

VIBRANT, VIGOROUS AND STILL VISIONARY

SALT LAKE CITY

By Sandy Sheehy/Photographs by John Lewis Stage

To the east the jagged peaks of the Wasatch Range rise almost vertically to more than 12,000 feet above sea level. To the west are the harsh slopes of the Oquirrh Mountains and all that remains of Lake Bonneville, a prehistoric inland sea, followed by 500 miles of desert stretching to the foot of the Sierras.

Here, where the western slope of the Rocky Mountains meets the arid vastness of the Great Basin, the narrow corridor called the Wasatch Front sits like an island in a sea of sagebrush and rock. This is the place where, 136 years ago, a Vermont farmer named Brigham Young brought the battered but determined followers of a radically new religion and founded the capital of his theocratic empire.

Today, that city buzzes with optimistic energy and hums with faith in its future like an oversized version of Young's favorite symbol—the beehive. It is a mecca for skiers, ballet dancers, bionic engineers, high-tech entrepreneurs, environmental activists, progressive developers and the world's 5.2 million Mormons—the most rapidly expanding flock in Christendom. Salt Lake City is also the capital of Utah, the fourth fastest-growing state in the Union, with 84 percent of its 1,460,000 people con-

centrated along an 80-mile strip extending from Provo north to Ogden.

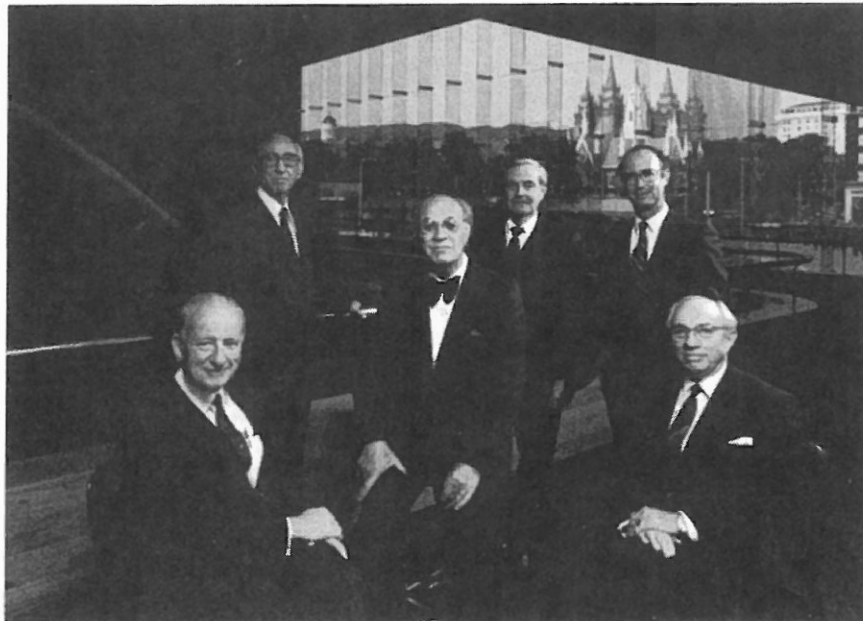
Salt Lake is a city equally enthusiastic about its pioneer past and its computer-age future, a city on the edge of the Overthrust Belt, a region rich in oil, gas, minerals, low-sulfur coal and tar sands—the stuff syn-fuels are made of. Yet it is a city where deals are still sealed with a handshake and where, during the severe flooding this June, bank presidents and wealthy businessmen wrestled sandbags in the mud for days along with everybody else. It is a city with nationally influential politicians such as Sagebrush Rebellion leader Orrin Hatch, a nationally prominent research university, nationally ranked symphony and ballet, and internationally famous deep-powder skiing about forty-five minutes from its booming downtown. In the heart of that downtown, high-rise condominiums are springing up a few blocks from restored turn-of-the-century mansions, and the most powerful men between Denver and San Francisco still have lunch at one unassuming restaurant and play cards at one low-key club. Here in Salt Lake, too, the entire region's potentials and problems are just as densely concentrated as the thick gray layer of industrial and automobile pollution that invariably

blankets the valley's air on still winter days.

