

Interesting Facts and Figures About the Land of Opportunity

IDAHO, THE GEM STATE

By M. S. PARKER

Eyes of the World Are Turned Toward a Favored Spot . . .

Perhaps no other section of the world at this time offers so much in the way of climate, people, and opportunity to better their condition, as the great northwestern section of the United States. Its climate is tempered by the soft and balmy winds that come over fresh from the Japan current. The arid portion is watered by mighty rivers which have their source far back in the interior mountains where moisture is gathered and stored in the great reservoirs of snow.

The heat of the delightful summers licks these reservoirs and their contents nourish the orchards and fields of grain and grass hundreds of miles distant. This section of the United States has drawn its population from the best and most progressive class of citizens in the East and Middle West. They have been empire-builders and have builded so well that every portion of the State offers its inhabitants comforts and luxuries often found in many other cities in other parts of the world. And after all nothing counts more for our happiness and well being than does the class of people among whom we cast our lot and make our homes. And in this great northwest empire there is great opportunity for advancement, Providence having richly endowed it with those things which make for the happiness and prosperity of man. In fact, the field is unlimited, the opportunities unnumbered, and while hoping to not appear boastful, I venture the assertion that Idaho is the cream of it all, and in this haven of plenty, this splendid inland empire, the onward marching army of the free is finding happiness, prosperity and contentment.

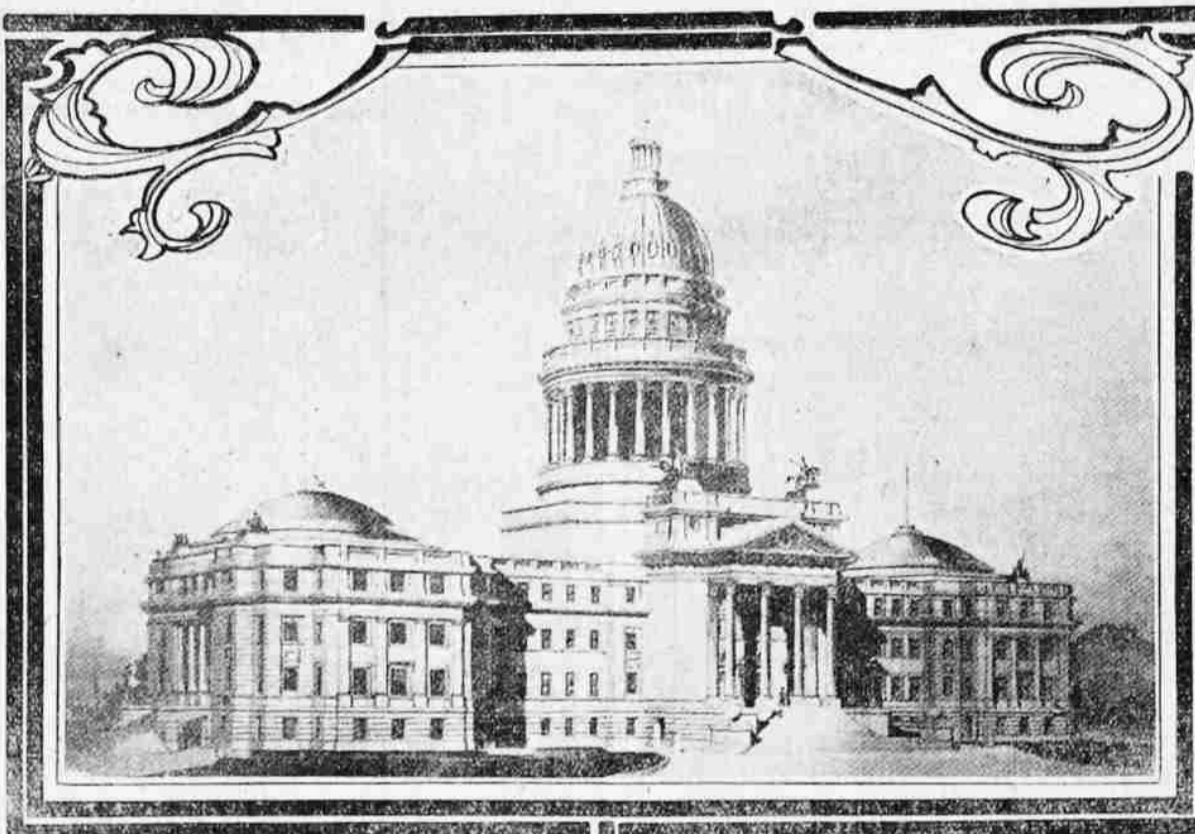
Wonderful Valley of Snake River. The great wave of population that settled Oregon and Washington so rapidly in the late '80's and '90's swept over Idaho and left it practically untouched, and the world is just beginning to realize the significant fact that the great Snake river valley is far richer than the valley of the Nile, and that its thousands of square miles of sage brush will, in future, maintain a population many times as great as would be possible to maintain on the same area in the Missouri or Ohio river valleys. And when they settle in this

