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# THE STRAWBERRY VALLEY IRRIGATION PROJECT UTAH



*Issued by*

THE STRAWBERRY VALLEY WATER USERS' ASSOCIATION  
SPANISH FORK, UTAH

*Compiled by* A. F. ENGBERG



"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,  
And back of the flour the mill;  
And back of the mill is the wheat and the flour,  
And the sun, and the Father's will."





# Foreword



THE completion, in 1913, of the Strawberry Valley Irrigation project, now under construction by the Government Reclamation Service, is attracting the attention of people from all parts of the United States, particularly the class who are interested in the possibilities and the development of farming and fruit raising by irrigation. The result of this interest has been a flood of inquirers for information, and the object of this booklet is to supply the facts without any overdrawn or highly-colored stories.

The results of irrigation in this locality are too well known to make it necessary to enter into a lengthy essay covering the boundless possibilities. There is a demand for diversified farming in Utah Valley; for the development of idle lands; for the increase of producers and consumers, the growers of things the towns and mining camps must have, and the buyers of things the merchants must sell; and it all falls in with the extensive work of scientific irrigation.

In this valley where formerly stretched the gray desolation of sage brush the rose is blooming, and all that has been accomplished in the way of putting Nature's bloom on these regions where the moisture has been insufficient, is small compared with what is under way and will come into realization. The reclamation hose will soon be turned on.

To all classes of ambitious men the cities of Spanish Fork and Payson and the towns of Salem, Mapleton, Benjamin, Lake Shore, Leland, Palmyra and the vast outlying country under this project offers a field for energy. The rewards are certain and commensurate with skill and application.

All statements have been approved by a committee appointed by the Strawberry Valley Water Users' Association. The information, the illustrations and the designing of this booklet is the work of A. F. Engberg, Spanish Fork, Utah.

## A BIT OF HISTORY



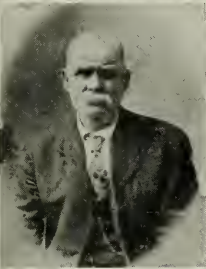
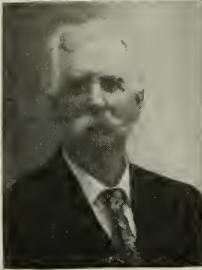
THE Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project was born in 1902. Its mother was Necessity. More than 60,000 acres of fruit and flower land in Utah Valley was thirsty. The farmers and owners of fertile bench land were severely handicapped and the owners of bottom land, skirting Utah Lake for miles inland on the east and south, had a very inadequate supply of water from Spanish Fork River. The fact that crops of nearly every nature could be harvested to a profit under these conditions led the tillers of the soil to fathom out a system of irrigation more voluminous and persistent than was ever realized from their dependence upon the rainfall.

Probably the officials of the Spanish Fork East Bench Irrigation and Manufacturing Company were the first to investigate the matter of diverting unused waters. They met with unsurmountable obstacles and discouragement at every turn. There were private ownerships of water to contend with and there were State regulations which prohibited the impounding of water in the feasible localities. The first bit of success attending the researches of this sturdy company was the diversion of water from White River into the Spanish Fork River channel, 1896.

In August, 1902, State Senator Henry Gardner, Heber C. Jex, (then Mayor of Spanish Fork), James S. McBeth and other citizens



Forebay on Power Canal, Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project.

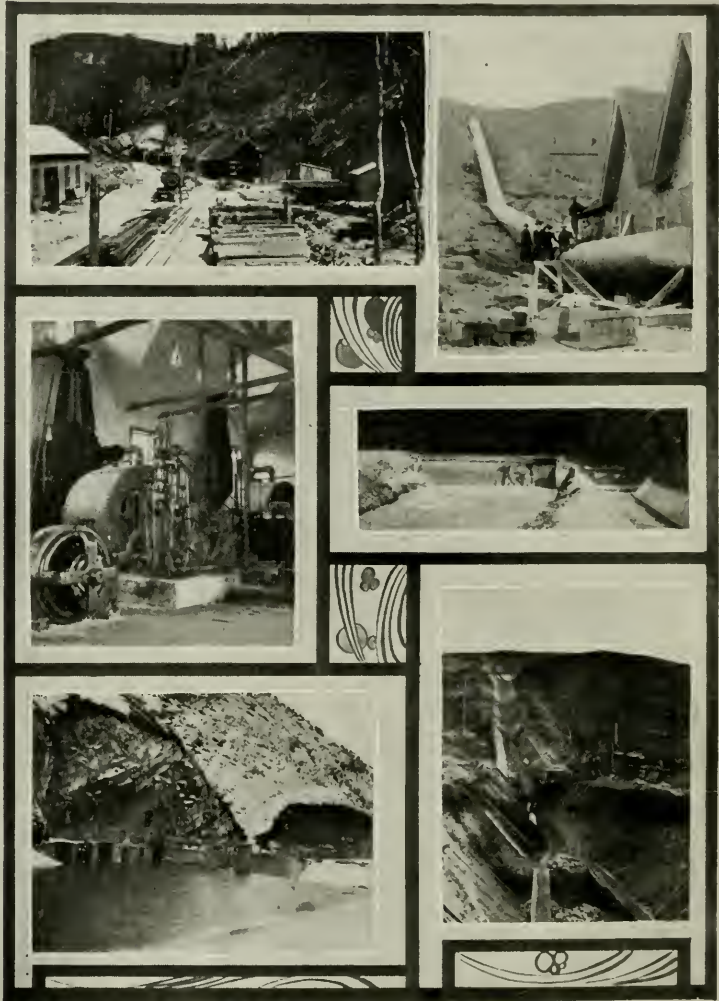


**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS STRAWBERRY VALLEY WATER  
USERS ASSOCIATION**

Roger Creer, Sec.	Jas. S. McBeth, Pres.	Jas. M. Creer, V.-Pres.
Lars Nielsen.	Win. T. Tew.	Heber C. Jex.
E. B. K. Ferguson.	Henry Sabin.	Hyrum Lemon.

of Payson, A. T. Money, Theodore Dedrickson, E. B. K. Ferguson and Fred Matley of Spanish Fork, went into the Strawberry Valley with a view of investigating the possibility of tapping the vast basin.

Mayor Heber C. Jex had secured the services of Engineer Frank C. Kelsey, who made a preliminary survey, and upon his report to the committee the water was then filed on and appropriated.



Group of Scenes Showing Various Constructions, Strawberry Valley



East Portal Power Plant Tunnel No. 1, Strawberry Project.