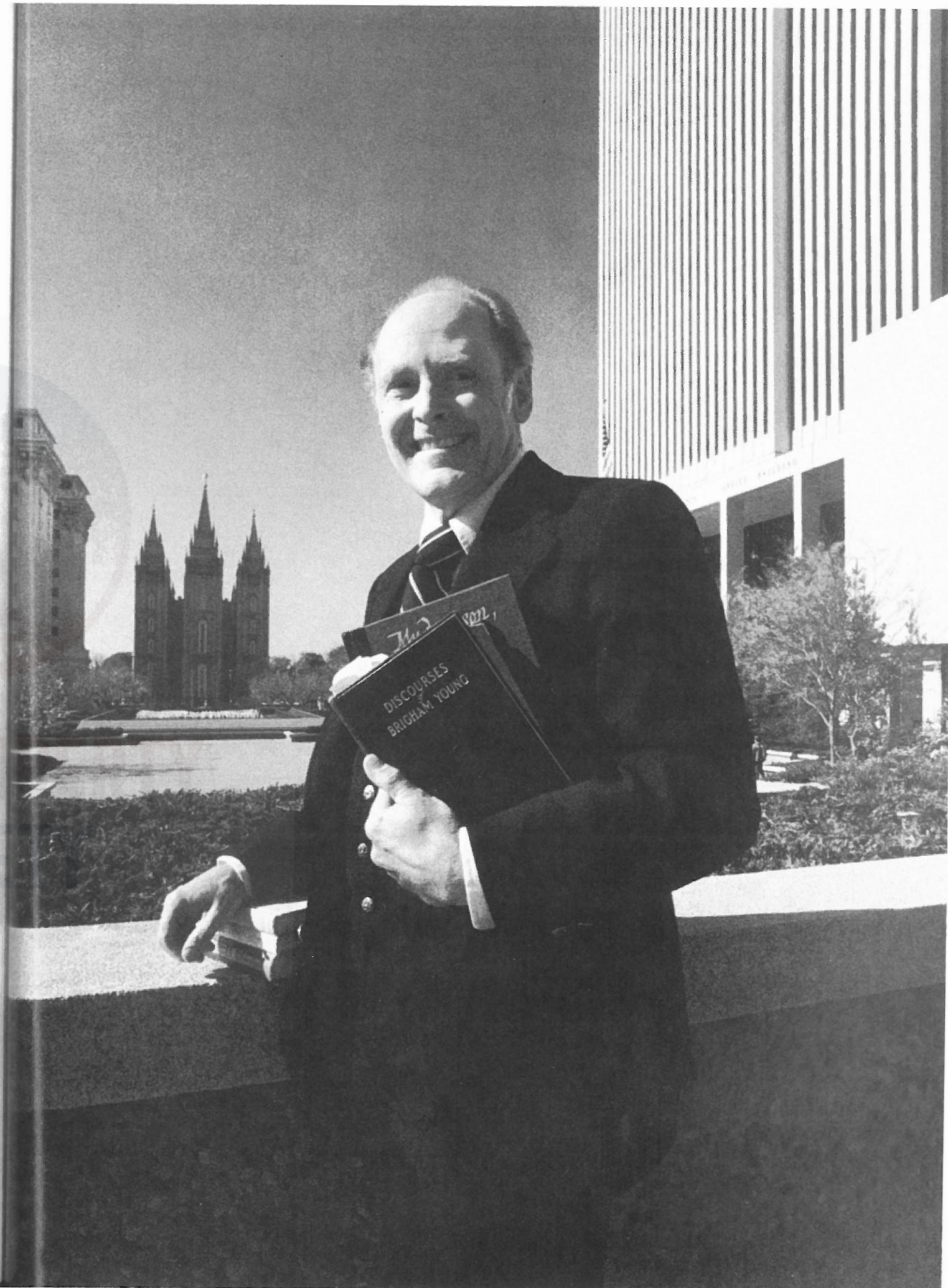
Salt Lake is changing almost weekly. About fifteen years ago, in an effort to halt the annual departure of more than half the state's new college graduates, the community's then tiny power elite decided to diversify the state's economy by courting new industry. Since then, national corporations like Litton Industries, American Express, Sperry Corporation, and Northwest Energy—the last are builders of the Alaska Pipeline—have moved major divisions or even headquarters to Salt Lake City. Western Airlines has made the city its hub of operations. Development at nearby ski resorts—Solitude, Brighton, Snowbird, Deer Valley, Park City, Sundance and others—has grown by 15 percent a year, and domestic and foreign capital has flooded in. The city has even attracted the interest of the richest of the Saudi investment emperors—Adnan and Essam Khashoggi, whose Triad Utah Company is pouring over \$4 million into a vast downtown residential and commercial construction project. The state's unemployment rate—once one of the worst in the country—has dropped to a steady 1.5 percent below the national average.

Some residents fear that the boom threatens Salt Lake City's distinctive char-

Powers in the city at Symphony Hall: left to right, Wendell Ashton, president of the Utah Symphony; Gordon B. Hinckley, Counselor in the Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Maurice Abravanel, retired conductor of the Symphony; philanthropist O. C. Tanner; publisher of the Salt Lake Tribune Jack Gullivan; and David P. Gardner, former president of the University of Utah.



Modern yet Mormon, Salt Lake City's hub and heart is still the soaring Temple, begun by utopian Brigham Young and his band of pioneers in 1853. At right, headquarters for the church's five million members worldwide. Attorney Gaylen Snow Young Jr., a great-grandson of the revered leader, every year attends a reunion of hundreds of Brigham Young's descendants still living in Salt Lake.



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acter and wholesome, family-oriented quality of life. But historically, Salt Lake's vitality has rested on its ability to accommodate change. Almost from the beginning, Salt Lake City has had two conflicting identities: the Mormon Zion and the Crossroads of the West. And it is the tension between these identities that fuels the community's bustle and drive.

Besides a business boom (continuing, though at a restrained pace, even during the current recession) that creative tension has helped produce Ballet West, the nation's fifth largest ballet company, rated by *Dance Magazine* as one of the best outside New York; the Utah Symphony, which *Fortune* touted as twelfth in the U.S.; a number of good small dance and theater troupes; and the young but ambitious Utah Opera Company. Salt Lake is also becoming known as Bionic Valley, thanks to medical engineering teams at the University of Utah that have developed the artificial heart, artificial ear, portable artificial kidney, artificial blood vessels and other human replacement parts. In addition, the University's Innovation Center is spinning off computer graphics, genetic engineering, and other high-tech businesses. The surprise is not that these things are happening, but that they are happening in a metropolitan area of about 600,000 people that is more than 500 miles from the next closest major cities—Denver, Phoenix, San Francisco.