ten. It is a fact that there are more hale and hearty old folks in Idaho today than in any other State of many times the population of the "Gem of the Mountains." The great Snake river valley of this State is divided into two parts, the upper and the lower. There is no natural, nor as yet artificial, line of demarcation between the two, but for the purpose of this article a line drawn north and south through the town of Minidoka on the main line of the Oregon Short Line railway will form the eastern boundary; from this line to the western end of the valley it is 240 miles, and the lower valley proper will average thirty miles in width, but this will include that part of the valley formed by the Owyhee and the Malheur rivers in eastern Oregon, making in all 4,608,000 acres of land. Of this there is probably a quarter of a million acres in Oregon, and this acreage does not include the lateral valleys, of which, on the south side of the Snake river, the principal are the Salmon, the Brunen, the Owyhee and the Malheur, and on the north side of the Snake the Big and Little Wood, the Boise, the Payette and the Weiser.

The soil of the lower Snake river valley is composed of lava ash and the erosion of lava rock mingled with vegetable mold, constituting the most in destructible and fertile class of soil in the world.

Railway Communication.

The trunk line of the Oregon Short Line railway passes through this territory from east to west, in places hugging the north bank of the Snake, but mostly at miles distant from it. On the way through the State there is to be found the Twin Falls branch, the Little Wood river branch, the Nampa-Boise branch, the Payette river branch and the branch to Vale, Oregon. This system of railroad is supplemented by the Idaho Northern, known as the Dewey road, running from Murphy in Owyhee county to Emmett in Canyon county, a distance of seventy miles, and crossing the Short Line at Nampa; by the Pacific and Idaho Northern, running from Weiser on the Short Line up the Weiser valley to Meadows, a distance of one hundred miles; by the Boise & Interurban Electric railway,



State Capitol Being Erected at Boise, Idaho. Cost \$1,000,000

and picturesque location on the north bank of the Boise river, nearly two-thirds distant from the east end of the parallelogram, though mathematical exactness would hardly permit of calling it such, within four miles of the foothills on its northern edge, thirty miles distant from the Snake river and prac-

seat of the new county of Twin Falls, with a population of 2550, distant 125 miles on an air line but by rail about the same as Albion and Oakley; Minidoka, population 3500, distant 180 miles; Hailey, population 2500, distant about the same as Minidoka; Shoshone, population 1900, distant 150 miles; Glenns Ferry, population 350, distant 100 miles; Mountain Home, population 2000, distant seventy miles; Nampa, population 2500, distant twenty miles. On the western side are Caldwell, population 2500, distant thirty miles; Parma, population 1000, distant forty-two miles; Silver City, population 1000, distant seventy miles; Ontario, population 3500, distant sixty-six miles; Payette, population 3000, distant seventy miles; Weiser, population 3150, distant eighty-five miles; and Huntington, Ore., population 1100, distant 115 miles. In the northern part of the State are the growing cities of Lewiston with a population of 8000; Moscow with a population of 5500; and d'Alene with a population of 8000; Wallace with a population of 5000, and many others that are prosperous and rapidly increasing in population. As is true in the southern part of the State, there are evidences of prosperity on every hand in the rural districts as well as in the cities and towns.

