid.

Banks granted a temporary restraining order, which will be effective until the conclusion of the trial, at the request of attorney Kenneth M. Hisatake, who represented White. That order prevents the councilmen from harassing any city employees.

At last Thursday's hearing, former city administrator Richard Woodworth said he had been told by council members to cooperate with them or he would be fired. Woodworth resigned his position March 28.

Hanson argued that the order preventing the councilmen from harassing employees is too broad. "My clients won't know how to comply," Hanson said.

Banks denied requests for three other restraining orders:

— An order that would have temporarily prevented Riverton from signing a contract with the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office for police services.

— An order that would have prevented the council from making purchases for the city.

— An order that would have prevented the council from interfering with the statutory rights of the mayor.

To settle these issues requires evidence that will be presented in the trial, Banks said.

Riverton group may seek reversal

Riverton, Utah

Deseret News MAY 8 '80

By Michael White
Deseret News staff writer

RIVERTON — With many Riverton police officers facing a financial crisis, supporters say they may seek a quick reversal of a court decision not to reinstate the eight-man department.

The officers have not been paid for a month and now face another month of waiting for a trial to decide whether they should get their jobs back.

"Police officers aren't people who make enough money to live off savings even for a couple of months," said Joseph Tesch, attorney for the officers. "The prospect of going a month without income is devastating."

For the second time in four weeks, Riverton police turned in their equipment and left their jobs Wednesday after 3rd District Judge Jay E. Banks ruled there was insufficient reason to force the City Council to rehire the police department it fired a month ago.

Following the ruling, Mayor Lowell D. White, one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit seeking the reinstatement, advised the officers to go home. Salt Lake County deputy sheriffs began patrolling Riverton about noon Wednesday.

White said he told officers to look for temporary jobs until the reinstatement issue is resolved in a trial expected to begin in about a month.

"It's my recommendation that they turn in their vehicles and look for a job so they can put some bread on the table," White said in an interview Wednesday night.

"Everyone I talked to thought it would be wise to park the cars and let the county come in and that they try to find a full-time job of a part-time job to tide them over."

Tesch said he may try for a quick reversal of Banks' decision through an appeal to the Utah Supreme Court. He said he doubts any of the the officers can stand another month without income.

Meanwhile, Councilman Don Beckstead, one of the councilmen who voted to fire the department, said Banks' decision is no victory for the council, but he is satisfied with it.

While the decision not to reinstate the police was favorable to the council, Banks also issued two injunctions against them. One tells the council not to violate the Utah Open Meetings Law and the other enjoins them from harassing public employees.

In addition to asking for reinstatement, the suit also charged the council with violating the Open Meetings Law when it fired the council. And during oral arguments last week before Banks, former city administrator Richard Woodworth testified the council had tried to intimidate him.

"The court action was not a victory by any means," Beckstead said. "But I

See OFFICERS on B-2

Continued from B-1

think it's a step in the right direction. It was a fair ruling; I think he ruled in the best interest of the city."

He said the council will resume contract negotiations with the county as early as Monday.

Riverton police were fired April 8 after the City Council voted to contract for police services with Salt Lake County. The council said it could hire the sheriff's office to patrol the city for $154,000, nearly half of the $276,000 budgeted for the Riverton Police Department during fiscal year 1979-80.

After officers had been off the job for about a week, White ordered them back to work on the strength of a referendum petition calling for a public vote in November on whether the city should keep its police or contract with the county. White said that according to state law the filing of a referendum petition nullified the firing.

Along with the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government, White filed a lawsuit asking Banks to reinstate the police department.

But Wednesday Banks said no, preferring to let the issue be decided in a trial based on other suits. He said the law would allow him to reinstate the officers only if failure to reinstate would cause irreparable harm.

Banks ruled there was no irreparable harm because if the trial is decided in their favor the police officers will be reinstated with full back pay.

"Our position is, when your mortgage is being foreclosed and you can't buy groceries, you're irreparably harmed," Tesch said.

