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A Century of Life in Nephi and Juab Valley 1851-1951

Keith N. Worthington
Brigham Young University - Provo

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A CENTURY OF LIFE IN
NEPHI AND JUAB VALLEY
1851-1951

A Thesis
Submitted to the
Department of History
Brigham Young University

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science

by
Keith Meldon Worthington
1958
As long as I can remember, I have been interested in the history of my home town. Many are the hours that I have sat and listened to the "old timers" tell of the early days in Juab Valley. However, as I grew older I found there was much discrepancy in the stories, and particularly in the stories of the very early settlement. I resolved that someday I would gather and assemble as much material as possible and try to find and tell the real story. This I have tried to do. Everything that is in this thesis has been checked very carefully for authenticity. In the very early period I have had to rely on old diaries, Church records, and written histories. For the later periods I have relied heavily upon the newspapers, and personal interviews, along with city, school, and county records, and published material relating to the valley.

Very little has been written about Nephi and Juab Valley since the turn of the century. Many people feel that only the Pioneer period is worth covering. However, I feel that the early 1900's was another type of Pioneer period—a period when the city and the valley were building to meet the twentieth century, a period of great public works, business, and industrial expansion.

My Graduate Committee Chairman, Dr. LeRoy R. Hafen, has given me much valuable help, as has my Committee Member, Dr. Russell R. Rich.

The Church Historian's Office in Salt Lake City has a wealth of information, and they have given me free access to all of their material.

A special thanks to Mrs. Sadie Greenhalgh, a long-time historian.
of Nephi, who has furnished me with old diaries, old programs, clippings, articles, and much help in organizing my material.

Roy Gibson, the local editor of the *Times-News*, the valley’s weekly paper, has given me complete freedom to carefully study all of the newspapers that are now extant.

The many interviews that I had were very helpful. Special thanks to A. J. Sowers, and James Vickers, the town’s oldest residents, who gave me a good picture of very early Nephi. Mrs. Clyde Shaw and Mrs. Ervie Andrews gave me much information about the various civic, fraternal, and social clubs. Milton Harmon gave me a complete story of the turkey industry, as did Alton Gadd about the poultry industry.

Mayor Winn and Former Mayor P. L. Jones gave me information about Nephi since 1940 and possible projects and possibilities for Nephi in the future.

Thanks should also be given to Superintendent Clyde C. Child, Juab School District, who gave me permission to use all of the School Board minutes that exist, and to Albert G. Starr, clerk, who gave me much valuable help in interpreting this information.

The City was very helpful in letting me have access to their Council minutes and the City Recorder, Raymond Christiansen, gave me invaluable help in interpreting the findings.

And finally, I am especially indebted to my wife, Kenna L. Worthington, who has spent many hours listening to and reading my work, and giving helpful criticism.

So many have helped that they are too numerous to mention, but to all of them I give a hearty thanks. I hope I have given something that will be of worth now and in years to come.
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This Thesis is concerned primarily with the settlement, growth, and development of Nephi, Utah. However, an understanding of the physical features of the valley in which it is located is important, as well as the Indian Inhabitants who lived here. All these are included in the first chapter.

Missionaries, trappers, explorers, California gold seekers—all came through Juab Valley, and they are discussed in Chapter Two.

As far as is feasible, the history of Nephi has been covered chronologically from the time of settlement, September, 1851, until 1951, the year that marked one hundred years in the valley. The century has been divided into periods of approximately twenty-five years each, and Chapters Three through Seven cover these developments. However, when important developments and changes have seemed important after 1951, the writer has included them to give a complete picture of the community at the present time.

The other towns in the valley have not been covered in detail and have been included only when they have closely tied in with the history of Nephi. They have a history of their own, one that is equally interesting. The writer felt he could not give adequate coverage if he tried to write the history of all three main towns in detail.

The final chapter gives the reader a look into future possibilities, and the writer's observations that have been gleaned from an intensive study of a town's development.
CHAPTER I

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Physical Features

Juab Valley is located in the south central section of Utah at an average elevation of 5,000 feet. It is twenty-five miles long and ten to fifteen miles wide, though in the northern part it is very narrow, being only a few miles wide. South of Mona the valley attains its greatest width. The Wasatch Mountains, culminating with Mount Nebo, form the eastern boundary of the valley. Mount Nebo, at an altitude of almost 12,000 feet, is the second highest mountain in the Wasatch Range and marks the end of that range. South from Nephi the range is called the Sanpitch, and the cliff-like mountains are much lower. Between Nephi and Levan is located the famous Levan Ridge, which is about twelve miles long and five to six miles wide. Here grain is grown without irrigation.

Several creeks run through the valley: Chicken Creek, Four Mile Creek, Salt Creek, and Willow Creek. Chicken Creek rises in the Wasatch Mountains and flows west, emptying into the Sevier River at the present site of Mills. Four Mile Creek rises in the Wasatch Mountains approximately six miles south of Nephi. Salt Creek rises in the Wasatch Mountains east of Mt. Nebo and flows southwesterly and thence westerly through Nephi and northerly into Utah Lake. Willow, or Clover, Creek rises in the

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Wasatch Mountains about eight miles north of Nephi and flows through the town of Mona and thence to Mount Nebo Reservoir. 1 Mount Nebo Reservoir is a body of water five miles long and one to two miles wide. Some of the water obtained from it is used to water farms around Mona, but most of it is taken to the Genola and Goshen area in Utah County by a system of canals. Burraaston Ponds, about five miles north of Nephi, are a favorite spot for fishing and swimming. They are cold, and the water comes from Mt. Nebo underground to the ponds. They are well stocked with trout. All of the area north and west of Nephi is well-watered and affords excellent pasture land. The hills on the west boundary of the valley are very low and almost devoid of vegetation.

Flora and Fauna

Before the coming of permanent settlers Juab Valley presented a very beautiful appearance. Wherever water was abundant, and this included most of the valley with the exception of what is now Levan Ridge, there was beautiful grass waist high. The hills were covered with green vegetation and cedar trees. Higher up on the mountains were maple, pine, and quaking aspen. Today a never-to-be-forgotten experience is a trip around Mount Nebo in the fall when the leaves have turned color. Toward the west mountains in the valley was, of course, much sage and rabbit brush, but this valley was much better watered than Salt Lake Valley and presented a more pleasing appearance. Today most of the valley is farmed, with the exception of the steep hillsides and the west hills where sage brush and cedar trees are predominant.

Every kind of animal that is found in this latitude and elevation

1 This reservoir is commonly called the Mona Reservoir.
is found in Juab Valley. The valley abounds in rabbits, bats, squirrels, prairie dogs, chipmunks, gophers, rats, mice, porcupines, coyotes, skunks, bobcats, mountain sheep, mountain lions, antelope, and mule deer.\(^1\) The Mount Nebo area is the acknowledged home of Utah elk.\(^2\) Elk are not native to the valley, but in the early 1900's herds were brought from the Jackson Hole area of Wyoming.\(^3\) The valley abounds in all types of bird life: owls, robins, bluebirds, sparrows, blackbirds, larks, seagulls, meadow larks, humming birds, wild canaries, woodpeckers, and mourning doves, to mention a few of the most common. Game birds that are most prevalent are pheasants, sage hens, ducks and geese.\(^4\) Trout, suckers, and carp are most common in the waters of the valley. Today the valley is one of the sports centers for the state.

Origin of the Name Juab

The word Juab is said to be of Ute Indian origin and signifies flat or level. Originally it was spelled "Ioab," the Indians probably having appropriated it from the Spanish.\(^5\)

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\(^1\)Stephen D. Durrant, Mammals of Utah (Topeka: Ferd Voiland, Jr., State Printer, 1952).

\(^2\)The Deseret News "Nephi Black Hawk Edition" (Salt Lake City), August 10, 1935, p. 5.

\(^3\)Interview with J. Earl Reid, local sportsman, June 16, 1958.


\(^5\)Some Important Facts About Utah (Salt Lake City: Utah Department of Publicity and Industrial Development, 1948), p. 20.
Indian Inhabitants

The Indian inhabitants of Juab Valley were of the Ute Indian nation and spoke the same language as the Timpanogotiz Indians, according to Escalante.¹ They wore very little clothing and did very little farming. Daniel T. Potts, who visited the region in 1827, wrote of the Indian inhabitants, the Pie-Utaws (Piutes, closely related to the Ute):

Their clothing consists of a breech-cloth of goat or deer skin, and a robe of rabbitskins, cut in strips, sewed together after the manner of rag carpets, with the bark of milk weed twisted into twine for the chain. These wretched creatures go out barefoot in the coldest day of winter.²

He said their diet consisted of "roots, grass seeds, and grass, so you may judge they are not gross in their habit."³

The Indians did some fishing and hunting and much begging after the Mormons settled the valley. At first they were very friendly, but misunderstandings finally brought about the Walker and Blackhawk wars. After this they were moved to reservations in Uintah County.⁴ No Indians are found in the valley today except for an occasional few who come from the reservation of Southern Utah for celebrations and special events.

²Donald McKay Frost, Notes on General Ashley, the Overland Trail, and South Pass (Worcester: American Antiquarian Society, 1945), p. 66.
³Ibid., pp. 66-67.
CHAPTER II

EARLY EXPLORATIONS

Father Escalante

The little band of Mormon pioneers who entered Juab Valley in the fall of 1851 were not the first white people to see that valley. Indeed, many had been there earlier. On July 29, 1776, Father Escalante and his associates set out from Santa Fe, New Mexico, to discover a direct route to Monterey, California.\(^1\) They entered Juab Valley from the north on September 27, 1776.\(^2\)

We learn from Escalante's journal that they entered from Utah Valley and found "another extensive valley in which there are, close by to the east, the salt mines from which the Timpanoí Indians take their supply."\(^3\) They named this valley Valle de las Salinas, or Salt Valley.\(^4\) Escalante's description of it is interesting:

The whole of it is flat; it has very abundant springs and pastures, although only a small river runs through it. In this valley there are numerous hens, of the kind we have already mentioned.\(^5\)

As they continued their journey through the valley they came upon some Indians naked except for a chamois skin covering their loins.

\(^1\) Alter, op. cit.
\(^2\) Ibid., p. 71
\(^3\) Ibid., p. 71
\(^4\) Ibid., p. 71
\(^5\) Ibid., p. 71. The birds which are described were probably sage hens.
Escalante spoke with them and told them they would send missionaries to teach them Catholicism. He reports they were very happy, "showing great joy on hearing that more Fathers and other Spaniards would come to live with them." They met these Indians near the present site of Nephi. Escalante related that they arrived on a small river which descends from the eastern side of the mountains where, according to what the Indians told them, the salt mines were located. The next day they left Juab Valley and traveled to the Sevier River which they called Santa Isabel. Although their sojourn in Juab Valley was brief, they left a good description of the land and its inhabitants and, as far as has been discovered, the earliest written record of white men in the valley.

The Fur Trappers

Although Juab Valley is never mentioned by name, it is probable that the first Americans to enter the region were trappers with William Henry Ashley. On August 15, 1826, Jedediah Strong Smith and a party of fifteen men left Great Salt Lake for the purpose of exploring the country southwest of the lake, and especially to find and determine whether the Buenaventura River existed. On August 22, he arrived in Utah Valley and there gave

1Ibid., p. 72.
2Ibid., p. 72.
4Dale L. Morgan, Jedediah Smith and the Opening of the West, (Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co., Inc., 1953), p. 193. The Buenaventura was then thought to run into the Pacific Ocean.
presents to the Indians, but they told him very little of the country below Utah Lake. ¹ After leaving Utah Valley he traveled on to Juab Valley where he saw no more buffalo, nothing but an occasional antelope, a mountain sheep, or, what was most plentiful, "black-tailed hares." He took three days in his journey through the valley, and on August 27 he reached the Sevier River, which he called Ashley's River.² He had finally found his Buenaventura River but soon learned it did not run into the Pacific. Nevertheless he kept on with his exploration and became the first white man to enter California on the overland route.³

In 1827 a party of General Ashley's men passed through Juab Valley. In a letter of Daniel T. Potts, a member of the party, to the Gazette and Daily Advertiser, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he wrote from Sweet Water Lake, July 8, 1827, that they made preparations to explore the country lying southwest of the Great Salt Lake. Accordingly, in February they took their leave and marched to Utah Lake and thence south to a small river,⁴ of which he said:

To this I have given the name of Rabbit river, on account of the great number of large black tail rabbits or hares found in the vicinity. We descended this river about fifty miles to where it discharges into a salt lake⁵ the size of which I was not able to ascertain, owing to the marshes which surround it, and which are impassable for man and beast.⁶

¹Ibid., p. 195.
²Ibid., p. 196.
³Ibid., p. 193.
⁴By his description, the Sevier River.
⁵Sevier Lake.
⁶Frost, op. cit., p. 66.
The next record of white men being in the Juab Valley concerns John Charles Fremont's party who, on May 23, 1844, reached the Sevier River where it deflects from its northern course and breaks through the mountains to enter Sevier Lake. They made rafts of willows growing along the river bank and crossed the river at latitude 39°22'19". While they were camped at this point, Francois Bodeau, a Frenchman who had been with Fremont on both his famous expeditions and whom Fremont regarded as one of his most faithful and efficient men, was accidentally killed when his gun discharged in his own hands, sending the ball through his head. The following day, after burying Bodeau on the river bank, they crossed the slight ridge along the river and entered grassy Juab Valley, thereafter directing their course toward Mt. Nebo.

Miles Goodyear

Miles Goodyear, a Connecticut born youth who had come to the west with the Whitman-Spalding party in 1836, had withdrawn from the group and established himself near the site of Ogden, the first white establishment in Utah. In the fall of 1846 he trailed down the route presumably followed by Fremont in 1844. He took skins to Los Angeles and sold them to John C. Fremont, to clothe the latter's starving and naked troops. Miles Goodyear made two trips to Los Angeles, undoubtedly passing through Juab Valley. His trips were in 1846 and 1848.

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3. Ibid., p. 27.
Captain Jefferson Hunt

It was only a few months after the arrival of the Mormon pioneers in Salt Lake Valley that a member of the Mormon Battalion, Captain Jefferson Hunt, and a party of eighteen traveled to Southern California by the old Spanish Trail. They were the first of the Utah settlers to explore the southern route to the Pacific Coast. On November 13, 1847, the party left Salt Lake City. Their route took them through Juab Valley and over the present site of Nephi, following the approximate route of the present U. S. Highway 91. Many of the members of the party described their journey and sojourn in Juab Valley.

The party returned to Salt Lake City during February, 1848, and brought with them cattle, other livestock and seed grains. A company of twenty-five Battalion members followed the trail of Hunt's party from California and arrived in Salt Lake City on June 5, 1848, bringing with them a wagon and over one hundred mules. This wagon was the first to travel over the old southern route to California, and was the first to traverse Juab Valley.

Captain Hunt left Salt Lake City in October, 1849, for a second trip over the route, acting as a guide to a company of five hundred men from the east, bound for the California gold fields.\(^1\) Sheldon Young said:

\(^1\)&lt;br&gt;Oct. 5th. Went ten miles. Had good road. Came to a small stream of water and camped. Plenty of grass and willows for fuel. This day left for Utah Valley.\(^2\)

\(^2\)&lt;br&gt;6th: This day went fourteen miles and camped on a small stream of water.\(^3\) Plenty of grass. Had a good road.

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\(^1\)Journal History of the Church, October 9, 1849, p. 4.

\(^2\)Ibid., p. 63. Hafen says "He has crossed the divide into Juab Valley and is probably encamped on Willow Creek."

\(^3\)Ibid., p. 63. Hafen says of this, "This camp apparently was on Salt Creek, near the site of Nephi. Here they lay over the next day"
but rather dusty. No game seen. Pleasant day. Mountains not very high and no snow on them. Plenty of wolves, but no other game.¹

He continues the log, telling that on the 8th they camped on Chicken Creek, southwest of Levan. He brings out one interesting point, "A train of packers passed us. Had a pleasant day."²

On the 9th they reached the Sevier and on the 10th they forded the Sevier and passed out of the valley.³

Addison Pratt left Salt Lake later than Jefferson Hunt, and he did not overtake them until the latter part of October when he recorded: "Traveled 8 miles and overtook the main body of the camp, about 100 wagons on Salt Creek [Nephi]. Near here is a mountain of salt."¹

James S. Brown, another member of the group, also recorded overtaking the group.⁵

Charles C. Rich, who traveled with the Flake-Rich Company of packers, and who was going to California in 1849 to help manage Mormon affairs there, gives the following account of his entrance and journey through Juab Valley:

**TUESDAY, OCT. 16th '49** Started about 8 o'clock and reached Summit Creek after 3½ miles we soon entered Juab [Juab] Valley. We passed some springs on the prairie [sic] 5 miles from the last creek & reached sick creek after 5 miles travel. We traveled 10 miles and camped on Salt Creek.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17th '49** Started very early this waiting for wagons in the rear. Pratt's wagon caught up with the main camp at Salt Creek on the 8th. Young's mileage estimates in this region are high. He makes it sixty nine miles from Spanish Fork to the Sevier River; Pratt's rodometer measures it fifty-five miles; the modern state highway map gives it as sixty miles.¹

¹Ibid., p. 63 ²Ibid., p. 63 ³Ibid., p. 64 ⁴Ibid., p. 71 ⁵Ibid., p. 117
morning left the Yohab Valley by crossing a low ridge and entered into a pleasant Valley no water though a very little timber the hills were covered with scrub Cedar; we stopped at noon and unpacked about 2 hours on a creek very clear called Chicken creek; we traveled until after Sun down and camped on the Severe [sic] River, the road in the afternoon was hilly & dusty.

Parley P. Pratt

In December, 1849, Parley P. Pratt passed through Juab Valley on his way to the southern end of the territory. He traveled as far south as the Rio Virgin and then returned to Salt Lake where he recommended various sites for possible settlement. His description of Juab Valley is very good, and possibly a little different from others because he climbed a high peak and looked over the valley with the aid of a telescope. He said in his Autobiography:

I took a walk in the morning about three miles and ascended a beautiful height, which afforded a fair view (with a telescope) of the head of Utah Lake and the Valley of Salt Creek, which enters the lake through an extensive meadow at the head of the lake, forming at its junction a beautiful harbor and a convenient beach of sand. The depth of water not known, but its deep blue color intimated sufficient depth for small crafts.

He then tells of returning to camp and journeying on about eleven miles to Willow Creek (the present site of Mona) where the country was "rich in grass, and watered by Salt Creek, a stream one and a half rods wide, and several large springs running north into Utah Lake."

\[1\]Hafen, op. cit., pp. 194-95.

\[2\]Tradition says that he climbed Mount Nebo to the top, but this cannot be substantiated.


\[4\]Ibid., p. 415.
CHAPTER III

BEGINNINGS. 1851-1875

Settlement and First Settlers

As Mormon explorers such as Parley P. Pratt and George A. Smith brought back word of the fertile valleys to the south of Salt Lake and Brigham Young personally visited the valleys, new settlements were soon established and faithful Saints left their comfortable homes in Salt Lake City for further colonization experiences. Nephi, Utah obtained its name from a Book of Mormon prophet. The name is derived from an Egyptian root, "N-phi" meaning "good."²

In the Sixth General Epistle of the Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, dated September 22, 1851, Brigham Young said:

We decided on locations for settlement on Salt Creek, in Juab Valley, and Corn Creek in Parowan Valley, between this and Iron County, and companies will leave immediately after conference to form these settlements.³

No time was lost in carrying out Brigham's orders, for in the latter part of September the first settlers entered Juab Valley. Charles

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²George Reynolds, "Story of the Book of Mormon," as cited in Franklin Keith Brough, Freely, I Gave (Wichita: Grit Printing Co., 1953), p. 63. Popular opinion is that the settlement was first named Salt Creek, but I have been unable to discover in any historical records (other than local accounts) where the community was ever named Salt Creek. Only the stream upon which it was built and the canyon above it have this name.
³Journal History, September 22, 1851, p. 3.
and Guy Foote, their father Timothy Bradley Foote, his wife and two other children were the first permanent settlers to arrive at Salt Creek. A monument located on the County Fair Grounds marks the spot where their house stood. Next came Levi Gifford. During the month of October, 1851, Zimri H. Baxter, Charles Sperry, Charles H. Bryan, William Cazier, John Cazier, Josiah Miller, and Israel Hoyt arrived, and after looking over the ground, selected building lots, put up five loads of hay and decided to make Nephi their permanent abode. On November 17 of the same year, Isaac Grace, Sr., and family, Thomas Tranter and John Davis reached Nephi, enroute to Iron County where Parowan was being settled. An accident to one of their party necessitated a temporary halt at Salt Creek and resulted in their deciding to settle here. Spending the first winter in the little settlement were seventeen families, numbering seventy-five persons.

Joseph L. Heywood had been commissioned by Brigham Young to lay out the city, and with the help of Jesse W. Fox they did this on September 25 and 26, 1852. They laid out a townsitie one-half mile square, divided into square blocks, and surveyed a field one mile long.

Joseph L. Heywood was a man with a great deal of experience in the Church and had had a personal acquaintance with the Prophet Joseph Smith. He was baptized by Orson Hyde and confirmed by Joseph Smith at Nauvoo in December, 1842. When the Saints were forced to leave Nauvoo

1Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951 Written by Nephi Centennial Historical Committee whose members were: George A. Sperry, C. W. Johnson, Sadie Howard Greenhalgh, Grace Jenkins McCune, Martha Cazier Eager, and Iris Garrett. p. 6.

2Ibid.

3Martha Spence Heywood, Journal of Martha Spence Heywood (Typed copy of Sadie Howard Greenhalgh, unpaged.)

4McCune, op. cit., p. 54.
he was one of the three trustees of the Church who remained behind and disposed of the Church property there.¹ Soon after arriving in Salt Lake City in 1848, in rapid succession during the first part of 1849 he became first bishop of the Seventeenth Ward, first postmaster of Salt Lake City, and surveyor of highways in the provisional State of Deseret. He had filled all of these important positions by the time he was thirty-three years of age.² He served the settlement of Nephi for three years as President of the Nephi Branch, but due to some misunderstandings, and the little time devoted to the community, he was relieved of his position in 1854.³

The Journal of Martha Spence Heywood, wife of Joseph L., contains a rich history of Nephi. She tells in great detail of the difficulties and uncertainties of that first winter.

September 23rd - Wednesday, 1851. Arrived here on Monday evening at half past six o'clock. Found the brethren on the ground in good spirits -delighted with the valley, had some corral made. Bro. Baxter invited us to supper of which we partook and immediately after Mr. Heywood called a meeting to commence the organization of the people. Meeting opened by Father Gifford after which Mr. Heywood made some appropriate remarks in reference to the necessity of having a watch as the little property we had in cattle and horses was our all and could not be very well risked and by strictly guarding the settlement in way it might save a great deal of trouble with the Indians. He called for an expression of the brethren on the subject a few of which spoke in favor of establishing the watch, whereupon a vote was taken and also a vote appointing Brother Poole the captain of the guard and also to have an

²McCune, op. cit.
³Heywood, op. cit.
oversight in reference to the brethren having fire arms and
in good order with the privilege of calling them out for
examination and drill when he thinks suitable.

Tuesday we all enjoyed ourselves as new settlers remark-
able well and the more the brethren explored the ground the
better pleased they were. In the afternoon I walked about one
half mile up the creek to see where we would have our lots, as
Mr. H. will take more than he wants for himself as some of his
friends may come on and he would be glad to have a place for
them. That portion of the Creek that we desire is beautifully
adorned with trees according to my heart's desire.

On October 3rd, Sister Heywood recorded the anxiety and fear that
filled the hearts of the women who were yet living in wagons in that
Indian-inhabited country.

Friday, Monday morning Brother Baxter started in company
with one of the Gifford boys for the canyons to get out some
house logs and remain one or more nights, Tuesday Mr. H. and
Brother Fox with Theodore started for Sanpete to get lumber and
a wagon box made. Also Brother Miller with his company started
for the city to be there in time for Conference, so that we had
but two men and three boys left to take care of us women folks
if the Indians should happen this way. Towards night the mail
carrier arrived which strengthened our party.

October 22nd she wrote: "Thursday...As a company we are very few
indeed, there being only 2 men, four women, 3 boys and three children. If
the Indians were known to this our cattle would be in danger."3

The first white child born in Nephi was Joseph Neal Heywood, the
son of Joseph L. and Martha Spence Heywood. He was born on the 18th of
November, 1851. Sister Heywood recorded in her Journal, dated January
1, 1852.

It is now over two months since making any record, in which
time my darling boy was born on the 18th of Nov. about half
past nine forenoon in the wagon. Was first taken sick on the
night of the 15th. Suffered much unnecessary pain and distress

1Ibid.
2Ibid.
3Ibid.
from taking a wrong position as also from the smallness of the wagon and its openness. Sister Anna Gifford was all the assistance I had and after my sweet one was born was left pretty much to myself; having taken all the care of my babe from the time he was first dressed.\(^1\)

On April 1, 1852, Harriet Ann Grace Pyper, daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Grace, became the second child and the first girl to be born in the little community.\(^2\)

In late November the Saints were still living in their wagons, but they had a road made into the Canyon, and they were hauling logs out rapidly so that they could build their homes.\(^3\)

Sister Heywood felt that the brethren were the right kind of people to make a settlement and "with little exception they are united in efforts to build up the place."\(^4\)

First Buildings

Individual homes were the first buildings to be constructed in the Valley. On December 13, 1851, Joseph L. Heywood wrote the following description of Nephi to the Deseret News.

About 12 houses have been erected; viz, 3 built of adobies, 2 of willows, plastered inside and out, 1 two-story house built of \(\frac{4}{5}\) inch plank, and the balance of logs obtained from a distance of ten miles.

Our roofs and flooring are principally of lumber cut at Hamilton A. Potter's mills, San-Pete valley, distant about 30 miles from Nephi.\(^5\)

\(^1\)Ibid.
\(^2\)McCune, *op. cit.*, pp. 60-61.
\(^3\)Journal History of the Church, November 25, 1851, p. 1.
\(^4\)Heywood, *op. cit.*
\(^5\)Journal History of the Church, December 13, 1851.
By the turn of the New Year eighteen houses had been constructed, three of adobe, the remainder of logs. The public corral was nearly finished.¹

In a letter from Dr. Willard Richards to Wm. Clayton in April, 1852, he states:

There are several beautiful settlements on the road to this point, among which, perhaps, Springville may rank the first, and Nephi the second. At both of these places the spirit of energy and industry is almost without a parallel. All the houses look clean and neat, fences in good order, and everything shows that Saints live there. The city of Nephi was commenced in September last. There are now 20 good houses, a splendid corral for cattle, and a good quantity of land under cultivation.²

After the homes, the meeting house was built. This was completed in 1852. It was not only used as a religious edifice, but school and many parties and entertainments were also held here. The building consisted of one room eighteen by twenty feet, with windows on the south and east and a door on the west. This door had a latch inside, with a string attached to the latch and threaded through a hole above so it would hang outside. The string was pulled to open the door. The roof of the building was covered with willows, and a layer of hay covered with clay. The building was located on East Main Street where the Nephi City Hall now stands, between Center and 1st North Streets. In 1854 this building was torn down.³

In 1853 a small fort was built to protect the settlers from the Indians. The fort occupied the two blocks upon which now stand the Juab...
County Courthouse and the First Security Bank, and extended one block west. Later a larger fort was built that was three blocks square, and afforded much greater protection. This will be covered in greater detail later.

In 1851 a Tithing House was built on the corner of First East and Center Street where the present Post Office stands. This was thirty by twenty, three stories high, basement included. The adobes for the outside were made from clay hauled from the bottoms, some three miles distant. This old building was torn down in September, 1931, to make way for the new Federal building.²

As the town grew the old Social Hall was constructed to take care of their needs. Mrs. Unity Chappell gives an interesting account of the "Old Social Hall":

About the year 1859 or 1860 the town of Nephi had grown to the extent that the people felt the need of a place to more fully take care of their recreational needs.

With this in mind they selected a piece of ground at about 170 East Center Street and there proceeded to erect such a building as would meet their requirements and be both comfortable and commodious. It was built by donation and labor, and each person received share in the building according to the amount contributed. The dividend on their share was two free tickets to the amusements held there.

The building was built of blue adobes and was about thirty by sixty feet and faced the north. There was a double door on the north, three windows on the east and three on the west, a stage in the south end, with a basement beneath in the stage. The main room was heated by a large iron stove and the basement by an open fireplace. An exit from the basement was on the south. The only lights in the building were tallow candles. Oil lamps were later used. The seats were crude benches; some with backs and some without.

On top of the building a lookout was built where a man was stationed every day, with a spyglass, to watch for Indians. If any were seen moving toward the town, the man would beat a large drum. This was a signal for everyone to hurry inside the fort. The gates would then be closed until all danger was passed.

In the large room of the building were held all meetings,

¹The Times News (Nephi), September 13, 1931.
dances, dramas, banquets, and other gatherings. School was held there in the summer and in the basement in the winter. The stage was arranged with a window in the east and one in the west, and equipped with all kinds of scenery.¹

By the turn of the century this old hall had outgrown its usefulness and was torn down.

Nine years after the Pioneers first entered Nephi, the Juab Stake Tabernacle, then called "Nephi Tabernacle" was begun. The church building was completed and dedicated in 1865. This served as the meeting house for the Nephi Ward and for Stake Conferences. Few other buildings were built during this early period. Home manufacturing eliminated the need for stores, and about the only other buildings constructed during this time were grist and flour mills.²

**Early Occupations**

Farming was the chief occupation of the people. They raised wheat, oats, barley, and even the first year they produced potatoes, peas, beans, melons, squash, and corn from seeds they had brought with them. Gradually they acquired some livestock.³

In the spring of 1852, Zimri H. Baxter obtained some apple seedlings from a Salt Lake City nurseryman. In 1855 the grasshoppers robbed the trees of all their leaves and even some of the bark. In 1856 Mr. Baxter replanted all he thought would grow, giving the rest to David Casier, who succeeded in raising some trees and was the first to pick apples in the valley.⁴

¹McCune, op. cit., pp. 78-79.
⁴Ibid., p. 9.
In the same year, 1852, Charles Bryan planted some peach stones, but they were winter killed, except for a few which produced fruit in the year 1853.

During the 60's the Belliston brothers obtained some bees and the luxury of honey was enjoyed. From that time until the present the words "Belliston" and "honey" have been synonymous to the people of Nephi.