In a Great Empire.

Tributary to and necessary to this parallelogram and in addition to the 4,608,000 acres which it contains, there are 21,221,398 acres of uplands, not including the Snake river valley, consisting of rich agricultural valleys, mountain ridges and mountain peaks and the headwaters of the rivers, especially on the north side, are heavily timbered with fine yellow pine and fir, mingled with an excellent species of larch and other members of the conifer family, and many of the mountain districts are rich in gold, silver, copper and lead ores. A number of dividend-paying mines are now in operation and the metal product of 1906 amounted to \$2,574,419.82. This vast territory is clothed with nutritious grasses and forage, and one of the best livestock ranges in the Northwest, and the parallelogram named is the dumping ground for all its products.

This territory, exclusive of the Oregon part, had, in 1905, 175,508 head of cattle, 49,032 head of horses, 10,480 head of swine, 1,258,675 head of sheep and seventy-five saw and planing mills.

Miles of Irrigating Canals.

Of the 27,820,298 acres, not including that on the Oregon side, there are 1,415,185 acres under irrigation ditches and canals, which were all constructed by private capital or by individual or co-operative labor, except the great Twin Falls project, which was constructed under the Carey act, and actually irrigates 240,000 acres of land; also except the Minidoka project, which was constructed by the National Government under the reclamation act, and irrigates approximately 70,000 acres. In the eastern end of the parallelogram, in Lincoln county, two great corporations are now engaged in constructing reservoirs and canals, which, when completed, will put under water 370,000 acres.

Wonderfully Productive.

The elevation of the lower Snake river valley above sea level runs from 1924 feet at the western end of the valley to 4250 feet at Minidoka in the eastern end. The chief products of the State include all the cereals, alfalfa, clover, timothy and potatoes. Wheat averages forty bushels to the acre, barley fifty, oats sixty-five, alfalfa five tons of hay to the acre and potatoes 250 bushels. Already there are ten planers which are equipped with all the modern machinery in use in that industry. All the fruits known to the temperate zone are grown in Idaho except the citrus family. There are reported to be in orchard 37,564 acres, from which in 1906, a half crop year, after supplying the home market, a number of evaporators and one cannery, there were shipped to the Eastern markets 102 carloads, which netted \$560,840. This season's crop was a fine one, and about double in value the crop of last year, or worth the sum of \$1,121,680. This year one carload of prunes netted the shipper over \$1800. In 1907 there were manufactured from sugar beets grown in Idaho about 63,700,000 pounds of sugar, valued at \$2,911,500, and next year's crop will be far in excess of the crop of this year.

This industry is a great help to the ranchers who raise the beets for which good prices have been paid. Last year the total proceeds of the output of sugarcane and dairy products was \$400,000 and the orchard products were valued at \$2,992,701, while the State raised 15,000,000 bushels of wheat, valued at \$9,000,000; 28,000,000 bushels of oats, valued at \$14,000,000; 4,000,000 bushels of barley, valued at \$2,600,000. In 1905 the mineral output of the Gem State aggregated the magnificent sum of \$25,000,000. The State now has 217,885 cattle, valued at 2,408,884; 1,398,

777 sheep, valued at \$3,407,183; 31,429 swine, valued at \$123,750; 90,338 horses, valued at \$2,800,954; 816 mules, valued at \$468,420. There were 260 saw mills reported in 1906, with an annual output valued at \$7,243,190. In the north is the greatest timber section of the State and the Palouse wheat belt of Nez Perce and Latah counties has become famous for its products. In the southern part of the State, all the cereals, fruits, grasses and grains are grown, and in mineral output that section ranks first. It has splendid transportation facilities. All the lines operating there are the Northern Pacific, Great Northern, Oregon River & Navigation and the Spokane-Coeur d'Alene Electric railway, besides several hot lines on the lakes. In fact, north Idaho, as well as the southern part of the State, is as well provided for in this respect as any section of the intermountain country, and capital for these materially essential enterprises is rapidly finding its way into the State.

Has Splendid Schools.