The dynamics that are framing Salt Lake's future were in motion even before July 24, 1847, the day Brigham Young led his band of zealous and persecuted Mormons into the Salt Lake Valley. After their founder, Joseph Smith, was killed by an angry mob in Illinois and entire families were massacred in Missouri, the Mormons had

headed west into what was, at that time, northern Mexico. "If there is a place on earth that nobody else wants," Smith's successor, Brigham Young, wrote, "that is the place I am looking for."

But the valley didn't stay unwanted for long. Two years after the Mormons arrived and a year after Mexico ceded the territory to the United States, the Gold Rush hit. Since Salt Lake straddled one of the main routes to the California gold fields, prospectors poured through, stopping to trade cash for food and equipment. Zion began to exchange the advantages of isolation for the advantages of commerce.

In 1863, soldiers sent to quell an uprising among militant Mormons found silver in the nearby mountains. Six years later, when the Transcontinental Railroad went through near Ogden, making it possible to get the ore to market, miners flocked to Alta, Park City, and the other boom towns in the Wasatch canyons above Salt Lake. Since Brigham Young had forbidden his flock to engage in mining, advising them instead to pursue the more certain rewards of agriculture and skilled trades, these newcomers were Gentiles—the term Mormons still use to refer to all non-Mormons, including Jews, with whom they have always felt a bond as a persecuted people. (In fact, in 1916, Utah became the first state to elect a Jewish governor—Salt Lake railroad tycoon Simon Bamberger.)

Some of these Gentiles became very rich very fast. In most cases, they took their money elsewhere: the Hearst and Guggenheim fortunes, for example, were made in

Park City but were banked in the financial centers of the East. But some of the mining magnates, like Thomas Kearns (later elected to the Senate) and Samuel Newhouse (who used his fortune to found the S.I. Newhouse publishing empire) stayed and built extravagant Gothic and Italianate homes on East South Temple Street, close to downtown.

Despite the influx and financial power of Gentiles, today 58 percent of Salt Lake County's 623,000 residents are Mormons, proportionately 10 percent more than in 1882. Although many of those are cultural or "jack" Mormons who don't attend church regularly or follow the Word of Wisdom—the prohibition against alcohol, tobacco, coffee and tea—the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is still as important to Salt Lake City as the Vatican is to Rome.

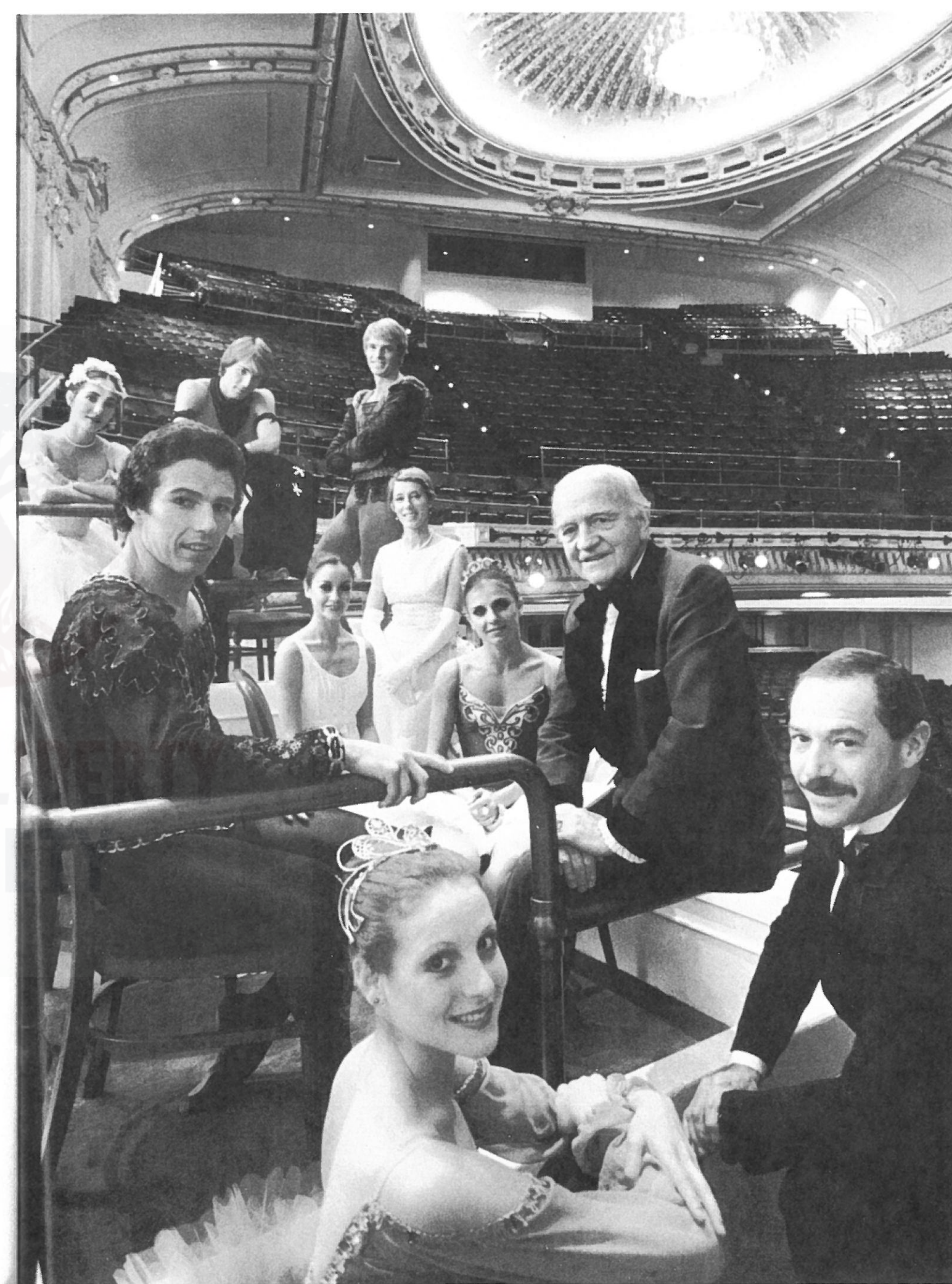
Reminders of the Mormon presence are everywhere. Businesses bear names like Zions First National Bank, Zion Upholstery, and Zion Book Store. One of the two large downtown shopping malls is called ZCMI, an abbreviation for Zion's Cooperative Mercantile Institution, the nation's first department store, founded by Brigham Young in 1868.