For Juab Valley in Utah Territory, the following horticultural statistics were given for the year 1866: 12 acres in apples, 7 acres in peaches, 2 acres in grapes, and 10 acres in currants.¹

Even in the very earliest period there were occupations other than agriculture. Apostle Ezra T. Benson and Seth M. Blair, who were making a missionary tour through the southern settlements, visited Nephi and held meetings with the people. Elder Benson writes:

On the 12th (November 1852) we set out for Nephi, Juab Valley, and reached it about 5 o'clock p.m.; preached in the evening to the saints and had a season of rejoicing; found 26 families of the fall emigration at this point and Nephi begins to extend her borders and assume quite a village appearance and is truly situated in the heart of a valley capable of sustaining thousands. The brethren are erecting a grist mill and a saw mill is much needed.²

Andrew Love in referring to this mill says:

The new frame grist mill, built by Mr. Joseph Birch, is expected to run in a short time; this mill is situated near the mouth of Salt Creek Canyon; the owner is building as a protection against hostile Indians, around the mill, a stone wall twelve feet high; this fort will, in case of an attack from the Indians, be quite a protection, for with long ranged guns the mouth of Salt Creek Canyon might be guarded.³

¹Journal History of the Church, January 18, 1868, p. 6.
²Journal History of the Church, November 1852.
³Journal History of the Church, 1859.
Brough points out that the above mill was never finished, for at the advice of Brigham Young it was moved into town where it would be more safe against Indian attacks.\(^1\)

Love gives an account of many of the early occupations. Adams, Grace, and Baxter were nail manufacturers and in 1859 he records that their business had grown to such an extent that "they are going to erect more extensive buildings." \(^2\) This same year he records that "Messrs. Gardner and Andrews are putting their saw mills in good order." \(^3\)

In 1863 Love wrote, "Among the trades here is a hat shop conducted by Mrs. John Sidwell." \(^4\)

In a letter to the Deseret News from Samuel Pitchforth dated July 23, 1864, he writes:

Mr. John Hague's new grist mill is doing good business, as also the Nephi Tannery owned by Messrs. Andrews and Boswell. \(^5\)

Brother L. H. Baxter had a fine nursery started also, according to Andrew Love. \(^6\)

In the spring of 1870, William Garrett, a pioneer brick maker of Davis county, moved his family to Nephi and again engaged in the brick-making business. He continued this work for five years with his sons. \(^7\)

\(^1\) Brough, op cit., p. 63

\(^2\) Andrew Love, Andrew Love's Journal, as cited in Journal History of the Church, 1859.

\(^3\) Ibid.

\(^4\) Ibid.

\(^5\) Andrew Jensen, Juab Stake, Nephi Ward History.

\(^6\) Journal History of the Church, 1859.

\(^7\) The William Garrett Family of England (Salt Lake City: Printers Inc., 1952), p. 3.
The midwife played a big part in the early days of Nephi. When doctors were scarcely known, "mid-wives" were depended upon to see the women through their hours of travail. Mrs. Eliza Chapman Gadd and Gerusha Boswell were two of the earliest ones. Together they brought more than 3000 babies into the world.¹ A later mid-wife who has delivered probably more than a thousand babies is Ann Leavitt Stephenson.

The Telegraph line came through Nephi in 1866 and gave employment to many young fellows and girls of the day. William A. C. Bryan stated that he put the Nephi office to work about Christmas Day, 1866. The telegraph office was in the home of Charles H. Bryan, his father. After the "boys on the line" had been working for a few months, President Young called on them to take up classes and teach young women the art. Mary Ellen Love Neff reminisced about their training:

In the summer of 1867 Miss Elizabeth Parkes, Miss Elizabeth Ann Claridge, Miss Hetty Grace and myself were called by the Ecclesiastical authorities of the ward to study telegraphy. Our teacher, Wm. A. C. Bryan, had been called to study telegraphy under Professor Clowes. He made a good record and was installed operator in charge of the Nephi Telegraph Office as soon as it was opened in the late fall of 1866.

We girls had a happy, busy time that summer and enjoyed our study and practice of telegraphy so that the time passed swiftly.

She continues, saying that after they learned to be telegraphers they were assigned to various offices, Lizzie Parkes being put in charge of the Nephi Telegraph office.²

Mr. Bryan was an efficient telegraph operator in Nephi for years,

¹McCune, op. cit., pp. 100-101.
²Susa Young Gates, Memorial to Elizabeth Claridge McCune: Missionary Philanthropist, Architect (Salt Lake City, 1924), pp. 76-78.
Elizabeth Parkes becoming his wife and first assistant. On October 18, 1941, Mr. Bryan was honored for his early work as a telegraph operator by Western Union, during the Centennial celebration of the first American telegraph line.

In the little town of Nephi there was always need for the cobbler and the blacksmith, and this was supplied. Very few operated stores, however, for everything was home grown, but one enterprise stands out in Nephi history and that is the Co-op Store. It stood as one of the landmarks of the town. It was established in the early fifties and was what its name indicated, a cooperative institution, owned and operated by more than one hundred residents of Nephi. It often paid as high as twenty-five per cent a year in dividends.

Early Government

The people of Nephi were first organized under a complete and judicious ecclesiastical organization. It cared for their welfare, settled differences, gave the necessary leadership as well as the spiritual help. Brough says:

This complete organization was necessary or the pioneers would never have survived the crossing of the plains nor the first years in their new homes in the Utah territory. There was peace and order at all times because they were united in spirit and purpose.

It wasn't until the spring of 1852 that civil government was

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1McCune, op. cit., p. 92.
2Ibid., p. 93
3Ibid., p. 73
organized. Joseph L. Heywood, writing to the Deseret News in September, 1852, lists the following officers:

**Mayor:** Josiah Miller.

**Alderman:** Timothy B. Foote, Charles H. Bryan, John Carter, Isaac Grace.

**Councilors:** Amos Gustin, John Gazer, David Webb, James Crabb, Cleon Elmer, Levi Gifford, Ichabod Gifford, Thomas Tranter, and Miles Miller.

**Recorder, Assessor and Collector:** Z. H. Baxter.

**Treasurer:** Wm. Gazer.

**Marshal:** Israel Hoyt.

**Supervisor of Streets:** Charles Sperry. ¹

At first there was very little for the civil authorities to do, for the Church had everything well in hand. The gradual transition from Church leadership to civil government brought some problems. One such incident occurred in March, 1853. Jacob G. Bigler was presiding as Bishop of Juab County. Brother Heywood was president of the Nephi Branch. George W. Bradley was probate judge of Juab County, and the city had a full staff of officers with Josiah Miller as Mayor. Each of these men had responsibilities over the people. But there were only a few people, and soon there were some differences among the officers, particularly Brother Heywood, Judge Bradley and Bishop Bigler. It was decided that on March 13 a conference would be held in which all the people would vote as to whether they wanted to sustain the present officers.

A Brother Sly and Brother Foote voted against President Heywood and Judge Bradley, some did not vote, but the vast majority voted to sustain the present officers. ²

There were no doubt many misunderstandings, but usually they were

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¹ Brough, Deseret News, May 3, 1852.

² Heywood, op. cit.
settled in a spirit of fair play and without the characteristic rowdyism and lawlessness of most western frontiers. 1

Juab County was organized March 3, 1852 2, and in 1866 Nephi was designated as the County Seat. 3 Nephi City was not incorporated as a municipal corporation until 1889.

The Walker War

Following the early Indian skirmishes in 1849 at Battle Creek, now Pleasant Grove, peace prevailed among the Mormons and the natives. 4 The Indians were learning to support themselves, and the settlers were helping to support them until they could learn white men's ways. Martha Spence Heywood records having the Indians come to help her with the yard work. She also tells of a meeting in which several Indians were baptized.

February 20, 1853 - Sunday. Yesterday had a meeting for the Indians who had been baptized last summer and the old captain whose name is Peoro—was ordained and made known some interesting facts to the brethren by means of Bro. Hold who is the interpreter concerning his faith and doctrine. 5

W. A. C. Bryan in his later years told of visits from friendly Indians, one such named Juab that he remembered very well.

I remember that early one spring morning as light from the stars grew less a rap was made on our door. Father lifted the latch and looked out and without closing the door said, "Mother, Juab is outside." I jumped up and in a moment was outside; and there stood a tall Indian, erect as an image, and holding in his left hand a gun which he was in the act of setting down at rest.

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1 Brough, op. cit., p. 66.
2 Acts, etc., of the Territory of Utah, 1852, p. 163, as cited in Andrew Jensen, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.
3 McCune, op. cit., p. 33.
4 Brough, op. cit., p. 70
5 Heywood, op. cit.
He was standing probably a distance of 30 feet from the door, in an attitude of dignity and expectancy as if waiting to be first spoken to. I can see him now as the gun slipped through his hand, and I heard the bang, and almost see the bullet as it sped past his ear. He never relaxed his dignity but quietly put his hand up to his ear and felt of it, and shook it, as if only to clear his hearing, and then waited for father to salute him and ask his desire.

Father was a great lover of Indians and he never failed to get into their hearts. They always said that father had but one tongue, and spoke as straight as the flight of an arrow.

At this time after father had said "Hike ticaboo humbo aahanty Juab" (Good morning, or, as you please, I am friendly toward you, what is your desire Juab?)—the Indian told father that while he was hunting in the Oak Creek mountains about 40 miles southwest from Nephi, he had found a number of cattle, and he was wondering if they did not belong to father and his friends in the valley.

Father told him that on account of scarcity of hay before the snow came, he and his friends had been compelled to turn their cattle out upon the range, and though they had diligently searched for, they had been unable to find them, and they were very much in need of the cattle for use in cultivating their farms.

Juab explained to father that it would be unsafe to go to find cattle in the day-time, on account of unfriendly Indians who might make the discovery, and so it was arranged that after night Juab would lead the owners to the place where the cattle would be found; and he did so.

This Indian seemed to have no tribe, and no relations; he was alone, always alone, but he was a great friend to the early settlers, and gave them many needed warnings of danger.

He often came to our home when I was a boy, and my parents permitted me to go with him. We sometimes picked berries along the creek bank; and when mother made pies of them, Juab always got a slice.¹

These stories serve to illustrate the good feelings between the Saints and their red brethren.

In the early summer of 1853 trouble began to brew. Chief Walker and his braves began to attack the settlements. Quite a number of white people and many Indians were killed in these skirmishes. Several small settlements were broken up, among them the neighboring towns of Santaquin in Utah County and Spring City in Sanpete County. This made the citizens of Nephi on edge and necessitated strong guards being established and

¹Brough, op. cit., p. 70.
caused some hardship to the citizens. \(^1\) "We had to tear down some of our houses and move into closer quarters," said Bishop Bigler later, "It was necessary to do all our works in companies." \(^2\)

George A. Smith was given military power to put all the communities in order as he proceeded south. Nephi was put under military law on July 19, 1853, Major George Bradley was commanding. \(^3\)

On this same day, the Deseret News reported: "On the 19th of July the Indians attempted to surprise the settlement on Pleasant Creek (Mount Pleasant) in the north part of San Pete County, and stole horses and cattle at Manti and Nephi." \(^4\)

These actions brought on the fort-building era in Utah. It was not long until the Nephites were also planning stronger and larger fortifications.

The Deseret News of October 1, 1853, told of the following encounter with Indians at Clover Creek (Mona), nine miles north of Nephi.

On the 10th inst., at 00 minutes past 10 p.m., the Indians commenced firing on a party of 10 men, under command of Lieut. R. Burns, who were encamped on Clover Creek, in Juab Valley, and continued firing until 40 minutes past 11, slightly wounding Isaac Duffin in the knee, killing two horses, and wounding one horse and several calves. In the morning Lieut. Burns' party judged, from the signs, that they had killed two Indians and wounded three. \(^5\)

\(^1\)Brough, op. cit., p. 70.

\(^2\)Jacob G. Bigler, "Pioneer Sketch", Church Historical Archives, Salt Lake City.

\(^3\)Mary Henderson, Historic Sites and Landmarks, p. 167, as cited in Brough, op. cit., p. 70.

\(^4\)The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), July 19, 1853.

\(^5\)The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), October 1, 1853.
As these depredations continued, many people became vexed and wanted Brigham Young to retaliate through the Nauvoo Legion which was the State Militia, but Brother Brigham said:

How many times have I been asked in the past week, what I intend to do with Walker. I say let him alone severely. I have not made war on the Indians, nor am I calculating to do it. My policy is to give them presents, and be kind to them, instead of being Walker's enemy, I have sent him a great pile of tobacco to smoke when he is lonely in the mountains. He is now at war with the only friends he has upon this earth, and I want him to have some tobacco to smoke.\(^1\)

Even with Brigham's advice to leave the Indians alone some few deviated from the course, much to the regret of the majority. Martha Spence Heywood tells of one such instance:

The Saturday after Mr. Heywood left for Salt Lake City the San Pete brethren arrived here on their way to the city to attend conference and brought with them the bodies of three murdered brethren, by the Indians, out of four who started from Sanpete the day before the company did. They had not obeyed counsel in camping where they did that night. They were very much mutilated and the other one was found and brought in the next day.

This barbarous circumstance actuated our brethren counselled by Father Morley of Sanpete (who no doubt was much excited in the time of it) and President Call of Fillmore, to do quite as barbarous an act the following morning, being the Sabbath. Nine Indians coming into our camp looking for protection and bread with us, because we promised it to them and without knowing they did the first evil act in that affair or any other, were shot down without one minute's notice. I felt satisfied in my own mind that if Mr. Heywood had been here they would not have been dealt with so unhumanly. It cast considerable gloom over my mind. Mr. H. has told me on leaving to do all I could to encourage them by employing them to work for me.\(^2\)

Most of the Nephite people treated the Indians very well, however. Chief Walker seemed to have a lot of confidence in some of the Nephite

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\(^2\)Heywood, op. cit.
brethren, particularly Father Caaler who gave Walker a Patriarchal blessing and told him that if he learned of the Mormons, and to do as they did to cultivate the earth, etc., he would be blessed. ¹

Sometime in the very early years of Nephi an Indian farm was established. Sister Heywood records, April 16, 1854, that:

Brother Jeremiah Hatch has located with us to supervise the Indian farm by appointment. He is a young man that I have respected for his intellectuality and I have faith to believe he will be a blessing to this settlement.²

On May 3, 1854, Sister Heywood records of a blessing being put upon the Indian farm by Father Caaler.

In May, 1854, Chief Walker appealed to Governor Brigham Young for peace. Juab Valley became the scene of the peace treaty at Chicken Creek, just eleven miles south of Nephi. Daniel H. Wells gives an interesting account of the peace meeting.

When we approached them, Walker was in his wickiup; he had fastened it down to within about 6 feet of the ground and we had to crawl to get in and out. I remember our having a good laugh at him because of this. He sat in this arrangement like a prince and never rose at all. He remarked through our interpreter that Brigham was a big chief and Walker was a big chief. Suiting the action to the word, he put him thumbs up to indicate that he was as big a chief as Brigham, and Brigham as big as he. In the treaty the Indians agreed to give up the stolen horses—at least all they had of them then in their possession. Walker would not talk. He had a sick child. If this child died, someone else he thought, might die, and it was a long time before we got him to talk. He asked us to administer to the child (through prayer and laying on of hands) which we did. President Young asked him what he wanted in the way of presents. He said, 'I don't know. You talk.' I think he was afraid he would say something less than President Young would give him. After this treaty, Walker became very friendly. He traveled with us to Cedar City, and camped with us that night. He did this for our

¹Heywood, op. cit.

²Ibid.
protection, fearing some of his Indians who did not know of the treaty might make a raid on us. We enjoyed good peace after that for several years.1

Building of the Fort Wall

Not long after Nephi was settled the people commenced to build a fort so that they would have protection from the Indians. As was mentioned earlier in this chapter, the first fort was very small, covering only two blocks. Martha Spence Heywood mentions the building of this first fort in her journal as early as 1852. She records on November 11:

The Fort has had quite a start, having four rooms reared of adobes, two belonging to us, one which we will occupy the other rent to Bro. Bentley and two rooms for a tithing house to be occupied by Bishop Bigler who is our Presiding Bishop.2

This first fort no doubt served the citizens very well until hostilities broke out with Walker. Then in 1853 a larger fort was started and for a time progressed very well, but just prior to the Walker Peace treaty, the lack of Indian activity had lulled the Nephites to negligence. In fact they ceased the work altogether.

Early in May, President Brigham Young and some of the brethren arrived in Nephi. They held a meeting in the schoolhouse and Brother Brigham reprimanded the people for not having better protection against the Indians. Sister Heywood says of this meeting, "Brother Brigham spoke and one of his remarks was that if the people did not obey council in building their Fort and Wall and securing themselves they would get their throats cut."3

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2Heywood, op. cit.
3Ibid.
This spurred the people on in their building activity, but there was a difference of opinion as to whether they should build a fort or a wall or both. Many of the citizens objected to Brother Heywood and his council that they should only build a wall. They insisted that Brigham Young's counsel had been to build both a fort and a wall.

A public meeting was held, and the people asked that Brother Heywood be removed from office and voted down his plan. Brother Andrew Love records in his journal:

Sat. May 20, 1854: The house was full of spectators who all voted to sustain the council. At a public meeting held at 10 o'clock Bro. Heywood called for a vote of the people to sustain him in carrying out Pres. Young's plan in building a city wall, but he was voted down as the question was unfairly put. There was a little squabbling and cross firing in the afternoon and considerable division in camp. 1

Even after this there was no unanimity as to what they should do so another meeting was held. Four of the members of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles were there and listened to both cases. Hinckley records:

After due deliberation (they) decided that each party had gained their case and that constable should pay the costs. The Twelve counselled that the people should forgive Brother Heywood and that he also forgive the people who were asked to reinstate him and all begin anew. 2

Before the Apostles dismissed the hearing, they discharged all the old committees and a new one was appointed. It consisted of Timothy B. Foote, Jacob G. Bigler, David Webb, Joseph L. Heywood and George Kendall. 3 Under the advice and counsel of Brigham Young they built a wall around three square blocks, twelve feet high, six feet at the base tapering to two

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1 Journal of Andrew Love, as cited in Journal History, May 20, 1854.
2 Jensen, op. cit.
3 Ibid.
feet at the top. This was to be completed in three months. 1

Edwin Harley in his well-kept diary gives us a good picture of his part in rearing the wall.

June 1st, 1854: Went to the pinery and cut some poles for the city wall.
2nd, Hauled home some poles.
6th, 7th, & 8th - Worked at the wall poles and cleared off the ground for the city wall.
July 3, 1854: Put the poles for my city wall.
July 4, 1854: Layed the first mud on my city wall. 2

Sister Heywood records in her journal for June 15, 1854, "on this day the brethren commenced the wall with vigor and unity." 3

The work progressed very rapidly until Walker objected. She further records:

Walker on seeing the wall go up demanded what it was for and on being told it was to preserve ourselves from the Americans who were displeased with us having more wives than one, he appeared satisfied with the explanations and Batiste desired that there would be a gate left for his special use on the southeast corner so that he might come in and out as he pleased.

On Saturday evening, June 10th, Walker went to Bro. Bradley and told him the wall should not go up that it was not as he had told him to keep the Americans out, it was to keep him and his party out, that it was made known by a Mormon white boy to one of the Indian boys and that Brigham was coming here by and by to decoy him into our midst and cut off his head. He told him that if the wall went up our people not gather crops, that they would be destroyed in consequence the wall had to be stopped and an express sent to Brigham Young. 4

This slowed down the building considerably, but by November 20, 1854, it was reported that the City Wall was up "most of it twelve feet

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1Heywood, op. cit.
2Edwin Harley, Diary of Edwin Harley (personal records of Mrs. Elmont Carter, Nephi, Utah.)
3Heywood, op. cit.
4Ibid.
high, and the remainder about nine." The gates were hung, and had been locked on the night of the 13th, and the guards had been dismissed.¹

On the 30th of November, 1851, the settlers appointed a day of feasting and merrymaking to celebrate the completion of the walls. Truly they had accomplished a great task. All the labor had been donated, each person responsible for so much of the wall. If it had been paid for it would have cost $8,400, a huge sum in those days. The only cash expended was in buying the metal parts necessary to hang the two gates which permitted the Old California Trail to pass through the Main Street of the fort. Abraham Boswell, who had been a member of the Mormon Battalion, supplied the cash for these.²

Concerning the fort wall, an interesting article appeared in the Deseret News of December 21, 1851.

We are requested by the Committee, viz: — E. T. Benson, J. L. Heywood, J. G. Bigler, T. B. Foote, and George Kendall to inform the traveling community that the city gates of Nephi will be closed at 6 o'clock p.m. on each day during this winter. (Would it not be well for some person to live near one of the gates, and notify the public, which as travelers are often belated, and might suffer inconvenience? — Ed.)³

The Saints continued living inside the fort until 1860. Andrew Love records, "This year (1860) the people commenced to move out of the city fort where they had lived on their one quarter acre lots and now built on their other city lots."⁴

In 1863 Love records that President Young had given instructions

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¹The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), November 20, 1851, as cited in Journal History of the Church, November 20, 1851.

²McCune, op. cit., p. 68.

³The Deseret News, Salt Lake City, December 21, 1851.

to level the Fort Wall.

At 5 o'clock we assembled for meeting in the new social hall where a full house was addressed by Pres. Young and Kimball and Elders John Taylor and Lorenzo Snow. The instruction given was invaluable, advising the people to level down their old fort wall, enlarge their lots, beautify their homes, improve their orchards and pleasant walks and still continue to add to their public improvements until a fine city should adorn their present site.

In 1864 Edwin Harley tells us that he was then helping tear down the city wall when he wasn't hauling wood.\(^2\)

By 1920 only a few traces of the wall remained, but in this year the four corners of the wall were marked with concrete monuments.\(^3\) In 1935 the last remaining piece of the wall was given a proper monument and is now preserved at the Nephi City Pioneer Memorial Park for all to see.\(^4\)

The Grasshopper War

The year 1855 dawned upon the little settlement of Nephi with much joy and prospects for the future. The trouble with Walker had been settled, and the crops looked good. The farmers were congratulating themselves on what good crops they would have. They discussed the possibilities of enlarging their granaries. Then a destruction as dreadful as any the Indians had inflicted came upon them. They called it the grasshopper war.

In May Brother George A. Smith wrote back to the Deseret News from Nephi.

**EDITOR OF THE NEWS:** Having just arrived at the city, I improve the first opportunity to inform you of passing events.

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\(^1\) The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), August 18, 1855.

\(^2\) Harley, *op. cit.*, April 8, 1864.

\(^3\) McCune, *op. cit.*, p. 70.

\(^4\) The Times News (Nephi), November 21, 1935.
All the settlements thus far are bountifully supplied with millions of grasshoppers, which are feeding luxuriantly upon the tender blades of the growing crops, and have entirely used up hundreds of acres of grain in this county, and are still busy at their vocation. Every settlement in Utah County is visited in like manner, and I understand that the grasshoppers are very plenty in Sanpete county.\(^1\)

John Pyper, John Vickers, and David Cazier, prominent citizens at the time, gave the following picture.

At the thickest migration of the flying legions passing over our valley, those grasshoppers were so numerous that they actually darkened and hid the sun from us, such as a cloud passing through the air. A field of grain that was fresh and green in the morning was at night as some land just plowed. Not only the fields were robbed of vegetation, but every tree was also stripped of the beautiful green foliage until the earth resembled the winter time of that season.

It was a most pitiful and discouraging sight to us. The crops and prospects destroyed, with but little bread stuff on hand, nothing like a sufficiency to last until another harvest come.

The 1907 *Improvement Era* gave a description of this terrible calamity and recorded that "the insects piled themselves into the north-east corner of the fort wall making one great mass for 20 rods down each side from the corner almost to the top of the wall. (12 feet high)."\(^3\)

On August 18, 1855, Bishop Jacob G. Bigler of the Nephi Ward wrote the following to President John Taylor:

Nephi City, Juab Co., Aug. 18, 1855

President John Taylor: Dear Brother

I thought I would drop you a few lines, thinking you would be glad to hear from me and the brethren at Nephi. Myself and family have enjoyed reasonable health, since you were here, as also the Saints in general in this place. You have heard before this of the destruction of our crops, by grasshoppers early in the season destroyed nearly all of our wheat crop, we shall not realize more than half the seed sown. Our potatoes were seriously

\(^1\)Journal History of the Church, May 4, 1855, p. 1.

\(^2\)The *Times News* (Nephi), Centennial Story, "100 Years in Nephi," 1951.

\(^3\)The *Improvement Era*, Vol. 10, 1907.
injured gray bug that ate off the leaves; our corn was injured by grasshoppers and black crickets, our crops are late, but first rate, considering the trouble we have had to save them, and we think we shall raise enough to sustain us until another harvest.¹

He then continued, explaining that after the wheat was destroyed they planted corn and potatoes.² It was a hard year; they lived practically wholly on fish from the brooks and "Johnny Cake," but with all of these hardships they felt blessed. Brother Bigler continues in the same letter:

The Saints in Nephi enjoy themselves well; they realize that the hand of the Lord is over them for good; and when we read in your most excellent paper of the wars, bloodshed, contentions, mobs, riots, whirlwinds, etc., it makes us say of a surety, the Lord has taken peace from the earth and Utah only remains to spread forth over the earth.

"Gentile rays of truth sublime,
And peace for ever dear."³

Pioneer Life

We who enjoy the many modern inventions of today have a hard time visualizing the conditions under which those early pioneers lived. Their first light was the blaze of the fireplace, their first floors were often dirt, their water was obtained from the creek and irrigation ditches. Traveling was slow and arduous, the people having to go by horse, covered wagon or stagecoach. While the men worked on their farms and in the mountains, the women-folk washed, carded, spun, and wove wool, making all their own clothing. They colored the cloth with sagebrush, dogwood, indigo, and perhaps other herbs. The stockings were knit. Rag carpets were made.

¹Journal History of the Church, August 18, 1855, p. 2.
²Ibid.
³Ibid.
Many of the farm implements were devised and made by the men-folk. Most everything worn or used was made and provided by these industrious people. A man of that day and age had to know how to do many things. The account given by Edwin Harley of building a house is filled with details of pioneer ingenuity.

He started his house in 1852 in the month of December. He tells us that on the dates of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, he hauled some cedar logs for to "try and make a house as there is too much snow in the Canyons [sic]." He then continues his daily entries:

Dec. 6: Went to the cedars for a big log and cleared off the snow from the place for my house.
7: Layed the foundation for my house.
9 & 10: Worked at my house, it snows most every day.
13: Hauled a load of wood for chinkings.
14: Hauled a load of willows.

The next four days he records trying to work but the snow was so bad that it took most of his time clearing away the snow.

20: Worked at house put the hay and a thin coat of dirt on the roof.
21: Hauled a load of wood.
22: Chinked at the house.
23: Chinked and began to plaster up the house.
24: Finished plastering house. It still snows more or less every day, the snow is quite deep.
25: Christmas day layed the flgor in my house.
27: Moved into my house today.2

Probably one of the saddest parts of pioneer life was the lack of medical aid that they experienced. When someone became sick, no trained professional doctors or nurses were there to help. The people had to use the home remedies they had learned and hope for the best. Martha Spence

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1 Harley, op. cit.
2 Ibid.
Heywood gave a good description of the type of remedies that were used. When her little daughter was sick she gave her some Saffron and sage tea. Then she bathed the child with Saleraters water to bring out the rash. When her breathing became difficult the child was given Castor Oil and annointed with consecrated oil and given some inwardly. Lobelia was also given to aid her breathing. When the breathing became much worse Sister Heywood put onions under the child's arms and oiled her well. In spite of the mother's careful and prayerful watch, the child died, leaving a sorrowing mother, father and brother.¹

Social, cultural and recreational.—Even though the Pioneers who came into Juab Valley were very busy wresting a living from the soil, they found time to provide recreation and social activities for themselves. As early as March of 1852, Martha Spence Heywood mentioned a party and ball that she attended where mince and custard pies and fried cakes were served.²

In December, 1852, Sister Heywood records that "they had the first dance for this season on Friday night as a reward for getting the school house repaired."³

In Pioneer times people found it necessary to provide their own recreation, even though it had to be mixed with the more productive activities. Thus, if a housewife wished to make a quilt she would invite her neighbors to a "quilting." The guests would do the sewing, and she would provide the food. In the evening after the men finished their work they

¹Heywood, op. cit.
²Ibid.
³Ibid.
would join the ladies in a dance.¹

Dancing seemed to be one of the most popular forms of recreation for the early settlers of Utah. At first the leaders frowned upon round dances, so the Saints restricted themselves to quadrilles. However, other dances were gradually introduced, such as Danish tucker, Scotch reel, lancers, waltz quadrille, waltzes, and two steps. Charles Sperry served as the fiddler. Later more instruments were added, making an orchestra. Charles Haynes and Alfred Gowers took turns calling for the quadrilles. Often there were too many dancers to go onto the floor at the same time, so each man was given a number as he entered. Then when a dance was announced, the manager would call out all numbers, say, from one to forty. At the call of the next dance the remaining numbers would go on. This way they avoided overcrowding.²

House warming parties were in order when new homes were completed. It answered two purposes: It offered the chance for an enjoyable visit among friends while the dancing helped to smooth the rough floor boards.³

In the winter sleigh riding was one of the most pleasant pastimes for young and old. Young people would put a wagon box on a pair of "bobs," fill it with straw, blankets, themselves, and then with sleigh bells tinkling go speeding over the snow. Sometimes they would race one another for excitement. In the summer, hay racks on wagons took the place of sleighs.⁴

¹Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit. p. 15.
²Wanda Garrett, op. cit.
³Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, op. cit., p. 16.
⁴Ibid.
Horseshoe pitching was a favorite sport for men, while the ladies, dressed in the "cumbersome but elegant riding habit of the day," enjoyed this diversion.

Celebrations were a highlight in the Pioneer's life. Even the hardest-working man in town would take time off to celebrate the Fourth and Twenty-Fourth of July. A synopsis of a typical celebration of the 24th follows:

At daybreak a salute of musketry by Capt. J. O. Bigler's Company. Capt. Sperry's Band serenaded the city.
At sunrise the stars and stripes were unfurled.
At 9 a.m., the escort was formed by Lt. John Kienkee, Marshal of the day, marched through the principal streets, called at Prest. Bigler's residence and escorted the President and his council to the newly erected Bowery.

ORDER OF ESCORT
Advance guard, in charge of Lt. E. Randall; Military Band, led by Capt. C. Sperry; Choir, led by D. Webb; Hand-cart, drawn by Father and Mother Bowles, motto on banner, 'Gathering of Israel.' Twelve aged fathers; motto on banner, 'Fathers in Israel,' led by S. A. Wolf; Twelve aged mothers, 'Mothers in Israel,' led by Tranter, Presidency and Patriarch, Mayor and Alderman of the City. Committee of Arrangements and Reporter. Twelve married ladies; motto, 'Zion shall increase,' led by H. Brown. Twelve young men, motto, 'Zion's Defence,' led by A. Wolf. Twelve Young Ladies; motto, 'Virtue of Zion,' led by J. Caizer. Twenty-four little Boys, 'The young sons (?) seen in the vision,' led by Z. D. Baxter. Twenty-four little Girls, motto, 'Our future hope to propagate,' led by J. Pyper. Citizens, led by Wm. M. Black. Rear Guard, commanded by Lt. E. Elmer.
At 10, the Marshal called the assembly to order.
Choir sang, 'Lo, the gentile chain is broken.'
Prayer by Patriarch Wm. Caizer.
'Ye Gentile nations, cease your strife,' was sung by the choir.
Oration by Elder Andrew Love.
Remarks by Pres. J. O. Bigler.
Address by Elder Saml. Pitchforth.
Music by Capt. Sperry's Band.
'O ye mountains high,' sang by the assembly.
Benediction by father J. Miller.
At 3 p.m., re-assembled. Singing and prayer.
Toasts read by S. Pitchforth.
The Presidency of Nephi, like faithful shepherds, ever watching—God bless them.

The Deseret News—the organ of President Brigham Young, played by a skilful hand.
Editors John Taylor, Erastus Snow and George Q. Cannon—May
the Snow storm blow, the Cannon roar and the Taylor cut, until the gain-sayers of Zion are silenced.

The Prophet Brigham—The greatest telegraphic conductor in the universe—a cable reaching from earth to heaven.

Songs and dancing closed the exercises of the day.

Nothing occurred to disturb the peace of the Saints.