Banks also said state law requires third class cities to create the job of police chief or city marshal. But it is up to the council to determine how large a department he has.

"You need a chief or marshal, even if he has no soldiers," the judge said.

Police Chief Ron Ballantyne is still with the city — but now he is an administrative assistant, succeeded former City Administrator Richard Woodworth, who resigned March 28.

The City Council could eliminate the job of administrative assistant, White said.

Deseret News MAY B-1

Mayor to pay Riverton aide despite order

Riverton, Utah

RIVERTON — A stop payment order on a check issued to Riverton Police Chief Ron Ballantyne will be lifted, Riverton Mayor Lowell D. White said Friday.

The check for $519.25 was issued to Ballantyne for his services as administrative assistant to White from April 15 to May 1.

But Councilmen Don L. Beckstead and Steve Brooks learned of the check Thursday and advised City Recorder Peggy Green to stop payment. The councilmen gave the advice after contacting an attorney.

The position of administrative assistant to the mayor does not exist, according to the councilmen.

White says the opposite. The position was created by ordinance and the mayor has the sole authority to hire and fire his administrative assistant, White said.

White appointed Ballantyne to the job after former City Administrator Richard Woodworth resigned in March.

The City Council has the right to eliminate funding for the job, White said.

But the check already issued will be paid, he promised.

Ballantyne is also still Riverton's police chief, White said.

Third District Judge Jay E. Banks, while ruling Wednesday that the Riverton Police Department does not have to be reinstated pending a trial, said cities are required by state law to have a police chief or marshal.

The size of the police department and funding is up to the City Council, Banks said.

The City Council fired the police officers and terminated funding for the department in April.

The councilmen criticized White's action in ordering the check issued to Ballantyne as an example of the mayor's poor management, bookkeeping and accounting.

White was out of town on business Thursday.

Otherwise, he would have taken action on the check then, he said.

Meanwhile, Riverton police officers who had been working unpaid since April 8 on the orders of White are hoping to collect retroactive unemployment compensation, the mayor said.

A trial on the Riverton situation is expected in 30 to 40 days. If the trial ends in favor of White and the police officers, the men could return to work and could claim entitlement to back pay.

The City Council wants to contract with the Salt Lake County sheriff's department for police services.

County Commissioner William L. Hutchinson called Friday for immediate ratification of the contract.

The contract would be in the interest of preserving sound and adequate police protection, he said.

Riverton has not shown concrete evidence of progress leading to a resolution of the city's problems, he said.

Commissioners delayed action on the contract when it first came before the commission several weeks ago to allow the city time to settle what commissioners termed a family feud.

MAY 12 '80 Deseret News B-1

County OKs pact to give Riverton police help

Riverton, Utah

The Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office will provide police protection for Riverton city, although the ongoing controversy surrounding Riverton's police is still far from over.

Salt Lake County commissioners Monday approved a contract to provide police protection to the city, while acknowledging their action could be subject to change due to future court decisions.

Joseph E. Tesch, an attorney representing the eight-man police force fired by the Riverton City Council, told the commission he has requested the Utah Supreme Court to consider legal questions surrounding the City Council's firing of the police force.

Tesch said he and Stewart Hanson, the attorney representing the City Council, were to meet with Chief Justice F. Allen Crockett at 3 p.m. Monday to discuss whether the court should consider those questions.

Tesch urged commissioners to wait until the supreme court decides on the matter before taking action on the police contract.

But Hanson stressed that any contract approved by the commission is provisional and can be subject to change through the court.

"We've got to get on with the government of this county and the government of Riverton," Hanson said.

In a unanimous vote, commissioners approved the contract, which will provide a patrol unit of approximately four men to Riverton at a cost of $154,000 for the year.

Commissioners delayed voting on the contract approximately a month ago to allow the city time to settle its internal disputes over police protection. However, commissioners said they can see no immediate resolution and believe they must begin providing police protection by contract.