Work was begun by a company of private citizens, who continued at it for a period of eighteen months. In 1904 a committee appointed from the beneficiaries under the project made an appeal to the United States Government for aid. The matter of piercing the rim of the great Strawberry Basin, a distance of approximately four miles, and the construction of a dam across Strawberry River, forty-five feet high, was no small undertaking. Through the unceasing efforts of U. S. Senator Reed Smoot and George Sutherland, and the investigations of Government engineers, the reclamation authorities became interested, and accordingly surveys were made and the project found feasible. Application was made to the Secretary of the Interior for permission to locate a reservoir in Strawberry Valley, which was granted. From here the plan took definite form and the successful completion of the work was practically assured.

The Strawberry Valley Water Users' Association was now incorporated under the laws of the State of Utah with a capital stock of 50,000 shares. A contract was executed and forwarded to the chief engineer of the Reclamation Service and the effect of it is that the United States Government has the work under headway and will complete it.

And now, in the pages following, are facts, as we see them, and illustrations. Every statement has been carefully verified. The effort has been extreme conservatism in presenting the advantages of this region.

## THE PROJECT



J. L. Lytel, Project Engineer.  
U. S. R. S.

THE Strawberry Valley Project contemplates the irrigation of 60,000 acres of mesa and bottom land lying about sixty miles south of Salt Lake City on the east and south shores of Utah Lake. The project consists of a large storage basin in which it will be possible to impound 110,000 acre-feet of water. The reservoir, covering an area of 6,000 acres, is designed to catch and store for irrigation purposes the waters of Strawberry River and Indian Creek. Adjacent to these larger streams are dozens of smaller tributaries,

which empty into the waterways. The construction of a dam forty-five feet high across Strawberry River on the east side of the valley will result in the creation of a veritable sea in the tops of the Wasatch range of mountains about thirty-eight miles east of Spanish Fork, Utah.

The construction of the Strawberry Tunnel, 7,500 feet above sea level, on the west rim of the valley, is undoubtedly the most beautiful piece of engineering the Reclamation Service has ever undertaken. In magnitude it is second only to the giant bore now completed from the brink of the Gunnison River, in Colorado.

The Strawberry Tunnel is 19,000 feet in length, with a capacity of 500 second-feet, by which the water is conveyed through the rim of the great basin into a tributary of Spanish Fork River, from which it is diverted into the canals by a concrete diversion dam and head-works.

In the summer time, the work of tunneling is carried on without particular difficulty, but in the winter the storms are heavy at this height, and the snow is driven about by the blast and settles deeply on the mountains, rendering operations



State Senator Henry Gardner.

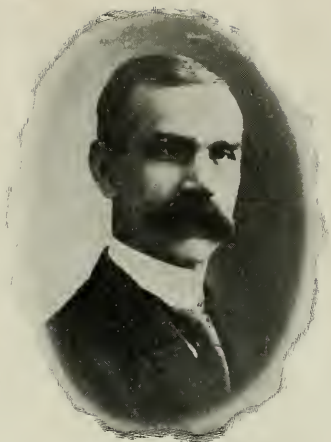


extremely difficult. The snow-fall on the watershed during the winter of 1908, as shown by measurements made in the snow-boxes prescribed by the United States Weather bureau, was 272 inches.

It will be approximately four years before the Strawberry Tunnel is completed, as it can be driven from the two ends only. The depth from the top of the mountain to the line of the tunnel is so great that shafts cannot be sunk profitably to form intermediate headings. The concrete-lined section of the tunnel is about sixty square feet in area, or six and one-half by seven and one-half feet, with arched roof.

There is now excavated and timbered at the west portal about 4,000 linear feet.

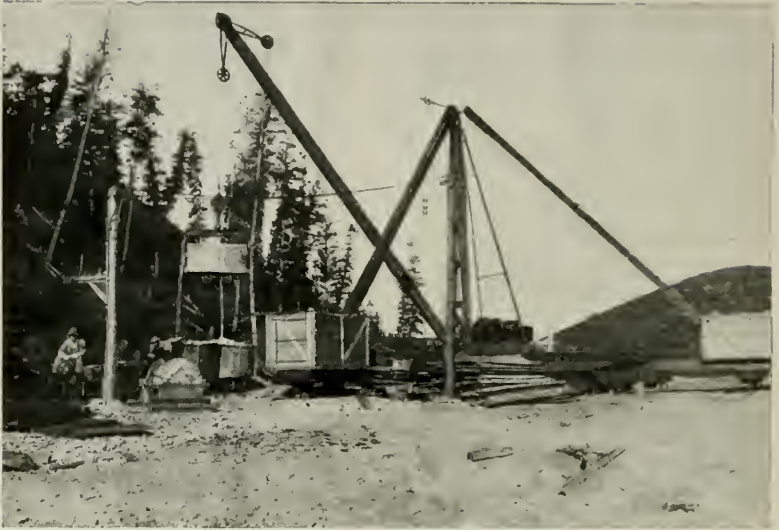
As a primary step in the construction of the project, a wagon road thirty-two miles long, cut out of wild mountain defiles, sometimes out of solid rock, has been constructed from the D. & R. G. Railroad by way of the west portal of the tunnel to the Strawberry Reservoir site. It is hardly doing justice to the engineers to use the term "wagon road," it is a veritable boulevard, constructed and



U. S. Senator Reed Smoot.



Water Shed, West Portal Strawberry Tunnel.



Unloading a Muck Train, West Portal Strawberry Tunnel.

maintained along lines far above the average road-builder's capacity. The Government is working the poll tax, and there are no chucks nor cobble-stones to contend with. Where formerly impossible fords were there are now reliable bridges. The transportation of ponderous machinery to the elevation of nearly 9,000 feet has not been underestimated by the Service.

A telephone line thirty-eight miles long, connected with the Utah Independent Telephone Company from Spanish Fork to all the prominent features of the project is a worthy factor. This line will be used during the period of construction of the project and afterwards in connection with the operation and maintenance.

Running almost parallel with the telephone line is a power transmission line from the power house in Spanish Fork Canyon to the west portal of the Strawberry Tunnel, a distance of thirty miles.

