



## Salt Lake as Viewed and Criticized by Mayors of Her Neighbor Cities

### We Built Your City And You Are Ours.



As president of the state League of Municipalities of Utah, I have been invited to discuss the relationship the smaller cities bear to beautiful Salt Lake—to speak of that city as others than its own proud inhabitants see it—to freely tell of its many beauties and frankly call attention to its short comings.

Believing that there is strength in organization and safety in counsel, and compelled to witness the backsliding indifference of the cities and towns of Utah regarding civic improvement, certain progressive workers of the state called a meeting of all the city officials interested in these questions in Salt Lake City, in the winter of 1906.

That first meeting was sparsely attended but it formed a nucleus from which has grown the splendid organization of today.

During the holidays of 1907, a most successful convention was held at Nephi, at which experts discussed the various questions that so much concern the citizen. And when we note the tendency that grows from day to day and from week to week of people toward the city there is no more important problem than to render suburban environments healthful, pleasant, inviting.

How significant it is that the men, the mayors, councils, city solicitors, city engineers, and various officials who have to do with the various phases of municipal government should come together from time to time to discuss the ways and means of improving municipal administration. City officials are changed, probably too frequently, and they attend only to the immediate, pressing needs of the people, having no plans to be carried out as has the architect with his building. There is in this country today but one city that may be said to have been laid out on paper and carried to its completion before its construction was commenced.

Without experience in city building it is absurd for lay members to accept the responsibilities of city officials, unless they seek every opportunity to prepare themselves for their trust. The live, energetic city officials of Utah are the interested members of the state league.

The health of the community should be the paramount issue in every municipality and to that end, there should be pure water, proper and efficient sewage systems, the prompt collection and disposition of garbage, and clean streets. This is the purpose and object of the league.

#### KEEPING BOYS AT HOME.

Besides this there is another labor for this organization to perform. It is to do away with that feeling of discontent on the part of young men with conditions in smaller cities and their desire to congregate in the capital. We want to surround them with an atmosphere, elevating, progressive and entertaining in which their talents may expand more freely than they would in Salt Lake City. We do not feel that Salt Lake is a menace to a boy but Utah must be built up and peopled. Man's success never depends on the place in which he lives; it depends on the man. It is the man, not the place that counts. It is what you are, not where you are. No young man need ever feel, that by reason of his residence in a smaller city he is not a part of the life of the country. That very fact

makes him an essential part of it. He is the producer. His city makes possible the greater center. The sensible young man stays in the smaller city these days; suppose the measure of success is smaller; the measure of happiness is greater. It is what a man gets out of his life that makes him happy. No town is too small for success.

A small thing is a pin, yet it takes seven men to make one.

#### NO CITY WITHOUT A COUNTRY.

There could be no Salt Lake if there were no contributory territory. We have made you. You are ours. As France is proud of Paris, so do we glory in beautiful Salt Lake. Should we suffer disaster you must needs sympathize as does one eye at the injury of the other. We observe with pride the city's rapid growth and admire the transformation from a large town to a city that has taken place in recent years.

Paying daily tribute to you as the country people do, we ask in return the benefit of your experiences as a city.

We ask that Salt Lake City interest itself in the State League and show some appreciation for the millions of dollars we pour into its coffers.

We need your help, why do you withhold it? Do you realize the benefit it would be to the smaller cities of the state if Salt Lake City would take an active interest in their improvement?

#### DEPLORABLE BITTERNESS.

But there is a phase of life in Salt Lake City of which we want none. We deplore the bitterness that exists among its people. To the other cities of the state it is inexcusable. It is wrong—wrong to Salt Lake, wrong to the state, wrong to the people. We suffer with you. It is a source of chagrin that our daily papers give so much space to scandalizing each other. It is not pleasant, not interesting to the country reader. We do not subscribe for such reading.

To the disinterested observer the bitter fight that has existed between the factions of Salt Lake City, is disparaging. We deplore it. It injures the state. Cut it out. Salt Lake is our capital. We have an interest in it. We claim that the inhabitants do not own it. We claim that the inhabitants do not alone own it, and that they must not pollute it. Be an example to us—something we can quote, pattern after and not have to apologize for. This is the warring factions, not to the city. But with all thy faults we love thee still.