Riverton citizens, who filled the commission chambers, asked commissioners to reject the contract to allow them a chance to put the question of police protection on a ballot.

Gaylord Johnson, head of Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government, said a referendum petition requesting a vote has been signed by nearly half the registered voters in Riverton.

But Commission Chairman William E. Dunn stressed the county has the legal obligation to deal with the city's elected representatives.

"The City Council has the statutory authority to make the legislative decisions for Riverton," Dunn said. "We have no alternative but to enter into the contract with the City Council."

"We need to start the contract so we can be paid for services we are providing," Commissioner William L. Hutchinson said. "When the courts rule, we will abide by court decisions."

Tesch said a trial on the Riverton question will probably begin within 30 to 45 days. Last week an effort by Tesch to gain an injunction against the firing of the police department by the city council failed.

Riverton Cont

roversy Swirls

By George A. Sorensen
and Dave Jonsson
Tribune Staff Writers

RIVERTON — The controversy surrounding last month's firing of this city's eight man police force swirled from the Salt Lake County Commission Chambers to the Utah Supreme Court and back to city hall Monday.

The action started during the morning when the county commission voted to approve a contract to provide municipal-level law enforcement coverage to Riverton.

Opponents then attempted to seek relief from Chief Justice Allen Crockett but found their efforts delayed for at least a week.

Finally it ended — for the day — in a special meeting of the Riverton City Council.

During the short meeting the council appointed a deputy city treasurer, passed resolutions impounding all police equipment and prohibiting the taking of city checks out of city hall unless signed by all authorized persons.

Approved by the county commission was a contract for $154,603 to provide the police services to the city. Action was unanimous by the commission but taken reluctantly.

Commission Chairman William E. Dunn said, "we did not seek this contract, but we have no alternative but to enter into the contract because the city council's request."

The contract was signed on April 8 by the Riverton City Commission and is below the $271,603 budgeted this year for police protection.

The following day the city council fired the police force, but the force was later rehired by Mayor Lowell D. White.

The county commission postponed signing the contract because of lawsuits filed. A decision upholding the city council's firing of the police was handed down Friday by 3rd District Presiding Judge Jay E. Banks.

Meanwhile, the eight men and dispatcher worked for nearly a month, apparently without pay.

Gaylord Johnson, spokesman for the Riverton Citizens for Constitutional Government asked the county commissioners to delay signing the contract until citizens get a chance to vote on the referendum called for in a petition which has been filed in Riverton.

He said the group has gathered signatures of over two-fifths of the city's registered voters in support of a city police agency.

Following the county commission's decision lawyers for Mr. Johnson and the Riverton Police met with Justice Crockett who set a hearing for Monday at 9 a.m. to hear oral arguments.

Raymond Maynard, 13547 S. 1700 West, a spokesman supporting the Riverton City Council during the debate before the county commission, was named deputy treasurer by the city council in the special session.

He was sworn in by Riverton City Judge E. LaMar Johnson after Stewart M. Hanson Jr., former 3rd District Court Judge and special counsel for the city council, said the resolution can become effective upon publication.

MAY 13 '84 Salt Lake Tribune

This can be construed as the printing of the story on the appointment in Tuesday morning's edition of The (Salt Lake) Tribune, Mr. Hansen said.

That paper can be considered a newspaper of general circulation in Riverton, he added.

The appointment drew sharp protests from Mayor Lowell D. White who said it was in violation of state laws.

He said this will be added to his list of legal actions he is taking against the council.

Don L. Beckstead, spokesman for the council, said the action had to be taken to get some duly authorized bills paid. He said the current city treasurer, Paul McLemore, has refused to sign them.

Mr. McLemore has indicated in the past he refuses to sign the checks upon legal advice from his and other attorneys.

The resolution impounding the police equipment, calls for the vehicles to be locked up in a fenced-in yard near the fire station and an inventory of all other equipment to be completed by Friday.