"Deseret" is another popular handle for everything from a major pharmaceutical company to an auto body shop to the church's equivalent of Goodwill Industries. The word means "honeybee," a symbol of industry and cooperation—two cardinal Mormon virtues. Brigham Young originally christened Utah the "State of Deseret," and the church-owned evening newspaper, founded in 1850, is the *Deseret News*. Set into the sidewalk that runs beside the fountains and flower-filled planters that line Main Street are patterns of hexagonal tiles re-

Utah-born Glade Peterson, the colorful founder and artistic director of the Utah Opera Company, keeps his horse at the Fairgrounds and his operas classical. Along with Ballet West and two modern dance troupes, the opera company is happily at home in the Capitol Theatre, a former vaudeville playhouse restored at a cost of \$4.5 million to aid the blossoming of the arts in the American Desert.



Ballet West, founded by William Christensen (seated center), has drawn such dazzling talent as ABT- and Royal Danish-trained Bruce Marks (right front) as artistic director and his wife Toni (standing center) as principal teacher. Lead dancers Stacey Swaner, front, Bruce Caldwell, seated left, and a gifted young troupe of performers have put ballet at the heart of Salt Lake's burgeoning arts scene.



sembling honeycombs. An eagle perched on a beehive sits above a four-pronged arch spanning State Street at the base of Capitol Hill. A beehive rests atop the Hotel Utah—the city's most elegant hostelry, owned by the Mormon Church. Another beehive decorates the roof of Brigham Young's residence, the Beehive House.

When outsiders think of Salt Lake City, they think of their own frequently confused images of Mormons. "They visualize us in funny black hats with our collars on backwards, as having more than one wife," complains Fred Ball, president and general manager of the Chamber of Commerce. (Interestingly, polygamy, banned by church authorities in 1890 as part of a deal that led to statehood in 1896, has resurfaced in recent years among fundamentalist fringe groups. University and state government sources estimate that between 20,000 and 35,000 polygamists currently live in the Salt Lake Valley, but none of these are prominent in the social or business world.)

Many of the non-Mormons living in Salt Lake City appear to like the Mormon influence. "It is a very pleasant, orderly kind of society that they've built for themselves, and we live in it," says Jack Goodman, a New Yorker who moved to Salt Lake City in 1946, after marrying Marjorie Rosenblatt, the granddaughter of a Russian immigrant who came to the area in the late 1800s, founded the American Foundry and Machine Company, and made his fortune in mining equipment. Her uncle, Joseph Rosenblatt, is the acknowledged leader of the Jewish community.

"The influence of the Mormon Church has made the other churches stronger. It keeps everybody on their toes," says Ted Speros, an active member of the Greek Orthodox Church and owner of Lamb's Grill—the downtown restaurant where the powers that be meet for lunch.

The most pervasive element of Mormon culture is the emphasis on the family as a unit whose sacred bond endures throughout eternity. One result of that emphasis is the world's largest genealogical library: 1,250,000 rolls of microfilm (the equivalent of 5,000,000 books) plus 170,000 volumes of local and family histories. Another is about three dozen professional genealogists, listed in the Yellow Pages and available to help anyone—Mormon or Gentile—chart the branches of his or her family tree.

Because of their completeness and accuracy, the genealogical records serve as a research base for scientists studying genetically transmitted disorders and for those looking for hereditary factors suspected in cancer. Even the 65,000-square-foot mountain vault where the original documents are stored has inspired a new business. Entrepreneur Patrick Lynch has bought and hollowed out his own mountain, providing what he calls "Perpetual Storage" for everything from diamond tiaras and antique Daimlers to the government records of banana republics.



Architect John Pace and his wife Nancy restored the Brigham Street Inn.



Coordinator of Salt Lake's Consumer Health Information Center, Katy Culp.



Massed before the great organ, the renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir, directed by Jerold Ottley.



Manager Stuart and Darlene Cross in the grand lobby of the Hotel Utah.



Mayor Ted Wilson's offices are in the historic City/County Building.



Barbara Smith, general president of the Mormon Relief Society.