### Strife Only Blights, So Eliminate It.



Like every other citizen of Utah, who has the good of the state at heart, I am proud of Salt Lake, and glad to see it growing and prospering.

"While we, here in Park City, have never had any of the internal strife which has afflicted Salt Lake City, we sympathize with the effects, while feeling that we have no part in them or their origin.

"Quite naturally, too, we feel that whatever affects Salt Lake, in ratio, also affects us. We feel that we have contributed our share to the upbuilding of the city, and while there is no thought of jealousy, nor any regret at the part we have taken in this, we feel, to that extent, sorry to see the strife that has prevailed there.

"Our relations have been close, both in commercial interests, and socially. We do about all

our outside trading in Salt Lake, and very many of her citizens first had their homes here, where the social ties of other times are still maintained.

#### BUILD A CAPITOL.

"We have great sympathy with the state capitol project for Salt Lake, and take a great pride in it, hoping that it will be carried out to the letter, and that everything done will be a credit to not only Salt Lake, but to the entire state, which is worthy of a great and imposing capitol building.

"Regarding our school system, we have always maintained that ourselves, and expect to keep on doing so, without the desire or necessity of calling on any outside source for assistance.

"Our people here are governed by a noticeable spirit of fairness, and while we have represented among us many religious sects, and all the political faiths, we have never been subject to any internal strife or quarrels over either, and for that reason we greatly deplore the troubles of this sort which have worked against Salt Lake, and look forward to the time when they shall cease with much expectancy that greater prosperity will mark the new order of things."

### Beautify to Attract Home-Seeking Tourists.



As Salt Lake City has always been a very important city on account of its popularity with the tourists as well as the business world, it is quite important that it should be as near a model city as possible; or at least as near model as the finances of its citizens are able to

make it; and while the vast amount of public improvements that have been made during the last few years must have been very burdensome and extremely hard on the tax-payers it is exactly what must be done in order to meet the city's requirements. If these improvements were carried on in a smaller and slower way it perhaps would be more satisfactory to some of the tax-payers who are less able to meet all of these expenses at once. Had it to be delayed, the desired results and progress would be delayed that much longer and it would mean that the desired effects would be put into the future while the best results should be enjoyed just as soon as possible.

In order to build a city that will look attractive to an investor and a home-builder, it is necessary for the municipality to show that it has a good supply of water, good sewerage and other necessary public utilities. With the magnificent water supply Salt Lake City has recently acquired and the extensive sewerage which has been carried into districts where good ground can be secured for the building of modern homes at a modest cost the way to open for the building up of a large and beautiful city, which is a foundation that investors are justified in accepting as a home city.

Added to these attractions is the beautiful appearance of the large amount of pavement, sidewalk, curbing and guttering throughout the entire city that can not but seem inviting to the stranger looking through the country, with money to invest in a home or business. When the usual questions of the conservative investor are asked: Have you a good water supply? Sewer system? Do investments yield good returns? You can now answer them all in the affirmative.

It seems to me that there is little doubt but that the average person will be satisfied with Salt Lake City from a resident and investment standpoint.

#### BENEFITS OF WATER SYSTEM.

The extension of the water and sewer system to the new districts is showing magnificent results. The class of houses being built is of a high standard and such as would not be built in the absence of these improvements,—this because people who are putting good round sums of money into a home for themselves and families, would not build these homes outside of the sewer and water districts. By the wise expenditure of money, in making these extensions, Salt Lake City and Salt Lake county will, a few years hence reap a big benefit by increasing their taxable revenue from districts which have heretofore brought but little revenue; and thus the people will be reimbursed for the heavy burdens that they are now carrying for these improvements.

#### RIVAL LOS ANGELES.

In my opinion, it will only be a matter of little time before Salt Lake City will rival Los Angeles as a residence city because we have many advantages that Los Angeles has not from an all-season standpoint. Of course, the same can be said of Los Angeles, but the beautiful surroundings of Salt Lake added to our beautiful seasons make it hard to admit that there is any better place on the globe for a residence district. And these attractions appeal to people of the well-to-do class, who perhaps have been successful in business in a less desirable residence location, and who have sufficient money to engage in business or to build them a home. As a natural consequence they will in the future pay their fair proportion towards carrying the expense incurred in making these many improvements.