Hutchinson to Seek OK Of Riverton Enforcement

C3

Salt Lake Tribune

Riverton, Utah

Salt Lake County Commissioner William L. Hutchinson said Thursday he will press for commission approval of a once-postponed contract for the county to provide law enforcement services to Riverton City.

"In view of the recent court ruling (denying a request that the city be ordered to resume paychecks for eight fired police officers) and in view of the inability of Riverton to show concrete evidence of progress toward a resolution of their internal problems," Commissioner Hutchinson said, "I am calling for . . . immediate ratification."

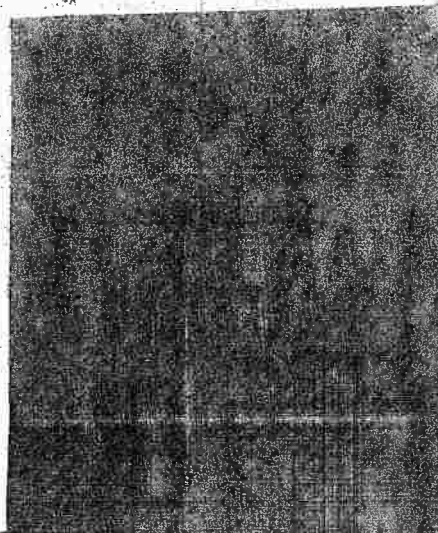
Last month, commissioners twice discussed a possible contract with the city to provide municipal-level police protection at a price tag of $154,008.

It was decided April 14 that the contract would be held off 30 days so, as Commissioner Robert G. Salter described it, Riverton citizens could solve their "family problem. . . ."

Riverton's own police force was costing $271,000 a year, and on that basis a bare majority of city councilmen decided to go with a county contract instead.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he will ask full commission reconsideration of the contract next Monday, adding, "the contract is in the best interests of Salt Lake County and the City of Riverton."

Absent a contract and its own police force, Riverton would get the same level of police protection provided unincorporated areas surrounding the city, and would get no enforcement of municipal ordinances. County and state ordinances and statutes would, however, be enforced.



Ex-Riverton Officers Take Case to Utah's Top Court

Salt Lake Tribune MAY 20 '80

Riverton, Utah

By George Raine
Tribune Staff Writer

The lawyer for Riverton's fired policemen Monday asked the Utah Supreme Court to view the case against the Riverton City Council as a dispute over who controls government — government or citizens.

The council's lawyer, however, said that procedurally the policemen are out of bounds, that the petitions that brought the Riverton matter to the state high court were invalid.

The justices took the matter under advisement.

Cornucopia of Disputes

The issue in court Monday was but one in a cornucopia of disputes between the City Council and the recently fired force of eight officers and a chief, contained in three separate state court actions and one in federal court.

But the lawyer for the policemen, Joseph E. Tesch, attempted to characterize it as a constitutional building block upon which the whole controversy turns.

Mr. Tesch maintains that the citizens of Riverton have the right to vote in a referendum on whether to accept or reject an agreement the city entered into, contracting with Salt Lake County for law enforcement services.

When the City Council adopted that agreement, the locally-controlled police force was dismissed.

Extraordinary Writ

He was in court Monday seeking an extraordinary writ ordering the force reinstated pending a referendum vote by the citizens. Meanwhile the other Riverton-versus-Riverton issues remain in state and federal courts.

One of Mr. Tesch's clients is Gaylord Johnson, who in the throes of the Riverton dispute filed petitions for referendum vote on the resolutions that had given life to the Riverton-Salt Lake County agreement. He had hoped the matter would be included on th Nov. 4 ballot.

Mr. Tesch said that 1,181 persons had signed those petitions, or 61 percent of the voters of Riverton who voted in the last gubernatorial election, far more than that which is required by law.

There are the only questions on the validity of the petitions, and even on whether the petition issue was properly before the Utah Supreme Court.

Stewart M. Hanson Jr., the council's lawyer, maintained they are invalid and that Mr. Tesch had not met certain requirements for getting into court in search of an extraordinary writ.