Idaho's State institutions are in a flourishing condition. All of her schools are well filled, the attendance this year being far in excess of that recorded last year, and the curriculum of each institution has been materially improved until today Idaho stands second to no other State with respect to education, when all things are taken into consideration, and particularly the fact that this is a young State. Her schools are the Albion and Lewiston normals, the Postville academy and the State university at Moscow, besides many private schools and academies. Many improvements have been made at each of the State schools during the past year, especially at the university, where a magnificent \$325,000 administration building is in course of construction to take the place of the one destroyed by fire about two years ago. A \$1,000,000 State capitol is now being erected at Boise and other State institutions are being improved as the necessity requires. The penitentiary and Soldiers' Home at Boise, the asylums at Blackfoot and Oro Fino, the industrial school at St. Anthony, and the deaf, dumb and blind school at Boise are creditable institutions and are in charge of competent persons.

All Modern Conveniences.

Every town or city named herein, with the exception of one or two, is lighted by electricity, getting its power usually from some side stream or creek. The Trade Dollar Consolidated Mining

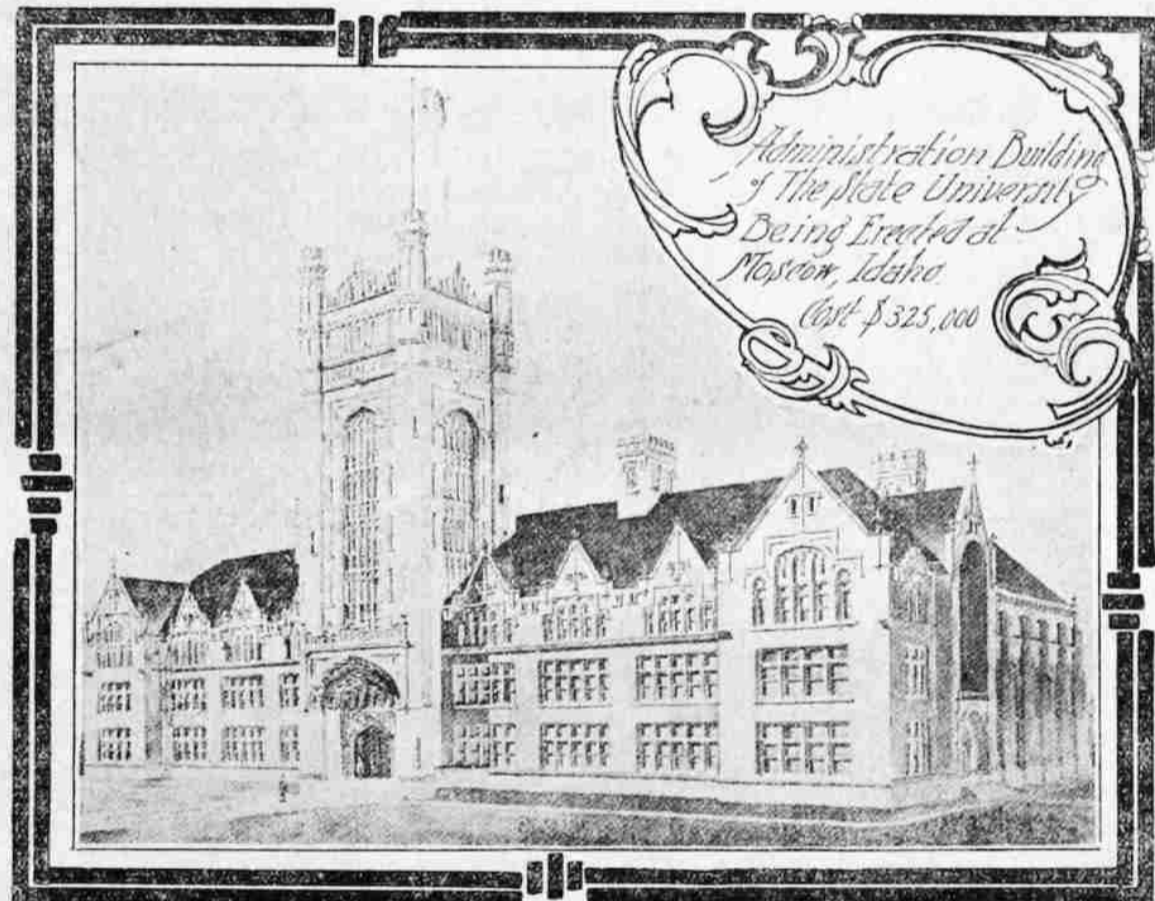
company, operating mines at Silver City, has a power plant at Senna Falls, which furnishes light for its mines. Light for Silver City, and power to run the Boise and Latah railroad between Boise and Caldwell and that connecting with the Boise and Idaho Falls Power company. The Shoshone Falls Power company is building a fine million-dollar plant at these great falls, and it intends to furnish light and power for southern Idaho and northern Utah. It is already furnishing light for the city of Twin Falls. The Lewiston City Electric Light company has a plant on the Payette river, and this company is already furnishing light and power to run the Boise and Idaho Falls railroad between this city and a point near Nampa, with Nampa as the electric point. The water power of the Snake river country is building a fine status is inexhaustible.