Director Stephanie the Utah



Churchill at headquarters of Heritage Foundation.



Urbane Frank Sanguinetti, director of the Utah Museum of Fine Arts, has raised the art consciousness of the state.



For French country antiques, it's Barbara Farrar and Chris Lee's shop, Souleiado.



Quiet philanthropist Joe Rosenblatt, leader of the Jewish community, at home with his wife Evelyn.



Dr. Willem J. Kolff, right, with team developing artificial organs. Dr. Robert Jarvik, second from right, invented the artificial heart.

Another central Mormon doctrine that affects Salt Lake's character is the belief in the preexistence of souls waiting to be born. This conviction has given Utah, which is 70 percent Mormon, a birth rate of 3.5 children per mother—double the national average and by far the highest in the country. The church's dedicated young missionaries convert about 200,000 people a year, but the birth rate alone accounts for an annual increase of about 124,000 in church membership world-wide.

One dark side of these statistics means overcrowded Salt Lake public schools and a population of pupils that is far more predominantly Mormon than the community as a whole, leading many non-Mormon children to feel like outcasts. Surprisingly, however, there are only two private schools in Salt Lake: Judge Memorial, a Catholic high school founded by an Irish mining family but attracting non-Catholic students; and Rowland Hall-St. Mark's, an initially Episcopal but now basically non-religious day school, with 175 students in grades one through twelve.

Other problems that may be related to family size are the high incidence of child abuse and of depression among women. Taught to find their fulfillment as wives and mothers, Mormon women are more likely than most American women to find problems with children and break-ups of marriages especially traumatic.

With so much emphasis on families, Salt Lake isn't an easy social environment for single men and women. "Even non-Mormons tend to get married earlier," says Tom Cerruti, a 30-year-old unmarried lawyer formerly of San Francisco, where he sat on the board of the Bachelors, a tony social club.

Similarly, Rebecca Marriott, the attractive 32-year-old niece of J. William Marriott (who moved East and founded the international hotel chain that bears his name), admits that her single status makes her an anomaly among the descendants of Utah pioneer families. But she says she wouldn't live anywhere else because of "the warm, friendly people in the Salt Lake Valley" and the proximity of the ski slopes.

The deep, powdery snow in the Wasatch Mountains is one of the main inducements Salt Lake uses to lure national corporations and international talent. Describing the University of Utah's faculty recruitment strategy, Thayne Robson, director of the University's Bureau of Business and Economic Research, says, "We try to find out who the great scholars are in Europe and the United States who have a weakness for skiing. Then we invite them here to lecture in January or February."

Like many in the generation currently taking the reins of power in Salt Lake, Kit Sumner, the 37-year-old son of Scharf Sumner, chairman of the board of Western Savings and Loan, left Salt Lake City but returned. After graduating from Brown and the University of Virginia Law School,

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where he met and married fellow student Molly Powell, daughter of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr., he came home and is now president of Western Savings and a limited partner in the posh Deer Valley ski resort. "Friends and I who went back East to school always refer to Salt Lake as 'The Womb,'" he says. As if underscoring the point, he adds: "When you have so many good things here, why would you go elsewhere?"

Among those good things is the subtle character of the community. "This never was a cowtown," says Salt Lake Mayor Ted Wilson. "This city was settled by Yankees." The 43-year-old neoliberal Democrat who challenged Orrin Hatch unsuccessfully for his Senate seat last fall adds: "This is probably one of the last outposts of the Puritan Ethic left in America."

Among the values that bring national companies to Utah are the respect for education (Utah leads the country in number of years of schooling per adult, percentage of its residents attending college and percentage obtaining advanced degrees), the encouragement of self-reliance, the theological doctrine of worldly and spiritual progress (a sort of cosmic optimism), a commitment to the work ethic and a suspicion of organized labor. Appropriately, Utah's state motto is "Industry," and the accepted response to "How are you?" is a cheerful "Keeping busy!"

Politics in Utah have always been colored by such traditional values. Currently, Utah is heavily Republican, although for the past eighteen years it has had Democratic governors—first Cal Rampton, who served an unprecedented three terms, now Scott Matheson. Utah is one of two states (Oregon is the other) with both U.S. Senators chairing major committees—Hatch on La-

bor and his fellow Republican Jake Garn on Banking. Senator Hatch achieved national prominence as the leader of the Sagebrush Rebellion, sponsoring an unsuccessful bill that would have returned control of federal lands—which happen to account for 64 percent of Utah's area—to the states. He sees issues like the controversial nuclear waste dump, which would be located near south Utah's national parks and within the Colorado River drainage system, as natural outgrowths of federal ownership.

One matter of debate among spectators of Utah's political arena is the power of the Mormon Church and how it is wielded. The church resists making open pronouncements on political issues, except when it feels that a moral principle is involved. In the ten years since President Spencer W. Kimball became the leader of the church, he has spoken out strongly on only three points: for the equality of blacks in the eyes of God; against the Equal Rights Amendment; and against the deployment of MX missiles in any concentrated area.

"In my twenty-four years as a Senator," says Wallace Bennett, the Republican elder statesman who served in Washington from 1950 until 1974, "there was only one time I got an official letter from the church asking me to vote a certain way. That was on the Taft-Hartley Act—the right to work. The church has always been opposed to the closed shop philosophy."