Mr. Hanson, a former 3rd District Court judge who retired to enter private law practice, complained that Mr. Tesch had "hung his hat, coat and umbrella, etc.," on the so-called fact that he had no other remedy, when in fact the Riverton case is found in three state court complains and the federal court, which is a civil rights issue.

"I feel like Don Quixote chasing windmills," or lawsuits in which Mr. Tesch has or may seek remedies, said Mr. Hansen.

"He may feel like Don Quixote, but he sounds more like a 9-year-old boy with a toothache who doesn't want to go to the dentist," said Mr. Tesch, who, as a former felony prosecutor for Salt Lake County, often argued before then-Judge Hanson.

Mr. Tesch said that where referendum has been demanded on laws passed, those laws must be submitted to the voters before the laws shall take effect.

The "laws" at issue are two Riverton City Council resolutions, one authorizing an interlocal cooperation agreement contracting for law enforcement from the county, and one transferring funds in the police department to finance the contract for police protection.

Ruling Against Police

When the referendum issue surfaced in 3rd District Court, Judge Jay Banks ruled against the policemen when he denied a request for temporary injunction on the grounds evidence had not been presented as to the factual propriety of the petitions for referendum; that there was no showing of irreparable harm, and other adequate remedy existed at law.

Mr. Tesch told justices that the relief unavailable in other legal proceedings is speed . . . for "the people have lost control of their own government."

If, he said in his complaint for the writ, the council relies on the state Interlocal Cooperation Act, which provides that no resolution shall be subject to referendum petition, that is in "clear and direct conflict with the Constitution."

That would deny the people their constitutionally reserved right to control and check their government, said Mr. Tesch.

Meanwhile, the Salt Lake County Commission has approved a contract for $154,588 to provide police protection in Riverton. The vote was unanimous, but commisioners said, it was taken reluctantly.

Riverton, Utah

Riverton Petition 'Denied'

MAY 24

Salt Lake Tribune

The Utah Supreme Court Tuesday denied a petition seeking to send the fired Riverton City police force back to work. The court made no comment, just the one-word entry "denied" in its record.

Justices heard oral arguments in the case Monday, in which the lawyer for the policemen, Joseph E. Tesch, sought an extraordinary writ forcing the men back to work pending a referendum vote by Riverton citizens over the issue.

At Odds

The city's council and police force are at odds, and the council had passed two resolutions that joined the city and Salt Lake County into an agreement whereby the county would provide police protection.

Those resolutions are important to the case, and Mr. Tesch and the policemen want a referendum vote on them in Riverton on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Attempt to Reinstate

The purpose in going to the Utah Supreme Court was to attempt to reinstate the force until the vote occurred.

Meanwhile, there are other legal actions pending in the Riverton matter in state and federal courts.

Tuesday, Mr. Tesch said he was disappointed, but would continue to pursue all available legal remedies.

Gas Bill Boost Riverton Vote

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

Intervention of Riverton's authorized gasoline supplier, Ray and Toby's Service Station, 1190 W. 1700 West, will no longer sell gasoline to the city after 8 a.m. Friday, station manager Leon Butterfield said Thursday.

At Tuesday's meeting the city council refused to pay more than $700 for gasoline used by police vehicles. That has made future business with Riverton city "not worth my time," Mr. Butterfield said.

At that meeting the council voted 4-1 not to pay for $768.73 worth of gasoline used by Riverton police cars during two weeks in April when the police were in

Salt Lake Tribune
AUG 8 '80

the midst of a heated political battle with the council over a contract for services with the county sheriff's department.

Returned to Work

The police returned to work — even though they had been fired by the council — at the request of Mayor Lowell D. Wells, who claimed the council's action was taken illegally.

Councilman Steven B. Brooks said the council may have to call an emergency meeting to deal with the problem. All city vehicles were filled at Ray and Toby's pumps Thursday night. Mr. Butterfield said [illegible] gasoline will be sold to the city on a strictly cash basis.