New Railroad Lines.

The Boise and Interurban railroad intends to find its way westward from Caldwell down the valley till it meets the Pacific and Idaho Northern at Weiser, which, when completed, will cross the great timber belt of central Idaho at the very door of the lower Snake river valley. The Boise Valley railroad, which runs from Boise to Shoshone Falls, and is to be extended to Gooding on the Short Line, when it will form a junction with an electric line now being constructed by the Twin Falls North Side Land and Water company from Shoshone Falls to the last named town. The Oregon Short Line Railroad company has had for some time a large force of men at work grading a line down the Snake river from Huntington to Lewiston, and when this line is completed Boise, and in fact, all southern Idaho, will have close connection with three of the greatest agricultural and timber counties in the State—Idaho, Nez Perce and Latah.

All Eyes on Idaho.

I believe there is no other State in the Union, all things considered, that can make a better showing as to natural resources and productiveness, and in the matter of development, general upbuilding and progressiveness on the part of her people than can Idaho. The eyes of the world are turned toward the "Gem State," and thousands of people will find their way annually to this land of beauty and happiness from the overcrowded and uninviting sections of the East and South. Idaho may well be termed the land of opportunity, richly endowed by the Creator and awaiting the coming of industry.



Administration Building of The State University Being Erected at Moscow, Idaho. Cost \$325,000

State they find the air so pure and invigorating, and the climate so congenial and life altogether so attractive that the longevity of the people on the average is greater than that to be found in any other section of the country, and thousands live far beyond the allotted three score years and

running from Boise to Caldwell on the Oregon Short Line, a distance of thirty miles, and by the Boise Valley Electric railway from Boise to Nampa, a distance of twenty miles.

The city of Boise, the capital of the State and the metropolis of the lower Snake river valley, occupies a beautiful

Work of the Surveyor General of Utah

The total number of acres surveyed and approved by the Surveyor-General of Utah up to December 15, 1907, is 27,408,590.81 acres. During the year 1907 surveys have been approved covering an area of 644,927.74 acres, involving a mileage of 2359 miles, 56 chains, 70 links, and located as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Counties and Acres. Lists counties like Box Elder, Grand, Iron, Millard, Salt Lake, Sanpete, Sevier, Tooele, Uintah and their corresponding acreage.

Table with 2 columns: Mining Districts and Acres. Lists districts like American Fork, Beaver Lake, Big Cottonwood, Castle Peak, Clifton, Dugway, Free Coinage, Hot Springs, Iron Springs, Little Cottonwood, Laramie, Miners Basin, North Star, Ophir, Pines, Rush Valley, San Francisco, Silver Lake, Snake Creek, State Line, Star, Tintic, Utah, Unorganized, Washington, West Mountain and their corresponding acreage.