James Picton,

Andrew Love, William Evans, Isaac Grace, Thomas Ord, Committee of Arrangements. Samuel Pitchforth, Reporter.1

Also in Nephi each September 25 the early settlers observed the founding of the city. Sister Heywood has faithfully recorded the first celebration.

On last Saturday, being the 25th, we celebrated the anniversary of our settling this place. We met in the school house at about eleven o'clock with our invited guests, Father Morley and lady with several others from Sanpete and Bro. Benjamin Johnson and their ladies from Summitt Creek. The Clover Creek folks were invited but did not come with the exception of Sister Biglow. We had also new settlers who arrived the night before, Bro. Udell and Vickers (English), also brethren from Iron county on their way to the city. We had excellent remarks from Father Morley who referred to his past experiences — also from Bro. Johnson who also referred to his past experiences in the Church. The most of the company then adjourned while the tables were set and at about three o'clock we took our seats. Our feast was composed of what we had raised in our settlement during the last year and made a very handsome appearance — chickens cooked in various ways, vegetables, preserves made with water melon molasses, cake, bread of flour raised here, wine of choke-cherries and we found that our house was too small to accommodate the people.2

Brother Edwin Harley records that he and his wife and children attended a feast "prepared by the Brethren that have lived here for those that have crossed the plains this season."3

Sister Heywood records attending on Christmas Day of 1852 a picnic party at the schoolhouse. Also during this Yule season she attended a wedding party at Amos Justin's home, the first wedding mentioned in the

1The Deseret News (Salt Lake City,) July 24, 1857.
2Heywood, op. cit.
3Harley, op. cit., February 23, 1853.
little settlement. And on New Year's Day, Timothy B. Foote arranged an outstanding supper and dance for those employees that had worked on the Sevier bridge.

Said Sister Heywood:

I had a special invitation from Sister Foote which extended to Sister Candace Smith who is staying with me. And I must say, a better party I have not attended in the Valley, nor up to this time have we had so good a one in this place.¹

After the Social Hall was built, drama became an important part of the community. Some of the early dramas played there were: "Damon and Pythius," "Macbeth," "Merchant of Venice," "King Lear," and "Othello." Included in the casts were many of the citizens of the town.²

Music played a very vital part in the community. In 1853 William Minshall Evans was called and set apart by President Brigham Young to organize and conduct a choir. He served from that date until his death in 1877, with the exception of one year's leave of absence. There was no organ, so the choir sang acapella. As time went on, concerts were presented to raise money to buy music. The soprano part was purchased, and Mr. Evans would copy by hand, on home-made paper, the other parts to harmonize. Gustave Henroid later helped him with this work.³

In 1863 violins began to furnish the choir accompaniment. Violinists were David Webb, Tom Midgley, Brother Littlewood, Charles Sperry, Gustave Henroid, and James Darton. In 1870 the first organ was purchased

¹Heywood, op. cit.


and Gustave Henroid became the first organist. Some of the other early choir leaders were Charles Sperry, James Darton, Charles Morris, David Webb, Frederick W. Chappell, and Charles Haynes.¹

In 1857 the Deseret News wrote, "There is an excellent choir at Nephi and the Saints are justly proud of it."² Often the choir was invited by President Young to accompany him on his trips to Sanpete County and Southern Utah. They also sang at some of the General Conferences.³

There is a discrepancy as to when the first brass band was organized in Nephi, dates varying from 1854 to 1861, but there is no disagreement as to the quality of the band. It was one of the outstanding bands in the Territory of Utah.⁴

In 1865, a Deseret News correspondent traveling with Brigham Young's party as he journeyed to Salt Lake City, said of the band:

A few miles south of Nephi the Presidency were met by an escort, and as we halted in front of Bishop Bryan's residence, an excellent brass band, numbering twelve intelligent looking persons and led by Mr. Hawkins struck up a lively air, which cheered our spirits and made us forget somewhat the fatigue of forty miles travel.⁵

The Journal History records in 1865:

At a meeting in Payson
The singing and music were beautifully executed by four good choirs from Springville, Spanish Fork, Payson and Nephi, and the

¹Ibid., p. 13.
²The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), May 7, 1857.
³McCune, op. cit., pp. 83–84.
⁴Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851–1951, op. cit., Early members of the band were Gustave Henroid, George Carter, Thomas Midgley, H. F. McCune, Charles Sperry, George McCune, Isaac Darton, Joseph Darton, James Jenkins, John Andrews, William Evans, and Enoch Bowles.
⁵The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), June 25, 1865.
excellent band from Nephi which accompanied the President on his southern trip last summer, and afforded so much harmonious gratification to the company and settlements through which they passed.

President Brigham Young's scribe recorded the following information concerning a visit made by the President and his party September 9, 1868:

The reception the company met here was a remarkable one. The brass band which is in the first class of musicians under the leadership of Captain Gustave Henroid was at the edge of town waiting for us and marched into town at the head of the company, discoursing sweet music as they went. Opposite the meeting house the street was spanned by an arch of evergreens which with the wings occupied the entire street. Over the center of the arch the words 'Zion's Chieftain Ever Welcome.' After passing through the arch the people extended the whole length of the street up to the Bishops. The number of children was something astonishing for a place no larger than Nephi. Accustomed as we are to seeing children in great abundance, the number here surprised us.2

In 1862 the first fair was held in the Valley. The Nephi branch of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society sponsored it. There were several sections: Stock, vegetables, fruits and flowers, Clothes, Dry Goods, etc., Women's Work, and Produce. T. B. Foote reported that there were many fine entries and the fair was successful. He further states, "An opinion has prevailed in this county that fruit could not be raised here, but the exhibition of peaches, plums, apples, and grapes, showed that such an opinion was utterly fallacious."3

Trials were held in Nephi quite often, and this created excitement and interest for the settlers. The Journal History has an item on the Gunnison trial which was held at Nephi, probably the most famous trial ever held in that place.

1Journal History of the Church, June 10, 1865, p. 3.
2Ibid., September 9, 1868, p. 2.
3The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), September 27, 1862.
Chief Justice John F. Kinney, assigned by the Legislature of the Second Judicial District, held a District Court, at Nephi City, last week, for the trial of the murderers of Capt. Gunnison and party. Three of the Indians were convicted of murder in the third degree and sentence pronounced, imprisonment in the penitentiary for three years.

The cultural pursuits were not neglected in this frontier community. In January, 1853, Martha Spence Heywood recorded, "Mr. Heywood—proposes to get up a literary society which I think will go." On March 5, 1853, she recorded, "There was organized on last evening a society called The Mount Nebo Literary Association - President, Treasurer, Secretary and twelve directors."

Samuel Pitchforth, who was noted for his excellent penmanship, wrote to Joseph Cain on March 1, 1853.

We have enjoyed ourselves first rate this winter; we have had first rate meetings and the spirit of God is with us. I have never lived in a place where the Saints were more united than they are in Nephi. We have had a dancing school in operation for some time, also a cyphering school.

Edwin Harley in 1862 wrote of attending meetings of the library society.

In 1864, the Journal History reported an act passed by the Territorial Legislature to incorporate the Nephi Library and Reading Room association. This was the beginning of a city library for Nephi.

Andrew Jensen noted in his history of Juab Stake that the Juab

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1Journal History of the Church, March 29, 1855, p. 2.
2Heywood, op. cit.
3Ibid.
4Journal History of the Church, March 1, 1853, p. 2.
5Harley, op. cit.
6Journal History of the Church, January 22, 1864, p. 2.
Dramatic Association was presenting parties, dances, and performing two very fine plays, "The Golden Farmer" and "Deaf as a Post."¹

The great American pastime of baseball made its appearance in Nephi on January 1, 1875. McCune says this was the first baseball game played in Utah.² The following is an account of the game written by Charles Haynes, April 9, 1929:

Mr. Samuel H. Gilson, at that time a resident of Nephi, challenged Mr. George C. Whitmore in the following language:

"We will play a game of baseball and I will give you the right to pick your nine men first, and when you are through I will pick nine men from the town at large and beat you." (Each man on the winning team was to receive a "quarter of beef").

"All right," said George, and somewhere in the month of October, 1874, they chose their respective ball teams and started to practice. They were to practice about a month; then they were to play the great game. When all the boys were ready to invade the diamond, a controversy arose as to an umpire having no book of rules to use. The game was postponed until spring, since we had no means of obtaining a book of rules. There were no railroads or telegraphs or telephones in those days, and we had to send to New York, by mail, for a book of rules of the game.

This book did not arrive until December 27th, so we had given up all hopes of playing the game until the following spring. However, when the book did come, it put new life into the boys as well as the principals, so they thought they would play it anyway.

A light snow had fallen the last night of the old year, but everybody wanted this great game to come off, so Will and Robert Pyper and George Kendall and others scraped the snow almost off the entire square (located on Main Street between 5th and 6th North and now known as Pioneer Park). We were to have started the game at 10:00 o'clock a.m., but it was 10:30 before we got underway.

Charles Foote was the umpire, John Chapman and Alma Hague were the scorers, respectively. This notorious game took from 10:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., and the score stood: Gilson's side 17; Whitmore's side 87.

The townspeople at that time were so enthused they turned out en mass to witness the game. Billy Sperry was the backstop for Gilson, but after one inning had been played, he was called home because of the arrival of a son, and Jabus Nowlin took his place behind the bat.

¹Jensen, op. cit.
²McCune, op. cit., p. 34
Following was the lineup for the two teams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHITMORES</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>GILSONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walter P. Reid</td>
<td>Pitcher</td>
<td>Sam Gilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. L. Hudson</td>
<td>Catcher</td>
<td>Jabez Nowlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Henroid</td>
<td>1st Base</td>
<td>Abe Boswell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chas. Haynes</td>
<td>2nd Base</td>
<td>R. C. Blackett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo. C. Whitmore</td>
<td>3rd Base</td>
<td>James R. Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bigler</td>
<td>Shortstop</td>
<td>Jacob Bigler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Depaty</td>
<td>Right Field</td>
<td>Alex Pyper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Belliston</td>
<td>Left Field</td>
<td>Harve Mangum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Ockey</td>
<td>Center Field</td>
<td>Joseph Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schools.—Education for the children of the settlement was one of their first considerations—even before they had fully established their homes. Martha Spence Heywood wrote this description in her journal on May 2, 1852.

Sunday. Had a meeting to regulate about the school and it was decided that school would commence forthwith engaging Candace Smith to teach at the rate of five dollars a week and board herself.

This woman was the first school teacher in Nephi. Other books list Martha Heywood as the first teacher. This is in error, however. She soon was to become the second teacher. She explains it in this way:

To our great surprise we found that Candace left for Manti vacating her situation after six weeks trial of it; she being somewhat dissatisfied with some of the people and the people generally dissatisfied with her management as School Teacher.

In another few weeks Sister Heywood was persuaded to teach the children the basics of an education. She had about seventeen students.

Other early school teachers were Andrew Love, George Spencer, Amy Bigler, Amos Gustin, James Bailey and Thomas Ord. No one now lives to tell us the tale of those first early school days. We glean what we can from

1Ibid., pp. 86-87.
2Heywood, op. cit.
3Ibid.
diaries, journals, historical sketches and remembered conversations.

Homer Brown reminisced at the 50th celebration:

On May 16, 1852 I attended Sunday School in our new meeting house which was also used as a school house. I think the first school teacher of Nephi was Miss Candice Smith. Should there be an earlier teacher it would be interesting to learn his or her name.\(^1\)

David Cazier wrote in his journal:

In 1851 there were no schools nor meetings for me to attend. The first fall and winter we were busy obtaining logs from the canyon so we could build homes. ... Now by this time (1852) the people of Nephi had built a log meeting house and there was a man and his wife by the name of George Spencer who taught school and lived in the meeting or school house. I was 17 years old and it was my first chance to go to school.\(^2\)

In the year 1855 a school house was built inside the fort, just west of the present site of the new Forrest Hotel.\(^3\) The building was eighteen feet by forty feet and was built of brown adobe with a willow, straw, and dirt roof. This building was used not only as a school house, but also for Church and amusement purposes.

Andrew Love gives the following entry in his journal of Wednesday, March 28, 1855: "I commenced a day school at Nephi with 40 scholars, most of them being small children."\(^4\)

In 1856, Edwin Harley recorded hauling wood and leaving half of it at Sister C. Hambleton’s school.\(^5\)

These schools were only grammar schools and gave instruction to

\(^1\) Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 19.

\(^2\) Ibid.

\(^3\) About 50 West First North.

\(^4\) Jensen, op. cit.

\(^5\) Harley, op. cit.
the eighth grade. As the community grew, more schools were opened.

Andrew Jenson recorded in the History of the Nephi Ward, quoting from an article written to the Deseret News in 1867:

We have three schools in full operations; Elder Love is teaching in the Social Hall; Elder J. Midgley opened on Monday last, a school in the new school house in the 1st school district; and Elder J. Chapman is teaching quite a number at his private residence.1

In 1868 Elder Joseph W. Young wrote the following to the Deseret News:

This is an enterprising place, and though only two years since I was last here, yet I see many and marked improvements. Four good schools are kept here, and what is best, all are taught by our own teachers.2 There is a manifest improvement in the great work of Education.3

The Journal History for 1869 gives the following statistics for Juab County, of which Juab Valley was the only inhabited area of any consequence:

Juab County, 4 districts in county, 3 districts reported. 4 schools, 4 male teachers. 207 boys in county between 6 and 16 years. 239 girls in county between 6 and 16 years. 446 children in county between 6 and 16 years. 88 male scholars enrolled. 100 female scholars enrolled. 197 total enrolled. 44.5% of names enrolled. 101 average daily attendance. 37.5% of population actually attending school. $1200.00 paid to male teachers. Also total amount paid to teachers. 8½ months school has been taught during the year. $1000.00 building fund raised.4

In 1873 the first Teachers' Institute was organized in the Valley, and State Superintendent R. L. Campbell complimented the people on being one of the leaders in the state in this phase of education.5

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1Jenson, op. cit.
2"Our own teachers" here is referring to the fact that they are L.D.S.
3The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), March 6, 1868.
4The Journal History of the Church, February 19, 1869, p. 2.
5Ibid., June 16, 1873, p. 1.
Church.—Central and foremost in the life of these early settlers was the Church. It was the reason for their being in the valley, and it provided for them when everything else failed. The first Sunday meeting mentioned is October 12, 1851, less than three weeks after the city had been surveyed. Sister Martha Spence Heywood recorded that they had a good meeting and all acknowledged the goodness of the Lord.

It has been erroneously written in a history of Nephi that the first L.D.S. Ward was organized at Nephi in November, 1852, with Jacob G. Bigler as Bishop.¹

There was no ward in Nephi at this time. Joseph L. Heywood was president of the Nephi Branch of the Church and therefore leader of the people. Jacob G. Bigler was called to be the Presiding Bishop of all the people in Juab County, which at this time included the Saints in Nephi, a small settlement on Clover Creek, now Mona, and others. Among his duties was the managing of tithing.²

In 1853 the people became dissatisfied with Brother Haywood as their President and succeeded in replacing him with Jacob G. Bigler. Thus Brother Bigler served a dual position as Bishop of Juab County and President of the Nephi Branch. Except for a handful of families in Mona, the dominion of Bishop and President was the same. It was suggested that as Branch President, Jacob would not require counselors extra of the two he had in the Bishopric. Brother Charles Bryan and Brother Timothy B. Foote were therefore sustained as first and second counselors, respectively. Brother Richard Bentley became the clerk. Many years later, as the Church organization grew, the office of Presiding Bishop on the county level was

¹McCune, op. cit., p. 106
²Brough, op. cit., p. 63.
discontinued, and the organization took the form it has today.¹

In October, 1853, the Nephi Branch had the following membership:

- 32 Seventies
- 9 High Priests
- 24 Elders
- 12 Priests
- 6 Teachers
- 4 Deacons
- 87 Total Authorities
- 164 not ordained
- 251 Total Authorities and members
- 5 Persons over 8 years of age not baptized
- 140 children under 8 years of age.²

Andrew Love gives us an interesting account of Church happenings in Nephi. In his journal for July 8, 1855, he recorded that "in the afternoon meeting held at Nephi, 7 missionaries were nominated to go to the Snake and Crow Indians."³ Five responded to the call and left for their missions on Friday, July 13.

We are indebted to Andrew Love for giving us a picture of the various meetings they attended in that early period. He wrote:

Nothing of great importance happened at Nephi during the winter of 1857-58. Meetings were held regularly on Sundays, the High Priests met on Monday evenings, the mass quorum of Seventies Tuesday evening; a council meeting of the presidents of Seventies was held on Wednesday evening; prayer or testimony meetings on Thursday evening, meeting of the 49th Quorum of Seventy, Friday evening.⁴

Prior to 1855 the brethren and sisters sat separate in their meeting house. In 1855, after returning from General Conference, Jacob O. Bigler made the following request:

You know it is our duty to strengthen and unite our family and achieve a oneness that was meant when we were married. I request, therefore, that the brethren and sisters sit together in the meeting house, not the brethren on one side and the sisters

¹Ibid., p. 76.

²Journal History of the Church, October 6, 1856, Report of the various wards at General Conference.

³Journal of Andrew Love, as cited in Journal History of the Church, July 8, 1855.

⁴Ibid. He writes this as a summary of the winter period, 1857-58.
on the other.\(^1\)

The year 1856 brought the great reformation in the Church, and Nephi was no exception, most of the Saints being baptized and renewing their covenants.\(^2\)

A somewhat temporary stake organization was effected in 1868 with Jacob G. Bigler as President. At the time it included the whole of Juab County. A High Council was organized at the same time.\(^3\) During the administration of President Bigler the settlement of Levan, twelve miles south of Nephi, was founded. In 1871 Joel Grover succeeded President Bigler as Stake President and soon after, in 1877, the Juab Stake was more fully organized.\(^4\)

Auxiliary organizations developed as the population increased and the need arose. The first of these was the Sunday School. As early as 1852 Martha Spence Heywood tells of attending Sabbath School, but finding no one there except Superintendent Baxter and herself. She was very surprised for this was the second time it had happened. She mentions nothing more in her journal regarding a Sabbath School.\(^5\)

In the summer of 1858 a Sunday School was organized at Nephi with Jonathan Midgley as superintendent. The school was well attended.\(^6\)

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1. Minutes of Nephi Branch, 1854–61, Church Historical Office.
3. Members of this Council were: Samuel Gazier, David Gazier, Timothy S. Hoyt, Timothy B. Foote, William H. Warner, Samuel Claridge, Edward Ockey, Jacob G. Bigler, Jr., Matthew McCune, Israel Hoyt, Andrew Love, and George Kendall.
4. Andrew Jenson, Encyclopedic History (Salt Lake City: 1930), pp. 380–381.
5. Heywood, op. cit.
Andrew Love recorded in his journal in September, 1859, "On Sunday, Sept. 17, 1859, an annual Sunday School festival came off in good style. Teachers, scholars, and parents manifested a lively interest in supporting the Sunday School." ¹

For some reason which has never been ascertained, the Sunday School was discontinued soon after this and was not reorganized until 1867, with Samuel Claridge as superintendent. Subsequently this school was divided into two schools, one under the superintendency of Samuel Pitchforth, and the other under the direction of Geo. Kendall. This lasted for only a short time, and they were again amalgamated into one school with Wm. H. Warner as superintendent. ²

In 1858 the Relief Society was organized at Nephi on June 23, with Mrs. Amelia Goldsbrough as president. This Relief Society was on a stake basis. ³

The year 1874 brought the organization of a Young Ladies Retrenchment Association, a forerunner to the Young Women’s Mutual Improvement Association. The organization was effected March 19, 1874, with Mrs. Charlotte A. Evans as president. ⁴

In 1865, at a public meeting held in the meeting house, Brother Edward Ockey was called and ordained to be the First President of the Seventy-first Quorum of Seventies, by President Joseph Young and Albert P. Rockwood. Six others were called to act with him the following day. ⁵

¹Ibid.
²Jenson, History of Nephi Ward...
³Ibid.
⁴Ibid.
⁵Record book of the First Quorum of Seventies, Nephi Branch, p. 62.
Other members sustained were Samuel Claridge, Edwin Harley, Daniel Miller, John Kienke, Charles Sperry, and Benjamin Riches.

This quorum has carried on to the present day (1958) and has a very active missionary program. It is one of the few quorums in the Church that has its own farm, the income from which is used to support the missionary program.

In 1869 when President Young organized a stake, he also organized a School of the Prophets, which helped the brethren to learn the Gospel more fully and increase their knowledge of languages, etc.¹

The United Order was established at Nephi in 1874, and for a time was quite successful. Joel Grover was the first president.²

At the close of the year 1875, the Church was well established in Nephi and the people were thankful that they were so united in their efforts to build up the Kingdom of God.

The Blackhawk War

After cessation of the Walker War, peace reigned in Central and Southern Utah until 1865 when Blackhawk, owing to a misunderstanding with a Manti citizen, determined to seek revenge and began again to wage war upon the people. He was successful at first, and other tribes throughout the area joined him. This was the opening of hostilities between the white settlers and Indians in Southern Utah which continued through several years.³ It "was the most disastrous to the white population of all the

¹Journal History of the Church, October 30, 1869, p. 1.
²Journal History of the Church, April 19, 1874, p. 2.
³1865, 1866, and 1867.
Utah Indian wars.¹

Nephi, being in the center of the hostilities, took great precaution to be well-prepared. Andrew Love recorded the following in his journal for 1866:

All the cattle owned by the inhabitants of Nephi and Chicken Creek are being moved today, north of this city. It is considered wisdom to do so, in order that they might be better protected from the hostile savages.

All our horses are herded in the day and brought in the city at night.

The Juab Militia are a much more effective force than they were a few years ago. Much credit is due Major Sutton, his adjutant C. Foote and the officers of the Juab Military district, for their untiring exertions to improve the effective force of our battalion, a great many first-class guns have been obtained; a battalion muster comes off every other Saturday; target shooting has been a good portion of the exercises.

Bishop Bryan and Major Sutton are on the alert, and a strict guard is being kept up both night and day; there is also a company on hand, with horses and arms ready to start in short notice, in case of an assault being made on any of our citizens or stock.²

Over sixty citizens of Nephi served in the Blackhawk War in suppressing Indian hostilities in Sanpete and Juab Counties, from April 8, 1866, to June 8, 1866.³ They were mustered out at Nephi on June 8, 1866.

In 1867, peace returned once more to Utah's valleys.

Coming of the Railroad to Juab Valley

On May 10, 1869, the East and West were linked together by rail at Promontory Point.⁴ Soon after, the road was extended south from Ogden to Salt Lake and from Salt Lake south by the Utah Railroad Company. By


³Original Role, Archives Division, Utah State Historical Society.

February 2, 1875, the railroad had reached Juab Valley at York, about fifteen miles north of Nephi. This event marked the end of the pioneer period in Juab Valley and the start of a new era. This was to be an era in which the valley would become a great wool center for all of southern Utah and many new industries would get their start.

1McCune, op. cit., p. 110.
CHAPTER IV

LITTLE CHICAGO DAYS, 1875-1901

Coming of the Utah Southern Railroad to Nephi

It was two years before the railroad was extended to Nephi. During this time York became a booming area. Before the coming of the railroad it had been unsettled, but after it became the terminus a number of homes were built, some railroad employees living there as well as others. During the time hundreds of loads of produce were hauled to and from Nephi. Everything was hauled that had any use. Mrs. McCune records the following interesting bill of freight.


Daily trains arrived at York, carrying freight, passengers and mail. Every day Henry Goldsborough, Sr. met the train with his "hack" to take the mail to and carry it from the train and also to bring passengers to Nephi to stay at his hotel. Always he had a full load, and sometimes there were more passengers than his vehicle could carry. Some of the men who hauled freight during this time were Nephi Jackson, Edward Ockey, Heber Ockey, Samuel Tolley, Billy Webster, and others. Mrs. McCune says "While that point was the terminal of the railroad, it was a lively western railroad frontier, with something always happening."  

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1 McCune, op. cit., p. 110.
2 Ibid., p. 111.
On Saturday, May 3, 1879, the railroad came to Nephi. Bishop Thos. H. G. Parkes gave the following account in his journal:

On Saturday, May 3rd, 1879, the whistle of the first steam engine was heard in Nephi at 6:30 a.m. and on Monday, May 21st, the first train was run up to the depot. School children, men and women got on and rode down to Brother Charles Sperry's and back. The band was there, also.

Everyone was full of enthusiasm to welcome the train. The people were thrilled with the thought that Nephi could boast of a train coming to their town daily, and they looked forward to the experience of riding in a railroad car.

The line was soon extended to Chicken Creek or Juab as it was re-christened.² This became the southern terminal until 1889 when the line of Central Utah was extended to Milford and to Frisco to haul ore from the Horn Silver Mine, but for all intents and purposes Nephi became the business center.

This line was joined on the north by the Utah Central at Provo and the Utah Northern at Salt Lake. These three Utah lines connected with the Union Pacific Railroad in Northern Utah.³

The Sanpete Valley railroad was built in 1880, running from Wales, Sanpete County, to Nephi. It was built by an English Company for the purpose of hauling coal from its mines. This line later went into the hands of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad Company.⁴ Thus, Nephi with two railroads was in an enviable position.

²Journal History of the Church, June 19, 1879, p. 2., also The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), June 19, 1879.
³Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 34.
⁴Ibid., p. 112.
Nephi during this period became the hub, the shipping point for Southeastern Utah and Nevada. Wool was hauled by teams to Nephi, bailed, and shipped to Eastern markets. The Boston Wool Company had its office and storage warehouses at Second South and Main Street in Nephi. Cattle and sheep were driven from southern Utah ranges, loaded on railroad cars at Nephi and shipped to market.

The Journal History recorded in 1887: "The Wool Association of Nephi runs several shifts of hands—day and night, bailing wool for shipment. Other firms are doing a lively business in that line." During this time Charles Andrews built and operated a large baling center. The Summerhays establishment, operated by John Cowan and later by his sons, was also in that business. Hundreds of thousands of pounds of wool were baled here each year before being shipped.

In writing to the Deseret News in 1887, Samuel Pitchforth, in discussing the various industries around Nephi, said of the wool industry:

This industry has been steadily growing for a number of years, and the people of the northern portion of the Territory are just awakening to the greatness of it. There are hundreds of men in the southern counties who depend entirely upon the wool produce for their sustenance. There are hundreds of thousands of sheep roaming the hills and finding pasturage in the rich mountain valleys of that section, and year after year their number increases and the wealth of that section increases with them. No one can really believe the importance and immensity of this industry until he visits Nephi and sees for himself. Nephi is the market for all the wool of this section and towards this port all the wool gravitates. In May and June the wool business is at its height, and Nephi is alive with bustle and activity. The wool clip

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1Ibid., p. 34
2Ibid., p. 34
3Journal History of the Church, June 17, 1887, p. 6.
4McCune, op. cit., p. 112.
last season was over 3,000,000 pounds. Two million and a half was clipped in the spring. Nephi last season exported 3,000,000 pounds of wool and received for it $700,000. The wool merchants are enabled to offer the highest market price for the product and the poor man thereby receives the benefit. Juab County is a natural winter range for sheep, and within the immediate vicinity of Nephi there are 200,000 sheep wintered. Success of great commercial interest is steadily increasing.

He continued, telling of the second great industry which was stock-growing. He said the region was particularly adapted to it, and

already there are immense herds pastured here and the industry is rapidly increasing. Farmers are taking hold of these two industries—wool growing and stock-raising—with profit, and by combining them with farming they are enabled to become prosperous.

Much of this prosperity was due to an organization called the Wool Growers' Association of Southern Utah. This association was organized September 9, 1886, and according to Pitchforth, "consists of 200 members, who represent 200,000 head of sheep that will clip over a million pounds of wool annually."

He further states:

The Wool Growers' Association of Southern Utah was organized for the benefit of the wool growers, and if we save a margin on all materials used, and procure the highest prices for our products, then will the present object of the Association be accomplished.

Hotels and Salt Lake "Drummers"

"Drummers" from the large wholesale houses made Nephi their headquarters. These "Drummers" loaded their "white tops" and toured the south looking for business. Most of them made their headquarters at The

1 The Salt Lake Herald, December 25, 1887. Also the Journal History of the Church, December 25, 1887, pp. 13-14.
2 Ibid., pp. 13-14.
3 Ibid., pp. 13-14.
Goldsbrough House, or the Nephi House, as it was properly named.\(^1\) Mr. Goldsborough had a "Sample Room" for the drummers to display their wares to the merchants of Nephi, and his hotel became a very important place. Often it was necessary to make beds on the floor to accommodate all his guests.\(^2\)

Mr. Goldsborough, or Uncle Harry, as he was more commonly called, was "pleasant, genial and hospitable," said Mrs. McCune, "these attributes being an invitation to make his home their home."\(^3\)

As business increased he acquired teams to take travelers to the southern part of the state. As late as 1885, the following appeared in the Salt Lake Herald.

_Salt Lake Herald, January 7, 1885._

_H. Goldsborough the accommodating proprietor of the Nephi House is yet at his place of business, where he is prepared to convey travelers by team to all points of interest in southern Utah. His accommodations for travelers are ample and his teams excellent._\(^4\)

This old hotel is still standing in Nephi today (1958), and one can imagine when he looks at it, the great deal of activity that must have taken place there in bygone days.

In the late 70's Henry Forrest moved his family to Nephi, and in 1880 he started a hotel in a seven-room house at the corner of First South and Second East Streets. A few years later he purchased the Hague residence on First South and First East Streets and continued the hotel business there until 1909, when his son took over the business. Today (1958) the major hotel in Nephi still retains that name although since 1947 it has not

\(^1\)Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 34.
\(^3\)Ibid., p. 115.
\(^4\)The Salt Lake Herald, January 7, 1885.
been owned by the Forrest family.¹

In the 1880's Cyrus Foote and his wife Elizabeth opened a hotel on the southeast corner of Main and First North Streets. After the death of Mr. Foote in 1921, "Lizzie" continued to operate the hotel. The hotel was started in a one-story adobe building with several "front" doors and a porch running the full length. A two-story brick building was later built on the north end of the original building. The building has now (1953) been replaced by the Utah Oil service station.²

Merchants and Businesses of the Period

As the cattle and wool industry increased and Nephi became the center of two railroad systems, new businesses came in and others expanded until the town swelled beyond the three thousand mark. There was so much business, and the town became so prosperous that the nickname "Little Chicago" was attached to it.