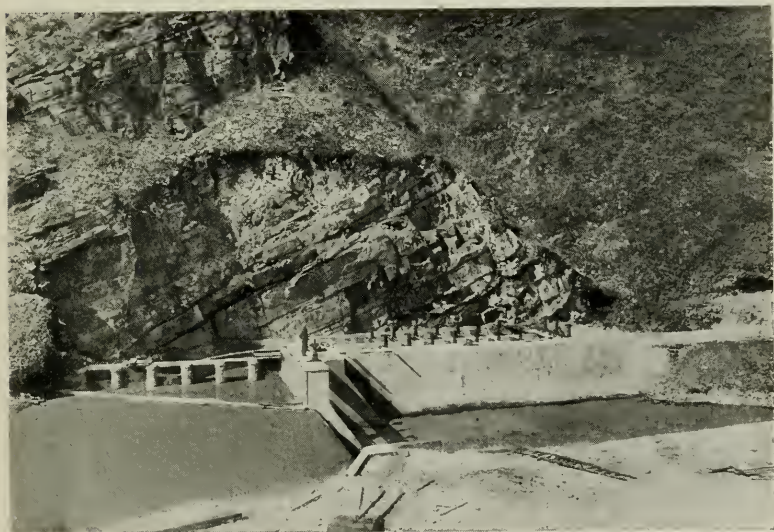
The concrete diversion dam, sixteen feet high by seventy feet long, on Spanish Fork River, has been completed, together with three miles of power canal, 8,000 feet of which is lined with concrete. There are 1,500 feet of tunnel on the canal, which has a capacity of 500 cubic feet per second from the diversion dam to the power house, where one-half of the water will be dropped 160 feet through the wheels of the power plant and the remaining 250 cubic feet will be turned into the High Line Canal.

The Hydro-Electric Power Plant, lying just east of Spanish Fork, is now in operation. It is a fine model of modern electrical construction. The power house contains two 450-Kilowatt generators;

two 600-horsepower turbine water wheels, together with excitors and accessories. At the present time a portion of the power is being used to drive the Strawberry Tunnel. It will also be applied for pumping water for irrigation purposes and lighting the towns under the project. Spanish Fork City has just completed a contract with the United States Reclamation Service for the dissemination of electrical power, and the probabilities are that it will be delivered within two or three months. The power will eventually be handed over to the Strawberry Valley Water Users' Association.

The construction of the dam on the Strawberry River will be commenced as soon as the excavating of the tunnel is well advanced. The east portal will be opened in due time, the intention being to arrange the work on the tunnel and the reservoir in such a way that they will both be completed at approximately the same period.

Before a dollar was expended or a cubic foot of concrete was laid, the water supply was fully examined by Government engineers and the title to the water carefully investigated by Government attorneys. Therefore, with works of the character that the Reclamation Service has constructed here, and, an ample and certain water supply, the farmer under the Strawberry Project can plant and know what the harvest will be. A good portion of the land has a water right sufficient for spring irrigation, a system of ditches and sub-laterals has been constructed covering a large part of the valley. Some of the ditches have been in service since 1852. The old Salem Canal was built in 1869. These old conveyers of water, with a few



Headgates, Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project.



Power Plant, Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project.

improvements, will be of considerable value to the project when the additional water supply is turned in. The duty of the water under the Strawberry Project will be one cubic foot per second at the head-gates for every eighty acres of land irrigated.

With streams on every hand, intense cultivation becomes an immediate possibility. Land and water thus brought into wedlock, and nurtured and encouraged by intelligent labor, a homestead in this valley will quickly become a priceless heritage. About forty miles of new distributing canals, with necessary turn-outs and laterals, will soon be consummated.

As a subsidiary, artesian wells can be developed in the vicinity of the cities and towns without particular difficulty. A good domestic water supply can be secured on almost any part of the project by sinking a well from fifteen to sixty feet. Although natural rain precipitation, an annual average of eighteen inches, renders the employment of irrigation methods on certain bottom land practically unnecessary, every opportunity is here afforded for the independent building of such well systems whenever they are deemed desirable and beneficial.

Crop failure will therefore become impossible, while drouths, floods, cyclones and kindred visitations are unknown.

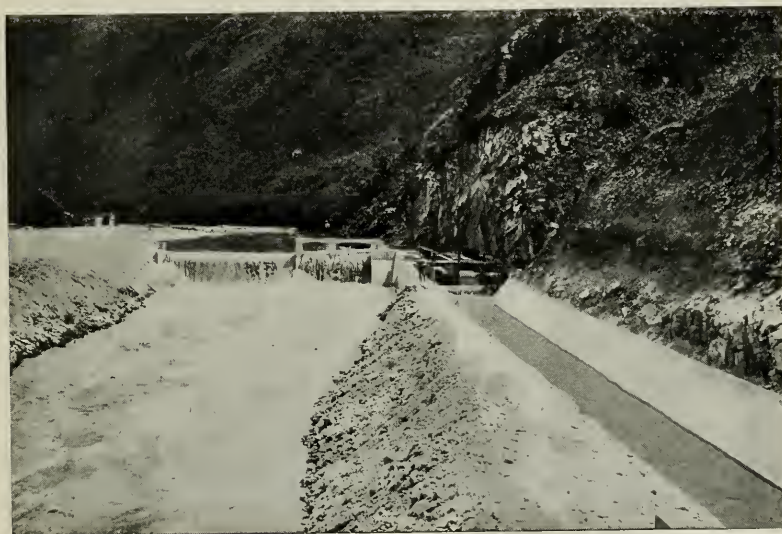
## CLIMATE

The climate in Utah Valley is everything that can be desired in a temperate zone. It is so equable, balmy and altogether delight-

ful that the truth concerning this subject cannot help but have a taint of exaggeration. Owing, probably to the high altitude, the heat of summer is not oppressive, but the long summers are necessary for the best maturing of crops. This country is devoid of the dreary rainy season. The mountains to the east, west, north and south protect the valley from severe storms. No snow during the past winter survived one day of sunshine, and many similar winters pass without a day of sleighing. The thermometer goes but a few points below freezing and, in the summer, the maximum temperature is about 90 degrees. The evenings are always cool.

While no particular climate will satisfy all natures, there are places where the vast majority can be contented. That place where Nature can have a rest for a few months in the year and thus be invigorated for the efforts of the coming season will produce the most abundant crops and the finest flavored fruits. Plowing is often begun in February and the crops are well advanced when the early rains arrive. There is hardly any rain between the months of June and September, but the June sun starts the melting snows in the mountains on their downward course through the valley, and the one objection to an overabundance of sunshine is removed.

Eastern men and women, without exception, become immediately enthusiastic over the weather question in Utah Valley. The one way to avert misunderstanding is to invite the reader to see for himself.



Power Canal and Diversion Dam, Spanish Fork River, Strawberry Project.