But the church doesn't require pronouncements to make its influence felt in Salt Lake City. Its economic power alone gives it tremendous clout. All good

Saints—as church members call themselves—give the church 10 percent of their gross incomes. As far back as the early Sixties, revenues from that source alone amounted to a million dollars a day. And that doesn't include income from numerous profit-making, tax-paying businesses and investments grouped under Deseret Management, the church's wholly owned holding company. Although the church declines to make the full extent of its holdings public, reputable Salt Lake sources agree that it's the city's largest real estate owner and a major stockholder in such corporations as Western Airlines, the Beneficial Life Insurance Company, and ZCMI. Its media interests alone are impressive. Not only does the church own one of the city's two major daily newspapers, it also owns Bonneville Corporation, a broadcasting empire encompassing the local CBS radio and television affiliates, a number of production facilities, and radio and television properties in Seattle, New York City, Los Angeles, Kansas City, Chicago and Washington, D.C.

For a religious institution, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints has impressive secular savvy. One explanation for this is the church's lack of a professional clergy. All males over the age of 18 are members of the priesthood and may be asked to serve in the church hierarchy. Many are called from high positions in business and industry. For example, Presiding Bishop Victor L. Brown, one of the top people in the ecclesiastical structure, was an executive with United Airlines for eighteen years and currently sits on the board of Western Airlines.

"Salt Lake City has always had two power structures: the church power structure and the non-church power structure," says

The popular governor of Utah, Scott Matheson—tall, affable and a Democrat in a largely Republican state—also heads the National Governors' Association. His wife Norma, a very active first lady, has spurred local interest in historic preservation by creating a new governor's residence: a mining magnate's mansion she restored to resplendency, yet kept family-warm.



Salt Lake's beloved—and official—grande dame is Glenn Walker Wallace, one of four U.S. women declared a Grande Dame by the Knightly Order of St. Brigitte. Of the state's earliest banking family, Mrs. Wallace culled support to put Ballet West and the Utah Symphony on the intermountain map. She and banker husband John entertain in their chateau-like home, filled with French antiques.



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Jack Goodman. Although the individuals within it may change, the church power structure itself is constant, Goodman points out, while the non-church power structure shifts with the local economy, which has undergone boom-and-bust cycles every ten or twenty years. Mining was replaced by sugar beets, which were supplanted by defense-related industries, which were overtaken by low-sulfur coal, oil and gas, and tar sands—which are now bowing to high-tech industries.

Because of its position at the geographic hub of the eleven Western states, Salt Lake has always been a distribution center. As shipping costs have gone up, the area has moved toward lighter, more esoteric manufacturing. During his three terms as governor, from 1965 through 1976, Cal Rampton says he sent his "Rampton's Raiders" out across the country to lure "industries that require a great many highly skilled people, where a major component of the cost of the product is labor cost." He adds: "We had to have industries where the value of the product in relation to its bulk and weight was very high. Otherwise, the transportation cost in reaching its market would have been prohibitive."

The same willing, well-educated work force, low tax base, and pro-business climate that brought in Litton and the Sperry Corporation in the early Seventies provided fertile soil for homegrown corporations, many of which germinated at the University of Utah. With 24,000 students, the "U," as it's called locally, is the largest public institution in the state. (With an enrollment of 26,000, church-owned Brigham Young University in Provo is larger.) Since its business, law, medicine, pharmacy, engineering, arts, science, and humanities schools are all perched on the same hilltop

about a mile east of downtown Salt Lake, the university offers an opportunity for multidisciplinary collaboration that has drawn research faculty from better-known schools.

Artificial blood vessels—which are almost ready to save human limbs and even lives—are just one aspect of bioengineering going on in Salt Lake. In 1967, Dutch-born Dr. W. J. Kolff left the Cleveland Clinic to direct the University of Utah's Institute for Biomedical Engineering. He is also a distinguished professor of surgery and medicine. Since then, his team of ten physicians and assorted engineers, pharmacists and chemists has developed functional artificial ears, arms, portable artificial kidneys and the Jarvik-7 artificial heart, designed by University of Utah researcher Dr. Robert K. Jarvik. Dr. Barney Clark, a retired 62-year-old Seattle dentist, was the first person to benefit from the heart. "There's no other place in the country where this kind of work is going on in biomedical engineering," says Dr. William DeVries, the surgeon who performed the Clark operation.

Some of these human replacement parts are already being manufactured commercially. Robotics, as it is sometimes called, is becoming an important Salt Lake industry, and the "Bionic Valley" label appears to be sticking.

A few hundred yards from the medical school, at the University of Utah Research Park, other high-tech companies are developing. A number of them began as projects of the university's Innovation Center, one of four in the country established by the

National Science Foundation. (The others are at Stanford, Carnegie-Mellon, and the University of Oregon.)

Formed to help scientists and engineers turn their bright ideas into commercially viable businesses, the center has spawned Terretech, which does sophisticated rock mechanics for the oil and gas industry, and Native Plants, a genetic engineering corporation developing plant species adapted to Utah's environment. Dr. Wayne Brown, founder and director of the Innovation Center and former dean of the College of Engineering, also started Eaton-Kenway, which produces automated materials-handling equipment for big industrial companies.

A Salt Lake native and member of the Sons of the Pioneers—a group restricted to descendants of settlers who arrived before the railroad—Brown welcomes the high-tech transformation of the economy. Yet he predicts that the influx of high-income, highly educated outsiders will alter the character of the city.