The one and only hardware or tin shop in Nephi, called the Cooper and Pyper Shop, sold a carload of stoves and ranges in a year. McCune adds this interesting item:

When a cooking stove or range was sold, it was the custom to add the stove "furniture" with it, such as a copper wash boiler, teakettle, copper coffee pot, saucepan, steamer, two griddles, two drippers, coalhod, fire shovel and one length of pipe. These articles were all made by hand by the tinner in the shop and valued at only $8.50 when they went with the stove.³

Pitchforth gives us an interesting insight into the shops of the time. He says:

¹McCune, op. cit., p. 115.
²Ibid., p. 116.
³Ibid., op. cit., pp. 112-113.
In describing Hyde and Whitmore's stock, one describes the stock of all the principal merchants in Nephi. On entering the store of Hyde & Whitmore, you are ushered into the general sales-room. Here on the left are found dry goods in endless variety, such as dress goods, woolens, linseys, hosiery, ladies', misses', and children's cloaks, wraps, new markets, etc. In the centre of the room is found men's and boys' clothing, glassware, crockery, etc. On the right side will be found the grocery department which is replete with choice groceries. Their stock of gents' furnishing goods, clothing, etc., is full and complete.1

The Co-Operative Mercantile Institution or, as it was commonly known to Nephites, "the Nephi Merc," was doing a flourishing business in those things mentioned above and also in butter and eggs, harness and saddlery goods.2

Charles Foote & Sons, one of the oldest stores in Nephi, was prepared to furnish everything from shoes to patent medicines and chemicals.3

George Atkin Jr. operated a store that had as its motto "Small profits and plenty of them." He advertised in the paper the following:

Oh! ye Nephites! and inhabitants of Southern Utah, if you have your own interests at heart you should call at the cheap cash store, Main Street, Nephi, Juab County, and secure some of the many bargains offered in every line. Gent's suits are being sold from $6 to $20. Boys' suits from $2.75 to $6. Overcoats from $5 to $15 each....We are paying the highest market price for grain, eggs, chickens and butter, and endeavor to please all.4

During this period many new business buildings were constructed. An example of these was one constructed by Reed and Bryan. The building was two stories high, and had all the "modern improvements, elevator, steam, etc.," and was "finished inside and out in excellent style."5 The cost was

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1The Salt Lake Herald, December 25, 1887.
2Ibid.
3Ibid.
4Ibid.
5Ibid.
$10,000 and it was given the unique name of the "Nebo Block." In 1888 the Deseret Evening News recorded the following new businesses in Nephi. "A rather pretentious looking livery stable for D. B. Broadhead, a harness shop for Booth and Broadhead, a new bakery for James Woods, and a furniture store for Sells and Dinwoody." Also a new county court house was being erected.

Other stores during this period that contributed to the growth and prosperity of "Little Chicago" were: Excelsior Mercantile, Cazier Brothers Clothing Store, James W. Paxman Shoe Store; Edward William, Tailor; Cartwright Bakery; Ostler and Allen Harness Shop, Reid's Harness Shop; Frank's Clothing Store, National Dollar Store, two millinery stores, two barber shops, and several saloons.

Just prior to the turn of the century it was rumored that the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad was going to build its line to Nephi, go up Salt Creek Canyon to San Pete County, and on to Southern Utah. There was a lively speculation in real estate and much land changed hands at high prices. Flour and salt mills were built, a plaster mill was established, there was talk of building a beef packing plant and a cheese factory, and the railroad had decided to move its terminal from Juab to Nephi. Everyone felt optimistic about the future. Samuel Pitchforth expressed it this way:

1The Deseret Evening News (Salt Lake City), May 25, 1888.
2Ibid.
3McCune, op. cit., p. 114.
4The Salt Lake Herald, December 25, 1887.
5The Journal History of the Church, June 22, 1878, pp. 5–6.
Nephi...soon will rank among the first cities of Utah. The population is now 3,000 and rapidly increasing. The climate is salubrious, invigorating, and healthful; the winters never very cold, and the summers free from excessive heat. The death rate is remarkably low. The people are happy, healthy, and contented. Already Nephi has attracted a number of people from different parts of the Union, and many more are looking in that direction for homes and investments. There are a number of fine residences in the city, and pleasant homes are to be met with everywhere. Nephi is capable of supporting a large population, and there is every facility that is needed to make a big, prosperous city.1

Nephi Becomes a Farming Community Again

Today one hears many of the old timers say, "If the railroad had just stayed in Nephi this would be a big city now." Of course this is only speculation, but there is probably a lot of truth in it. Just when Nephi was on the threshold of her greatest development, the Union Pacific Railroad bought the Utah Northern, Utah Central and Utah Southern lines and built on south and west to California. In the early 1900's they moved the main line from Nephi and Juab Valley farther west via Delta and left Nephi stranded with only a branch line. The Denver and Rio Grande by-passed Nephi, building their main line up Spanish Fork Canyon. The great developments suddenly became only dreams, the boom gradually subsided as some of the families moved away to other settlements. Nephi became a farming community again.2

But the railroad was not the only big development during this period. Many other industries had been developed, and much progress had been made in education. Let us now turn our attention to these other developments.

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1The Salt Lake Herald, December 25, 1887.
2Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 35.
CHAPTER V

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS - 1875-1901

Dry Farming on the Levan Ridge

Development of dry farming on the Levan Ridge has been one of the greatest sources of income for Juab Valley. Thousands of acres of very fertile land are cultivated without the benefit of irrigation, but it has not always been this way. Once this was a great area of sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and cedar trees. Only by chance was it discovered that wheat could be raised without water.

Sometime before 1887, David B. Broadhead had built a small home on the land near Four Mile Creek and had planted various grains, vegetables, and sugar cane. The water from Four Mile Creek was used to irrigate the crops.\(^1\) In 1888, however, there was a terrible drought, and Four Mile Creek no longer furnished water to the crops. David resigned himself to not having a crop that year. But to his surprise and happiness the fall rains came, and the wheat grew like a well-watered lawn. That year he harvested fifteen bushels to the acre. The demonstration was so promising that David immediately filed for 160 acres of land, taking it up under the pre-emption Act, which specified that the applicant must grow crops successfully in order to secure title.\(^2\)

A question arose over the final proof of the homestead entry,

\(^1\)S. R. Boswell, "Perjury Farm" The Utah Farmer (Salt Lake City), October 6, 1955.

\(^2\)Ibid.
and David made the statement that the land he was homesteading would grow
grains and mature without water. As a result of this statement David was
arrested for perjury.

Samuel Broadhead, in later years said this took place under the
following circumstances:

It happened one morning as David was taking care of his horses
at the Livery stable he was building in Nephi, on Center Street,
just below Main Street, when to his great astonishment, the offi-
cers put him under arrest and placed him in jail on the charge of
perjury. He was kept there until the following day, when they
took him to the Provo jail. Provo, at that time, was the County
Seat. After giving him a hearing by the Court he was put under
bonds to appear three months later, which he did, taking several
witnesses with him. As there was no one to appear against him,
he was released; thus making one of the most unusual events
occurring in agricultural annals of the county. David, thereafter,
called his farm the "perjury farm."

About 1890 two men by the name of Samuel Layton and John Moorehouse
took up squatting rights in the center of the ridge. They built four small
buildings on the four corners of their land. They used most of the land
for grazing. However, a few acres were planted into barley which proved
unsuccessful. Before Utah gained statehood they left the land.

The men most responsible for development of the dry farming were
Stephen Boswell, Lewis and Henry Garrett, and A. J. Gowers. They had be-
lieved the prophecy of Brigham Young that he uttered just prior to his
death in 1877. He said: "Someday the land between Nephi and Levan will be
one waving field of golden wheat!" These men set about to bring this
prophecy to fulfillment.

1 Samuel Broadhead, as cited in the Centennial story, "100 Years
in Nephi," The Times News (Nephi), 1951.
2 Ibid.
3 I have been unable to find this in any of the records, but many
of the older people remember hearing Brigham utter it, so I feel there is
no valid reason to doubt it.
4 Boswell, op. cit.
In 1897 Stephen Boswell and his brother-in-law, Charles Henry Garrett, filed for land on the ridge. A couple of years later A. J. Gowers and Lewis Garrett, two more brothers-in-law, filed on other lands in the same area.¹

Fencing of the land was begun immediately, and protests were strong from Nephi and Levan people because they were losing some of their vast cattle range. But this did not deter the men and in 1898 they started living on their land with their families. By 1902, after living on the land five years, they had completed the requirement of the homestead law, and they secured the title to the land from the government.²

The equipment they had to work with was very meagre. S. R. Boswell, son of Stephen, said of his father during this early homesteading period, "the only equipment father had was a hand plow given him by his father, Abraham Boswell."³ They not only had very little equipment, but they had to put up with the taunts and sarcasm of their neighbors. S. R. Boswell further states:

Most of the friends and relatives of father and mother had plenty to say about their new venture of trying to raise wheat without irrigation. They were ridiculed so much that they traveled back and forth to the farm in the night to avoid seeing their friends. Many of their immediate relatives did not believe it could be done.⁴

In 1897 Mr. Boswell planted six acres with team and hand plow, but the ground squirrels and jackrabbits were very abundant and did a lot of damage. The crows ate what was left. Only one-hundred bushels were

¹Ibid.
²Ibid.
³Ibid.
⁴Ibid.
realized.\textsuperscript{1}

The problem of removing the brush from the land was a big one.

S. R. Boswell said:

Father used a brush grubber and a railroad rail drawn by three or four horses. We also did considerable grubbing by hand. The land was then plowed with a sulky plow drawn by three horses. I drove the team a large part of the time. The brush was harrowed into rows and piled there and burned. We piled the brush in the daytime during the hot weather and burned them at night to avoid the heat.\textsuperscript{2}

The first seed grain was of the Kofford variety and the Blue Stem or Silver Chaff. The second year seed of the Blue Stem variety was secured from Spanish Fork. It was smutty. Boswell says: "At that time farmers did not know how to treat to kill smut, they just soaked the seed in water to wash the smut balls away.\textsuperscript{3}

The first grain was cut with a "dropper." The bundles were bound by hand. This was in 1898 and 1899. The second year the settlers raised 600 bushels, which was about forty bushels per acre. It was threshed by John Warwood from Nephi.\textsuperscript{4} The first few years the farmers tried to raise corn, but it "grew very short and small ears;" also Alfalfa was tried and a little more success was achieved, but grain grew the best by far.

The next year the crop came along well. David Udall, prominent churchman and farmer, used his binder to cut the grain. But he did not do it readily for he was not convinced that grain could be grown without irrigation. It took a lot of talking to get him to come and look at the farm.\textsuperscript{5}

From the beginning it was necessary to haul water in fifty gallon barrels for family and livestock. Two trips were made each week to Nephi for that purpose.\textsuperscript{6}

\textsuperscript{1}Ibid. \textsuperscript{2}Ibid. \textsuperscript{3}Ibid. \textsuperscript{4}Ibid. \textsuperscript{5}Ibid. \textsuperscript{6}Ibid.
Summer fallowing was a common practice in the fields west of Nephi and this was immediately transferred to the dry farms of the Levan Ridge.¹

As the first homesteaders became increasingly successful in their operations, other people became interested, and by the turn of the century much of the land had been taken up. The new century would witness many developments on the Levan ridge.

Development of Industries

The railroad was the most important development during this period, but many other industries were getting their start also, and they added greatly to the economy of the valley. The Plaster industry was one of the first.

The very first year that the settlers entered the valley they knew of the Plaster of Paris mountain. Martha Spence Heywood wrote:

October 25th, 1851: Mary Anne and I had a pleasant ride today to see and determine about the lots and also to the Plaster Paris mountain.²

Although the mountain of gypsum was known from the beginning, nothing was done toward making plaster until the middle eighties. In 1885 John Hague commenced making plaster by grinding the gypsum between two large stones, then cooking the fine powder. This cooking process was done in an open six foot by eight foot molasses vat and stirred by hand with a hoe.³

In 1887 Alonzo Hyde, George C. Whitmore and others were able to obtain a grinding machine to grind the gypsum, and they built the first

¹Ibid.
²Heywood, op. cit.
³Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 31.
mill. Power was obtained from a small water wheel operated by the water of Salt Creek diverted a short distance above the mill site.¹

The Nephi Plaster and Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1889, and the first real mill was constructed to permit installation of a six foot calcining kettle obtained from Blue Rapids, Kansas. Power to operate was increased by diverting water at a point high up the creek to give greater fall at the mill. This was the starting of the great industry and later years would witness a tremendous growth.²

The Salt industry was very important to Juab Valley in the early days. The settlers soon found that the creek running out of the mountains was salty, and with a little exploration they found salt in the Canyon. Martha Spence Heywood wrote in her journal of the brethren going for salt just two days after arriving in the valley.³

As early as December 4, 1854, salt works are mentioned in the records of the county.

A petition presented by T. B. Foote for the right to work the road to his Salt Works and to claim toll on the same. Petition granted and twenty-five cents toll allowed for every load of wood or lumber hauled therefrom, said road to commence at the first crossing of Salt Creek above the Salt Cave near the Sanpete road.⁴

In 1855, Elder Jacob G. Bigler wrote to the Deseret News, and in part he said of the salt industry:

Bro. T. B. Foote is making a large amount of salt by evaporation in vats at our salt springs, which is of an extra quality. The salt mountain six miles east of us is of a superior quality,

¹Ibid., p. 31.
²Ibid., p. 31.
³Heywood, op. cit.
⁴Juab County Minute Book "A", December 4, 1854.
but is mixed with clay, so that it is hard to separate.¹

During this same period Samuel G. Coulson hauled the salty brine from this same spring to his home farther down the canyon and there boiled and evaporated the brine and bartered or sold the resulting salt to the people of Sanpete and Juab Counties.²

David Salisbury, Richard Jenkins, and Thomas Booth located a salt cave about seven miles north and east of Nephi, and in the year 1859 began manufacturing that product. The rock salt was crushed, boiled until purified, then dried. They produced five hundred pounds daily, selling it for six cents a pound. Indian troubles forced them to move their plant to Nephi in 1862.³

William Warner, Sr., and Jonathan Platt were actively engaged in the salt industry. People came to Nephi from all over the territory to obtain salt.⁴ McCune said:

From St. George they came, bringing wine, dried grapes and cattle to trade for their salt. People from the north brought boots, shoes and other merchandise as exchange, and from some towns south, flour would be exchanged.

In 1893 the Nebo Salt Manufacturing Company was organized. This company was located at the mouth of Red Creek Canyon. The flow of brine was brought a distance of over 350 feet further south to a twenty by forty foot building erected for manufacturing the salt.

¹The Journal History of the Church, August 18, 1855.
²Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 33
³McCune, op. cit., p. 94
⁴McCune, op. cit., p. 95.
In *The Blade*, a newspaper published in Nephi in 1895, we read:

Mr. A. Grazier, Supt. of the Nephi Salt Mfg. Co., returned from Denver on Thursday. While absent Mr. Grazier was successful in placing Nephi's incomparable salt produce on the Colorado market, having sold six car loads and arranged with the principal grocery house of Denver to handle the Nebo Salt.¹

Much was said of Nephi's salt industry in the Pioneer Jubilee Edition of the *Deseret News* under date of July 24, 1897. Quotations from this article are as follows:

At the very foot of Nebo on the east side emerges a spring of water clear as crystal. It was discovered soon after the settlement of Nephi, and no doubt gave the name to the canyon. In 1893 a corporation of Nephi citizens was formed under the name of the Nebo Salt Manufacturing Co. to place the produce on the market.

Some time ago a sample of Nebo Salt selected in the open market was analyzed by a leading chemist in Salt Lake City, with the following results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sodium Chloride (pure salt)</td>
<td>99.172%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sulphate</td>
<td>0.176%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium Sulphate</td>
<td>0.046%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnesium and Calcium Chlorides</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moisture</td>
<td>0.604%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is the only salt made in the state which can be successfully used in preserving butter or in packing meats—a fact which dairy men and butchers have not been slow to discover for the product of this factory—about 12 tons a day—goes as far as it is made, and it is sold as far east as Colorado and as far west as California.²

The last venture in the salt business was made by Edward and Fred Kendall from 1925 to 1929. This salt was made for table and dairy use. It was sold locally and later trucked to Southern Utah.³

Today, 1958, the fallen remains of these once flourishing enterprises remain. These small salt companies could not compete with the large

¹ *The Blade* (Nephi), 1895, as cited in *Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951*, op. cit., p. 33.

² *The Deseret News* (Salt Lake City), July 24, 1897.

³ *Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951*, op. cit., p. 34.
ones established on the shores of Great Salt Lake. Only the creek and the canyon remind one that salt was once one of the very important industries in the Nephi area.

Most of the foundations of the early homes and business houses of Nephi were built from stone obtained from the Coulson quarry up Salt Creek Canyon. Such an important building in Nephi as the Juab Stake Tabernacle had its foundations made of this building stone. The quarry was located opposite the Nephi Electrical Plant. The stone is of grey sandstone formation, easily quarried and worked into building material. It was soon found, however, that when this stone was exposed to the elements it would deteriorate very rapidly. So the people looked for harder building material.¹

In Andrews Canyon a suitable red sandstone was found, and Nephi residents began to use this stone for their buildings.

About the year 1895 a Salt Lake company became interested in the stone and built a railroad spur of the Sanpete Valley Railroad line from Ockey's ranch to the quarry.²

Stone for the Deseret News Building, the A. W. McCune residence, until recently the home of McCune School of Music, North Main Street, Salt Lake City, foundation of Nephi Central School, and the foundation stone of the George C. Whitmore home, now owned by Franklin Brough, first South and Main Street, Nephi, came from the Andrews Canyon quarry.³

The stone proved too hard to be successfully worked and the

¹Ibid., p. 35.
²Ibid., p. 36.
³Ibid., p. 36.
operation of the quarry was discontinued, and the railroad spur torn up.¹

North of Nephi, David Salisbury built in the late 1800's a lime kiln, which furnished lime to builders and residents needing this product. For twenty years he operated this kiln.²

One of the first industries to be established in Nephi was the grist mill.³ Martha Spence Heywood recorded in her journal the first group meeting they had after reaching the new settlement of Nephi. In this meeting Brother Heywood instructed Brother Baxter to build a grist mill.⁴

Two men claim the honor of milling the first flour made in Nephi. One of these was John Hoile, who established a burr flour mill in 1859 on First South and Second East streets. This mill was later bought by John Hague and associates.⁵

At the mouth of Salt Creek Canyon Joseph Birch established a burr mill and called it the Ft. Birch Mill. Joseph Birch sold his mill to John Vickers and A. Milton Musser, secretary to President Brigham Young. Mr. Birch later moved to Leeds, Utah. In 1870 the Ft. Birch mill was destroyed by fire.

Soon after this Joel Grover and associates established a stock flour milling company, known as The Standard Milling Company, the mill being at the mouth of Salt Creek Canyon. J. A. Hyde, Nephi, and Andreas Jensen, Fountain Green, later bought this mill, and it became known as Hyde

¹Ibid., p. 36.
²McCune, op. cit., p. 96.
³Later called flour mills.
⁴Heywood, op. cit.
⁵Nephi’s Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 36
and Jensen's Mill.¹

In a letter written by Joseph Birch from Leeds, Utah, dated July 15, 1878, to Joel Grover, Superintendent of Standard Mills, he gives Mr. Grover some tips on how to make the best flour. Then he says:

I take the liberty of suggesting the foregoing to you as I made the first fine flour in your town, Nephi, for which I was always able to get $1.00 per sack more than any other brand from San Pete.²

From this letter Joseph Birch, too, claims the honor of milling the first flour in Nephi.³

T. C. and Robert Winn, Nephi, bought the Hyde and Jensen Mill. They changed the name to the Nephi Mill and Manufacturing Company. As the wheat area in the valley increased the need for more flour mills became apparent and new ones were built, but this belongs to a later period.

Community Improvements

As Nephi grew, its citizens saw the need of incorporating so that they could have power to make improvements in the city. For many years they had tried to accomplish this, but each time the Governor had vetoed the proposal.⁴

The Salt Lake Herald recorded the following in January, 1894:

Nephi is the capital of Juab County, and one of the thriftiest and most enterprising places in the territory. For a number of years she has made application for a city charter, and the Legislature has given it the privilege, but Governor Murray in his inscrutable wisdom, and knowing a great deal more about the

¹Ibid., p. 37.
³I have been unable to find any more proof other than that cited.
⁴The Journal History of the Church, January 3, 1864, p. 6
needs of the people than they know themselves, has seen fit to veto enactments looking to the incorporation of Nephi as a city.\(^1\)

In 1889 Nephi was finally incorporated. Edwin Harley recorded:

> Jan. 11, 1889. We had an election to vote for a City Incorporation, and for Officers of the same.\(^2\)

The first officers elected for Nephi City were:

- **Mayor:** Alma Hague
- **Councilmen:** Peter Sutton, Herbert Burton, Jas. H. Mynders, Jas. Jenkings, Jr., E. R. Booth.
- **Recorder:** J. R. Hickman
- **Treasurer:** Edwin Harley
- Henry Adams was appointed the City Attorney, and Walter P. Read the City Marshal.\(^3\)

The first meeting of the new city council was held March 23, 1889. Most of the time was spent in getting the proper bonds for the officers and appointing committees to handle various phases of work in the community.\(^4\)

In April 1889, Edwin Harley wrote: "I received some money into the City Treasury today, being the first business that I have done as Nephi City Treasurer."\(^5\)

After Nephi was incorporated, the first big project was to get a culinary water supply. For over thirty years people used water from irrigation ditches for culinary purposes. Citizens were left to their own devices to secure water.\(^6\)

William A. C. Bryan was the first to put in a private water system.

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1. The Salt Lake Herald, January, 1884.
3. Minute Record No. 1, Nephi City, p. 1.
4. Ibid., p. 1.
He piped irrigation water to a filter tank and thence into his home. Mrs. McCune gave an interesting account of this:

On May 15, 1888, Mr. Bryan made an agreement with John Rawley to manufacture cement water pipe of 1½ inch inside diameter to pipe the water from Salt Creek to his home. It required about 2500 feet of pipe from the Bryan home to the intake of the water pipe from the flume of the John Hague grist mill near Second East and First South Streets. The trench was dug and the pipe was laid by Mr. Rawley and his son. A wooden tank about ten feet square and seven feet deep was built and filled with alternate layers of sand and gravel which clarified the water. Neighbors for some blocks around gradually joined onto the water line and piped the water to their homes, and these included W. P. Read, Edwin Harley, John Andrews, William W. Allen, John Hague, Shedrach Lunt, Daniel M. Miller, James T. Belliston, Thomas Carter, Walter Brough, and Edwin Booth. They continued using this pioneer water system until the city water works were installed.1

In 1889 the City Council asked permission from the Irrigation Company to pipe the water from Marsh Canyon to the City, and in 1893 a general agreement was made concerning the matter.2

The main line consisted of four-inch pipe imported from New York.3 This line extended to the city, and gradually it was extended to the residents in each section of the city. Those people who were not on a pipe line were obligated either to carry water or to connect by their own pipe line.4

By the year 1901 most of the residents were connected to the city system. In 1917 the city supply was increased to support a city twice the size of the present population (3,000) when a new one million gallon tank

1McCune, op. cit., p. 119.
2Ibid., p. 119.
3Ibid., pp. 36-37.
was installed.¹

The telephone came to Nephi in the middle 1880's. George Lunt was the first telephone operator in Nephi, with his wife, Rose, as his assistant. The Cazier Brothers Gents' Clothing store on the west side of Main Street, between Center and First South Streets, served as the first office. From the very earliest times the Nephi Office has been connected with the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company.²

The first newspaper of Nephi began publication in the year 1887, and the first issue was dated Friday, June 10, 1887. James T. Jakeman was editor and publisher of this paper that was called the Nephi Ensign. During the next decade or so, several other papers were started in Nephi with varying degrees of success and length of existence. Among the other publications were the Nephi Courier, Juab County Standard, the Nephi Blade, The Republic, the Nephi Times, The Nephi Record, the Juab County Times and The Nephi City News. On April 1, 1917, the Juab County Times and the Nephi City News were combined into the Times-News, which was published by Dennis Wood and A. B. Gibson.³ In the mid-twenties A. B. Gibson purchased the shares of Dennis Wood and became sole owner. In 1942, A. B. moved to Pleasant Grove to manage a paper there. His younger brother, Roy E., who had been associated with the paper since the thirties, became editor of the Times-News. In 1947 the two brothers formed a partnership, with Roy as Editor-Manager of the Times-News.

Roy is an outstanding editor and has brought many honors to the

¹McCune, op. cit., p. 120.
²Ibid., p. 93.
³Ibid., p. 116.
City of Nephi with his paper. In 1950 he was given the Exceptional Community Service Award by Utah State University. In 1951 he received the state award for having the best editor's column. In 1957 the Times-News received the first place award for General Excellence in papers under 1,000 circulations in the state of Utah. Probably the most outstanding awards thus far received were given in 1956 and 1957 when the paper was given the second and third place awards in national competition for service to agriculture.¹

Certainly Nephi has a paper that is outstanding and that has faithfully recorded the progress and mirrored the events of Juab Valley throughout the years.

School Growth and Development

A careful examination of the Trustee Minute Book of District No. 2, Nephi City, Utah Territory, for the years 1883-1893 reveals the changes and growth of schools in Nephi. By the year 1884 Nephi was divided into three school districts, with a school in each. Schools were held in the North School house, the old Central School, and the South schoolhouse.²

For the first time, that year (1884) a graded school was established at the Central School with Fred W. Chappel, Principal, and Elizabeth A. Schofield, teacher.³ There was an attendance of one hundred fifty pupils. Evidently the North and South schools were inadequate, for the

¹Personal interview with Roy E. Gibson, June 23, 1956.

²The North School house was located on First East between Fifth and Sixth North Streets. The South School house was located on Main Street between Fourth and Fifth South Streets. This was also called Millers Hall. The Central School was, and is still, located on First North between First and Second East Streets.

³Trustee Minute Book.
Salt Lake Herald commented in 1884, after praising the work being done by Mr. Chappel and Miss Schofield:

The other schools are located in different parts of the city and it is a lamentable fact—a rare one—that the accommodations are unequal to the number of applicants. It is said 100 or more students would attend if accommodations could be found for them. This is not due to a lack of interest, but to a sudden awakening of interest, which has been so rapid that facilities could not be had to keep up with the remarkable growth of the demand. ¹

The salaries ranged from $50.00 to $30.00 per term, and they were paid partly in cash, and the rest in merchandise and produce. Parents paid tuition the same way. ²

The year 1890 marked a year of advancements, especially relating to teachers. This year weekly teachers' meetings commenced, teachers' contracts and monthly salaries were started, and it became compulsory for teachers to draw up term and weekly plans. ³

The part the various churches played in the educating of Nephi's youngsters will be discussed later.

When W. I. Brown began teaching school in Nephi, he was in charge of the more advanced pupils. This led to his founding of the Nephi High School. At the beginning of the school year, 1894-95, the Board of Education found themselves short of teaching force in the eighth grade. The new Central School building was completed, and with the increased room many older students had returned to school to take advanced work. Mrs. Elizabeth Schofield Adams was principal and also a teacher of the eighth grade. To take care of the increased enrollment, the Board secured the services of

¹The Salt Lake Herald, January 23, 1884.
²Trustee Minute Book.
³Ibid.
W. I. Brown, a man with a number of years of teaching experience in eastern and mid-western high schools. A few high school subjects were offered during the winter.

At the end of the year Mrs. Adams retired and Mr. Brown was elected principal. When it was made known to the students that he would be there for another year, they told him that they would like to have a high school established in Nephi. He told them if that was what they wanted he would teach them the necessary courses, but they must arouse the interest of the townspeople in such a project.

In the spring of 1899, nine students had completed the work equivalent to three years of high school and were ready for graduation. One problem remained: they had no legally established high school, and in order for this to become a reality the people would have to vote for the additional tax for high school purposes.

The matter was placed before the Board of Trustees who presented it before the people. The citizens were very surprised when they learned that already there were nine students ready to graduate, and the vote carried. Nephi High School began its existence as the third high school in the state of Utah.

Church Growth and Change

The last quarter of the 19th Century was a time of change and expansion for the Church in Juab Valley. In 1877 the Stake was more fully organized, and Nephi had grown to the extent that there could be two

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2*The Booster, (Nephi, Utah, the Nephi High School Boosters Ass'n, 1911)*
wards. On October 20 and 21 this was accomplished. The first and second wards were organized with Joel Grover and Charles Sperry as the respective bishops. Brother Grover's counselors were Edwin Harley and Wm. A. C. Bryan. Brother Sperry chose as his counselors Wm. F. Tolley and Chas. Grazier. The First Ward covered all the south part of town south of Railroad Street, and the Second Ward all the part north, so very soon these wards were called the South and the North, although they were not officially named this until much later, when still another ward was created. In 1883 the boundaries were changed to Center Street and William Warner and David Udall were installed as the new bishops of the First and Second Wards respectively. They served in this capacity for many years.

The Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association had its inception in Juab Stake in 1877. The following correspondence was published in the Deseret News of March 30:

Y.M.M.I.A. Nephi, March 26, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:
On the 5th day of March, 1877, under auspices of Bros. W. G. Young and John Young, an Improvement society was established here, called the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association. Our worthy Bishop, Joel Grover, and his council were appointed a committee to suggest officers. They reported Lyman Hudson for president; James Jenkins, Jr., 1st Counsellor, Thomas Belliston, 2nd Counsellor, with a corresponding secretary and librarian to be added when necessary.

The writer further stated that they were waiting for constitution and by-laws and that they had received great assistance in formulating

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1 Jenson, History of Juab Stake. The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), October 20, and 21, 1877.
2 Now First North
3 Jenson, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.
4 Ibid.
5 The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), March 30, 1877.
their rules from Brother Junius Wells, President of the Y.M.M.I.A. Association, Salt Lake City. The correspondent closes, feeling that this organization will be the means of bringing much good to Nephi. The letter is signed by George Carter, Secretary.1

The Primary was organized in 1879, and the following Stake officers were chosen:

President: Mrs. Hannah Grover  
First Counselor: Mrs. Matilda E. Teasdale  
Second Counselor: Mrs. Mary E. Cazier  
Secretary: Mrs. Adelaide Schofield  
Treasurer: Mrs. Anna Schofield

The Primary had immediate success and did many interesting things, an example of this being the Primary Fair in 1882.  

On the Friday (Jan. 20, 1882) preceding the conference the Primary Associations held a special conference at the close of which a Primary Fair was held in the Nephi Relief Society Hall. It was exceedingly interesting to view the works of industry performed by little hands, there were beautiful bouquets of flowers in wax, wool and tarleton, choice samples of mats, work mottoes, knitting, fancy crochets and needle work. There was also a presentable exhibit of cookery in the shape of bread, tartlets, and candy by the little girls, and some talents displayed by the little boys in drawing, painting and wood work.3

The Relief Society which had been organized earlier (1839) had great success, and the women soon discovered they needed a building of their own. In 1876 the hall was started, and on November 30, 1881, it was dedicated by President George Teasdale.4 It cost $1800.00. In 1890 this building was sold for $2830 and each ward built its own Relief Society Hall. These were two nice brick buildings twenty-two by thirty-eight feet with

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1Ibid.  
2Jenson, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.  
3The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), 31: 48, as cited in Jenson, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.  
4Jenson, History of Juab Stake, Ibid.
vestries on the rear and porticoes on the front. Each building cost approximately $1500.1

As the membership increased, the need for more seating in the Tabernacle became apparent, so in 1877 a vestry was built onto the east end. At the same time the name was changed from the Nephi Meeting House to the Nephi Tabernacle at the suggestion of President Teasdale.2 In the early 80's a gallery or balcony was placed in the assembly room. This building served the people well and was a credit to the community.3

Today in Sacrament Meeting we partake of the Sacrament in individual cups, but not so in the 1880's. The minutes of the Quarterly Stake Conference, January 21 and 22, 1882, record that Apostle Erastus Snow dedicated a new sacrament set, consisting of "two flagons four baskets and four cups which had been donated by the voluntary subscriptions of the people for the use of the Tabernacle."4

The year 1889 was a banner year for the Church and education in Nephi, for this year the Juab Stake Academy was established. This academy was the beginning of the high school system. Edwin Harley recorded:

Feb. 2, 1890
   At Sunday School and meeting. Brother Maeser was here in the interest of Stake Academie [sic].
September 10, 1891
   I was at the opening of our Stake Academy in the forenoon.
January 27, 1893
   Attended the Examination at the Church academie [sic] school. It was very [sic] good, a credit to both teachers and schollars [sic].5

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1 Ibid.
2 Ibid.
4 Jenson, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.
5 Harley, op. cit.
From these entries we learn that the Academy was making its impression for good upon the community.