For almost two weeks in April, Riverton Police were in limbo, patrolling [illegible] whether they were employed. Later, following [illegible] the force was disbanded [illegible] county signed a contract to provide law enforcement in Riverton. [illegible] used by the police [illegible] that period which the council voted not to pay for.

Await Legal Opinion

Councilman Brooks said council actually tabled the matter pending a legal opinion from special counsel, former Third District Court Judge Stewart M. Hanson.

Mr. Brooks said the council may ask

See Page B-2, Column 1

Continued From Page B-1

the mayor for authorizing the cars to use the gasoline without council approval. The council has already sued the mayor for a payment he made to former Police Chief Ron Ballentyne.

Newly hired City Attorney Dave Church told the council that payment for the gasoline "would not jeopardize the city in any way." But the council still refused to authorize payment.

The decision adds to a long list of controversial actions which have resulted in nearly a dozen lawsuits. Several have been dismissed and others await further court action.

Mr. Butterfield said he never was directed not to fill the tanks of the police cars during the period in question. Mr. Brooks said he personally told Mr. Butterfield "there may be some trouble" in collecting payment on those purchases.

"I really think I'm getting a raw deal and I refuse to put up with it anymore," he said. "I think it's a personal matter and I simply won't have any more dealings with this council."

Mr. Butterfield said the council voted unanimously in April to accept his bid for gasoline and on April 24 a memo posted in Riverton City Hall directed all employees to fill officials vehicles at Ray and Toby's Station.

"I never received any direction or letter to cut the police off," he said.

At the Tuesday council meeting, the council did approve payment on all other gasoline purchases, except those by the police department.

"That doesn't matter," Mr. Butterfield said. "They can go somewhere else to buy their gasoline. I can't afford to do business with them any longer."

This isn't the first time the station has been involved in the heated Riverton controversy. In March, Councilman Don L. Beckstead personally authorized the purchase of more than $3,000 in gasoline from Beckstead Oil Co., when Ray and Toby's refused to sell gas to the city because the city's account waspast due.

City Manager Gets More Clout

Riverton

Confusion Reigns Over Controversial New Riverton Ordinance

By Mike Carter
Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — There was some confusion at city hall here Wednesday morning as to whether a controversial ordinance passed the night before.

At Wednesday city council meeting, an ordinance was adopted which would grant newly appointed City Manager Jim Young the power to appoint all officers in the city with the consent of the governing body.

Executive Session

It wasn't until a Thursday night executive session of the council was held that Mr. Young was able to verify that the ordinance had passed.

Interviewed twice earlier in the day by Tribune reporters, Mr. Young stated that the ordinance did not pass and that it had been referred to the council for future action.

During a telephone poll, most of the Riverton City Council members said the ordinance had passed, although there was some discrepancy among them regarding the exact margin of approval.

In calling the five council members and the mayor for their opinions of what happened at the meeting, only two would not, or could not, confirm whether any action took place. Councilman Ore Christensen hung up the phone after stating: "I won't answer nothing to you. You don't print the things we want you to."

Councilman Curtis Collard was not available for comment.

All of the other councilmen and the mayor agreed that the ordinance passed and a copy bears the mayor's signature.

What's the Vote?

However, although councilmen Steven Brooks, Noel Blaine Page and Mayor Lowell White said the vote went three ayes (Beckstead, Brooks and Christensen) to two abstentions (Page and Collard), Councilman Beckstead maintains the vote was three ayes, one abstention and one nay.

A group of citizens present at the Wednesday council meeting, among them Gaylord Johnson, a long-time opponent of the council and chairman of the Riverton Citizen's for Constitutional Government, maintains that the council passed an illegal ordinance as it tries to attempt to usurp the powers of the mayor.

The ordinance is another in a series of controversial moves by the council to change Riverton City's form of government to a council-city manager form. Earlier this year, an ordinance creating the post of city manager was passed and precipitated lawsuits by Mr. Johnson's group and Mayor White.