Mineral Surveys Approved. Mineral surveys approved during the year commencing December 1, 1906, and ending November 30, 1907:

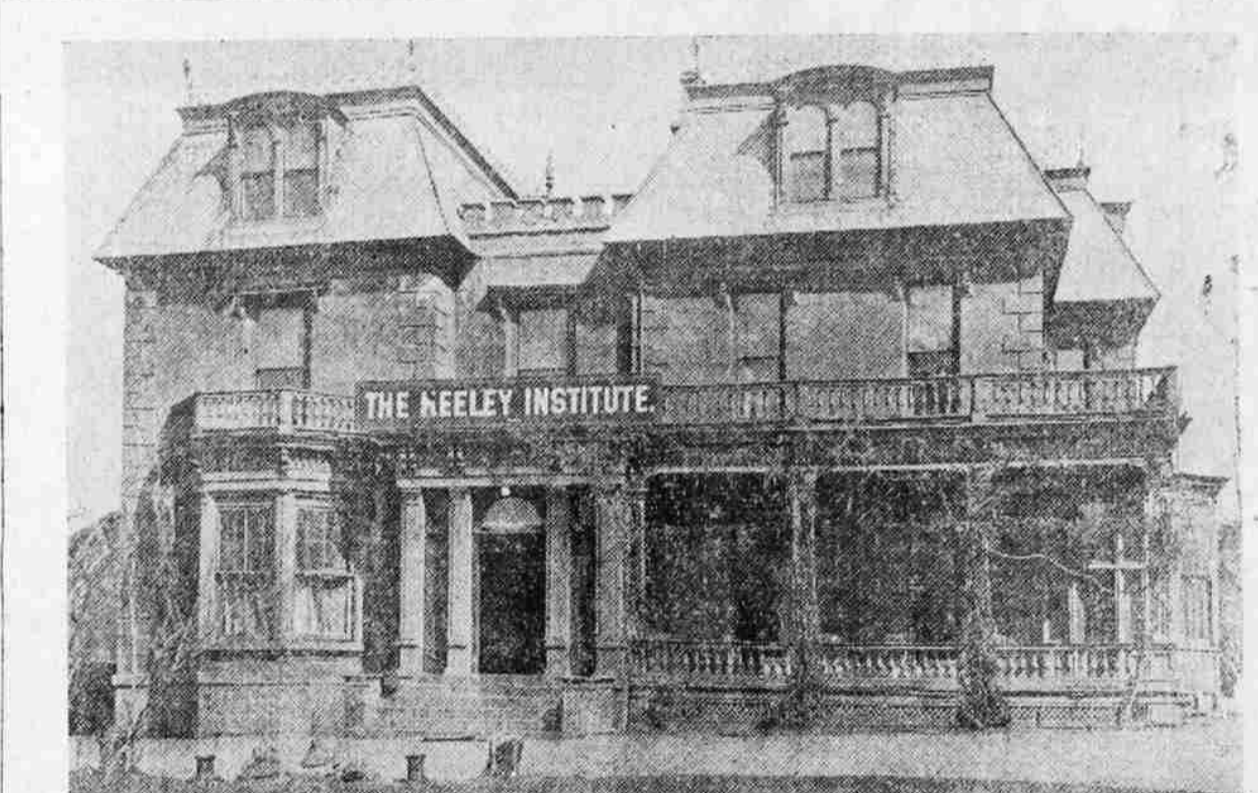
Table with 6 columns: Mining Districts, Surveys, Hours, Location, Amended and Additional Field Notes, and Certificates of \$500 Expenditure. Lists various mining districts and their survey statistics.

Office Staff. The office staff as now composed is Thomas Hull, surveyor-general; William S. Hedges, chief clerk; Henry R. M. Anderson, chief agricultural division; J. H. Johnson, chief of mineral division; Joseph Hirschvogel, Mrs. Kate F. Burton, Leopold L. Scholten, William H. Leurgans, Joseph L. Stephenson, Howard H. Swelgore, Susie Hall, Grace Nelson, Vera I. Felt, Emory M. Hediges,

Charles L. Gardner, Anna K. Godbe, Earl W. Fassett and Madga Bergstrom. It is the aim of the office to please and accommodate the great mining and agricultural public and to execute all work in its care as well and expeditiously as possible. Several new commissions have been issued during the year to deputy mineral surveyors, of whom there are now fifty-eight, an increase of five over 1906.