The Deseret News had the following item in 1893 about the Academy:

The Juab Stake Academy, located at Nephi, of which Justin D. Call is principal, commenced its fourth academic year August 29th, and has an enrollment of 64. Besides the branches taught in district schools, the following are sustained, viz: Civil Government, phonography, algebra, and bookkeeping. The primary department is under the management of Miss Mattie Neilson. Miss Grace McCune instructs the lady students in fancy work and painting.  

This Academy flourished until the turn of the century when the Nephi High School took its place.

No history of this period would be complete without mentioning the name of George Teasdale, beloved stake president and Apostle. He was the son of William Russell Teasdale and Harriet Henrietta Tidey. He was born in London, England, December 8, 1831. In 1852 he accepted the Gospel and in 1861 he came to Utah. He came to Nephi and settled and was very active in various Church positions, being called in 1877 to be Juab Stake President. He served in this capacity until 1882 when he was called, along with Heber J. Grant, by direct formal revelation through John Taylor, 13 of October, to be an Apostle. He was ordained on the 16th of October. He is the only resident of Nephi who has ever held this high office in the Church and Nephites are justly proud of him.

William Paxman replaced Elder Teasdale as stake president and served until his death in 1895. His son, James W. Paxman, succeeded him and served until 1914.

The people of Nephi held President William Paxman in such high

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1 The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), 1873, as cited in Jenson, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.

2 Roberts, op. cit., Vol. 6, p. 105.
esteem that they subscribed $650 toward the erection of a fitting monument to his memory.\textsuperscript{1} The monument stands today in the southeast corner of the Vine Bluff Cemetery, high up on the hill overlooking the little city of Nephi. It is eighteen and one-half feet high, the bottom stone is of Utah granite, weighing upwards of three tons; the shaft is of Vermont grey granite embellished with a draped urn. A box was placed in the base at the time of its dedication by Apostle Teasdale.\textsuperscript{2}

During this period (1875-1901) many big events were happening in the Church. The cornerstone of the Temple was being laid at Manti, and the Salt Lake Temple was dedicated. Edwin Harley recorded all these things in his diary:

April 11, 1879:
Most of the Twelve are here tonight on their way to Manti to lay the Corner Stone of the Temple.
This evening I had the pleasure of entertaining 4 of the Twelve Apostles.

April 11, 1879:
Witnessed the laying of the Corner Stone of the Temple.

April 6, 1893:
At the Dedication \textsuperscript{sic} services in the forenoon of the Temple of the Lord at Salt Lake City.\textsuperscript{3}

Non-Latter-day Saint Churches

Until the coming of the railroad in 1879 the non-Mormon residents of Juab Valley could be counted on the fingers of both hands, but with

\textsuperscript{1}The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), 57: 599, as cited in Jenson, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.

\textsuperscript{2}Ibid. In this box was placed the names of the presiding officers of the Stake at his demise, a Maori Book of Mormon and hymn book, statistical report of the Australian Mission in 1889, newspaper clippings, poetry, memorial cards got up by the Sunday School, Y.L.M.I.A. and Relief Society, family genealogy, Sunday School hymn book, and a photograph of the deceased and donors. The monument was dedicated October 15, 1898, before a large group of people.

\textsuperscript{3}Harley, op. cit.
this event, the influx of Gentiles\(^1\) increased until they had a sufficient membership to construct their own houses of worship.

In the middle 1880's a branch of the Methodist Church was established. The members did not build their own chapel but rented various buildings in town for school and religious purposes.\(^2\) In 1888 the *Salt Lake Herald* recorded: "The Methodists have rented the Nebo Hall for school and religious purposes. Rev. George E. Jayne of Ogden will hold forth there next Sunday."\(^3\) After the "Little Chicago" period of Nephi ended, most of the Methodists left, and the church and school were discontinued.

The Presbyterians were much more successful. In 1886 a church, called the Huntington Chapel, was established in Nephi. It was named after a Mrs. Huntington, as eastern lady and principal donor to the construction of the building. From 1886 to 1904 grade school was held in the building. Miss Fidelia Gee and Miss Hulburt were the first teachers. The first minister was Rev. W. N. P. Dailey, who came to Nephi in 1888.

Edwin Harley mentioned this church several times in his diary.

Here are two examples:

March 26, 1890

Governor A. L. Thomas...presented a Flag to the Presbyterian school. He spoke in the Tabernacle in the evening, and attended a reception Ball in the Courthouse.

December 28, 1896

At the funeral of Mr. John Kirgan. The members of the Odd Fellows Lodge conducted the Funeral at the Presbyterian [sic] meeting house.\(^4\)

\(^1\)Gentiles were considered by Latter-day Saints at this time to be anyone that was not a Mormon.

\(^2\)McCune, op. cit., p. 108.

\(^3\)The *Salt Lake Herald*, December 12, 1888.

\(^4\)Harley, op. cit.
In August of 1894 the Presbyterians of the state of Utah held their convention in Nephi, and it lasted for two weeks.¹ This marked the high point of Presbyterianism in Nephi, and by the turn of the century many members had moved away. Meetings were discontinued in the early twenties, but the chapel, located at 255 North Main, was not torn down until the 1930's. Today (1958) there are no other churches in Juab Valley except those of the Latter-day Saints.

¹The Deseret Evening News (Salt Lake City), September 10, 1894.
²McCune, op. cit., p. 109.
Experiment Farm Established on the Levan Ridge

Senator George C. Whitmore from Nephi was responsible for introducing a bill to the State Legislature securing an appropriation for experimental work with dry-land crops.\(^1\) This appropriation was granted in the year 1902.

In 1903 the Utah Agricultural College\(^2\) became interested in the Levan Ridge development.

S. R. Boswell said:

In 1903 the Utah experiment station became interested in the venture. Dr. P. A. Yoder, director, Dr. John A. Widtsoe, professor of chemistry and William Jardine and L. A. Merrill, agronomists, walked over the dry land farm under father's direction.\(^3\)

As a result of this investigation, and after the Juab County Commissioners bought the Shaw property and then leased it free to the Utah Agricultural College, a forty acre experiment station was established on the Levan Ridge.\(^4\)

About the same time that the Utah experiment station started the experiment farm, a farmer's institute was started in the old Nephi

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\(^1\)Boswell, *op. cit.*

\(^2\)Now Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

\(^3\)Boswell, *op. cit.*

\(^4\)Ibid.
Tabernacle, under the direction of L. A. Merrill. Each winter for a few years, different professors came to Nephi to give lectures.  

In 1905 the Levan Ridge experiment station produced its first crop, giving definite proof that wheat could be raised without irrigation. This same year an excursion was held for all interested citizens to see what had been done at the experimental farm. A good crowd turned out and were favorably impressed.  

The first supervisor of the Levan Ridge Experimental farm was Stephen Boswell, followed in 1907 by Dr. F. D. Farrell, who served until 1909 when Mr. P. V. Cardon assumed the reigns. In 1912, Arthur D. Ellison, a graduate of Utah's land grant college, became Superintendent, and he was followed by Jenkin Jones. Aaron F. Bracken succeeded Mr. Jones and served with honor until his death in 1914. No one was appointed to succeed Mr. Bracken.  

Today (1958) the experimental farm is not active.

Nephi Plaster Becomes World-Famous

Early in 1907, a fire of unknown origin destroyed the plant of the Nephi Mill and Manufacturing Company. No time was wasted in rebuilding the mill, and this was done on a much larger scale. Additional grinding equipment and kettles were added and warehouse space was increased. A diversion canal and larger water wheel were completed in 1908. Approximately twenty-five men were employed at the plant during these years.

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1Ibid.
2Ibid., p. 30.
3Ibid., op. cit., p. 30.
4Ibid., p. 31.
The Juab County Times said of this new plant in 1909:

Last Tuesday morning the new $50,000 mill of the Nephi Plaster and Manufacturing Company started work full blast. The big structure is composed entirely of steel and concrete and is absolutely fire proof throughout and is regarded by experts as one of the best of its kind in the country.  

A second fire in 1914, caused by an overheated stove in the sack repair room, burned out the interior of the west portion of the mill. This was rebuilt in time to furnish "Nephi" plaster for all the buildings and ornamental construction used at the Panama-California Exposition held in San Diego, California in 1915. This beautiful colored product that the Nephi mill supplied received much favorable comment from "architects and artists over the country."  

In 1916, when the mill was rebuilt, a cement plant was built as an auxiliary feature to the gypsum mill.

Said the Juab County Times of this new addition:

Officials of the Nephi Plaster & Manufacturing Company announced last week the completion of a Keene's cement plant, as an auxiliary feature to its large gypsum mill at Nephi. All crushing, grinding, screening, and general machinery has been installed and kilns completed, together with stock rooms, etc. Nephi gypsum products for general plastering and ornamental purposes have a splendid reputation throughout the west...Samples exhibited...compare favorably with the famous English Keene's cement.

Minor plant and product improvements were made in the years following until 1925, when a new deposit of gypsum one and one-half miles north of the present mill site was developed, and the gypsum was

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1 Juab County Times (Nephi), October 29, 1909.
3 The Juab County Times (Nephi), March 21, 1916.
transported to the mill by an automatic aerial tramway.

George Bigler, a long time employee at the Plaster Mill, wrote a short history of his work there:

In 1939 it was sold to the United States Gypsum Co. They make many kinds of plaster, hardwall, wood fiber, casting, Patching plaster, Pebble, and Land Plaster. Keenes Cement, trowel finishing, Gauging, Concrete, and Dental plasters are also made. There are two large brick kilns at the back of the mill that bake the rock for making Keenes Cement.

The old rock quarry is by the mill, it was used for many years. It had a track running into the forks of the tunnel for the rock cars to run on. The full ones would come down by themselves, into a large rock bin and dump themselves, but a horse would pull the car back into the tunnel. When the best rock was used in the ground quarry, a new one was built at the top of the hill. Here also, was a track for the cars; the full ones coming down pulled the empty cars back up the hill.

The United States Gypsum Company continued to operate the plant until March, 1952 when operations ceased, and the property was sold to Nephi City Corporation. A much larger deposit was discovered in Sevier County, near Sigurd, and a modern mill was built in that place. It was a blow to Nephi's economy and necessitated many families moving to other areas for employment. As one drives up Salt Creek Canyon today and sees the falling remains of a once-proud and important industry, he cannot help but feel a tinge of sadness, and perhaps this is best illustrated by the fact that over three years ago the City advertised for someone to tear down the building, but no Nephi people have responded yet. Even though the building is not operating, it still stands as a reminder that Nephi once made a product that became world-famous.


2Personal interview with Amy O. Warner, June 27, 1958.
Continued Growth of the Flour Mills

In 1917 T. C. and Robert Winn built a new flour mill on First North and Second West and did business there for a number of years.¹

The Hague Mill at 150 East and First South Streets was bought out in 1927 by a group of Nephi and Fountain Green men. They organized into the Juab County Mill and Elevator Company and made flour. In 1933 this company bought out the Winn Brothers' Nephi Mill and Manufacturing Company² and moved all their flour-making operations to this larger mill, using the old Hague Mill to make mixed-feed grains.³ Their "Gem" and "Snowflake" flour, made from the famous Levan Ridge "Turkey Red Wheat," made a superior flour and soon became famous and greatly in demand throughout the central and southern portion of the state.

In the late forties the feed mill was discontinued, and the Ammon Hermansen family of Spanish Fork bought all the stock of the Juab Mill and Elevator Company in 1949.⁴ Today (1958) the large mill at First North and Second West continues to operate, having a capacity of four hundred sacks per day, and employing as many as twenty men during the rush season.⁵

Of all the early industries established, the flour mills have best survived the test of time. Present indications are that this mill will operate as long as Turkey Red Wheat is grown on the Levan Ridge.

¹Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 37.
²Ibid., p. 37.
³Interview with Kathryn S. Shaw, June 27, 1958.
⁴Personal interview with Clarence Warner, Manager of Juab County Mill and Elevator Company, June 27, 1958.
⁵Personal interview with Bert Powell, June 27, 1958.
Many Town Bands Organized

The period from 1900 to 1926 was a time when many bands were organized in the town of Nephi. The Nephi Record tells of a cornet band, with eighteen members, being organized in 1903 under the direction of Arch Latimer. From 1896 to 1904, Clarence Hawkins led the Nephi Brass Band. From 1904 to 1909, Charles Henry Sperry conducted a band, and members of this group formed an orchestra which furnished music when shows were presented.

Unique among the town bands was an all-girls band directed by Al Udall. This was organized in 1916. The Juab County Times editorialized at the time of its organization:

Last week a request for a band of some kind was made in the columns of The Times. In that article we stated that Alvin Udall was organizing a band made up of young ladies. At this writing it has been reported to us that the organization has been successfully completed and the work well under way. At the last rehearsal there were thirty-two present.

The girls made their early appearances in middy blouses and skirts but later their official costume was a bright red dress and cape, leggings buttoned with gold buttons, a band-type cap with gold braid trim. A small white band was worn around the hat with the imprint "Dellu Band." The band gave many programs at home and in surrounding towns. Probably the highlight of their organization was an appearance at famous Saltair, where the Dellu Band and Sweeten's Band furnished alternate dance numbers, one

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1 The Nephi Record, April 15, 1903.
2 Personal interview with George Ord, June 27, 1953.
3 The Juab County Times (Nephi), June 23, 1916.
4 Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 15.
band in either end of the pavilion.¹

During the First World War they performed their greatest service. This band was always at the station to bid the boys farewell and to welcome them home. Mr. Udall left Nephi before the war ended, but his request was that they remain together until the last Nephi boy had returned home. Viola Worthington (Ockey) became band leader, and a welcome home concert was played to each returning hero before the organization was discontinued.²

In 1921-22 the Boy Scouts of the three Wards of Nephi organized a fifty-piece band, and this was successful for some time.³

School bands took the place of the Nephi town bands. This did not happen all at once, but gradually, as the schools increased and took over many of the functions that the community had formerly performed, the school bands became most important. The A. D. Plumb Band was one of the first school bands and was very popular in Nephi during the period 1912-15. It was a juvenile band.⁴

By the middle twenties the high school band had become very important, and since that time, except for a short period during the Second World War, Nephi has always boasted a high school band.

The Moving Picture Replaces the Opera House

Drama has always played a big part in the story of Nephi. In the early days, the Social Hall was the scene of many plays. As Nephi increased in size, a larger hall was needed, and the Opera House, or Arlington, as

¹Ibid., p. 15.
²Ibid., p. 15.
⁴Personal interview with George Ord, June 27, 1958.
it was more commonly known, was built. During the late 80's and 90's and the early 1900's the Opera House was at its peak. The town newspaper gave a good picture of what was playing at the time.

The Nephi Record, November 13, 1903.

At the Opera House

Wednesday evening, Nov. 18- "In a Woman's Power."
Friday evening, Nov. 20- "The Militia Ball"
Monday evening, Nov. 23- John S. Lindsay with a strong repertoir company.

The Nephi Record, December 13, 1903

The greatest of all drama, "Ten Nights in a Bar-room" will be at the Opera House Saturday, Dec. 19th, and the citizens of Nephi will have an opportunity of seeing this grand old play produced as it was written.

The Nephie Record, March 1, 1904.

"A Woman's Honor" at the Opera House, Monday and Tuesday, March 7th and 8th.

The Nephie Record, October 11, 1904.

Opera House two nights commencing Saturday, October 15th. Miss Alice McCorkle supported by the Handler Stock Company, in that famous melodrama "Captain Horne". Seats now on sale Prices, 50, 50, 50.

In 1909 the motion picture came to Nephi. The Juab County Times advertised as follows on November 5, 1909:

For the picture shows commencing at the Arlington Monday evening, the services of Mr. Nathan Wood, the famous English tenor vocalist and pianist, have been secured. Come and see his first appearance in Nephi. 2

In 1910 several Nephi men purchased the Wool Growers' Building, which was located on the corner of Second South and Main, and transformed it into an "Electric Theatre." 3 The local paper said of this:

The pictures will be of such a high class and moral tone that no parent will hesitate to allow his children to attend for

1 The Nephie Record, November 13, 1903, December 13, 1903, March 1, 1904, and October 11, 1904.

2 The Juab County Times (Nephi), November 5, 1909.

3 The Juab County Times (Nephi), August 5, 1910.
fear of having them see any questionable scenes or suggestive acting.\footnote{1}

This building became known as the Emro. The price of admission was 10\footnote{2}.

Movies were shown from 1910 to 1912 at three different locations, the Arlington, Emro, and Pay's Hall (now the office of the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co.), but the Emro proved to be the best by far. In 1912 the Emro Company was formed, and a new orchestra was employed to furnish music for the soundless movies. The orchestra was made up of A. D. Plumb, Alvin Udall, George Ord, Mrs. Morton, and a Mr. and Mrs. Easly.\footnote{3} Mr. and Mrs. Easly were colored people and had rooms at the home of Judge J. S. Cooper. They were a fine couple, and many Nephi people remember them fondly. They were the first colored people to reside in Nephi as far as can be discovered.\footnote{4}

Although the motion picture replaced the Opera House, plays were given for many years after movies were introduced. As late as 1921 the Nebo Dramatics Club, a local organization, was giving plays in the Venice Theatre.\footnote{5}

In 1914 a new moving picture theatre company was formed, and a modern building was constructed at 76 South Main. Numerous improvements have been added through the years until today (1950) Nephi boasts a very modern theatre equipped with cinemascope screen, plush seats, and a beautiful foyer. Bob Anderson is the manager.

\footnote{1}{Ibid., April 19, 1912.}
\footnote{2}{Ibid., March 29, 1912.}
\footnote{3}{Personal interview with Kathryn S. Shaw, June 27, 1958.}
\footnote{4}{The Times News (Nephi), April 8, 1921.}
\footnote{5}{The Juab County Times (Nephi), August 5, 1910.}
Many changes have been brought about through the fifty years. At first the movies were soundless and an orchestra, or the piano, accompanied the picture and played appropriate music. In the twenties "talkies" came, and vaudeville programs were given after the main feature. During the twenties and thirties, serials became important, and during the depression years "Bank Night" was almost an institution in Nephi. Everyone would put their names in the big box, then once each week they would have a drawing. If the person's name was called out, he would get $50.00 if he were present, if not, the $50.00 would be added onto the fifty to be given the next week. Sometimes there was quite a sizeable sum.

Today in America the movie is having a lot of competition from television, and this situation exists in Nephi. Today (1958) the attendance at movies is so poor that the theatre is closed one day a week, and only one show is played each evening. Only time will tell if this type of entertainment will survive at all.

Nephi's Contributions to the First World War

On April 6, 1917, the United States declared war against imperial Germany and entered the terrible holocaust that had been ravaging most of Europe for three long years.\(^1\) In cities and towns throughout the nation young men left their homes to give service to their country. Nephi was no exception.

Before the young men left, the town turned out en masse and gave them a splendid reception. They had a program, dance, and free picture, and nothing was spared to show the boys they were appreciated.\(^2\) When they were ready to embark for their journey to Salt Lake and thence to training

\(^{1}\text{Roberts, op. cit., Vol. 6, p. 453.}\)

\(^{2}\text{The Times-News (Nephi), May 31, 1918}\)
camps throughout the country, the Ladies Della band gave them a farewell concert at the depot, and amidst cheers and fond goodbyes they embarked on their new careers. Most of the Nephi boys served with the 145th F.A. Bttn., and many saw service overseas.

Fred Phillips wrote an account of the departure of the last contingent:

Last Saturday afternoon witnessed the departure of Juab County's last contingent. Overhead the sun shone in all its glory and cast its bright effulgence over the scene of patriotic activity being enacted in this beautiful little Utah city. Along its main thoroughfare a vast assemblage had gathered to bid farewell to our soldier boys. In the company was a brother, husband, son, lover or friend, and hearts once happy and young and gay, realized the uncertainty of the future, and dreaded the separation from those whom they loved. Suddenly the band began to play, and as the sweet strains rose and fell in the cadences of a popular air, a great wave of expectancy overswept the large concourse. Again the Ladies' Della Band rendered a beautiful selection of universal popularity, and the appreciative audience responded with hearty encore and injected one hundred per cent Americanism into the demonstration. With military carriage the musical organization moved forward, followed by those summoned to the colors, and relatives and friends. To the depot the procession proceeded and there the soldier boys mounted the iron horse that would transport them to their destination in the north where many other brave sons of Juab would welcome their new comrades in arms. After hasty farewells were exchanged, and soul-stirring cheers were offered, and the strains of inspiring music echoed and reechoed in the distance, the boys departed on their journey, the end of which may be "over there.""}

The first two to enlist from Nephi were Victor Cooper and Fleet Pitt.  

Patriotism during the war reached such a peak that July 14, the French National Holiday, was celebrated in Nephi on the same day in 1918.

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1 Ibid., May 31, 1918.
2 Ibid., May 31, 1918.
3 Personal interview with Kathryn S. Shaw, June 27, 1958. They enlisted in the Navy.
A large crowd assembled at the Tabernacle and listened to speeches telling of the history of the French Revolution, France's part in the American Revolution, and America's debt to France. The choir sang "The Marseillaise" and a vocal solo was given, entitled "Joan of Arc." At the close of the meeting the audience gave a standing vote that they would support France until victory was won. This resolution was sent to the Committee on Allied Tribute, in New York, who in turn mailed it to the French Government.¹

The Times-News said of the meeting:

The program throughout was inspiring, and the attitude shown by the large audience present was indicative of the feeling of sympathy of the citizens of Nephi for the Republic of France.²

The people of Nephi and surrounding towns gave not only their sons and patriotic speeches, but they also gave their money in supporting Liberty Loans. They went over the top more than $45,000. The Times-News recorded on April 19, 1918:

East Juab County comprising the towns of Nephi, Levan, Mona and Mills, went over the top by the end of the first week, over-subscribing its allotment by several thousands of dollars.

The amount apportioned to E. Juab County by the State Liberty Loan Committee was $45,000. Nephi alone subscribed this amount by the end of the week's drive.³

East Juab County was one of the first to receive their honor flag for selling their allotment of Liberty Loans.⁴

A total of one hundred ninety-two men from Nephi served in the First World War. Nine gave their all for Democracy.⁵

¹The Times-News (Nephi), July 19, 1918.
²Ibid., July 19, 1918.
³Ibid., April 19, 1918.
⁴Ibid., April 26, 1918.
⁵Plaque in the halls of Juab High School. Those who gave their lives were: Lawrence Evans, Frank Ostler, Ray Gowers, Neils Skein or Skeem, Seymour Howell, Paul O. Hanson, Amasa L. Green, Jr., Thomas W. Ostler, and Osborne Sutton.
By the year 1919 most of the servicemen had returned, and Hyrum Carter, one of the town’s prominent citizens, felt they should be shown the proper appreciation for their service. At his own expense he provided a huge banquet at the Forrest Hotel for them, followed by a dance at the Arlington for all over eighteen.¹

In 1925, as a fitting tribute and memorial to all the servicemen of the First World War, a Memory Star was placed in the middle of Main Street where it intersects with Center Street. The Times-News gave the following description of it:

A fitting program marked the unveiling of the Memory Star in honor of the ex-service men of this city, erected by the Service Star Legion, which took place on the evening of July 4th...

The Memory Star as seen in the picture sets on an iron arch supported by four iron posts, with a light on each corner. The star has 62 colored lights of red, white, and blue. A sign is suspended from the arch giving the information and the purpose of the memorial. Four more lights are placed in the center of the lawn, with a foundation spray attached, to water the grass and flowers, the latter being in the form of a star.

The memorial stands at the intersection of Main and Center streets and is very attractive when lighted at night. Much credit is due the members of the Service Star Legion for their enterprise in bringing the undertaking to a successful completion. It is a recognition of the efforts put forth by the ex-service men of Nephi, in the World War, and is not intended by the Service Star Legion to serve as a memorial in the strict sense of the term, but rather as a remembrance of their many sacrifices in behalf of the citizens of our country.²

As the years passed and automobile traffic increased, the monument became a hazard and was removed from the middle of the street. Plans were to place it in the city park, but vandals and souvenir hunters had it dismantled before this could be accomplished.³

¹ The Times-News (Nephi), May 23, 1919.
² Ibid., July 10, 1926. This monument was called by local citizens "Aunt Julia's Doily" after Julia Paxman who did much toward obtaining the monument.
³ Personal interview with Amy O. Warner, June 27, 1958.
A New High School Building

The early quarter of the 1900's witnessed a tremendous growth in high schools throughout Utah. The Nephi High School had been established in 1899 and by 1911 it was one of the leading high schools in the state.

The Nephi High School advertised in many of the state's newspapers:

Aug. 25, 1911.
Nephi High School.
The first rural high school established in Utah.
The first high school to teach the "New Education."
The high school that serves the needs of its community.
The high school that trains young men and women for the practical affairs of life.
The high school that meets college entrance requirements.
The high school that gets state aid this year.
The high school that stands first in the line of nearly fifty now in Utah.
The high school that your parents own, support and control.
The high school that you will attend this summer.
New rooms and equipment added this summer.
Will open on Monday, Sept. 11th.
Call, telephone or write to Principal ROY F. HENDER, Nephi, Utah.

At first, high school classes were held in the elementary building, called the Central School, but as enrollment increased, new quarters had to be sought. In 1909-1910, the new building just east of the Tabernacle was rented. This served for a time. Then various buildings throughout the town were used.

As early as 1916, agitation from the townspeople and especially the alumni was strong for a new high school building. The school board minutes for February 19, 1917, record:

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2. Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 25. The Booster, op. cit. Later this building became the Armory Hall and today (1958) it belongs to the city. Various club and civic meetings are held there. The bottom part is used for storing two of the fire engines.
Petitions were read from the Alumni Association and from the Student Body Officers, of the Nephi High School, and George A. Sperry appeared in behalf of the Faculty, giving reasons why a building for the High School should be erected at this time. The board discussed it and appointed a committee composed of Messrs. Grace, Lunt and Paxman to investigate and make report at as early a date as possible. Carried.

Plans were progressing well when the United States entered the First World War. This curtailed all building of this nature for the duration of the war.

January 27, 1919, marked the next time that a high school building was discussed. In this meeting of the school board a letter was read from the State Council of Defense, asking the board to start a building program, if possible. A committee composed of I. H. Grace, J. H. Lunt, and James Garrett, Jr., were appointed to secure a suitable site for a High School Building.

This same year, board members visited schools between Nephi and Brigham City to ascertain what type of building they had and what good features of each building could be included in the one to be built at Nephi. After visiting the various schools, the Board appointed Mr. Joseph Nelson, of Provo, the architect to draw up plans.

On January 22, 1920, Mr. Nelson met with the Board and submitted plans for the proposed High School Building. The minutes record that the Board examined the plans and offered some suggestions for changes. Then "it was moved by J. F. Newton that the Board ask the taxpayers to bond for $175,000 for the purpose of building a new high school in Juab School District."  

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1Minute book 2, p. 66.

2Ibid., pp. 120-121.

3Ibid., p. 153.
In 1921 the Sells building was disposed of and the Foote property on Main Street between First and Second North was chosen as the site for the high school. The general contract was awarded to Tolboe Company, and Hayden Long of Salt Lake City secured the plumbing and heating contract. The Salt Lake Brick Company furnished the red brick. Tile was placed in the swimming pool, which, with a modern gymnasium with lockers and showers for both boys and girls, was built downstairs. Upstairs was a five hundred seat auditorium with a large stage. The rest of the building included classrooms and offices.

By January, 1923, the building was completed. On the 3rd, the dedication program was held. The citizens were invited to inspect the building from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M., and a fine program was held from 1:30 to 4 P.M. in the auditorium. At the close of the meeting the building was dedicated by President James W. Paxman of Juab Stake.

After the meeting all the high school students paraded through Main Street, then a banquet was held at the Forrest Hotel for all the visiting officials and members of the committees. In the evening another program was held at which representatives from the state's three chief institutions of higher learning spoke. The day ended with a free dance in the new gymnasium for all the citizens.

January 4th was called student day, and the exercises were under

4 These were Dr. Franklin S. Harris, Brigham Young University; Dr. George Thomas, University of Utah; and Professor Henry Peterson, Agricultural College of Utah.
direction of the Faculty and the Alumni Association.  

In the late thirties a Gymnasium and Mechanical Arts building, at a cost of approximately $80,000, was added to the high school plant. In the late forties a balcony was installed in the Gymnasium. Today (1958) this building is used for the following departments: boys' physical education, Industrial Arts, and Agriculture.

The new high school building served the district very well with only minor repairs until 1943 when the school burned, almost to the ground. About one o'clock on the morning of September 5, 1943, the blaze destroyed almost everything but the east wing of the building where the auditorium, swimming pool, and gymnasium were located.  

School was to have started on September 12. On the evening of September 5 the school board met with the city officials and decided to hold school in the old shop building and the old armory building.

Much work was done in the next two and one-half weeks, and by September 23, the buildings were ready and school was underway, with the Junior High occupying the shop building and the High School the armory building.

Ashton and Evans did the rebuilding, and by the first of 1945 the girls' gymnasium was finished. In 1946 the school was occupied once more.

1. The Times-News (Nephi), December 29, 1922.
4. This was the old building located next to the Central School building. It was torn down in the late forties.
6. Ibid., p. 131.
The fire took a total of $54,000 worth of property, which cost over $100,000 to restore. Many modern improvements were added to the building until today, even though the building is one of the older type in the state, it presents quite a modern appearance and has many of the latest facilities.

A new track and football field was constructed back of the high school in the early fifties, and in 1954 the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints added a new Seminary, located northeast of the high school. The buildings accommodate today approximately five hundred Junior and Senior high school students.

Other School Changes and Accomplishments

In order to record all the changes and accomplishments that have taken place in the schools it would take quite a lengthy volume. Only the changes that were most important are included.

Until 1911 each town in the valley had its own school district, but this year, with increased costs and transportation more readily available, it was decided to consolidate several of the smaller districts. The following is recorded in the minutes of the Nephi Number 2, School Board, September 13, 1911:

Mr. Hague reported that at the meeting of the County Commissioners held on the 12th, they designated the east side of the county as a High School District and also annexed Juab District to the Levan District and two-thirds of Nebo District to Nephi District and one-third of Nebo to Mona District.

In the October 25, 1911, minutes it was recorded:

Communication from County Supt. Ivan C. Dalby, stating that the School Districts in Juab County had been divided into two High School Districts to be known as East Juab County High School

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1 The Neponian, op. cit., p. 5.

2 Minute book 1, p. 187.
District, and the Tintic High School District.¹

Soon after the county was consolidated into two high school districts, an election of all the residents of East Juab County was held to determine where the district high school should be located. The majority of votes were in favor of locating it in Nephi.² It was decided to transport Mona and Levan students to Nephi for their high school work.

Levan objected to this arrangement and petitioned the school board for a branch high school to be established at Levan.³ After considering the petition, the board decided on June 3, 1912 that they would establish a branch high school at this place where the students could gain their first two years of high school work.⁴ Accordingly, two teachers, Miss Ethel Erdman of Brigham City and Mr. A. J. Izatt of Logan, were hired at the rate of $90.00 per month, for a nine month period.⁵ The Levan Branch High School operated until the late twenties when, because of a lack of students and the adoption of the 3-3 plan, it was necessary to bring their tenth grade students to Nephi High School. Mona has always had an eight year school, and in their ninth year the students have come to Nephi, as have all other children of the district.