In order to attract a high standard of citizenship good government is as necessary as civic improvements. In fact, they go hand in hand and most of the people who have money to invest in homes or business enterprises are those who have saved their means. Therefore the proper regulation of the various evils seemingly necessary in large cities has considerable to do with the growth of the city and the quality of its population.

### Work for Utah and You Build Salt Lake.



BEAUTIFUL is the city of Salt Lake. This is generally conceded. Few people are the city's guests who do not feel to express favor and satisfaction at the many pleasing features of the city's natural beauty. Her wide, clean streets, splendid buildings and attractive

environments do not fail to make favorable impressions with those who are unprejudiced, Salt Lake is destined to rank with the most beautiful cities of our fair land. Nature has so designed. Then with the assistance of thousands of willing hands, who would dare say that Salt Lake will not take high rank?

Utah's capital will always be a business center. Location and prestige bring business. Being a central point between Denver and the Pacific it is natural that business should be here centered. It is doubtful if any of Salt Lake's sister cities will be able to regain the handicap missed out

by her. Her growth during the past 10 years has been almost beyond expectation of those most interested. With the present rate of progress and the wealth in her possession, the next 10 years may reveal even more pleasant surprises. The new buildings of the residence districts speak of the progress being made. These buildings would not be constructed were it not for the influx of people from all parts of the land. People are making their homes in Salt Lake because of the work afforded and the money which is being put into circulation by those who have faith in her progress and future.

#### CONFIDENCE ESSENTIAL.

Considering the amount of good being done to the people of the city the question may be asked, "Is Salt Lake doing all she can do for all sections of the country?" This question is worthy of discussion. It is a matter of fact that in the past too much attention has been given to individual interests in Salt Lake. The fact that the sister cities in the state tend to build up the capital has been forgotten. Boosting organizations have used methods in favor of Salt Lake at the expense of the smaller towns and these have felt the discrimination.

The Merchants and Manufacturers' association has done much to overcome this feeling. Every boosting trip taken by this organization has assisted in giving confidence to Salt Lake's sister cities. In newspaper reports and in general affairs better feelings would be evident if the smaller cities of the state were given more attention and the fact held clearly that the capital is but one part of resourceful Utah.

#### THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

In the progression of Salt Lake City, the Commercial club stands as a central figure. It is an organization of strength and accomplishment of purpose. Its work in the past has been for Salt Lake almost exclusively and yet much of the membership is made up of outside people. Viewing this from an outside view point, it really appears that this splendid organization could do more for the progress of outside towns. The suggestion that the Salt Lake Commercial club join with like organizations of the state is a splendid one and the good to be derived for Utah would be hard to estimate. A better feeling would be accomplished between the leading men of the state. A better understanding would be reached. Salt Lake would receive a benefit from this accomplishment and the outside towns would be assisted by men who really possess a unity of making cities progress.

#### UNITY IS NEEDED.

The secret of the future progression of Utah and Salt Lake City, may be said to depend on the unity of the people. It can be truthfully said that the people of Salt Lake have reached their acme in this regard. Internal strife by factions is the retarding feature of the capital and the sooner this matter is settled the sooner Salt Lake will reach the point which her supporters are aiming for. The dark pictures of imaginary conditions painted by the press does the city no good. The contentions of office seekers of all factions do not aid progress; if arbitrary rule could settle the misunderstandings of the factions in Salt Lake City, it would take but a few months before the pace of progression would be increased.

The same rules may be applied to the conditions existing between Salt Lake and the smaller cities of the state. The success of any Utah town means much to the business affairs of the capital. Salt Lake is benefited by the growth of any city. Sufficient reason may be found in this fact to call for the best interests of Salt Lake in be half of a better understanding between the capital and her sister towns. United work is the forerunner of the state's advancement. No disports is the secret of progress.

Provo is interested in the welfare of Salt Lake City. The two cities are but a short distance apart. The success of either should be in harmony with the wishes of the people. With the exception of Salt Lake there is no town in the state that is more in the line of progression than Provo. She is growing at a wonderful rate. Improvements are evident in every hand and at the present rate of increase her population will have doubled within five years. Her people are prospering and with prosperity comes the improvements which make a city beautiful.

Provo greets Salt Lake City and assures her that she is interested in her and trusts that progression will always find both cities in her ranks. Unity means success for both cities.