BOWERS The Jeweler. Removed to 73 MAIN STREET. Advertisement for a jeweler's shop.

Make Social Drinking Unpopular



If social drinking in the society world could be made unfashionable the cause of temperance would be greatly advanced. If social drinking among men could be made unpopular total abstinence would receive a mighty impulse. It is as a social custom that strong drink begins its deadly work. The young man does not take his first drink because he likes it. He takes it because he thinks it will make him seem manly and up-to-date to do so. He does not purchase a bottle of whiskey and go off by himself to drink it. He may do that later on, but at first he drinks for the social pleasure he expects to derive from it. The social drinker is in a sort of fool's paradise. He imagines he is having a good time; but he is blocking his way to advancement. The man who carries a whiskey handicap has a hard road to travel. Nobody wants him. The real rulers of the world have decided against whiskey. Railroads and corporations have adopted rigid rules with regard to strong drink. They will not employ men who drink. They will not continue in their employ men who are known to use intoxicating liquor. Trades unions are beginning to bar the drinking man. They are finding him an expensive proposition. By their rules there is a regular scale of wages for certain kinds of work. But the drinking man fails to make good. He reduces the average and brings reproach on worthy members. In these days of close competition and small margins, it is necessary for a man to be at his best if he would succeed; and no man can be entirely fit who is ever so slightly under the influence of strong drink. Then there is the domestic, or home, side of the drink question. The man who drinks brings wretchedness and misery to his family. He is not a good husband. He is not a good father. He defrauds those whom he has sworn to love and cherish. He robs them of their brightness of honor and protection. If whiskey makes him vicious they fear him. If it makes him stupid they are ashamed of him. If he is poor they suffer deprivation and want. If he is rich they look to the time when bad management or neglect will reduce them to poverty, and added to the humiliation of his habits there will be the discomforts of penury. Whiskey has been driven from nearly every place of honor and trust. It is a bar to achievement, an enemy to happiness, and a menace to health. Even as a medicine alcohol has lost its vogue, and the best physicians seldom prescribe it. But in spite of business requirements and domestic needs, social drinking continues. There is something incomprehensible about the tolerance of a custom which, if continued, may ruin a man's prospects. Sobriety is stock in trade for the ambitious man. It opens the door of opportunity. It gives him a chance to utilize his ability. It converts his energy into cash. It materializes his aspirations. Inebriety blights ambition, closes the door to opportunity, paralyzes energy, and destroys the aspirations. Sobriety builds up. Inebriety pulls down. The two are antagonistic. They have nothing in common. And yet, at the very time when sobriety is at the highest rate of premium, and drunkenness at the lowest rate of discount, we are told that social drinking is on the increase. It must be remembered that the moderate drinkers who occupy high positions have reached those positions in spite of their drinking practices, and not because of them. While they might defend these habits in themselves, they would be quick to object to them in those who asked for their assistance. There is no profession or position or occupation where drinking habits are a recommendation. If they are tolerated, they are not approved. Science and industry have pronounced against them. It remains for Fashion to say the final word. There is an army of men to whom any pronouncement against whiskey which did not carry healing in its message would be useless. These men were the social drinkers of a few years ago. They have passed through the various stages of delusion that go with the drink habit. They have tried the moderate drinking experiment and found it a failure. They believed they could drink or let it alone. But they have tried times without number to let drink alone, and they have failed. They have made braver fights with their tyrant than many of those who condemn them would be capable of doing. But they failed because they were trying to conquer a physical disease with a weakened will. The continued use of alcohol causes a diseased condition. The craving for drink is a symptom of the disease of inebriety. Disease is not cured by will power. It requires appropriate remedies. Use every influence to prevent the young from beginning to drink. Use every argument to convince the moderate drinker of the danger of his example. But send the drunkard to a Keeley Institute.

THE KEELEY INSTITUTE. For the Cure of Drunkenness and Opium Diseases. Confidential. 334 W. So. Temple St., Salt Lake City, Utah. Advertisement for a treatment center.