¹Ibid., p. 192.
³Ibid., May 25, 1912, p. 19.
⁴Ibid., p. 25.
⁵Ibid., p. 27.
⁶Three years of Junior High, 7, 8, 9, and three years of Senior High, 10, 11, 12.
⁷Minute book 3, March 4, 1929, p. 44.
Today there is agitation in the district to further consolidate and bring all students from the Seventh Grade to the Twelfth into Nephi for their schooling, but Mona and Levan are objecting strenuously. Whether it will be accomplished remains for the future.

In 1915 Mona District, Levan District and Nephi District were all consolidated into one district which they called the East Juab County High School District. This name was to differentiate them from the West Juab County High School District, later called Tintic School District.

At the turn of the century elementary schools were being operated as follows: One at Starr, one at Mona, one at Levan, and three at Nephi. In 1916 a schoolhouse was built at Mills and this ran until the thirties when the students were transported to Levan. The students from Juab attended school at Levan. Starr had a small schoolhouse for some time, but during the twenties it was closed and the students transported to Mona. York students went to Mona. All other ranching and farming areas of the valley attended school in Nephi.

Three schools existed in Nephi until the thirties, but gradually additions were made to the Central School, creating more room. By 1933, all elementary activities for Nephi City were located in the Central School and they remained so until 1954 when a new Nephi Elementary School was constructed at Second North between Third and Fourth East.

1 Minute book 2, pp. 1, 2.
2 Minute book 4, March 9, 1933.
3 Personal interview with Kathryn S. Shaw, June 28, 1953.
4 Minute book 4, April 4, 1933.
5 This building contains six classrooms, a beautiful multi-purpose auditorium and central lunch room for the district, speech therapy room, and offices.
Today (1958) this building houses the Kindergarten and first Two Grades, and the Central School handles grades Three through Six. Plans are to eventually build onto the Nephi Elementary School and consolidate all elementary activities into one building again. The Central School would then be used as a Junior High. The Nephi Elementary School is very modern and a credit to the community.

Many changes and developments have come about through the years, and many of them were initiated during the period 1901-1926.

Unlike many of the high schools of the state, Nephi High School inaugurated from the start a program which they called the "New Education," or a program of practical education. Besides the regular courses of English, History, geography, science, mathematics, etc., physical education courses, domestic art, domestic science, typewriting, shop work, physics, bookkeeping, music, and many other practical courses were added to the curriculum.¹ Until 1917 the boys were able to take a course in blacksmith work, and not until 1921 was sewing and carpentry work discontinued in the Sixth Grade.² In 1917, physics was added to the High School course.³ In 1915 German was taught under the direction of Gratzchen Horst.⁴

When the high school was first established, a tuition of $15.00 was charged to all pupils eighteen years or over, and for those under eighteen, a tuition of $10.00 was charged.⁵ Special students were charged according to the number of classes in which they enrolled.⁶ In some ways this early high school was operated more like a college than a secondary school. Each year the school presented a catalogue, and in it would be included such information as school board members, faculty and qualifications,

¹Minute book 2, pp. 16-17. ²Ibid., Aug. 31, 1917, p. 221
³Ibid., July 9, 1917, p. 77. ¼Ibid., p. 21.
school calendar for the coming year, aim and purpose of the school, entrance requirements, credit system, and graduation requirements. A program of studies was also included and a brief description of the social activities of the school. This issuing of catalogues was discontinued in the thirties. The thirties also brought the end of tuition or registration fee. In 1915 the activity card had been introduced, and gradually this took the place of the tuition. In 1931 the activity card cost for a high school student was three dollars.

It is interesting to look through the school board records and see some of the rules, etc., that were passed.

January 27, 1925
The question of students being allowed to enter the swimming pool without suits was discussed, and on motion of Ockey sec by Garfield which carried unanimously, that all boys be compelled to go into the pool naked.2

March 11, 1928: At this meeting the board decided that any teacher marrying during the school year would automatically have their contract cancelled.3

January 15th, 1930
Moved by Dalby seconded by Belliston which carried that commencing with the school year of 1930-31 no organization except of a scholastic nature be allowed in the schools of the district.4

On January 5, 1931, it was decided by the school board that a uniform dress would be designed by Miss Blackett, the Domestic Art teacher,

1Catalogue of the Nephi High School, 1919-1920.
2Minute book 2, p. 333.
3Minute book 3, p. 21. This was obviously directed toward the women teachers.
4Ibid., p. 63.
5Ibid., p. 84.
that would not exceed three dollars and this dress would be worn by all of the Junior High girls graduating at their commencement exercises that year.\(^1\)

The accomplishments of Nephi High School, since the year 1930 named Juab High School, have been comparable with other schools of the state. In the early years after its establishment, debating seemed to be the most popular activity. In the years 1914-16 the debating team was one of the most successful in the state.\(^2\) In the twenties music and athletics were at their peak.

In 1922 the Nephi High School Ladies Glee Club sang at M.I.A. June Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and were given hearty congratulations by Oscar A. Kirkham, Executive Director, and Clarissa A. Beesley, General Secretary, Y.L.M.I.A. Sister Beesley wrote to K. J. Bird, director:

> If you could hear all the compliments that have been paid to your Girls' Glee Club for the beautiful music which you rendered at our Conference, I believe you would feel repaid for the effort you made in rendering us this service.\(^3\)

In 1923 State Superintendent C. N. Jensen told Professor Bird that "the N. H. S. Chorus was the best high school chorus he had ever heard in the state of Utah."\(^4\) Governor Mabey asked Mr. Bird to heartily congratulate the chorus.

In 1926 the Nephi High School Band played for the Track and Field

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\(^1\)Ibid., p. 58.

\(^2\)The Juab County Times (Nephi), April 21, 1916.

\(^3\)The Times-News (Nephi), June 16, 1922.

\(^4\)Ibid., January 12, 1923.
meet at BYU Invitational, and the Provo Herald had this to say about them:

The forty-piece band of the Nephi High School, under the direction of Prof. Charles J. Engar created a very favorable impression in Provo Saturday. The band paraded the streets preparatory to the big field and track events at the Young University then played several selections on the lawn of the Stake Tabernacle.

Professor Engar is recognized in musical circles as one of the foremost band leaders in the high schools of the state.

The Nephi boys looked splendid in their white trousers, blue coats and brown straw hats.

The best Juab High School or its predecessor, Nephi High School, has ever been able to achieve as a team in athletics is third place in the State Basketball Tournament in 1938, but many individuals have achieved high honors.

The so-called dessert or glamour of high school is not the real test of the school's worth. What the school teaches from day to day, without any fan-fare, is the main course and determines what type individuals the school will turn out. Juab High School has accomplished much in this area.

Since 1889 when the first graduating class received their diplomas, more than two thousand students have graduated from the local high school. Many of them have become national and state figures.

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1The Provo Herald, April 25, 1926.

2Glen Worthington, Cleo Petty, Harold Belliston, Earl Sells, Mont Bailey, Garth Belliston, to mention only a few of the outstanding ones.

3Included among the alumni of the school is an officer of the National Red Cross, Harold Belliston; a sometime assistant to Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, Daken Broadhead; the President of Utah State University, Daryl Chase; many university instructors, Wallace Vickers, Keith Brough, Barbara Jones, William Hoyt, Wilson H. Foote; the Superintendent of Alpine School District, Alma Burton; nine Utah high school coaches, Marcus Garrett, Mont Bailey, Alma Garrett, Garth Belliston, Verl Sudweeks, Mack Wilkey, Udell Wankier, Cleo Petty, and Glen Worthington; the head mathematician at Pan-American Airways, Kathy Latimer; an operatic star and instructor at Julliard School of Music, Anna Julia Hoyt; a KSL television personality, "Uncle" Roscoe Grover; a district judge, Will L. Hoyt; and several hundred teachers in schools throughout the west.
The Church Inaugurates Many New Programs

For a number of years the Church had sponsored Old-Folks' Parties. One of the most outstanding of these early parties was held November 12, 1909. An account of it was given in the local paper as follows:

From the time that the doors of the tabernacle were thrown open, the good spirit of the occasion was made manifest. The committee extended to every one, Mormon or non-Mormon, rich, poor, inmate of the Infirmary, the cordial glad hand, and every aged person, widow, and widower were made to feel that they were honored guests, shown the greatest homage.

Everyone came attired in his or her best "bib and.tucker," and at 12 N were promptly seated at the long banquet tables which fairly groaned beneath their load of good things. During the entire progress of the banquet some very beautiful music was rendered by the Sperry orchestra.

One hundred and eighty sat down to the banquet table.

In the evening, despite the inclement weather, the old folks completely filled the spacious Arlington pavilion where old time dances were indulged in to the merriment of all. As specialties for the evening, W. A. C. Bryan danced the "Highland Fling," Grandpa Charles Sperry, (80 years old) danced a jig with all the sprightliness of a man of thirty; Celestia Jackson stepped onto the floor and showed them that she could "come and trip it as you go on the light fantastic toe"; so did Mrs. Rob Fyper; P. R. Wilson danced the "Fisher's Hornpipe," and "Uncle Jake" Bowers gave a "Heap big Injun dance."1

In 1912 a Stake Missionary program was inaugurated in Juab Stake. The purpose of the program was "to awaken more interest among the members of the Church."2 The mission, when completed, was composed of six conferences, four in Nephi, one in Levan and one in Mona. T. C. Winn was chosen as missionary president. The Council of Seventies met together with Mr. Winn and selected conference presidents. "The special work of those who are called to labor in this capacity," said the Times, is to "visit among the people and encourage them to attend to their religious duties."3

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1 The Juab County Times (Nephi), November 12, 1909.
2 Ibid., June 14, 1912.
3 Ibid., June 14, 1912.
This was the beginning of the Stake Missionary system as it is carried out today.

The year 1921 marked the inauguration by the M.I.A. of the Juab Stake Fathers' and Sons' Outing. The Times-News said of this:

On July 23rd, 24th, and 25th, the fathers and sons of Juab Stake will have a three-day camping trip to Mt. Nebo. The outing will be held under the auspices of the M.I.A. and the Stake Officers will endeavor to make this first outing a big success. These affairs have been held in various parts of the State the past few years and have met with the hearty approval of all.1

The outing was a huge success. Twelve hundred people attended and far exceeded even the greatest expectations of the leaders. Programs were given, a hike was made to the summit of Nebo, and fathers and sons exchanged stories and sang songs around the blazing fire in the evenings. This event has become an annual affair.

In the year 1914 Nephi had grown to the extent that another ward was created. The First and Second Wards were dissolved, and three new wards were created. They were called the Nephi South, Nephi North, and the new ward, the Nephi Center.2 Thomas Bailey was chosen and sustained as Bishop of the Nephi Center Ward with Parley P. Christensen as First and John C. Hall as Second Counselor. Later the name Center was dropped from the name of the new ward. This name always stayed with Nephi people, although it wasn't the proper one.

During this period (1901-1926) the wards increased their physical plants. The Nephi Second Ward, later North Ward, led the way in 1910 by adding an amusement hall, stage, eight classrooms, and kitchen onto their

1 The Times-News (Nephi), June 17, 1921.

2 Jensen, History of Juab Stake, op. cit. The Nephi Center Ward was organized from that portion of the Nephi First Ward lying between Center Street and First South Street, and that portion of the Nephi Second Ward lying between Center Street and Third North Street.
building. Steam heat was installed throughout the building. The local paper commenting on it said: "Taking the whole building together with the new addition, the cost will total $15,000, making it the finest building of its kind in the county."\(^1\)

In 1916 the South Ward completed their fine new meeting house, and the first meeting was held in it June 3. The Juab County Times said of the event:

Sunday marked the opening of the South Ward meeting house.... At 10:30 Sun. morning a large crowd of Sunday School children and parents assembled in the very modern building. Many who had never been on the interior of the building expressed their surprise at the artistic and well planned arrangement of the building...

The paper continued with an explanation of the fine programs held both in the morning and that evening, and the final paragraph gave a good description of the building.

The chapel is built of buff colored pressed brick and contains eight splendid class rooms and is finished with white sawed oak throughout the interior, is equipped with hot and cold water, steam heat and all the modern conveniences, the auditorium is seated with oak benches. The people boast of having one of the most modern and up to date meeting houses in the state.\(^2\)

Owing to the great cost of the building (over $15,000) and the Church's policy of not dedicating a chapel until it is completely paid for, the South Ward chapel was not dedicated until 1922. Apostle James E. Talmage of the Council of the Twelve dedicated the edifice on October 11.\(^3\)

In 1923 the Juab Stake Seminary building was completed. The Times-News said of this building when it was nearing completion:

The Seminary is a beautiful little edifice designed by John Richardson under the direction of the Stake Presidency....It is

\(^1\)The Juab County Times (Nephi), September 30, 1910.
\(^2\)Ibid., June 9, 1916.
\(^3\)Ibid., October 20, 1922.
constructed of the very latest types of material and the best of workmanship. The foundation is made of concrete with pebble dash finish. The brick are known as the tapestry type giving a very beautiful and restful appearance to the eye.

The building is a two-story construction. The basement has one large assembly room 12 by 24 feet. One office room 12 by 16 feet. A furnace room and a vault. The upper floor has an assembly room 24 by 24 feet, one office room 12 by 12 feet, hall and a toilet room. All floors are maple with a very fine finish. The building will cost when complete and furnished, approximately $7,000.1

This building was built through the generous efforts of the people of the Stake. The largest donors toward the building were the First National Bank and the George C. Whitmore Company. The paper encouraged everyone to support the Seminary for

By supporting this move the people of Juab Stake are supporting the Church in the very latest ideas and giving their children an opportunity to enrich their lives with that religious teaching which they all require in some form. This movement is also advocated by our greatest educators of today in the nation at large.

The students are showing by their enrollment that they appreciate this opportunity.2

This building served for thirty years, and although not used as a Seminary building today, it still stands and is used as the offices of Udell Jensen, Attorney.

Nephi Becomes Modern

New Buildings.—Many of the buildings constructed during this period have already been discussed, but still others were to be constructed and renovated.

Probably the most important building constructed during the period 1901-1926 was the City Hall. In 1924 a bond election was held to see if the taxpayers would support the city in their venture to supply themselves

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1The Times News (Nephi), February 2, 1923.
2Ibid., February 2, 1923.
a new home. The issue carried by a vote of 97 to 99.\(^1\)

In the latter part of June, 1925, work was commenced on the city hall, and by October of that same year the building was nearly completed.

The Times-News said:

The city offices were moved yesterday into the new City Hall. This building is now nearly completed and in a short time will be fully occupied.

The building is located north of the Dixon-Taylor Russell store, and is a two story structure. It is adequate in every way to take care of the needs of this city for many years. The building will also house the public library and a room about 50 by 20 feet has been reserved for this purpose.\(^2\)

The article then gives a good description of what the building contained.

The courtroom is on the second floor and is a room twenty one by forty feet. This room will also be used for public meetings of various kinds. Offices have been provided for the Mayor, recorder, treasurer, attorney, and marshal. The Council chamber is a spacious and well lighted room and adjoins the Mayor's office. One of the features of the building is the room that has been specially provided for the members of the American Legion. Provision has also been made for the electric light and water works department, fire department, and jail. The structure is well built and appears to be substantial in every respect.\(^3\)

This building is standing today on East Main Street between Center and First North and is still a fine looking building and should give many more years of service.

In 1926 an Open-air dance hall was constructed just north of the Nephi Seminary. This became very popular and "Nebona Gardens" as it was known, attracted dancers from all of central Utah. In the forties it was abandoned and later torn down to make way for the Uwana Drive-inn.

Quite a number of business buildings were improved and constructed

\(^1\)Ibid., November 7, 1924.

\(^2\)Ibid., June 6, 1919. The Nephi Public Library started on Saturday, June 7, 1919, and was housed in two upper story rooms of the Juab County Courthouse until the city hall was built.

\(^3\)Ibid., June 6, 1919.
during this time. In 1903 the Alfred Lunt building was constructed, and
the city council used it for their chambers until the new city hall was
built.\footnote{The Juab County Times (Nephi), June 26, 1908.} Today (1958) it is the building that houses Garbett's Ladies
Ready-to-Wear and the Robert Hall Pharmacy. Also this same year the
Arlington, which has been mentioned previously, was erected.\footnote{Minute Book No. 3, Nephi City, February 7, 1908, p. 165.}

In 1926 the Forrest family erected a new twenty-five room colonial
style hotel on the corner of Main and First North Streets. The Times-News
described it as follows:

> The new hostelry has a large lobby, a dining room, and twenty-five guests rooms, eleven bathrooms. The building is of red brick.
> The electric wiring is complete in every detail with basin lights, wall lights, and table lamps and a telephone installed in each room.\footnote{The Times-News (Nephi), November 11, 1921.}

During the early twenties a new telephone office was opened over
the Bailey Furniture Supply Company's Store,\footnote{Formerly Pay's Hall.} and the most modern equipment
was installed.

Last, but not least, Nephi gained a new slaughter house in 1922,
and in that day it was very important as all the meat sold in the butcher
shops was killed locally. John A. Israelson, State Dairy and Food Com-
missioner, pronounced it "the best equipped and most sanitary in Utah."\footnote{The Times-News (Nephi), May 5, 1922.}
the municipal power plant of Nephi City.\footnote{McCune, \emph{op. cit.}, p. 120.} The city records give no indication of this, but at a special meeting of the City Council, held September 27, 1902, the mayor was authorized to employ Mr. F. C. Kelsey to survey, plan, and make specifications for constructing a race in the Canyon for the purpose of bringing water to the proposed electric light plant.\footnote{Minute Book Number 2, Nephi City, p. 270.}

The minutes of April 17, 1903, record that the go-ahead was given to borrow money from the First National Bank of Nephi so that the canal could be constructed and electricity produced.\footnote{Ibid., p. 306.} By June the canal was complete, and Mr. Stanley Crawford had presented plans to the City Council for a power house.\footnote{Ibid., pp. 317, 330.}

On August 7, 1903, the City Council decided to put street lights on Main and Depot Streets and at the intersection of Hague and School Streets.\footnote{Ibid., p. 330.} In December, T. H. Carter was appointed Supervisor of Electric Lights.\footnote{Ibid., p. 359.}

As lights were extended to Nephi citizens, some humorous incidents occurred. One such concerned a Mr. W. P. Ostler who appeared before the council and called attention to the fact that an electric pole had been placed so near his gate that it was impossible for him to get in and out without damaging his fence. The minutes record that "a motion was made and carried that the electrician be instructed to remove said pole and

\footnote{McCune, \emph{op. cit.}, p. 120.}
\footnote{Minute Book Number 2, Nephi City, p. 270.}
\footnote{Ibid., p. 306.}
\footnote{Ibid., pp. 317, 330.}
\footnote{Ibid., p. 330.}
\footnote{Ibid., p. 359.}
replant same out of the way of Mr. Ostler's gate."1 The lights were turned on in Nephi in September, 1903.

Soon after the lights were turned on it was discovered that the electric light plant was not large enough, so in 1910 the plant was enlarged.2

During the 1930's an additional plant was constructed east of the main plant. This became known as the upper power plant. These two plants, supplemented by standby service from Telluride Power Company, gave Nephi good service. In 1948 service with Telluride was discontinued. When Utah Power and Light extended their line to Thermoid Rubber Plant, the city used the services of the Utah Power and Light Company.

In 1951 a terrible flood destroyed much of the upper power plant equipment, and the building was closed. In April, 1955, the lower plant closed, and Nephi now obtains all of its electricity from Utah Power and Light.3

Sidewalks.—The paving of sidewalks started in Nephi in 1907,4 and by 1913, requests were coming into the City Council from every section of the city. That year seven miles were paved5 and in succeeding years more areas were completed. In 1922 the Times-News reported:

Side-walk paving in District Number 14 commenced this week. Hyrum Haynes, a local contractor secured the job, and work is now proceeding in the southeast part of the city. When the present

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1Minute Book Number 3, Nephi City, July 6, 1906, p. 41.
2Ibid., October 7, 1910, p. 355.
4Minute Book Number 3, Nephi City, May 10, 1907, pp. 100-101.
5The Juab County Times (Nephi), March 28, 1913.
contract is finished Nephi will have more paved sidewalks than any other town in the State for its size. This city was among the first in the State, of the smaller towns to pave their sidewalks the first paving being done here about fifteen years ago.

**Streets.**—Until 1912 the streets in Nephi were given names rather than numbers.² Brother Alfred J. Gowers, the second oldest man in Nephi, said: "The streets were named more less after the prominent family that lived on the street, as I remember, Adams, Andrews, Lunt, and so on."³

Brother James Vickers, the oldest resident of Nephi, said in an interview: "Second North was called Price Street, Fifth South was called Bartoon Street, and Seventh South was called Orme Street."⁴

These were only a few of the streets; the city records mention many others.⁵

At first the streets were just dirt, and this was not too bad in the summer, but when the rain and snow came the street was turned into a mud hole. Gradually gravel was hauled onto the streets. Gravel Day became an important event in Nephi.

The Juab County Times printed the following proclamation in 1910, inviting everyone to participate in Gravel Day:

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¹ The Times-News (Nephi), October 13, 1922.

² Record Book Number 1, Nephi, Utah, p. 88. 1912 is the first mention of streets as they are in Nephi today. Evidently they were changed when Ordinances were revised, April 21, 1912.

³ Personal interview with Alfred J. Gowers, June 27, 1958.

⁴ Personal interview with James Vickers, June 27, 1958.

⁵ Minute Record Book Number 1, Nephi City. Other streets that are mentioned are Wilson Street, Sperry and Worwood Streets, Brown Street, Depot Street, Warner Street, Wall, Hollow, Foote, Harris, Sells, Jensen, Railroad, West, Sutton, School, Burton, North Square, South Square, and Bean Streets.
WHEREAS, the streets and sidewalks of Nephi City are in a deplorable condition caused by the recent storms and the melting snow, causing such a condition of mud that some of the streets and sidewalks are almost impassable, and

Whereas, the Nephi Commercial Club has requested that a day be set apart and declared a holiday, and that the citizens be urged to haul and distribute gravel upon the sidewalks and streets of the city.

Now therefore, I, G. M. Whitmore, Mayor of Nephi City, by virtue of the authority in me vested, do hereby declare and set apart Tuesday, March 6th, 1910, as a holiday, and urgently request that all citizens on that day turn out and assist in the improving of our streets and sidewalks by hauling distributing of gravel thereon.

G. M. Whitmore
Mayor of Nephi City

On October 4, 1912, the Juab County Times recorded that Main Street was completely graded and "the business street is as tidy as any in the state." It further states, "the coming winter will see no such ponds and ruts as have been seen in previous years.

The City Council did not have money to grade all of the streets, so the public spirited citizens donated money and labor and accomplished the work themselves.

As automobiles increased, the need for paved roads became important. In 1921 Nephi began to work toward paving Main Street, and by 1924 the work was completed.

Today most of Nephi's twenty-plus miles of streets are paved, and Main Street has been oiled from curb to curb throughout the town. Mona has also made much progress in oiling its streets, but Levan has not

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1 The Juab County Times (Nephi), March 4, 1910.
2 Ibid., October 4, 1912.
3 Ibid., October 4, 1912.
4 The Times-News (Nephi), March 18, 1921 and April 8, 1921.
5 Ibid., June 13, 1924.
as yet attempted this work.

Parks.—Nephi did not have an honest-to-goodness park until the late twenties. A Mr. Witbeck had donated his land at Sixth East and Fourth South for this purpose, trees were planted, and for a time it was used. Most Nephi people felt it was too far out of the way, and it was eventually abandoned. Today sheep graze in this area.  

In 1926 a community park and playground was established between the Nephi High School and the Central School. Plans called for the erection of playground equipment and the planting of lawn. This was accomplished and a band stand was also built. When the swimming pool was built in the area, the park was sacrificed to make room.

In the thirties the north square, located on Main Street between Fifth and Sixth North, was bought by Nephi City from Juab School District and turned over to the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers to make into a beautiful Pioneer Memorial Park. This they did, planting a pine tree for each of the first seventeen families and beautifying the park with flowers, trees, and shrubs.

In 1933, as has been stated in Chapter Three, a piece of the Old Fort Wall was moved to the park and is preserved there. In the year 1934 a memorial log cabin was erected under the sponsorship of the County Daughters of the Utah Pioneers as a lasting tribute to the pioneers of Juab Valley. The actual cost of the building, including material and skilled labor, was $533.80.

1 Personal interview with Amy O. Warner, June 27, 1958.

2 The Times-News (Nephi), March 12, 1926.

3 Personal interview with Amy O. Warner, June 27, 1958.

4 McCune, op. cit., p. 294.  

5 Ibid., p. 294.
Today (1958) this park is one of the beauty spots of Nephi. It has picnic tables and an outdoor fireplace for the picnicker, swings and teeter-totters for the kiddies, and an area for the teen-agers to play softball.

_Cemeteries._—The Nephi City Cemetery, located between Third North and Fourth and Fifth East, was the first cemetery to be established in the city. Gradually this became inadequate and a much larger cemetery, called the Vine Bluff, was located on the hills above Fourth East and Seventh North. In 1923, under the direction of Mayor T. H. Burton, trees and lawn were planted at the Vine Bluff Cemetery.\(^1\)

In 1924 A. W. McCune, a millionaire of Salt Lake City and a native of Nephi, gave one thousand dollars for the improvement of the Nephi City Cemetery as a memorial to his wife, Elizabeth Claridge McCune, who had just been buried there.\(^2\) Today a full time sexton is employed by the city at each of the cemeteries, and the grounds are kept up very well.

_Highways._—As automobiles increased, the need for highways became apparent, and the various cities vied with each other for the State Highway. Nephi soon discovered that it would be located on the highway and eagerly looked to the time when this would be accomplished. In 1911 the Juab County Times recorded that the State Highway had reached York.\(^3\) Soon after it came to Nephi. This was only a graveled road and did not prove successful. In the 1920’s a paved road was started south from Salt Lake City, and by 1922 the road had reached Nephi.\(^4\) A big celebration honored

\(^1\) _The Times-News_ (Nephi), April 20, 1923. \(^2\) Ibid., p. 294.

\(^3\) _The Juab County Times_ (Nephi), November 17, 1911.

\(^4\) _The Times-News_ (Nephi), November 3, 1922.
the completion of the road. The *Times-News* said of this celebration:

Citizens of Juab County turned out in force last Friday evening at the formal opening of the paved highway between this city and the Utah County line. Headed by the Payson Band, a parade of automobiles, many of them decorated, left the Tabernacle at 5 P.M. and traveled to Mona, on the paved road. Here the band played several selections and returned to this city.

The parade, as it stretched out along the concrete highway, was nearly five miles long, there being from two to three hundred cars in the parade, it is estimated.

Arriving in Nephi the crowd adjourned to the library grounds where a big steer had been roasted. The barbecue committee had been busy for a couple of hours carving up the roast beef, and before the big crowd had all been satisfied, 1850 sandwiches had been served by the committee in charge, and 125 loaves of bread had been used.

After the barbecue a program of songs and speeches were given.. which was crowded to its capacity.¹

By 1928 the road had been designated U. S. Highway 91, and markers had been extended from Great Falls, Montana, to Nephi. The markers were eventually extended to Los Angeles.²

In 1931 the State Road was oiled from Nephi City up Salt Creek Canyon to the Sanpete County line to connect with the Sanpete towns and U. S. Highway 89 at Ephraim.³ This road is now called State Highway 11.

In the late forties State Highway 132 was oiled from Nephi to Lynndyl in Millard County to connect with U. S. Highway 6.⁴ Surely Nephi is in an enviable position tourist-wise.

As the seventy-fifth anniversary of Nephi City rolled around, she could look back on a period of accomplishment. She had electric lights, sidewalks and graveled streets, paved highways, good schools, well equipped churches, and businesses, movies and everything else connected with a modern twentieth-century world.

¹ *The Times-News* (Nephi), November 3, 1922.
⁴ *McCune*, op. cit., p. 135.
CHAPTER VII

CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT - 1926-1951

Raising Canning Crops, An Experiment

In the late thirties Juab Valley farmers were in dire need of something to raise (besides wheat, alfalfa, and lucerne) that would bring them ready cash and give more employment to the young people. The city, county, farm bureau, and citizens in general determined to do something about it. They felt possibly truck-garden crops could be grown on the irrigated land. The Eddington Canning Company of Springville was contacted. W. R. Eddington, manager of the plant, agreed to buy twenty-five acres of peas and ten acres of pole beans that year, 1938.¹

The crops were successful in 1938 so the next year the acreage was increased. Many farmers of Juab Valley planted peas and beans.²

In 1941, forty-three farmers in and around Nephi planted one hundred forty-five acres of peas for canning. The average net return was $60.00 to $65.00 per acre, and some averaged as high as $100 per acre.³

In 1941 Del Monte Canning Factory, located in Spanish Fork, contracted with sixteen farmers for pole beans. Returns from this crop netted the growers $85.00 to $165.00 per acre.

¹The Times-News (Nephi), January 13, 1938.

²Clyde Shaw, Lester Briggs, Wilson Glazier, Earl Howard, Roy Ostler, George T. Ostler, Therol Ostler, Irvie Andrews, Bill and Grant Allen, Allen and Fred Pace, Ernest Brough, Sid and Art Scott, Ray Howell, and Fenton Memmott, to mention some of the larger ones.

³The Times-News (Nephi), February 19, 1942.
In the early forties, Hunt Canning Company of Ephraim contracted with many Nephi growers for their peas and beans, but this proved a bad move on the part of the growers. Hunt Canning Company went out of business because of operation expenses that they could not meet and because many of the farmers felt they were not being given a square deal. At this time insects ravaged the crops. By the middle forties many farmers had become discouraged and stopped raising the canning crops.¹

Today (1958) very few peas or beans are grown in the valley. Most farmers grow alfalfa, corn, or potatoes, and some sugar beets. This experiment did not prove lasting, but it was successful for five or six years and brought much-needed money and employment to the citizens of the Valley. Many young boys at that time, including the writer, would have had no employment in the summer if it had not been for canning crops.

Civic, Fraternal, and Social Clubs Benefit the Community

Although some clubs were organized in Nephi before 1920,² they did not get a good start until 1927, when the women of the town led out in the organization of a club called "The Nephi Business and Professional Women's Club." It received its charter as the baby club from Miss Elizabeth Fitzgerald of Salt Lake City, State President, in September. It was organized with a membership of twenty-five.³ Today (1958) this club is inactive, though still organized.

Not to be outdone by their sisters, the business men of Nephi organized into an association in March, 1930. They chose as their president, J. Earl Reid, Manager of the Toggery, and as vice president, Spencer

¹ Personal interview with Clyde Shaw, June 30, 1958.
² IOOF, Modern Woodmen of America, Boosters and Commercial Club.
³ The Times-News (Nephi), Feb. 3, 1927. ⁴ Ibid., June 5, 1930.
E. Forrest, Manager of Nephi's largest hotel. This group worked to encourage home trade.

For a number of years this organization was very active, but gradually it became dormant. By 1940 some of the younger businessmen realized the importance of an organization for all of the businessmen of the city. Max Thomas, George D. Raymond, and several other leading businessmen led out in the new organization which has been successful to the present day. (1958).