Sugar Beet Field, Lake Shore, Utah

## THE QUALIFICATION OF SOILS



As shown by the map on the inside of the back cover of this booklet, the elevation of the land to be irrigated is between 4,500 and 4,800 feet. The area of mesa land and the area of bottom land is about equally divided. The soil of what is known as the "Lower Valley," lying directly below Spanish Fork, Salem and Payson City, is a black, sandy loam, going down from five to fifteen feet. Under this is a stratum of sand and gravel through which flows an inexhaustible stream of pure water. This low-land soil is extremely fertile, easily worked, and retains moisture remarkably well. With proper cultivation, garden truck will grow for weeks without either rain or irrigation.

The soil in the mesa fruit belt is a sandy loam with gravel, and bids fair to rival the Colorado fruit districts as soon as ample water supply is provided. Local conditions, the climate, soil protection from severe frosts and icy, cold winds, moderate altitude, abundant sunshine, moisture at proper time, give fruit flavor, texture, color and keeping qualities that are unsurpassed.

At present tens of thousands of young peach trees are planted on the high lands under the Strawberry Project. The peaches of Utah Valley are at the top. Their delicious flavor and richness of color, their shipping qualities, places Utah Valley peaches above

competition. The Elbertas, late Crawfords and the Wheatland types grow to an enormous size and always bring the highest price.

It is hardly necessary to go into detail regarding the productiveness of other classes of fruits in Utah Valley soils. Apples, nectarines, plums, prunes, pears, apricots, cherries, cantaloupes, watermelons and all types of berries grow to perfection.

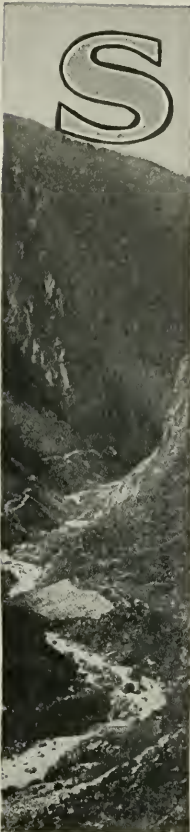
It is fortunate that three great staple products sugar beets, alfalfa and barley have a natural market. These have become universal crops in the vicinity, and any man with a piece of irrigated land can do well without growing anything else.

**ALFALFA.**—The story of alfalfa is one of the oldest and most often told. It is always a tale with a golden sequel for the farmer. Utah Valley is the home of this forage crop with its tender growth of small stalk and an abundance of leaves. The rank, woody hay of Eastern states is unknown here. From five to seven tons per acre is the annual average. During the fall of 1908, hay was sold for from \$7.00 to \$9.00 per ton in the stack. In February, March and April, 1909, baled alfalfa was selling in Spanish Fork at \$15.00 to \$18.00 per ton. Alfalfa is the greatest all-round crop of the valley, it is attended with a minimum of labor, is constantly enriching the soil and is as sure as anything can be.

**GRAINS.**—The wheat crop on irrigated soil yields from forty to fifty bushels to the acre, and on dry land, depending entirely upon the rainfall, ten to twenty bushels is a modest estimate. Barley and oats yield from sixty-five to one hundred bushels per acre. During the fall of 1908, more than 300,000 bushels of barley was shipped from this district to Eastern and Western markets, bringing from \$1.05 to \$1.10 per cwt., loaded on the cars. A sample of barley grown by A. W. Johnson of Spanish Fork received highest award at the Fifteenth National Irrigation Congress held at Sacramento, Cal., 1905.



Utah-Idaho Sugar Company's Auxiliary Plant, Spanish Fork.



**SUGAR BEETS.**—Sugar beets hold, and will always do so, an important place in the agricultural development of this section. The soil is especially adapted to their culture. Tests for sugar show a very high percentage, and this with the established fact that a large tonnage per acre could be obtained led to the establishment of the great Lehi Sugar Factory, also the building of two auxiliary plants of massive dimensions in the very heart of the land under the Strawberry Project. One of these factories is situated one mile to the west of Spanish Fork, the other lies four miles to the northeast. The farmer does not have to ship his beets to a distant market, he simply hauls them to the nearest factory and gets his money. Freight rates cannot take away the profits.

Even the residue, the pulp, is not wasted. There is nothing better to fatten stock with, and the farmer is willing to buy it back at a reasonable figure. About all that is involved is the work of hauling. In connection with the plants near Spanish Fork, large feed yards are established. Thousands of cattle were fed in these yards last winter.

It can be truthfully said that there is hardly another industry applicable to a rural community that brings a benefit to the farmers and to the city near where it may be located as great as that resulting from a beet sugar plant. It must employ a large number of operatives, who, with their families, aid the cities themselves in no small way; but its greatest work is in putting money into the hands of the producers. It opens for them a market for a staple product for which it will always pay good prices. Even where all material and help must be paid for the soil under the Strawberry Project pays a good dividend.

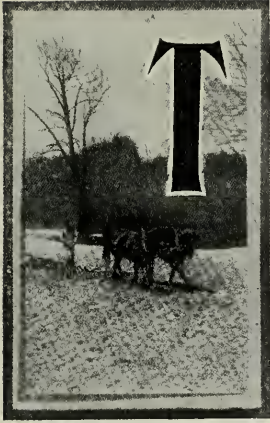
The present sugar beet acreage in this vicinity is 3,000. The respective division of acreage is 2,000 for Spanish Fork, 700 for Payson and 300 for Salem. Fifteen tons per acre is the average crop, but in many instances an acre will yield twenty-two tons. The price to grow a crop, hiring all help, is as follows:

Seed and planting, per acre.....	\$ 2.75
Thinning, per acre, .....	4.50
Two hoeings, per acre, .....	5.00
Three cultivations, per acre.....	1.50
Three to four irrigations, per acre....	1.50
Topping, per acre, .....	7.00
Hauling, per acre, .....	10.50
	\$32.75
Total . . . . .	\$32.75
VALUE OF CROP, 15 tons per acre.....	\$71.25
EXPENSE . . . . .	\$32.75
NET GAIN per acre .....	\$38.50

There are many examples that can be cited where net profits to the grower exceed \$50.00 per acre.



## MARKETS



THE most helpful feature of all is the market outlook, and this fact, of all, is the most important. There is probably no other agricultural district in the United States where a more natural and permanent outlet is at hand than the lands under the Strawberry Irrigation Project. The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad and the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad traverse the valley east, west, north and south. These lines reach Nevada and California points; the northwestern coast and the eastern markets.