Governing Body

In part, the ordinance states: "In addition to such other duties, powers and obligations granted to or promulgated for the city manager by statute or ordinance, the city manager shall have the power, duty and obligation to appoint all officers of the City . . . with the advice and consent of, and approval by, the governing body prior to any such officer assuming office.

Mr. Johnson and his citizen's group, strong backers of Mayor White, claim the ordinance violates the Utah State Code governing the responsibilities of city managers and mayors. In addition, Mr. Johnson said, he feels that the city failed to properly post the ordinance prior to its passage.

Riverton City Attorney David Church, however, said that this type of ordinance does not require posting or advertising 30 days prior to its adoption, and that it is legal and proper. The ordinance was drafted by former 3rd District Judge Stewart M. Hanson Jr., who had been retained by the council as special counsel following lawsuits which were filed by the mayor and the citizen's group.

In the Thursday night executive session, the council authorized Mr. Young to organize a meeting between the councilmen, Mayor White and Mr. Johnson to discuss the possibility of dropping some of the lawsuits.

Councilman Page tried for about a half hour to convince the council members and Mayor White to agree to the meeting before he could receive a consensus in favor of the idea.

Councilman Christensen and Mayor White said they have tried before, but failed. Mr. Christensen stated that the meeting would fail.

Councilman Page insisted, "We have nothing to lose and everything to gain."

Riverton losing money due to poor investment

Riverton, Utah

NOV 7 '80 Deseret News B1

By Vicki Varela
Deseret News staff writer

RIVERTON — Riverton has lost between $100,000 and $150,000 in interest because city money has been invested in time certificates of deposit that offered only 5.75 percent interest, officials say.

City Councilman Don Beckstead said $1 million in city money was invested at the low rates over the last two years.

City Treasurer Paul McLemore is reinvesting the money in accounts with competitive interest rates as high as 14.5 percent.

He says the reason the money was poorly invested is that he did not know until July that state law makes the city treasurer responsible for investing city funds. Until that time, City Recorder Peggy Green, now deceased, invested idle funds for the city, McLemore said.

Mrs. Green was encouraged by the mayor to combine the 20 different accounts into packages of $100,000 or more so the city would be eligible for higher interest rates, McLemore said.

But the recorder had so many responsibilities and so little time to fit all of them properly that she continued to invest the money at the low interest rates, McLemore said.

As the time certificates of deposit invested by Mrs. Green expire, McLemore is combining some of the money into accounts in excess of $100,000 and depositing them in "jumble" accounts in local banks, which require more than $100,000 for competitive interest rates, he said.

Other money in accounts that total less than $100,000 is being invested in state accounts that require small minimum balances and allow the money to be invested for short periods. State interest rates are generally .25 percent lower than rates offered in bank jumble accounts, McLemore said.

Following are examples of money that has been reinvested in recent weeks:

— Four accounts in the city's water fund were combined and the money was invested with the state at 11.5 percent interest.

— Two capital improvement fund accounts were combined and invested in Intermountain Savings at 13 percent interest.

See RIVERTON on B-3

Interest rates change daily, so it is difficult to compare, McLemore said. Beckstead says McLemore is not investing the money as well as it should be invested. He said the city should stay away from investing with the state because of the lower interest rates.

But McLemore says it is necessary to invest some money with the state for liquidity. He claims the City Council is vague about how it wants to spend money, so he can't be sure how much money can be invested for long periods of time.

Beckstead also claims that the fact that McLemore did not know until July that he was supposed to be investing the city's idle money shows McLemore is not qualified for the job.

Utah law states, "The city treasurer shall be custodian of all money, bonds or other securities of the city, determine the cash requirements of the city and provide for the investment of all idle cash and receive money payable to the city."

Mayor Lowell D. White appointed McLemore to replace council member Ove Christensen as city treasurer one year ago, after it was found that state law does not permit a council member to act as treasurer.