Recognizing the need to preserve the heritage they possessed, the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers effected an organization on June 1, 1930. At the time of its organization the Times-News said:

The society is non-sectarian and its object is to perpetuate the names and achievements of the men and women who were the pioneers in founding this commonwealth.

Any woman over the age of 18 years, of good character, and a lineal descendant of an ancestor who came to Utah prior to the advent of the railroad May 10, 1869, is eligible for membership.1

The officers elected to serve were capable and soon had an active organization in Nephi.2 The county units of the organization are called companies, and the smaller organizations within the companies are known as camps. During the year 1931, five camps were organized in East Juab County.3

Nephi owes much to this organization. It was responsible for

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1Ibid., June 5, 1930.

2President, Florence R. Winn; First Vice- President, Alice P. McCune; Second Vice- president, Catherine Bowles; Recording Secretary, Ruby Carter; Corresponding Secretary, Stella Olpin; Historian, Rose M. Lunt; Treasurer, Etta Sidwell; Chaplain, Sarah Brown; Registrar, Henrietta J. Orme.

3McCune, op. cit., p. 293. These camps were known as Salt Creek Camp, Fort Wall Camp, and Birch Creek Camp in Nephi; Chicken Creek Camp in Levan; and Mt. Nebo Camp in Mona.
beautification of the city park, the building of the pioneer cabin on that park, and the placing there of the few remaining pieces of the old Fort Wall. They also have erected a beautiful monument in Salt Creek Canyon to some Sanpete pioneers that were killed and scalped by the Indians in 1858. These are the pioneers that were mentioned in Chapter Three. The Daughters have also erected a monument to the pioneers in the Mona Park, and a Memorial Cabin at Levan.

Nephi has its share of Veterans Organizations. On June 20, 1919, the American Legion was organized and became the first post in Utah, organizing before Salt Lake City by only a few days. The charter was granted on July 1, 1919, and James H. Ockey became the first post commander. A Ladies Auxiliary was organized in 1929, and Elnora Foote was elected the first president. Both of these groups are active today (1938).

In 1921 the Nephi Chapter of the Service Star Legion was organized with Mrs. Maude Forrest as first president. During the First World War thousands of articles were made and sent to the needy by this organization.

In 1932 the Mount Nebo Post Number 2367 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars was completed with J. W. Howarth as commander. This organization was active for some time but does not exist today in Nephi.

The Nephi Kiwanis Club was organized April 5, 1922. It came as a direct outgrowth of the Commercial Club. Charles H. Grace, in writing

1Ibid., p. 296.
2Ibid., p. 298-299.
3Ibid., p. 129.
4Ibid., p. 131.
5The Times-News (Nephi), January 28, 1932.
to the local paper in 1938, explained it this way:

I think I was instrumental in effecting the first farmers organization in Nephi, at least I can recall and which later developed into the first commercial club which Nephi had.¹

He then explained that he invited all the farmers of the area to a meeting in the Relief Society hall where they effected an organization. He continued:

After running under this head for some time Roscoe Grover and J. A. Hyde moved that the organization be turned into a commercial club. . . . We had a splendid representation of the representative men of Nephi, consisting of bankers, lawyers, doctors, merchants, cattlemen and dairymen and it proved an up-to-date organization and one that was awake to the interests of Nephi's welfare, but as a few years glided along there were a few became somewhat disgruntled and wanted to introduce the pool tables into the chamber, which was put to a vote and was voted down.²

He continues, saying that even though it was voted down, those who wanted the pool tables would not give in and rented another building where they installed them. This caused bad feelings between the members and proved to be a weakening link in the chain of the once successful club. Some of the older members proposed that they organize a Kiwanis club with an entrance fee of twenty dollars, which was later lowered. This was effected in 1922, and since then the Kiwanis has worked for the farmer, businessmen, and all others.³

In 1936 the Junior Chamber of Commerce was organized in the month of April. Alma P. Burton was the first president of the organization.⁴

This club has been one of Nephi's most active, arranging for Santa Claus

¹Ibid., January 13, 1938.
²Ibid., January 13, 1938.
³Ibid., January 13, 1938.
⁴Ibid., November 12, 1936.
to visit Nephi each Christmas, and working for new industries for Nephi. This organization did most of the publicity work for the valley until the Chamber of Commerce was organized in 1953.¹

An interesting organization that functioned for several years was a male chorus with approximately forty voices, under the direction of Frank Wanlass, with Keith Kendall as accompanist.²

The last of the Men's service organizations to be organized was the Lion's Club which this year (1953) celebrated its tenth anniversary. The first officers³ were very active in furthering projects for Nephi City. One of the most interesting activities that they now sponsor is an Easter-egg hunt for the kiddies. All Nephi children look forward to this gala affair which has become traditional since 1949.⁴

A unique organization that has been active for eight years now is the "Nephi Native Sons and Daughters." Requirements of membership in this organization are:

First, those born in Nephi prior to January 1, 1891; second, those who resided in Nephi prior to that date; or third, husband or wife of one who meets either of the requirements of birth or residence prior to January 1, 1891.

Joseph H. Greenhalgh was the first chairman.⁵

Ladies' Literary Clubs became popular in Nephi during the late thirties and early forties. The Ladies' Literary Club had been organized in 1905 but no others had their beginning until 1931, when the Twentieth

¹Ibid., February 26, 1953. ²Ibid., November 26, 1936.
³Ibid., November 26, 1936.
⁴Owen DeSpain, Theo Westring, Dr. Kendall Dutson, Eugene Worthington, Glade Sanders, Marsden Cazier, Merle White, and J. S. Cowan.
⁵The Times-News (Nephi), April 14, 1949.
⁶Ibid., April 27, 1950.
Century Club was started. The year 1932 brought the organization of the Lit-a-Lure Club and soon others were organized, until today (1953) there are nine that are organized into what is called the Federated Clubs, which are in turn affiliated with the state and national organizations.

These women have given many hours of service in community projects, such as helping with Cancer drives, Tuberculosis drives, and immunization clinics. They have given play equipment, phonographs, and library books to the elementary schools; along with Nephi City they helped establish a beautiful municipal Rose Garden as a fitting tribute to the Veterans of World War Two. During the war each club purchased several war bonds to help the war effort. They help on any project connected with the Utah State Hospital or Veteran's Hospitals. At the present time they are working on various projects to obtain money for a new swimming pool for the city. The Nephi Federated Clubs won first prize this year (1953) in the state contest for the Year of Achievement project.

Other clubs in the community that give these and other services and that have been organized in the last twenty years are: Jaycee Janes, Kiwanis Ladies Auxiliary, Lady Lions, Rose Garden Club, Riding Club, and the most recent one that has been organized less than five years, the Chamber of Commerce.

All of these clubs are doing their part to make Nephi a better

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1 Ladies Literary, Twentieth Century, Lit-a-Lure, Fine Arts, Beta Literary, Chalice, Delphic Club, Nautilus, Literary League.

2 Personal interview with Rita S. Andrews, President of the Nebo District Federated Clubs, State of Utah, June 30, 1953.

3 The Times-News (Nephi), April 10, 1947.

4 Personal interview with Kathryn S. Shaw, June 30, 1958.

5 The Times-News (Nephi), May 15, 1958.
community, a more desirable place to live; they are working to create more opportunities for work and play. They play a vital part in the community.

The Blackhawk Celebration of 1935 and the Birth of The Ute Stampede

Soon after the Blackhawk War was fought and peace came once more to Utah's valleys, it was decided to hold a three or four day celebration each year in honor of those who had participated in the war. Each year a different town would be the host city to veterans from all over central and southern Utah. On August 3, 4, 5, 1910, Nephi was the host city and put on a good show. The Times-News said of the coming affair:

Everything is practically in readiness for the big Indian War Veterans' Pow Wow next week. The committees have been working hard perfecting every detail of the big affair, and are planning to show the visitors the time of their lives. The city park where the veterans will camp is well lighted with electric lights, there is a good band stand, a good sanitary fountain running freely, good shade, and plenty of good seats. Every morning the veterans and their families will be supplied free of cost plenty of good beef, fresh milk, fuel, provider for their teams, straw for beds. One big dance will be given the veterans free of cost. There will be public meetings at the park, addressed by Governor Spry, Senator Reed Smoot, and other prominent speakers of the state. Three bands will discourse music. Baseball games, horse races, parades, picture shows, theatres, three dancing halls and all kinds of street attractions will give plenty of entertainment to everybody.¹

The next opportunity Nephi had to be the host city for the Blackhawk Encampment was fifteen years later, in 1935. The big celebration was planned for five days, August 13 through the 17th. Nothing was spared in the line of entertainment and variety for the visitors. During the five days the following was offered to the thousands of visitors who came to witness the big event: baseball games, pageant depicting the early history of Nephi, boxing and wrestling matches, mammoth parade with fifteen bands, more than a mile of floats, dances, programs from the following cities of

¹The Juab County Times (Nephi), July 29, 1910.
Utah: Lehi, Springville, Moroni, Goshen, Spanish Fork, Fountain Green, Cedar City, Fairview, and a combined program with numbers from every city of central and southern Utah, and a talk from Governor Henry H. Blood, honored guest. On the third day horse races were held, and a parachute jump was another big feature of that day. The Blackhawk Queen was Miss Florence Chapman (Wilkey), with attendants Blance Broadhead and Miss Lorna Kendall (Worthington). Miss LaMarr Hawkins was chosen to be Miss Nephi. Miss Marion Christensen was chosen to be Goddess of Liberty. ¹

All of these girls had been chosen by popular vote of the citizens. Each citizen received one vote with each twenty-five cent purchase at any of the Nephi stores. The girls had been nominated by petition earlier. ²

The final two days featured a moonlight hike to the top of Nebo the first day and a horseback ride to the top the last day. Out of everything presented, however, the Rodeo attracted the largest crowds and created the most excitement. The rodeo was presented by the famous group that had performed in Madison Square Garden, at the World's Fair in Chicago and Salt Lake City's Covered Wagon Days.³

The Blackhawk Celebration was so successful that Nephi decided to hold an annual celebration and homecoming, and the Ute Stampede was born.

The name, Ute Stampede, was given to the celebration by Mayor P. L. Jones and the committee that sponsored the first Ute Stampede in 1936.

¹The Times-News (Nephi), July 11, 1935.
²Ibid., July 4, 1935.
³The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), Nephi's "Blackhawk Edition" August 10, 1935.
The 1936 celebration lasted for three days and featured parades, band festival with thirty-three bands, rodeo, Indian dancers, and carnival.\(^1\)

In 1937 a special pageant was presented, named "The Sacrifice of Princess On-a-ron-to." It was themed around a legend of early Indian days in Nephi. The pageant was written by LeRoy Whitehead and featured a cast of one hundred fifty.\(^2\)

The Ute Stampede has been held continuously except for three years during the Second World War. The local paper said of this cancellation:

"Authorization was recently given by the Ute Stampede Inc. committee members for the purchase of a $1000.00 United States War Bond, according to R. E. Winn, chairman of the general committee of Nephi's annual celebration.

At the same time, the committee decided to cancel the 1942 celebration in order that people of the state would not unnecessarily use their tires and automobiles in attending the celebration....

"With peace will again come the Stampede" Mr. Winn said, "and it will be bigger than ever before."\(^3\)

During 1947, the Centennial Year of the entrance of the pioneers into Salt Lake Valley, the Stampede featured Miss Caleen Robinson, the State Centennial Queen. Other features were a Queen's Centennial Pioneer Banquet with Miss Elaine Paxman, Queen of the East Juab Centennial, and her attendants, Mrs. Geniel Pratt McAllister and Miss Mildred Powell, as hostesses to Miss Robinson.

A beautiful pageant was also presented that year, entitled "And It Shall Be a Choice Land." It was written by Evelyn Wood, veteran pageant writer of Salt Lake City.\(^4\)

\(^{1}\) The Times-News (Nephi), June 11 and June 25, 1936.
\(^{2}\) Ibid., June 3, 1937.
\(^{3}\) Ibid., June 25, 1942.
\(^{4}\) Ibid., June 26, 1947.
In 1951 Nephi reached the age of one hundred years, and during the Ute Stampede Celebration everyone celebrated for five days. Highlight of the whole extravaganza was a beautiful pageant "From Obscurity to Light," written and directed by Dr. Harold I. Hansen and Lael J. Woodbury. One account of the pageant said:

The setting is unique with the Red Cliffs and Mt. Nebo as the backdrop and a canopy of stars overhead, making an inspirational setting for the pageant which begins with Father Escalante's entrance; until the present day.

One hundred and fifty people will participate, the actors pantomining the part with the voice coming from a central sound booth amplified with loud speakers on each of the five stages. Each stage will be lighted by flood lights, color spots, and foot lights controlled from a master switch board. The central stage is 48 feet long and 20 feet deep. A one-hundred voice choir under the direction of Viola W. Ockey will furnish the musical score with Rheta Sperry, accompanist.

Many changes have taken place through the years, some important, others not so much, but always interesting. No longer do the citizens vote for the queen; tryouts are conducted for any single girl in the State of Utah who cares to compete and can furnish her own horse. Now both a Ute Stampede queen is picked with her attendants and also a Miss Nephi and her attendants. Many people feel the latter honor is more to be coveted.

The rides and concessions have changed from east Center Street to the high school grounds, and in recent years have been held at the Juab County Fairgrounds. Miniature parades have taken the place of band contests, and bathing beauty parades are popular at the present time (1953). Parades are now held in the afternoon instead of the morning as when the celebration first started.

With all the changes, the celebration still remains basically the same with the center attraction being the rodeo, now rated twelfth in the

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1Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951 op. cit., p. 144.
nation. This rodeo attracts the best of the nation's cowboys, and last year it was witnessed by almost twenty thousand people. Certainly this is a celebration that Nephi can be proud of.

The Second World War Brings Many Changes to a Small Town

Many parts of the country gained much new industry as a result of the war, but Juab Valley faced one of the hardest times it had ever had. Not only did the war take its young manhood but the large aircraft industries of the coast states and the military installations of northern Utah promised high wages and more opportunity, and many of the valley's residents heeded the call of big money.

In Nephi, food was rationed, gas was rationed, and the bright lights were turned off at night in preparation for blackout exercises.

Over six-hundred of the valley's young men were serving their country in the steaming jungles of New Guinea or the war-swept hills of Normandy. Many an anxious mother was praying for her boy's return. Most did but a few made the supreme sacrifice.

Nephi made every effort to gain new industry, but she was never successful. When Geneva Steel was built, many Nephi people obtained employment there and commuted back and forth in car pools and buses.

The schools were affected. Many fellows were drafted before they could finish school. The older high school boys went to the Vocational

1 611 served in the Armed forces from Juab Valley. Levan sent 118, Mona 71, and Nephi 422.

School in Provo every afternoon for training. Yearbooks and anything that required paper were prohibited. Everyone prayed for the day when the war would end.

The year 1945 brought the end, and Nephi celebrated with a dance in the middle of Main Street and special prayers of thanks to God in its churches. With the war's end, many people who had sought the pot of gold returned to their old home town, new industries were developed, and normalcy returned to Juab Valley.

New Industries Developed After the War

The Poultry Plant.—In 1930 a poultry plant was built in Nephi at Second North and Third West. The cost was $10,000 and the business has been one of the most successful enterprises in the valley.\(^1\)

The chicken and egg industry had its impetus in the early twenties. In 1922 the first carload of chickens was shipped from Nephi,\(^2\) and the next year the first carload of eggs left.

In this same year the Nephi Poultrymen, Inc. was organized, and they worked toward the expansion of this industry in the area.\(^3\) In 1925 a community hatchery was started, and this was very successful for many years.\(^4\) This organization is now (1958) affiliated with the Utah Poultry Cooperative Association.

Nephi Processing Plant.—After the war the young men returned, anxious to make their homes in a small town. In order to keep them home,

\(^1\) The Times-News (Nephi), August 7, 1930.
\(^2\) Ibid., August 11, 1922.
\(^3\) Personal interview with Alton S. Gadd, July 1, 1958.
\(^4\) The Times-News (Nephi), January 2, 1925.
new industries had to be developed.

In 1943, 7500 turkeys were being raised in the valley by two men.¹ They were being sent to Moroni to be processed. Others decided that this valley would be an ideal place to raise and process turkeys. It presented a dry climate, and there was plenty of area to raise the turkeys. Led by Milton L. Harmon, the Nephi Processing Plant was organized in July of 1945 with the following incorporators as officers: Milton L. Harmon, President and General Manager; Ned T. Ostler and James P. McCune, directors.²

Building began immediately. By October the construction was far enough along to start dressing turkeys for the 1945 season. Dressing continued from then until late in January of 1946, making it a very successful season for both growers and the corporation.³ As the plant proved a success, more people entered the turkey-raising business.⁴

In 1947, 12,000 turkeys were raised. This increased until in 1954 there were 100,000 turkeys raised in the valley, and the plant processed six million pounds of turkey.⁵

The physical plant of the processing industry located at 295 West Fourth South has had a big growth. When it was first built it contained eight thousand square feet. After a few years the building area was increased to forty-seven thousand square feet, with eighteen thousand feet

¹Ned Ostler was raising and George Ostler 2500.

²Nephi's Centennial Jubilee, 1851-1951, op. cit., p. 38.

³Ibid., p. 33.

⁴Those already mentioned. Also Theodore Park, Max Orme, Wayne Rosequist.

⁵Personal interview with Milton L. Harmon, President and General Manager of the Nephi Processing Plant, June 30, 1953.
of refrigerated space that is capable of a temperature as low as 68 degrees below zero.\(^1\) The plant now processes six million pounds of turkey annually. It employs one-hundred thirty-five people during its peak period and has an average daily payroll of almost $1,000. It has the first immersion freezing of poultry, and today in the United States there are only three.\(^2\)

Mr. Harmon believes that the valley has a great future in the turkey industry. He says only one-tenth of the capacity of the valley to raise turkeys is being utilized. According to Mr. Harmon, "Two thousand persons should be directly employed, with 1,200,000 turkeys being raised, and 20,000,000 pounds of turkey being processed yearly."\(^3\)

Mr. Harmon thinks the valley is capable of supporting every part of the turkey industry. He says the eggs should be laid here, there should be hatcheries, there should be canning, boiling and rolling of turkey. Every phase that poultry goes through from the egg to the Thanksgiving dinner table can be carried on in this valley.\(^4\)

The Juab Valley Feed Company.—Actually there is no business with this name in the valley today, but the writer has chosen to call it this because this was the name it had when it started operations. Ever since the Feed Mill of the Juab County Mill & Elevator Company had ceased operations, the farmers of the valley felt a keen need for a mill to operate which would chop their grain into feed for their livestock. In 1947 the above named company was organized, and a modern, up-to-date

\(^1\)Ibid.
\(^2\)Ibid.
\(^3\)Ibid.
\(^4\)Ibid.
plant was built at 235 West Center. The cost was $50,000. In 1951 the
company had one-hundred thirty stockholders, most of whom resided in Nephi.
Then the mill had a capacity of 55,000 bushels of grain. The Company had
two mixers and two choppers. One to take care of the regular milling and
one for small custom jobs. This Company was purchased by the Utah Poultry
in 1956.

Thermoid Western Company.—The latest and largest industry to
come to Nephi was the Thermoid Western Company, manufacturer of rubber
products. Construction of the plant began late in 1946. Early in the fall
of 1947 the first machinery was installed, but the building was not sub-
stantially completed until the late fall of that year. The cost was
$3,500,000.

On June 9, 1948, the Thermoid Company was dedicated and opened to
the public for inspection. Some 3000 took advantage of the opportunity.
President Fred Schluter from the main Thermoid plant located at Trenton,
New Jersey, came to attend the dedication. He praised very highly the
choice of Utah and Nephi for the plant and said:

We can confirm that after two years here our decision was
correct in the selection of Utah and of Nephi as a plant site. We
have at this point found enthusiastic and cooperative working men and women who thus far seem to take just as much pride in
the effort as management does....

We realize now that most of the enlightened leaders of Utah
have their eyes upon our performance and want us to succeed. We
also know that many other industries considering expansion or
relocation are going to use our performance as a test.

Attorney General Grover A. Giles, Salt Lake City, termed the
entrance of Thermoid company into Utah "the opening of a golden era in

1 Personal interview with Bert Powell, June 27, 1953.
2 The Times-News (Nephi), February 23, 1956.
3 The Times-News (Nephi), June 10, 1948.
the State." He said: "the erection of the plant on what had formerly
been an alfalfa field was a testimony to the high character of the people
of Nephi area who are working for its success."1

President McKay, then counselor in the First Presidency of the
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said: "Our children will reap
the blessings of this planning in future years."2

Many other dignitaries were present, including President McKay
and President Schlurer. Dr. A. Ray Olpin, President of the University
of Utah, Dr. Franklin S. Harris, President of the U. S. A. C., and Heber
Bennion, Jr., acting Governor of Utah. One-hundred Salt Lake business men
came down in special buses for the occasion, and Gus P. Backman, Executive
Secretary of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, spoke briefly.3 The Juab
High School band furnished the music for the occasion.

The plant today (1953) is one of the most modern of its kind in
America. Among the unique features is the underground central power channel
proceeding from the power plant down the center of the building, under
the floor. Branch connections reach out into the numerous departments.
All electrical conduit, steam, water and hydraulic pressure lines are so
designed to permit an immediate power take-off at any point. The impres­
sive horizontal braider is the largest and only one of its kind in the
United States.4 The floor area is 193,000 square feet. The land on which
it stands comprises twenty-three and one-half acres.

1 Ibid., June 10, 1948.
2 Ibid., June 10, 1948.
3 Ibid., June 10, 1948.
4 Personal interview with Earl F. Dunn, General Manager, July 1, 1958.
Among the products manufactured by the Thermoid Company are conveyor and transmission belting, braided, knitted and molded types of industrial hose for oil fields, automotive fan belts, industrial v-belts including fractional horsepower belts, molded and lathe-cut mechanical rubber products, and tank lining.

The gross sales from the Nephi plant during the year 1950, the first year that the Company showed a profit, were three million five hundred thousand dollars ($3,500,000.00). This has increased until 1956-57 the gross sales reached over six million dollars. The recession this year (1958) which is general throughout the country will decrease the sales somewhat.

Until the recent recession there were over three-hundred people employed, with a monthly payroll of seventy-five thousand dollars. Since the recession the force has been cut in half. A feeling of confidence still exists, however, that the recession will soon end and conditions will take an upturn. Mr. Dunn said: "The stability of employment is one of the outstanding factors of the plant, some men having been here since the establishment of the plant ten years ago."  

The establishment of Thermoid brought many service industries to the area. ElRoy Nelson, director of the Bureau of Economics and Business Research of the University of Utah, said at a banquet of business leaders in Nephi, June 30, 1959:

Today one new job in a basic industry generally means one new job in a service industry.  
In many ways Nephi's economic pattern in 1959 represents an ideal of every agricultural community in the nation. A new industrial establishment has been added to the typical agricultural

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1Personal interview with Earl F. Dunn, General Manager, July 1, 1958.
community. It means a greater diversification in the basic pattern, an added source of income, job opportunities for the youth, and additional challenges to the community leadership.

He then continued to point out the new industries that had been added to the economy of Nephi since Thermoid's establishment. In addition to this there was an expansion of older furniture stores, grocery stores, etc.

As is common with most industrial establishments, the laboring force of Thermoid is unionized. Surprisingly enough, however, the union with which they are affiliated is not the rubber manufacturers union, but the International Association of Machinists.

Besides service industries, many new homes were built, and the Forrest Hotel Annex owned by Bent Bryan was bought by the Thermoid Company, remodeled, and used exclusively for Thermoid employees. Today (1958) it is also rented out to others than employees of Thermoid. Many people from Sanpete County and some from Utah County make their living at this establishment.

The Times-News said of Thermoid when it had been established two years:

The officials of Thermoid Company have told us that they do not want this great plant, this great industry, huge as it is, to dominate the economy of our community. They have not come here to disrupt the economy but to further balance the economy of our community, to make it a stronger, better, happier and more

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1 The Times-News (Nephi), June 30, 1958.

2 A super market, two ladies ready to wear shops, two cafes, a dairy bar, paint and wallpaper store, lumber yard, motel (expansion), specialty store, two service stations, and two farm machinery distributors.

3 Personal interview with Earl F. Dunn, General Manager, July 1, 1958.

4 The Times-News (Nephi), March 20, 1947.
It is the opinion of the writer that although the plant does not dominate the community it certainly supplies the means of making a living for many people and supplements the income for many more. It has brought a greater balance to the economy of the valley, and it would be sorely missed if it were discontinued.

Community Development During This Period

Recreation.—When the Nephi High School was built in 1922, a swimming pool was included in the plans. This became one of the few high schools in the state of Utah with a pool. This was used not only during the winter months, but also as a community pool in the summer. In 1925 the local paper published the following:

The swimming pool was authorized to be opened for the use of the people of the school district commencing from Thursday, July 29th. The pool will be opened Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, of each week from 4 p.m. until 10 p.m. No tickets will be sold after 9 p.m. Admission for children under 12 will be 15¢. Adults 25¢. Each person must provide their own bathing suit.

Along with swimming and dancing, baseball was the only sport that much of the community participated in. Of course there were occasional rabbit hunts, sponsored by some of the clubs, and some men even did some big-game hunting to rid the range of mountain lions, but most of the recreation was by individuals and small groups. However, in the middle

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1Ibid., March 30, 1947.  
2Ibid., July 31, 1925.  
3Ibid., January 4, 1929.  
4Ibid., February 7, 1929. "Sunday Roy Nielson, Walt Anderson, Edgar Park, and Floran Ingram, brought in a kitten which measured 5 feet four inches from tip to tip, and Tuesday they brought in another kitten, the same size. They used the dogs to capture these animals...The lions were captured in the area between Salt Creek Canyon and Gardner's Canyon.
thirties, with the depression and money very scarce, the city took it upon itself to provide recreation for its citizens. Glen Worthington was appointed recreational director, and with several assistants they developed a rather complete program.

A five hole golf course "with approaches arranged from different angles so that nine holes could be played" was built at the Juab County Fairgrounds in 1934. In 1936 community programs, band concerts, and sports events were popular. A rifle club was also organized with forty members. A ski hill was built in 1937 through the cooperation of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and a group of Nephi ski enthusiasts. It was built on the north slope of the hills just above the forks in Salt Creek Canyon on the Ockey ranch property. By 1938 night softball was becoming popular and that year Nephi dedicated its new lighted softball park. It was located between the high school and Central School grounds. In the fifties it was removed to make way for a new football field.

In 1934 an outdoor swimming pool was built just east of the Juab High School gymnasium, where the track and football field is now located. It was used extensively until the late forties when it was torn down and the high school pool served the community once more.

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1Neldon Worthington, Grant Sperry, and Arvil Sperry.
2The Times-News, Nephi, August 2, 1934.
3Ibid., June 4, 1936.
4Ibid., March 12, 1936.
5Ibid., January 14, 1937.
6Ibid., August 11, 1938.
By 1940 Nephi had one of the most complete recreational programs of any small city in the state of Utah. Swimming, tennis, softball, horseshoe pitching, and supervised play for the youngsters provided a well-rounded program.¹

Three softball leagues² were in operation and the whole town turned out to watch the contests. Monday was known as 'Park Day' for the young children with supervised play being undertaken for the Primary age children, at the Pioneer Memorial Park, and at the South Ward church lawns. Story classes, games, and play occupied the time of the children from 10 A.M. to noon and from 2 to 4 P.M.³ In the late fall and winter of 1940-41 the Juab High School gym was provided with facilities to play handball, volleyball, basketball, and paddle tennis.⁴

The Second World War brought a curtailment of recreational activities. Gradually many recreational activities have been brought back as they were before, but many have changed.

Today (1958) the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints sponsors a very active boys and girls softball league. Little Leagues have gained the attention of the young boys nine through twelve, and competition is keen between the various groups. Three tennis courts give

¹Ibid., June 27, 1940.
²Ibid., June 27, 1940. Commercial league playing on Monday evenings; Recreational league on Wednesday nights; and the Central Utah league on Friday. The commercial league is made up of teams sponsored by Allens Cash Store, Bailey-McCune Rite Way, Juab County Abstract Company, and the Mutual Creamery. Recreational league teams are sponsored by the Nephi Junior Chamber of Commerce, Nephi City employees, Battery E and Wayne Ostler's Oilers. The Central Utah League is comprised of teams from Central Utah cities.
³Ibid., June 27, 1940.
⁴Ibid., November 21, 1940.
ample room for those interested in this sport. Nephi has always had an outstanding baseball team. It has usually been affiliated with the Central Utah League, although at times they have joined the Sanpete League. They have won the championship many times, as their trophy case in the Nephi City Hall will attest. Levan, their sister city to the south, sponsors one of the outstanding invitational baseball tournaments in the Beehive State. It is held every year at the close of the summer and brings teams from as far north as Granger, as far east as Hiawatha, and as far south as Utah's Dixie.

In the winter the school and the Church provide ample recreational opportunities.

At the present time (1953) Nephi does not have a swimming pool. The outdoor pool was taken up to make way for playground area and the football and track program. The high school pool was condemned and is now being filled in to make way for new music rooms. The citizens must raise two thousand dollars more before a new outdoor swimming pool, to be one of the most modern in the state, will be constructed.

Much of children's time today is taken up with the television set. It is the writer's opinion that recreational programs are needed and those now operating perform a real service to the community.

Airport.—On September 25, 1948, culmination of several years of patient work was seen as the Nephi Airport was dedicated.

The first steps were taken during the administration of Mayor Wilford Bailey, 1936-39, when a piece of ground west of the railroad track and north of the Meadow Lane was purchased by Nephi City. This ground was

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1 Teams from Utah and Wasatch Counties.

2 Teams from Sanpete and Sevier Counties.
soon found to be unsuitable as it was too close to the mountains and would not provide room for an east-west runway. The land was sold and later the proceeds from this were used to purchase another site about a mile north and two miles west of the city. This was accomplished under the administrations of P. L. Jones and D. Eugene Ostler. By 1944 the options were consummated and the title obtained by Nephi City.1

In the spring of 1945 a landing strip was bladed on the field and members of the Nephi Kiwanis Club formed the Nephi Flying Club, purchases a plane, and many members learned to fly. During this same year a small office building was placed on the field by the city and a telephone was installed. In the spring of 1946 the Nephi Flying Club built a two-plane hanger, and in 1947 Dudley Bray built a quonset hut hanger, forty by sixty feet, together with an office and living quarters made out of cinder block. Nephi City drilled a well for water and installed a pump and a tank. At the same time they also extended electricity to the airport.2

During the mayorship of H. C. Crane in 1947, the city fathers appropriated ten thousand dollars toward the improvement of the airport. Juab County appropriated six thousand dollars, and the State Aeronautics Board matched this with sixteen thousand dollars. The Federal Government placed eighty thousand dollars on the project, making a total of one-hundred twelve thousand dollars for improvements to the Nephi City Airport. Later fifteen hundred dollars was appropriated by the State Aeronautics Board for the graveling of the runways.3

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1 The Times-News (Nephi), August 26, 1948.
2 Ibid., August 26, 1948.
3 Ibid., August 26, 1948.
Preliminary survey of the airport was made April 1, 1918, and grading was started by the contractor on April 9. About April 29 the gravel base was started. The gravel was secured on the south end of the airport grounds and was placed on the north-south runway to form the base fill for the runway. A gravel pit about two miles north of Nephi, on the east side of Highway 91, on land owned by Lynn Jackson, was opened and a crusher placed in service to secure the gravel for the runway surface. This gravel was placed in rows and mixed with oil. On July 26 the W. W. Clyde Co., contractors of Springville, started the spreading operations and rolling the oil into place. On August 23 the seal coat was started, and by September 5 the work was completed.  