Utah Valley barley is disseminated in every direction, and a larger quantity of this product is shipped from the vicinity of Spanish Fork and Payson than all the remainder of Utah grain districts combined. Three hundred thousand bushels is our modest record for 1908.

The local sugar beet market, and the hay and grain market is an established certainty at highest valuations. The fruit and vegetable demands are always a great deal in excess of the supply, and this mainly on account of the close proximity to the greatest mining districts in the west. The great Tintic mineral belt, encompassing the cities of Eureka, Mammoth and Silver City, lies just thirty miles to the west. Directly to the east and southeast, thirty to forty miles, are the world-celebrated coal mines, Castle Gate, Scofield, Winter Quarters and Sunnyside. Forty miles to the northeast is the gold and silver camp, Park City, and over to the northwest, the same distance, we have the copper mines of Bingham and Mercur. Salt Lake City is located sixty miles due north.

From this it can be plainly seen that Utah Valley is in the very heart of markets that are easily attainable, the mining market, furthermore, is the highest priced market known. A great many growers of garden truck save transportation charges by hauling their produce to the mining camps with teams, the produce is jobbed to the retailers for spot cash. Others go into the business of hauling and peddling these goods for profit, they also buy the eggs, poultry, veal, mutton and beef. The trips are easily made because the wagon roads are well built and are passable every day of the year.

The growth of the towns within the Strawberry Project will constantly increase the demand. With necessary labor applied, all crops will bring profit. It may be stated that there will be no results without effort. The soil will not yield big returns here without being properly worked, any more than it will elsewhere, and the sweat of one's brow is the price of a bank account. The soil will respond with gratifying liberality, though, to the hand of the energetic tiller.

The sheep and cattle industry is carried on under an extensive and profitable system, the hills and mountains supply an almost unlimited area for summer grazing, and in the winter thousands of cattle are brought down into the valley and fed, thus enabling the farmers to get the best prices for their hay.



Main Street, Spanish Fork, Utah.



Wheat Field Near Mapleton, Utah.



Main Street, Spanish Fork, Utah.



Wheat Field Near Mapleton, Utah.



A Group of Spanish Fork Residences

## CITIES AND TOWNS UNDER THE PROJECT SPANISH FORK



PANISH Fork is a city of over 4,000 population. It is the largest city and most important trade center under the Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project. Beautifully situated in the arm of Spanish Fork River to the south, and Utah Lake to the north, it commands a view singularly varied and interesting—a plateau rising gradually from the north meadows to an altitude of 4,700 feet, and a slightly undulating garden of fruit and flowers sweeping westward for ten miles. To the east and south are mesa lands covered with grain, alfalfa, vegetable tracts and peach orchards sheltered by the walls of mighty mountains. This city is located on the main line, and the Tintic branch of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, also the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Route, which extends to Southern Utah markets and the Pacific Coast. The tributary agricultural and commercial industries of Spanish Fork encompass an area of 40,000 acres, and it can be

truthfully said that this city, at the present time, is the trading and shipping point for more than 8,000 people. At a conservative figuration the population will reach 25,000 within another decade.

A conspicuous feature of the city is large, finely-appointed stores, which suggest a metropolitan patronage. The retail houses seem out of all proportion to the visible population; yet all conduct a thriving business and expand in scope from year to year. The growth of Spanish Fork's commercial importance is marked by the development of her jobbing and manufacturing interests. A few years ago there were no establishments of the kind that might be considered material contributors to the city's volume of business. Today there are twenty-nine jobbing and retail houses and a number of thriving factories. Cheap electrical power and water rates will unquestionably create here a great industrial and distributing center.

The Spanish Fork Cannery is one of the largest and best-equipped plants of its kind in Utah, and the products of this factory are in great demand everywhere. The two massive sugar beet plants are also in close proximity. There are two large flour mills, a shoe factory, involving an investment of \$10,000; a foundry, two harness shops, one bakery, and the auxiliary creamery of David Hone & Son. This institution pays out an average of \$2,000 each month for milk.

Spanish Fork is one of the wealthiest cities per capita in this section of the country. Her two banks have resources of over \$350,000, and an equal distribution of their deposits would give to every man, woman and child in the city \$100.

Where wealth and general prosperity prevail are usually found good schools, good churches and the refinements. Spanish Fork's school buildings represent a valuation of \$65,000, and one is now under construction at a cost of \$32,000. These schools are modern and sanitary. There are twenty-two teachers, who are paid from \$65.00 to \$75.00 per month in the grades, and only competent teachers



City Pavilion, Spanish Fork, Utah.



Street Scenes, Mills and Factories, Spanish Fork, Utah.

are employed. Principals receive from \$90.00 to \$125.00 per month. The present school enrollment is 1,300. The high school gives a two years' course and has an enrollment of eighty students.

The churches represent the various denominations and are influential in the life of the city. The aggregate valuation of church properties will exceed \$100,000, and this has been a potent factor in attracting a high class of citizens and in causing it to become the residence place of good people from all parts of the world.

Most of the business blocks and residences are of brick and brownstone. The streets are broad and level, with concrete sidewalks and trees on either side. Spanish Fork has completed a fine water-works system at a cost of \$35,000. This supplies the city with the purest mountain water for domestic and fire extinguishing purposes. Spanish Fork will be the best electric lighted city in Utah Valley as soon as necessary constructions are completed. Wiring is now under headway and the power will be supplied from the Government Power House in Spanish Fork Canyon.

The natural attractiveness of mountain scenery, and the many places of amusement has probably advertised this locality more than any other single feature. The theatres and particularly the two beautiful dancing pavilions, one of which has the largest white maple spring floor in the state, draws crowds from all the neighboring towns. The Spanish Fork Fair Grounds and Race Track is considered one of the best in the west. To the north lies beautiful Utah Lake covering an area of fifteen by forty miles, where boating and fishing is free for all. No country in the world affords better trout fishing or big game hunting than is accessible within a day's travel

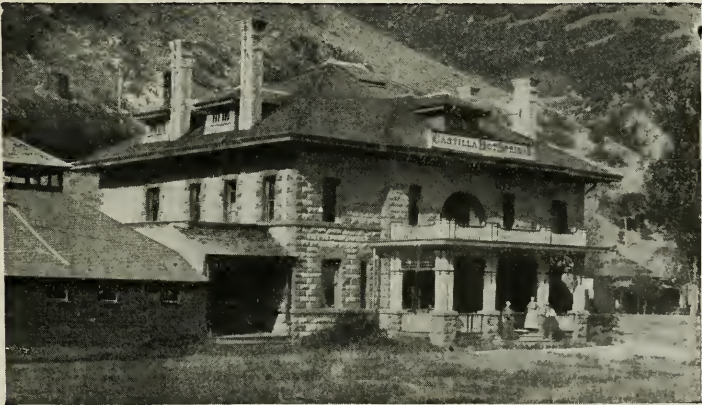


to the citizens of Spanish Fork. The Strawberry Valley, Diamond Creek and Spanish Fork River are known to fishermen the world over, and hunters have traveled thousands of miles to shoot deer, grizzly bear, mountain lion, wild cat, and other denizens of the Wasatch Mountains.