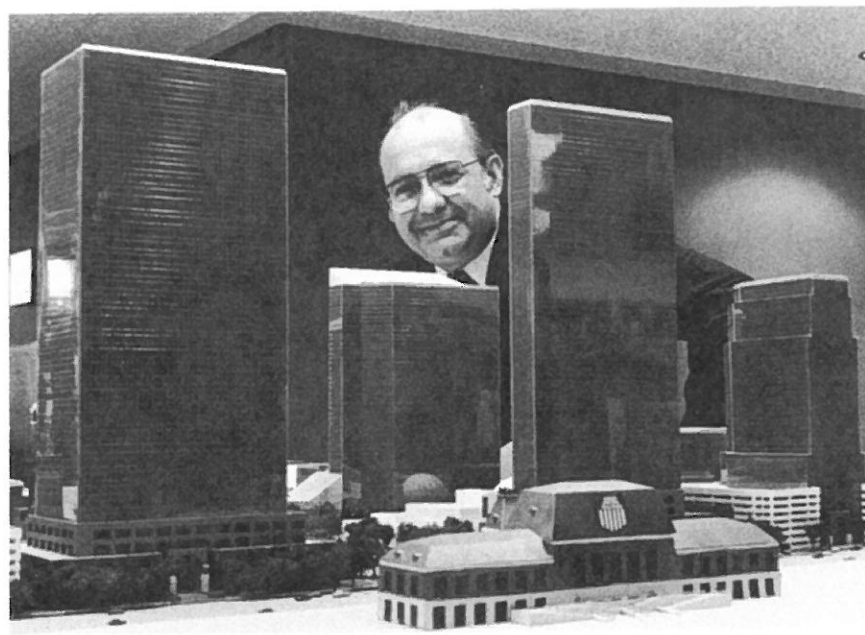
Change—especially change prompted by economic expediency—is nothing new to Salt Lake. Until 1902, when Governor Heber Wells brought fifty Mormon and fifty non-Mormon businessmen together to form the Chamber of Commerce, the business community was split along religious lines. The Hotel Utah, completed in 1911 and still the city's most elegant place to stay, was the first large project of the Mormon-Gentile business coalition.

"For parties, the Hotel Utah was the place," recalls Patricia McCornick (Mrs. Justin) Greene, daughter of a Salt Lake banker who was reputedly the richest man in town at the close of the nineteenth century. "People in evening clothes would sweep in carrying brown paper bags," she

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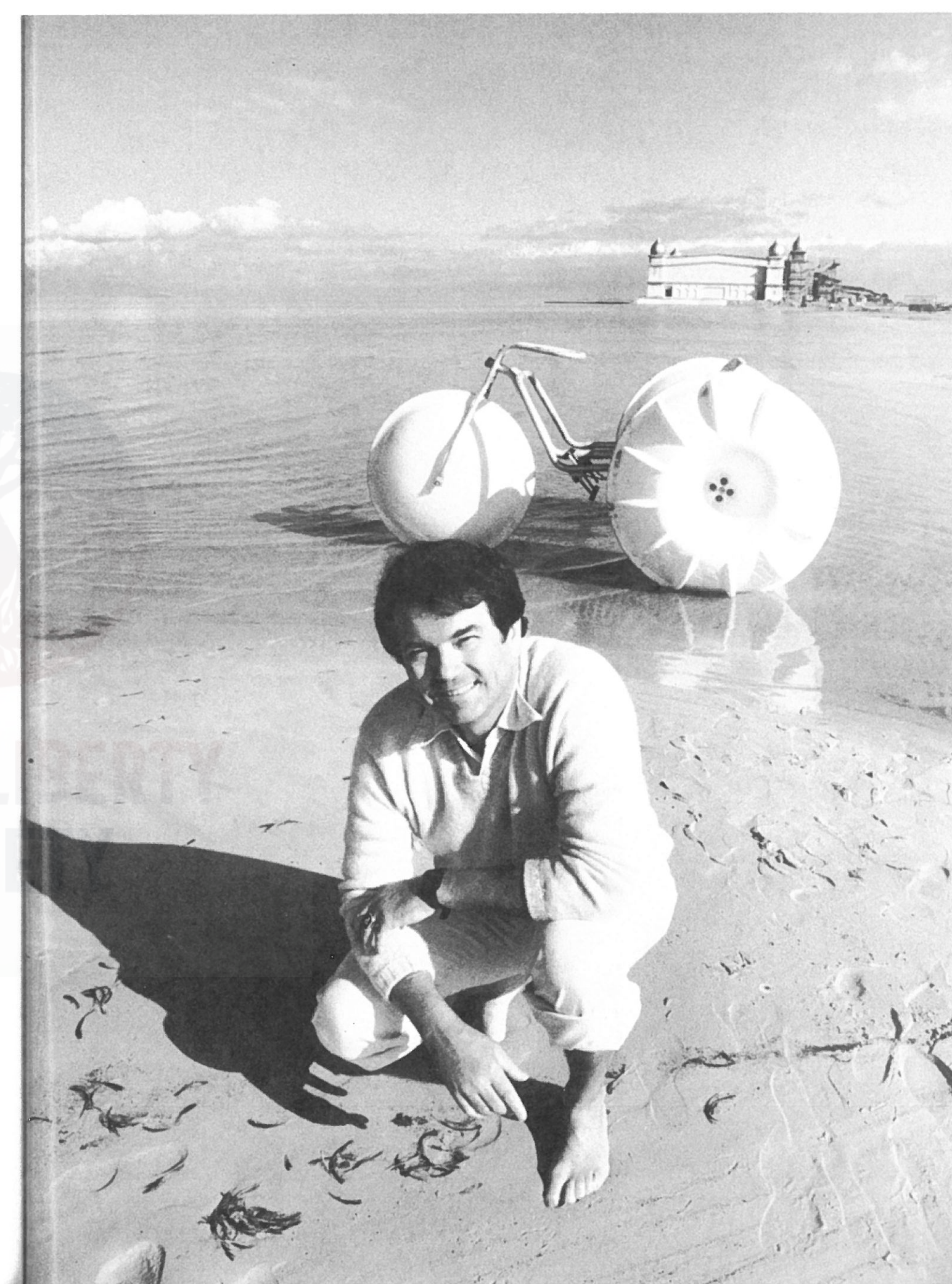
Developer Emanuel Floor, formerly head of Utah's Department of Tourism, is known as a man who makes things happen. Already under way is a new look for Salt Lake's downtown.