McLemore said being treasurer has been a continuing learning experience. Originally, he said, all he did was sign water bond certificates. He has gradually learned the extent of his responsibilities.

"We try to do the best we can we with the knowledge we have," McLemore said.

Beckstead suggested McLemore read the Utah State Code.

Last August, the City Council appointed Paul Mortensen as city treasurer because council members said McLemore was not paying city bills. The appointment was overruled in court, and McLemore retained his job.

Riverton Loses Annex Efforts

Salt Lake County has voted a two-year fight over Riverton's annexation of hundreds of acres of largely undeveloped farm lands west of 3600 West.

Third District Judge G. Hal Taylor invalidated three inter-related annexations that took place during the latter half of '78 on grounds that two annexation petitions were flawed and that the last of the three annexations, while its petition was proper, couldn't stand because the foothill territory then became non-contiguous with the city. Annexations had gone all the way west to the foothills of the Oquirrh Mountains.

County commissioners Wednesday ordered county aides to reinstate any municipal services to the area that are needed. The impact is expected to be small since the property is largely farmland or undeveloped.

One Development

The voided annexations included, however, a major residential development of the Bagley Co. which had won county approval, said Deputy County Attorney Kent S. Lewis.

"This shrinks Riverton City by about half," Mr. Lewis said. City officials said Wednesday they are still assessing potential impacts of the court decision.

Mr. Lewis told commissioners the city could opt to press forward with a new annexation effort, but now any annexations are subject to the County Boundary Commission, a body set up under state law to provide administrative solutions when disputes between county governments and cities arise.

Lot of Research

Mr. Lewis said the case took two years because it was full of complex and subtle points that had to be considered to accept or reject signatures on petitions. The validity of the annexation petitions. When work finally was completed, Judge Taylor ruled the petitions hadn't reached the statutory minimum of 40 percent of the property owners of record holding land comprising not less than one-third of the assessed valuation of the territory proposed to be annexed.

In the past several years Mr. Lewis noted, the county has opposed 13 annexations, has negotiated and settled nine out of court. One annexation was not specified in pending a rehearing.

The cases crack the county's court opposition annexation

Riverton Now Under Mayor-Council

SALT LAKE TRIBUNE DEC 2 82

Riverton, Utah

By Eric McMullin
Tribune Staff Writer

RIVERTON — The Riverton City Council voted 3-2 Tuesday night to change the city's government structure from a city manager-council-form to a mayor-council form.

Gaylord Johnson, president of Citizens for Constitutional Government, said at the meeting he believed the former government was unconstitutional because it did not provide for three separate branches of government.

Riverton City Manager Mike Siler, who accepted his former position in September 1981, was immediately appointed to the position of City Administrator under the new government.

Mayor Dale Gardiner, who favored the mayor-council form of government, will take over the decision making authority previously held by Mr. Siler. Those decisions involve personnel, budgets, and administration. Tuesday's vote does not change the salaries of the mayor and city administrator.

The vote settled for the time a controversy that began soon after a former City Council created the city manager position, effectively stripping the mayoral position of its decision making authority.

The controversy had included a threatened petition drive that would have put the question before the voters and numerous lawsuits — up to 17 at one count — challenging the constitutionality of the former government.

Mr. Johnson said Tuesday's action makes the lawsuits moot, adding, "I see no reason for further contention."

Voting in favor of the change in government were City Council members Russell Peterson, Don Beckstead and James Warr. Opposed were Curtis Collard and Steve Brooks. Two weeks ago the City Council rejected the change, also by a 3-2 vote

Dis Eve News — Nov. 20, 1895

Gone to Riverton.

Sheriff Hardy and Assistant County Attorney Harrington went to Riverton this morning to take part in the hearing of the case before the Justice of the peace of that precinct, in which Bates, Henderson and two other young men are charged with petit larceny. A number of petty thefts have been committed of late around Riverton, and it is thought the arrest of these men will result in the discovery of the guilty parties concerned in them.