## CASTILLA HOT SPRINGS

**T**HIS beautiful Utah resort is located in a vast meadow, set high above the level of the valley and surrounded by the mighty mountains. It is on the main line of the D. & R. G. Railroad, eight miles east of Spanish Fork and fifty miles southeast of Salt Lake City. The panorama of mountain peaks, whose majestic grandeur is not excelled on this continent; the fine groupings of trees; the windings of Spanish Fork River, alive with speckled trout, through the meadow, and the great modern hotel; the cottages; the store and supply station; the dancing pavilion, and the baths draw pleasure-seekers, health-seekers, and naturalists all the way from Winnipeg to San Diego.

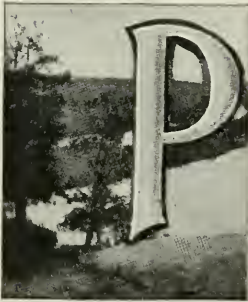
From the bowls of the northside mountain flows the eternal springs of boiling hot water with their health-giving and sanitary properties. Private baths and a swimming pool is at a uniform temperature every minute of the year. There is a lack of neither accommodation nor hospitality, and there is no end to the variety of amusement offered the sojourning guest.





Main Street, Payson, Utah.

## PAYSON



PAYSON is called the "Keystone City." It is beautifully located at the edge of the hills and extends over an area that nearly reaches the western mountain boundary, seven miles distant. To the north it looks down over the new fields and orchards, covering ten miles, to the brink of Utah Lake, which skirts the lower part of the tributary lands. Payson may well be likened to a vast garden, that will extend its area over many more thousands of richly-soiled acres when the flood from the government irrigation system pours over it.

This garden, spreading out between the majestic mountain ranges over whose tops the fleecy clouds of an almost perpetual spring float in the sunshine, like birds of soft plumage at play in the bowl of Heaven, gives invitation to the people of the world to come and make homes of delight and plenty for themselves. The invitation is meeting with response. This is a spot toward which thousands of pleased eyes are turned, where thousands of new people will soon be residing.

There are 20,000 acres of choice farming and fruit lands adjacent to the city. The developed and undeveloped natural resources insure the building of the largest town and most important industrial center in Utah Valley. The foothills and mountain regions surrounding Payson furnish ideal conditions for dairying, the heavy snows of the winter months producing rich grass on the summer range and



heavy yield of hay on the meadows for winter feeding, and springs of cool water bubble from every hillside, and streams of crystal purity wind over gravelly bottoms through every park and meadow.

There will thus remain, under any changes which may come, large, permanent industries, conducted on a large scale, and this will guarantee the general prosperity of the city. There is no objection to this kind of "high finance," and the ability to do things on the ranch or the stock range in a large way adds to the strength of a community. The grazing lands in the mountains surrounding the Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project are all included in National forests, and grazing rights of the farmer who has only a few head to put on the range is recognized as fully as those of the man who has a large number.

As an exemplification of public-spirited citizenship, Payson was the first city in the State of Utah to own and operate its own electric light and power plant. Four years ago this feature was considerably improved and modernized and it furnishes excellent day and night service at very reasonable rates. Cement paved sidewalks covering a distance of five miles have been constructed, and the water system is now under consideration.

The population of Payson is about 3,000. There are fifteen various business houses, one bank, four hotels, one weekly newspaper, a fine opera house, an elaborate dancing pavilion, the high school campus and baseball grounds.

There are fourteen public schools here with an aggregate enrollment of 900 pupils, and one high school with an enrollment of fifty students. Two denominational schools are also maintained by the Presbyterian and Methodist missions. The Peteeetneet public school of Payson is second to none in the State of Utah, this structure cost \$20,000.

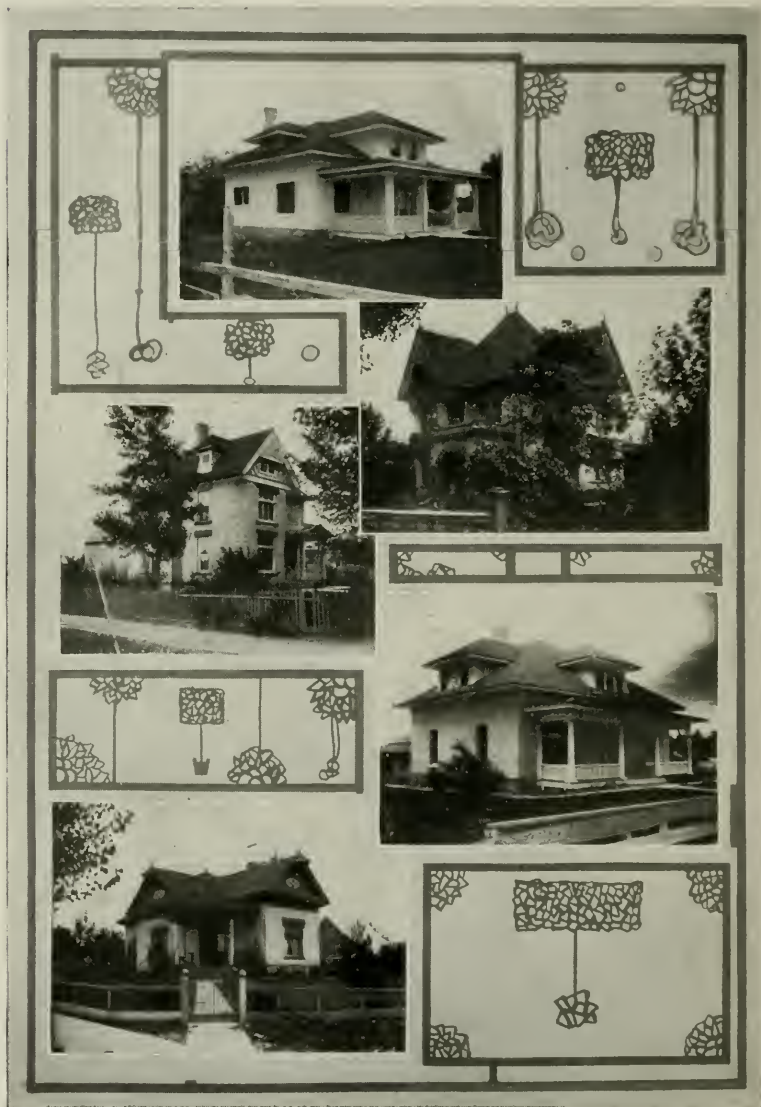
The Nebo Stake Tabernacle of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, erected at a cost of \$25,000, is located here, also