The field will accommodate all but the largest military planes. The north-south runway is 4800 feet long and nine hundred feet wide from shoulder to shoulder. Each of the shoulders is one-hundred seventy-five feet wide with a paved runway in the center, one-hundred fifty feet wide. The east-west runway is 2527 feet long and three-hundred feet wide with one-hundred feet graveled runway in the center.  

The dedication was very successful. Many townspeople, dignitaries, and plane owners throughout the state were there and took part in appropriate ceremonies. Today (1953) the field is used by private plane owners and any others who care to land on the field, however, Nephi has no regular passenger or mail airline service.

Sewer System.—When big industry by the name of Thermoid Western

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1Ibid, August 26, 1918.
2Ibid, August 26, 1918.
3Ibid, September 23, 1918.
came to Nephi, it created many new jobs, but it also brought many problems that a little town such as Nephi had not faced before. One of these problems was water and sewage. Nephi had never had any sewer system, septic tanks and cesspools serving the purpose. But Thermoid required lots of water and this would not do. The city fathers put it before the people and asked them whether they would support the extra cost it would take to install a sewer system. The people gave a resounding vote of confidence to the administration.1

Said the Times-News in October, 1947:

Nephi City Corporation was given the "go ahead" signal for construction of a sanitary sewer and a sewer disposal plant, and for the extension of Nephi City's water works system to include additional supply and extension of lines at the special bond election held last Friday.2

The city immediately went ahead and constructed the sewer system in the most populated parts of the city. By the fall of 1949 most of the work was completed.

ElRoy Nelson said in 1949, of the sewer and water project:

Nephi rather stands out ahead of most other Utah communities in facing its problems. To a considerable extent the immediate results and even the long range effects of a capital outlay of $700,000 in the city are not easily seen. But Nephi must be commended for its long range programming.

The expenditures include generally:

- Sewage collection system and complete sewage disposal plant. This has cost approximately $330,000. In addition to a typical collection system the disposal plant is the first complete sewage disposal plant in the state.4

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1 Minute Book, Nephi City, Sept. 16, 1947, pp.11-17. The vote was for 310 and 30 against.
2 The Times-News (Nephi), October 23, 1947.
3 Personal interview with Dr. Preston L. Jones, former Mayor of Nephi, July 1, 1958.
4 The Times-News (Nephi), June 30, 1958, Talk by ElRoy Nelson to Nephi business leaders.
He continued, telling of the other expenditures such as new firefighting equipment, road-oiling projects, etc.¹

The question of paying for the sewer system presented a real problem to the City Council. As not everyone in the city was attached to the sewer system, it would not have been fair to meet the debt through a general obligation bond. In an interview with Dr. P. L. Jones, the then mayor of Nephi, he told the writer that the Council met many hours each night for weeks on end and finally worked out an ordinance in which all those who had sewer connections would pay for it in connection with their water bill. If they did not pay for the sewer bill their water could be stopped. The ordinance states:

Where sewer service is available to a property owner, no water service shall be separately sold or billed. "Water and Sewer" service only, shall be available and the monthly charges for such service shall be rendered as a single billing.²

This ordinance was questioned as to its legality and eventually reached the State Supreme Court. The Court gave a ruling that Nephi City was legally and lawfully within its rights. This ordinance has since been referred to very often as the Nephi Ordinance by various cities throughout the nation.³

In the fifties the sewer system was extended to many other parts

¹Today (1953) Nephi has three modern fire engines with an active volunteer fire department, enough to take care of any need that may arise. This summer will complete the oiling of practically all of the twenty-four miles of streets in Nephi.

²Revised Ordinances of Nephi City, State of Utah, 1951, Section 646.

³Personal interview with Dr. P. L. Jones, former Mayor of Nephi City, July 1, 1953.
of the city until today (1958) the major part of the city benefits from this service.

**City Manager System.**—During the forties many problems presented themselves, and they required the help of a trained engineer. The Mayor and City Council decided to try the City Manager system which was then being tried in Ogden and several other Utah cities. On January 14, 1948, the Ordinance was created that provided for a City Manager. Briefly, the City Manager was to be responsible for utilities in the city and recommend, advise, and counsel the mayor and City Council in matters of city improvement. He can sit in on meetings of the City Council and voice his opinion, but he does not have a vote. He can also discharge employees whom he does not feel are carrying on their duties properly. The City Manager can be discharged when the Mayor and City Council deem it advisable.

Daniel Davis served for a short in an unofficial capacity. In 1948 George Matkin was appointed City Manager. George Matkin, a native of Idaho and a graduate of Utah State Agricultural College (now Utah State University), was a qualified man for the job. He had worked as a survey engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation before coming to Nephi. He served the city faithfully until 1954, when he left to become City Manager of Anchorage, Alaska. The writer had two interviews with City officials who had worked with him and they said of him, in substance:

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1Ibid.

2Minute Book, Nephi City, pp. 66–68.

3Revised Ordinances of Nephi City, section 703, pp. 213–215.

4During 1947.

5Personal interview with Raymond Christiansen, Nephi City Recorder, July 1, 1958.
He saved the city a lot of money. He drew plans for the city. He was able to estimate prices of pipe, and other equipment connected with sewer and water problems. He was good at drawing maps. He was worth much more than the $5,000.00 he received.¹

Another said:

He was able to save the city much money. He was responsible for Nephi obtaining the Bradley Springs water, the sewer system, and under his direction the power system was completely rebuilt.²

Leonard Wiscombe, a former city recorder of Springville, and an electrical engineer, served for one year after Mr. Matkin. He did not prove successful and was released. Since that time (1951) Nephi has not had a City Manager.³ The Ordinance is still in effect, however, and if the Mayor deems it necessary and the City Council approves, a City Manager can be appointed.

New Buildings.—The late 1920's brought new building and expansion of existing buildings in the business section of the city. In 1928 the First National Bank Building was constructed at a cost of fifty thousand dollars. It was dedicated to the memory of George Whitmore, prominent Nephi booster and banker. The Times-News said of the building:

The new bank building is constructed of glazed granite brick and terra cotta, with granite trimmings. The ground floor houses the president's office, cashier's and tellers' departments, and has a spacious lobby that for both size and beauty of design, would grace a metropolitan banking house. A feature of the bank's facilities is that it has three separate steel lined concrete vaults, one for safety deposit boxes, and two for the bank's valuables.⁴

This building stands today and has served two other banking institutions, the Commercial Bank and now (1958) the First Security Bank. It is well-kept and a credit to the business section.

¹Ibid. ²Personal interview with Dr. P. L. Jones, July 1, 1958.
³Personal interview with Raymond Christiansen, Nephi City Recorder, July 1, 1958.
⁴The Times-News (Nephi), April 13, 1928.
In 1929 the Forrest Hotel announced that because of their increased business they would add sixteen more rooms. Work was commenced immediately and finished in June of that same year. The new addition extended west from the north end of the building. This addition made the hotel one of the best small hotels in the state of Utah.¹

Nephi did not obtain a federal building until July 25, 1932. Plans were completed long before this, but the First World War brought curtailment of practically all construction and it was not resumed for some time afterward.

In September, 1931, the old Tithing House was torn down and the Federal Building constructed in its place on the east side of Main at Center Street.² Fitting ceremonies and a program marked the dedication, including the placing of a memory box in the cornerstone that contained the history of the Nephi Post Office from the time that Timothy B. Foote first served as postmaster to the time of dedication.³

The Post Office and Forest Service now are housed in the Federal Building. During 1942, Nephi's Post Office had grown in volume and business to the extent that it was made a Second Class Post Office.⁴

In 1938 a new National Guard Armory was dedicated in Nephi. The cost of the building was thirty-eight thousand dollars.⁵ The building is located directly across the street south from the Central School located on First North and First East. It is equipped with a large drill hall and

¹Ibid., April 18, 1929.
²Ibid., September 3, 1931.
³Ibid., July 21, 1932.
⁴Ibid., July 2, 1942.
⁵Ibid., September 29, 1938.
several smaller rooms for equipment and offices. Today (1953) it houses Battery B, 145th F. A. Bn.

During the year 1937, twenty-five new homes were built and the South Ward Church added an amusement hall and additional class rooms to their chapel.¹

Besides the Tithing House, two more old landmarks were torn down in 1938 to make way for a new service station.² The Times-News said of the raising:

Crews are this week tearing down two well-known Nephi buildings, the Old Poote Hotel, which in recent years has housed the Nephi Cafe and Confectionary and the Arlington building.³

The article said of the Arlington building:

The Arlington building was originally built as a theatre, replacing the Old Opera House, which during 1907 or 1908 was torn down. The Arlington dance hall, on the upper floor of the building was also built at that time. In 1920, the Arlington property was purchased by Russell Hawkins, who changed the building's lower floor into a garage. The dance hall in the building has one of the finest floors in the state of Utah, and was used until a year or so ago, following the sale of the property.⁴

In 1940 the Juab County Mill and Elevator Company built two additional storage elevators and installed new machinery in their plant at a cost of twenty-two thousand, five hundred dollars.

The years after the Second World War have seen much construction of new business houses. The next few years will probably see more school and Church construction.

¹Ibid., January 28, 1937.
²The Utah Oil Refining Company station was built here.
³The Times-News (Nephi), July 14, 1938.
⁴Ibid., July 14, 1938.
The Schools Develop New Programs to Meet the Changing Times

The Name-Change Controversy.—Soon after the new high school was dedicated some individuals felt the name should be changed from Nephi High School to something that would more fully typify the whole valley, as students from all over the valley were going to the high school. The Board discussed it, and among the names mentioned were "East Juab High" and "East Juab County High," but nothing definite was decided upon.¹

Nothing more was said about it in the local newspaper or the School Board minutes until the year 1930. In that year the School Board minutes recorded the following:

President Foote explained the nature of the meeting and the purpose for which it was called, that of transferring the 10th Grade from Levan to the Nephi High School, also of changing the name of the Nephi High School, to the Juab High School.²

Owen Barnett was the superintendent at the time and he told of the benefits that would be derived educationally by such a change, and he asked that it be given a fair trial. A delegation of Levan citizens were there at the meeting and several of them spoke against the proposed change.

After discussing it, the Board voted and both proposals passed. However, soon after Levan people petitioned for their students to remain in Levan until the Eleventh Grade, but this was defeated.³

Immediately the controversy began to wage between the three towns. Most of Levan and Mona wanted to see the name changed but Nephi people who had graduated from Nephi High School felt it would bring an end to the active Alumni Association that had existed since 1900 and that had had

¹Ibid., February 16, 1923.
²School Board records, book 3, August 18, 1930, p. 76.
³Ibid., August 18, 1930, p. 76.
such close relations with their alma mater since that time. The school board pointed out that in 1915, under the new law of state consolidation, Section 1891-XL, that all the schools of East Juab County were merged under one head, and the corporate name of Juab School District was given the new organization. They also pointed out that in order to conform with the intent of the law, they changed the name June 17, 1930, to Juab High School, as this was the district high school.  

The Nephi Alumni Association also pointed out some facts: That Nephi people organized, built and paid for the Nephi High School. That it was the third high school established in the state and the first rural high school and had obtained an excellent reputation. They felt it would be foolish to attach a new name to such a distinguished institution. That if the School Board had wanted to conform to the new law of consolidation which was passed in 1915, why did they wait for fifteen years to change the name, for every class that graduated from 1915 until 1930 bore the name of Nephi High School. They further stated:

By minute entry dated June 3, 1912, the new board established a high school at Levan, which was termed a branch high school in order to conform to the vote of the people to have only one high school. This was then and has ever since been called "The Levan High School."  

They also pointed out that when the new high school was built in 1922 "the letters Nephi High School were imprinted in the huge name stones above the entrance, the emblem 'N.H.S.' was cast in iron on every

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1 The Times-News (Nephi), February 9, 1933.  
2 Ibid., February 23, 1933.  
3 Ibid.  
4 Ibid.
auditorium seat, and a large 'N' placed on each of the stage curtains." They further pointed out that in a catalogue issued the same year, the name "Catalogue of Nephi High School Juab School District, 1922-23" was on the front page. 1

In relation to the recent action by the School Board the Alumni said:

This was not an action to officially adopt the name of Juab High School to conform with the intent of the law. The law absolutely does not now, nor has never, intended to name individual high schools in this state. This was clearly an action changing a name that actually existed to another and new name, and it is the only entry on any record book of the local school districts where the status of the name of the Nephi High School has ever been questioned or changed. 2

The controversy waged on and Nephi hadn't seen anything like it since the Big Hollow Episodes. 3

On March 8, 1933 a committee of townspeople and Alumni met with the Board to have them reconsider. The School Board minutes for this date record:

All members present. A committee composed of James P. McCune, Thomas Bailey, Ronald Shaw, Fred Gadd, and P. J. Sanders met with

1 Ibid., February 23, 1933.

2 Ibid., February 23, 1933. I can personally vouch for this last statement as I very carefully checked all of the records pertaining to this period from 1911 to 1930.

3 During the 1860's Nephi had a destructive flood that brought down huge trees, rocks, and boulders, and cut a big ditch fifty feet wide and almost that deep through the middle of town. In the early days young hoodlums in the north part of town would not let people pass into their part of town, and if they tried to, they threw rocks at them and sometimes there were fights. Often the south warders treated the northerners the same way. I can remember as a youngster fearing to go over the "big hollow" to my aunt's because the North Warders would beat up on me. Today (1958) bridges have been built across most of the big hollow and there are no more controversies.
The Board and presented a petition signed by the Alumni members and citizens of Nephi, asking that the name of Juab High School be changed back to the Nephi High School. A lengthy discussion followed on the question as to the merits of the petition.

The following action was taken by the Board: Moved by Dalby, that the matter of changing the name of the Juab High School be deferred until the next meeting of the Board, March 22nd, 1933, to allow for further investigation of the question. The motion was seconded by Neilsen, and the vote on the motion follows: Ayes: Dalby, Neilsen, Belliston. Nays: Foote, Sells. The motion was carried.¹

At the meeting on March 23, both Levan and Mona residents presented petitions that the name remain Juab High School, and the Board then voted whether to change the name back to Nephi High School. The minutes recorded the following:

Moved by Sells, seconded by Foote, that the name of Juab High School be changed back to the Nephi High School. The vote was as follows: Yes: Foote, Sells. Nays: Belliston, Dalby, Neilsen. Motion Lost.²

This ended the argument once and for all, at least on paper, but it took many years for some people to accept the change. The Nephi High School Alumni lost interest in the school, stopped holding their banquets that had been so outstanding, stopped giving "N" pins to the outstanding graduate, and stopped painting the "N" on the hill.

This organization had said:

Decades must pass before the name of the Juab High School will be accepted locally or before it can possibly attain the prominence, recognition and reputation built and enjoyed by the Nephi High School.³

They were right, for as late as the middle forties the big red rock at the base of the flag pole in front of the High School was alternately being painted with a crimson "J" or "N." Finally the administration

¹ School Board Minute Books, Book 4.
² Ibid., Book 4.
³ The Times-News (Nephi), Feb. 23, 1933.
settled the controversy by painting the rock all red and it remains so to this day (1953).

But decades have passed and the breach has been healed. This year a "J" was placed upon the hill above town and a marquee with a blazing neon, saying "Juab High School," was left to the school by the Senior Class, and no one seemed to object. The school now has a fairly active Alumni Association, and very good relations prevail between the students from the three towns.¹

The School Lunch Program.—The School Lunch Program had a very humble beginning. It was started in Nephi in the winter of 1933. At first only a bowl of hot soup, donated by parents and grocerry men, was served to the children to supplement their diet and give them some warm food to go with the lunches they had brought from home.² This was served in the hall of the high school.³

After World War II started and so many women were working, it was decided with the help of State and National Government aid to give the children a complete meal.⁴ The old carpentry building just north of the Central School was utilized for this purpose.⁵

When the new elementary building was constructed in 1954, all the

¹Feelings still exist among some of the older residents of the three towns.
²The Times-News (Nephi), February 9, 1933.
³Personal interview with Susie B. Worwood, July 3, 1958.
⁵Personal interview with Susie B. Worwood, July 3, 1958.
school lunch operations were moved to that building where, in a central kitchen, the meals are prepared for all schools of the district.

A complete list of those who have served in the program is not available, but some of the very earliest workers were Mattie Belliston, Birdie Jones, and Susie B. Worwood. Today Gladys Brown is the head supervisor, and she has a staff of eight women who help her to prepare the nutritious meals.

Mrs. Brown and her staff have won two outstanding awards. In 1957, in a state contest called "The Twenty Menus Contest," the Juab School District lunch program was given one of three blue ribbons out of forty districts competing. This year (1958) the local school lunch program was given by the state an excellent rating for over-all work, with special mention for variety in the menus. All citizens of the valley are proud of the program and the vital service it is performing.

School Nurse Program.—The Times-News of February 4, 1921, recorded the following:

We are pleased to announce the arrival in our city of Miss Mary Tipton of Salt Lake City who will for the next few weeks become a part of the Juab School system. She has been brought here for an important work—that of health education which is now looked upon all over the civilized world as one of the most important functions of the school. Her field of work is unique in so far as we know the people in this end of the county have never been visited by a school or public nurse, and there is probably no other vocation that affords greater opportunities to serve.

The article continues, saying that "her specific work will be to visit the homes where there are children suffering physical defects....

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2 The Times-News (Nephi), February 4, 1921.
and in a spirit of love and sympathy encourage them to have something done for the children."¹

This is the first record of any school nurse in the valley. Soon after this, however, in connection with the county, a school nurse program was established.² A roster of all who have been school nurses has been impossible to find, but those who served for any length of time were Emma Cole Cannon, Medra Hall (Starr), Emma Cole Cannon Harmon, Kitty Beard, and the present school nurse, Martha Van Wagoner.

Driver's Training Program.—The Driver Training Program was insti-
tuted at Juab High School in 1948. On November 3, 1947, the school board minutes record: "The matter of cooperating with the Chevrolet Motor Company in giving free driving lessons...were discussed."³ The minutes further record that the board decided to cooperate in this project.⁴

In 1948 the program was started. Rex Wirthlin, the local Chevrolet dealer, furnished the car to the school, and Theron Snyder gave instructions to the Tenth Graders. The Times-News wrote in 1948:

The program consists of at least 36 hours of class work and 32 hours inside the car training, eight hours of which must be spent in actual driving the car. Twenty-five students of the 10th grade are now taking the course under the direction of Theron Snyder of the high school faculty.⁵

The program has continued to grow during these past ten years.

This year (1958) the students started taking their actual driving training

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¹Ibid., February 4, 1921.
³School Board minute book 6, p. 13.
⁴Ibid., p. 13.
⁵The Times-News (Nephi), October 21, 1948.
during the summer, and they will take their written work during the regular school year.

Driver training instructors since Mr. Snyder have been M. Clark Newell, Marcus Garrett, and Max Frampton.

Special Education Programs. — Since the Second World War there has been increased emphasis throughout the district on Special Education Programs. Juab School District is one of the state leaders in this phase of education.

The first of these programs, an elementary remedial reading program, was commenced in 1955 under the able supervision of Vilnah Winn. The next year, 1956, Miss Kenna Larsen (Worthington) began the speech and hearing therapy program throughout the district. The following year, 1957, Mrs. Cleora Gheres began a classroom for the retarded child, which brings students from the whole district. These three programs have been well accepted in the district and have proved very successful.

Future plans for special education are for a reading therapist in the secondary schools. This was tried for one year under C. Ray Evans, now retired, and it proved quite successful.

Church Growth Brings Division of Wards

In the year 1947 the three wards of Nephi were divided into four wards, called the First, Second, Third, and Fourth. This was done March 23, 1947. The wards were divided as evenly as possible.¹ New Bishoprics

¹Ibid., March 27, 1947. The following boundaries were set for the four wards of Nephi. First Ward, South-east portion of the city, comprising that district east of First East and south of First North. (Later this was changed slightly.) Second Ward, all area south of First North and West of First East. Third Ward, all area north of First North and West of First East. Fourth Ward, all area north of First North and East of First East.
were chosen for each of the wards, and building programs were started immediately. The First and Second Wards shared the old South Ward, and the Third and Fourth Wards shared the old North Ward building. Both of these buildings have already been discussed. In 1955 the Fourth Ward dedicated their own building. The modern building was constructed at 345 East on Fifth North Street. The First and Second Ward own the old South Ward building conjointly and will continue to share the building with their meetings held at different times so they will not conflict. The Third Ward is using the old North Ward building, but it is getting old and plans are now to build a Third Ward meeting house and Stake Center combined.

In 1949 Mona Ward broke ground for their new $70,000 chapel, and in 1952 the building was dedicated. This is the most beautiful building in Mona today. The Deseret News said of the dedication and building:

The new Mona Ward Chapel, Juab Stake, was dedicated Sunday, April 18, 1952, by Elder Alma Sonne, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve. Bishop Vaughn Molyneaux conducted the services. The new structure has a chapel seating capacity of 210, a recreation hall, kitchen, Relief Society Room, and five classrooms.2

Levan is badly in need of a new building and is collecting funds now to start on the construction, but no starting date has as yet been set.

Other Church construction during this period has included a new front that was built on the Tabernacle in 1930, and this building served until the 1940's when it was torn down, a twenty thousand dollar addition to the South Ward Meeting house,1 and the building of a new Stake Welfare Center.5

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1Ibid., March 27, 1957. The Bishops were: First Ward, Lester H. Belliston; Second Ward, John Harmon; Third Ward, Elgin R. Garrett; Fourth Ward, J. Ivan Tew.

2The Deseret News (Salt Lake City), May 21, 1952.

3The Times-News (Nephi), May 15, 1930. 4Ibid., March 25, 1937.

5Jenson, History of Juab Stake, op. cit.
CHAPTER VIII

WHAT OF THE FUTURE

The Tourist Trade

Tourist-wise, Nephi has great possibilities. The city is located at the Crossroads of Utah. The well-traveled U. S. Highway 91 which runs to Los Angeles becomes the city's Main Street. State Highway 11 runs east through Salt Creek Canyon to Sanpete where it connects with U. S. 89 just north of Ephraim. Highway 89 serves the tourists going to Bryce, Zion, and Grand Canyons. Utah Highway 32 runs west to Lynndyl where it connects with U. S. 6 which in turn runs to Ely, Nevada and thence to Los Angeles, California. All of these national highways are well traveled and bring much money into the town. Nephi has eight cafes, eight motels, and sixteen service stations, that all do well during the summer months when the tourist season is at its peak.

The problem Nephi faces, as do all of her sister cities, is that of getting the tourist to stay in the area longer. Nephi has great potential if it were developed.

The Mt. Nebo area is one of the most beautiful in the nation. Good campgrounds and picnic areas are provided, but more must be opened. Governor Clyde said recently, "When we get the highways, these mountains of ours will be the playground for the midwest and the coast."¹ The Nebo

¹Governor George D. Clyde at a talk to business leaders and townspeople, Nephi, Utah, June 18, 1958.
Loop Drive is unrivaled in color during the fall and it would be a mecca for tourists, if a good oiled road were provided.

The Mt. Nebo area would be a good place for a dude ranch, and organized tours, both on foot and horseback, could be provided to the top of Mt. Nebo. This is one of the few mountains in the state with a good trail for horseback riding. The rugged red cliffs just south of Nephi can also be traversed on horseback. All of the mountain area has tremendous potential.

Another means of holding the tourist would be to advertise the unique things around him such as the first dry-land farm, called "Perjury Farm," and the historical things of the city. Nephi has a beautiful park that would make an interesting spot to display more of these relics.

An information booth located in the center of town to tell tourists of the attractions would be of benefit, also.

The people of Juab Valley, along with the people from other valleys of the state, must take advantage of their dry and invigorating climate. They must publicize the four distinct seasons. Governor Clyde says: "We must develop summer places in our mountains for the people of the Southwest who want to escape the intense summer heat."¹

The tourist business is very lucrative and if developed properly could bring much industry into these valleys.

The New Federal Highway

What effect will the building of the new federal highway have on Nephi and Juab Valley? It is impossible to say with any accuracy, but all indications point to the following, according to R. E. Winn, Mayor of Nephi:

¹Governor George D. Clyde, op. cit.
Traveling time will be cut considerably. Provo will be less than an hour away. Salt Lake City will be only one hour and fifteen minutes distant. Cafes, service stations, and motels will probably suffer from this nearness to the larger centers, but this will be offset in part by the fact that as Salt Lake and Utah Valleys become more crowded, people will look to Juab Valley as a residential area, away from the smoke and the crowds.

Another possibility, however, is that nearness to the larger centers will make Juab Valley an industrial possibility, and leaders of industry will look upon the valley more favorably for location of plants and factories.

At the present time the federal highway is slated to follow present Highway 91 to Nortonville, located three miles north of Nephi, then turn west, crossing the Union Pacific tracks and thence south. Cloverleafs will be located on the north and south ends of Nephi so that travelers and residents may enter the town. This will present a real challenge to Nephi citizens to make their city attractive enough that people will want to turn off and spend a few hours there.

The Central Utah Project

The Central Utah Project, in which water will be brought from rivers and streams of eastern Utah to the valleys of central Utah, is a cooperative project with the great Colorado River project. This project will mean much to Nephi and Juab Valley.

1This is only the proposed route. Before actual work starts a hearing must be held for all the residents so that they may present any grievances or suggestions that they may have for the proposed route. Some citizens feel the highway should follow the east side of the valley, and they no doubt will present this at the hearing.
By a system of storage reservoirs and aqueducts, water will be brought into the valley, and through a system of canals and ditches, parts of the waterless ridge will be irrigated. The possibilities presented are tremendous. Much greater yields of wheat will be possible, alfalfa, potatoes, corn, and possibly some truck gardening, as well as fruit orchards will be grown. Also more water will be provided for that land already under irrigation. The irrigated farmland of the valley will increase tremendously.

The Need for Expansion of Existing Industries and More Diversified Industry

At the present time (1958) Nephi supports the following industries: one rubber factory, one flour mill, one feed mill and poultry plant, one turkey processing plant, as well as the usual business establishments and professions. All of these industries, especially the turkey industry, could be expanded. This valley has the climate and the potential for a great turkey industry.

The industries that exist support the four thousand residents of the valley quite well; however, if the valley expects to grow, it must

1"Central Utah Project," Map and circular of the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation.

2 At the present time Nephi supports: six grocery stores, one funeral home, one florist, three lawyers, twenty service stations, garages, and automobile dealers, eight cafes, drive-ins, and soft ice cream shops, ten motels and hotels, three plumbing companies, three barber shops, three beauty shops, three physicians and surgeons, one optometrist, two shoe and shoe repair shops, one furniture store, one photo studio, two hardware stores, two cleaners, three sportsmen's supply shops, six insurance agents, two department stores, one telephone company, one credit bureau, one soft water service, one bank, two ladies' shops, one men's wear shop, one building contractor, one newspaper, printing and publishing shop, one tire service, two dentists, one flour mill, one rubber factory, one turkey processing plant, two feed mills, two drug stores, one jewelry store, one packing plant, two beer parlors, one billiard parlor, two dairies, two lumber companies, two electrical appliance dealers, two music dealers, two candy
attract other industries. Small industries such as chemical, plastic, clothing, etc., could do very well in this valley.

Conclusion

In this thesis the settlement, growth, and development of a community have been portrayed. Nephi today is one-hundred seven years old and is a thriving and progressive community. But is it growing? The answer must be no. It is scarcely larger now in population than it was twenty-five or thirty years ago.

It has great possibilities to develop. All the things that have been mentioned could be exploited into something great. However, Nephi and Juab Valley must wake up. Too often the story of Nephi has been one of great interest in the initial development, but when everything has not gone as well as was hoped, people have lost interest, and the projects have been allowed to die.

Nephi today can boast of a modern up-to-date hospital, a complete sewer system, and a sewage disposal plant, adequate lights and water, good recreational facilities, most of the main streets are oiled, adequate business establishments, good schools, churches, and a lovely park. But there are many things that the community should do to improve. Weeds are too prevalent in the community and many old barns that are falling and decrepit are seen throughout the community. Many residences have beautiful lawns inside their premises, but outside between the sidewalks and the ditch banks, unsightly weeds almost hide the beautiful lots. Many homes have garbage and trash around them and the houses are badly in need of companies, one bakery, one theatre, three gas distributors, one railroad, one liquor store, and one variety store.

1 This is actually a county hospital.
2 Enough to support a city twice the size of Nephi.
Nephi has to make an extra effort to improve the looks of its town so that the town will be inviting and people will be attracted to it.

In considering the question, "Will the town grow?" the answer must be "yes, if the citizens will wake up and strive to support new industries, give their support to the older ones who want to expand, and make an extra effort to make their community inviting."

It is hoped that those citizens of Juab Valley who read this history will find something to be proud of and will see through the years the developments that have taken place and their relationships to the present, and in this reading will develop a pride and a desire to build upon that which has been planted to make a better Nephi and Juab Valley.
The Problem.—There is no adequate history of Juab Valley, particularly the city of Nephi. Many short histories of the city have been written covering the time up to 1900. There are many discrepancies among the various histories, and the writer felt that a history needed to be written that would take the best from each and combine them into a more accurate and complete story.

So many phases of Nephi's development have never before been covered, i.e., schools, clubs, the World Wars, development of agriculture, church growth and change, buildings, and numerous others, that I have given special consideration to these, particularly the latter periods.

The study covers the period of a century, 1851-1951. I have not hesitated to include developments since 1951 when I felt they were important to the total picture of the town's development.

Procedure.—As much as possible I have directed my research to primary sources. I have had several original diaries and short accounts found in family histories of the early settlement and growth of Nephi.

The records in the Church Historian's Office have been of great help in this early period. Finally, I have relied for stories and local color upon the previously written histories.

In the later periods, 1900 to the present, I have relied principally upon the local newspaper, city, county and school records, as well as some local magazine articles. Personal interviews have been very helpful.

Conclusions.—The citizens of Nephi and Juab Valley built well.
The beginnings were good and a fine settlement was created.

By 1879 the railroad had come to Nephi and the city became the hub for the great cattle and sheep industry of southern Utah and Nevada. Much real estate changed hands, new businesses came into being, and Nephi became so prosperous and busy that it was nick-named "Little Chicago." When things looked best the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad by-passed Nephi, and the little city had to turn to other things to support its population. Plaster was worked; salt was mined; dry-farming had its impetus. This could not take the place of the Iron Horse. Nephi stopped growing in population and steadied herself with three thousand inhabitants, which to this day (1958) she has not been able to exceed.

The early 1900's brought development of dry-land farming and the start toward making Nephi a modern city. The water works, electricity, grading of streets, and construction of better buildings all had their start. Schools were developed and a high school was established. The town organized many bands and dancing became the most popular entertainment.

The depression years brought Nephi's hardest times, but it also brought many public works projects which benefitted the community and a recreation program which brought community solidarity not seen since Pioneer times.

The Second World War brought many changes and Nephi struggled for existence. The larger centers attracted many of its citizens, and no new industries seemed to be interested in Nephi locations.

The late forties brought the establishment of Thermoid Company's plant and the introduction of big industry. A period not unlike the
"Little Chicago" period enveloped the city for a decade. The greatest expansion of Nephi public works ever undertaken was completed. Again prospects for Nephi becoming large were good. They did not materialize.
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