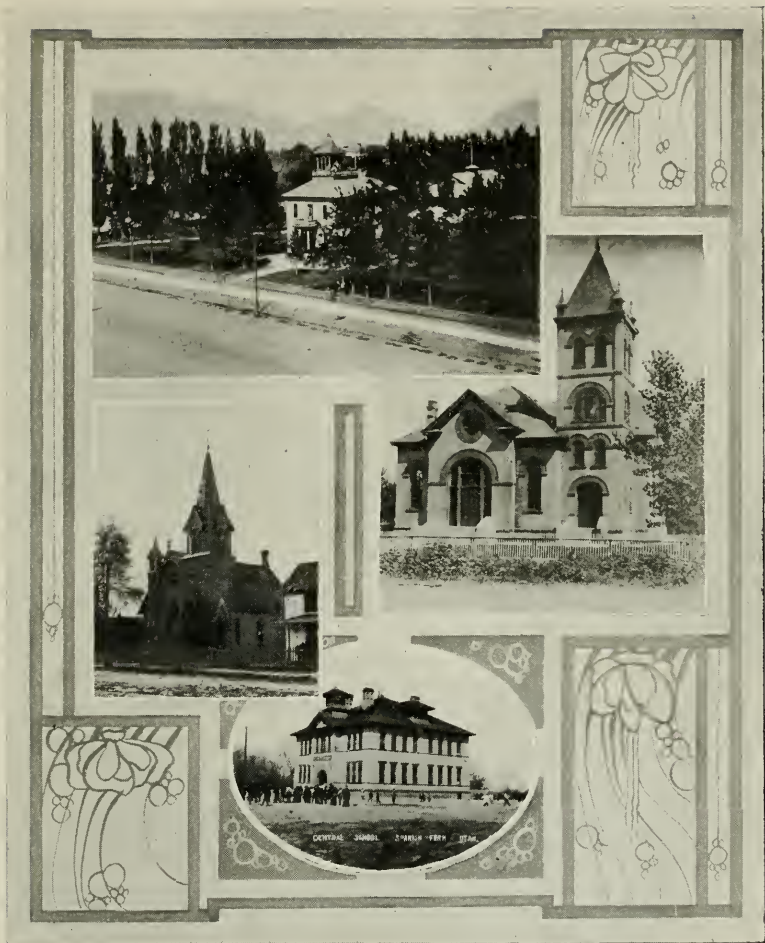
Peteetneet School, Payson, Utah.

the Illif Academy and Chapel under Methodist supervision. The Presbyterian church has a good following and full representation throughout the city.

The two railroads, the two telephone lines, and the Western Union telegraph service reaches the "Keystone City."



Group of Payson Residences.



Churches and Public Buildings, Spanish Fork, Utah.

## BENJAMIN AND LAKE SHORE

THESE towns are a product of the soil, lying to the west of Spanish Fork and north of Payson in the close vicinity of Utah Lake. A few years ago their barren acres lay waste and thirsting; today they are an example of productiveness to which irrigation promoters all over the West are pointing. These towns with their orchards and fields grew up together. Neither could well spare the other. They afford a home trading place for the fruit grower, the dairy-

man, the poultryman and the barley grower. The two railroads run parallel in close proximity to this fertile district, and the Leland sugar beet station is only two to four miles distant.

Stock raising and the dairy business is carried on extensively; this is probably from the fact that natural summer forage is always in evidence, and farm yards are stacked with richly-cured alfalfa for winter feed. It is no extravagant estimation to assert that \$30,000 worth of butter comes from this district annually. The creamery industries of David Hone & Son pay out the round sum of \$18,000 a year for milk, and the hundreds of private dairies are always unable to supply the local demands.

Benjamin is a pretty little town of 900 population. It has good buildings and substantial commercial industries. The schools and churches are far above the average, representing probably from \$20,000 to \$30,000 investment. The school census is 230.

The Lake Shore district is also well equipped with all that could be looked for in a suburban and scattered population. Their schools and churches are dotted all the way from Palmyra on the east to the shores of the lake on the west. This place is an ideal country for out-of-door sports. While the winter temperature is low enough to afford several weeks of ice skating, it is seldom too cool to render driving or riding enjoyable.



Public School, Benjamin, Utah.

## MAPLETON



MAPLETON is located in the central and north portion of what is known as Spanish Fork East Bench. The town proper is about due east of Springville, but covers such a wide area southward on the main line of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad that it could really be called a part of Spanish Fork City. It is a clean, well-built, prosperous, growing town, and is growing now more rapidly than ever. This growth is stimulated by the breaking up of large land holdings within its trade area and the purchasing of them by well-to-do, level-headed, permanent settlers, who prefer to pay \$65.00 to \$80.00 an acre for these sub-irrigated grain and fruit lands than one-fourth the price for so-called "cheap" lands "just as good." It is this class of settlers, who know a "hawk from a hand-saw" that settled and developed the country on this mesa fruit belt and have been the source of its growth and unusual prosperity. This East Bench coun-

try covers an area of about 10,000 acres, a good portion of which has been recently purchased by Eastern capitalists and is being planted with Elberta peach trees. The older orchards, which are now bearing, cannot be purchased for less than from \$200.00 to \$500.00 per acre. With the coming of the Strawberry Valley deluge, buyers of undeveloped tracts can quadruple their money within four years.

There are, at present, hundreds of developed orchards in Mapleton, and each year there is gathered and shipped car after car of peaches, apples, and cherries, of plums, of prunes, of apricots—and of other things that are not the product of orchards, but of gardens and fields, as strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, loganberries, melons, cantaloupes, vegetables, grains, hay and sugar beets.

Mapleton has good schools and churches and exceptionally high social standards. It has attracted the intellectual classes more liberally than most western towns, owing, doubtless, to the character of the men who inspired its being. It is said that few places of the same population, east or west, have so many literate men, women and children as Mapleton.

**S**PRINGVILLE is a junction on the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, situated six miles northeast of Spanish Fork. Its population is about 2,500. This city in connection with Mapleton bids fair to be the main distributing point for lands on the east bench under the Strawberry Project. It is thriving on present resources and future certainties. Like all central points in regions that are to suddenly become unusually productive, it is the object of attention of people who desire the profits of rapid urban growth and is already beginning to feel the influence of the water that is to come. It has excellent hotel accommodations and modern mercantile establishments and other business institutions. Many carloads of alfalfa, fruit, stock and other products are sent out of this city of gardens.

## SANTAQUIN

**N**OT so extensive and no less productive is the country six miles to the south of Payson. This is Santaquin—named after a famous Ute Indian chief. It is less densely populated than the more northerly regions, but has very fertile lands to the south under the Strawberry Project, and about as favorably located with reference to transportation, being quite close to the two railroads. Santaquin is an educational center, as is evidenced by her fine schools and church organizations. The town has a population of 1,000.

The mountains back of Payson and Santaquin are enormously rich in the precious and the baser metals and minerals. These riches lie almost untouched at their doors—not because wealth and enterprise is lacking in these cities, but because the opportunities so vastly outnumber the people who are able to avail themselves of natural resources.

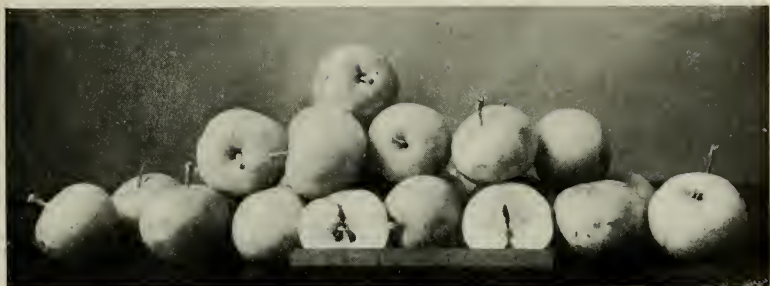
At present there are several incorporated mining companies steadily at work, and the prospects are very encouraging. An electric power plant is now under construction by Jesse Knight & Sons in close proximity to Santaquin, and is designed to furnish power for the Knight mining interests extending to the Tintic district twenty-five miles distant.

## SALEM

Salem is a beautiful little town lying four miles South of Spanish Fork and three miles East of Payson. It is the home of cantaloupes, berries and early vegetables. The fertility of the soil in this little lowland hamlet is said to be unsurpassed by any other district in the United States. Nestling in the center of the town is



Salem Lake.



Early Harvest Apples, Spanish Fork, June, 1909.

Salem Lake, fed by ice cold springs and covering an area of about one-half square mile. The hills surrounding are covered with a mass of trees and green verdure and is the place where visitors enjoy the companionship of Mother Nature. Boating and fishing is the alluring factor of the lake, but from a useful standpoint, it can be said that nearly 500 acres of land are irrigated from its source—the irrigable water being under the control of a private incorporation.

The population of Salem is increasing rapidly and is nearly 1,000. The town has among its other fine buildings a \$6,000 town hall, a dancing pavilion, a hotel and a \$15,000 brick and brownstone public school, with an enrollment of 285 pupils. There are three general merchandise establishments, one drug store and a creamery.

The lands in and about Salem under the Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project amounts to 20,000 acres, probably the bulk of this is in the uplands to the east and south and will compare equally with all other mesa soils in the production of fruits.

To the business man, the manufacturer and the agriculturist Salem extends an invitation to come and aid and join in the profits of its resources and prosperity. Here you will find a wide-awake, hustling population, who believe that with the strides their town is making that it will soon be the greatest of all the cities under the Strawberry Project. Salem has opportunities for all active people, its citizens say, and the man of small capital has excellent opportunity to make money there.



Public School, Salem, Utah

Town Hall, Salem, Utah



Public School, Marleton, Utah.

## THE PRICE OF LAND

It is almost hopeless to try to indicate land values and opportunities, yet the inquiry is a general one: "What is land worth?" The present indications point to a probable cost for the irrigation works now under construction by the Government of \$40.00 per acre, payable in ten annual installments without interest. This means that



Apiary of James S. McBeth, Payson, Utah.





Yellow Transparent Apples, Salem, Utah, June, 1909.

people who can acquire lands at reasonable prices can secure a water right from the Government, and in a few years be in possession of holdings which will represent values ranging from \$100.00 to \$500.00 per acre, according to the use to which the land is put. Concerning this statement there can be no argument. The present generations will exhaust every acre of free land in the United States, and when the immense population of the future looks around for homes it will find that they must be purchased of the people of



A Flock of Spanish Fork Sheep.

this generation who are wise enough to go in and possess the land. Not only this, but all subsistence must come from the land, and the farmer of today who sells his holdings cheaply, or who abandons his calling for the pursuits of professional or commercial life, is leaving a business which is just entering upon its true prosperity.

At present first class bench land, partly developed and improved having a flood water right, (that is sufficient water for one or two irrigations in the early spring), may be purchased for from \$50.00 to \$75.00 per acre, and first class bench or bottom land, fully improved with a good water right, may be purchased for from \$150.00 to \$250.00 per acre. The raw land on rolling hills and mountain sides can be had for from \$5.00 to \$15.00 per acre. Land values are now at their lowest under the Strawberry Valley Irrigation Project.

Wages for common labor is somewhat higher here than in the East, largely due to the scarcity of the past two or three years, and also to the vicinity of the mining camps and smelters. Common labor is now from \$2.50 to \$3.25 per day; ranch hands receive from \$30.00 to \$50.00 per month, according to the duties required of them and the locality.

Some money is loaned at 6 and 7 per cent, but 10 per cent may be had, and the usual rate on farm mortgages is 8 per cent.



## THE LURE OF IT ALL

To those of us who are here, the attractions are partly climatic, partly financial, partly sentimental. Here is comfort as compared with eastern conditions, exemptions from severe cold, from long rainstorms, from great atmospheric disturbances. Then, here is the attraction of room. We are not crowded. Over Utah Valley there is a thousand times more sky than spreads over any town, and we have a sense of fellowship with big things, with great areas, a sense of breadth and bounty in the plan of things around us.

Into great abiding natural conditions is coming the irrigation canal, and never missing the ancient promise: "Seed-time and harvest shall not fail."