Floor's twenty-six-acre Gateway Project, glistening with forty-story mixed-use towers, is planned by the Arab-backed Triad Utah company to lure residents and offices to a more bustling, urbanized downtown.



Along the salt-seared shores of the Great Salt Lake, lively developer Wally Wright is resurrecting the old Saltair Resort, an astonishing, onion-spined pleasure dome for concerts and lakeside amusements. Behind, an Australian aqua bike, which peddles over the saline waves. New uses for old wonders are the specialty of "Trolley Wally," who converted the city's former trolley barns into boutiques.

Town & Country



Hall-St. Mark's, is also a member—one of the youngest—of the Alta Club, a truly private downtown club in the original sense of the word. Founded 100 years ago by Gentile (including Jewish) mining magnates, merchants, and government officials, the Alta Club was modeled on San Francisco's Union Club. It's the sort of dark-wood-and-leather place where aging kingmakers play cards in a back room that is off-limits to women.

"Utah has a power structure that is quite concentrated," Mayor Ted Wilson says. "It tends to operate behind closed doors at the Alta Club."

Before 1970, identifying Utah's power elite was easy. All one had to do was show up at the Hotel Utah coffee shop on Monday morning. There David O. McKay, president of the Mormon Church; Gus Backman, the jack Mormon head of the Chamber of Commerce; and John Fitzpatrick, publisher of the *Salt Lake Tribune*, the non-Mormon morning paper, met to determine the fate of the state. When Fitzpatrick died in 1960, Jack Gallivan took his place at the *Tribune* and at those meetings.

"Those three fellows ran this state," Backman's successor, Fred Ball, says. "The three of them decided we needed more industry, so they brought in United States Steel. They went after Western and United Airlines and enlarged our airport. They brought in Hill Air Force Base, which now employs 28,000 people. They were absolutely powerful in the business community." But Ball says that Salt Lake's power structure is now more diverse.

University of Utah political science professor J. D. Williams calls Jack Gallivan the "kingpin in Salt Lake City's power structure." He continues, "Right up there with him is Gordon Hinckley, a Counselor in the First Presidency of the Mormon Church."

After that, Williams includes a diverse group in the power elite: Utah's charismatic Democratic Governor Scott Matheson; John McMillan, president of Northwest Energy Corporation; Roy Simmons, chairman of the board of Zions First National Bank; Bud Kastler and R. Don Cash, chairman and president of Mountain Fuel Supply Company; E. A. Hunter and Harry Blundell, chairman and president respectively of Utah Power and Light; Kit Sumner and his father, Scharf; Dick Van Winkle, president of the Lockhart Company, similar to a savings and loan; and George and Gene Hatch, who own KUTV—the NBC affiliate—and other media holdings. Other sources name, in no particular order, rancher and importer Ken Garff; developer and former Davis Cup holder David Freed; Sam Skaggs, founder of American Stores, the country's fourth largest retailer; Don Mackey of Grand Central Stores, a multi-state dis-

count chain; Wes Hamilton, on the board of Western Airlines; shopping center developer Nick Vidalakis; Fred Ball; attorney Dennis McCarthy; bankers John Wallace and Spencer Eccles; planner and developer Walker Wallace; Joe and David Bernolfo, who currently run the real estate and oil and gas holdings of the Bamberger family; developers John Price and Manny Floor; investor Zeke Dumke; mining machinery magnate Joe Rosenblatt; Earl Holding, Sun Valley owner; former Governor Cal Rampton and real estate heavies Izzy Wagner, Jim Hogle, Vic Ayres, and John and Rick Prince, members on their mother's side of the Browning Arms dynasty.

Deseret News publisher and Utah Symphony president Wendell Ashton, a vital septuagenarian, who every morning for the past twenty-two years has jogged up a mountain in logging boots, makes some peoples' lists, but most say that he's mainly a spokesman for the real power-wielders in the church ecclesiastical and business hierarchy: Spencer W. Kimball, Gordon Hinckley, Victor Brown, Deseret Management head John M. Scowcroft, Bonneville International Corporation CEO Arch L. Madsen, and Ezra Taft Benson, formerly Secretary of Agriculture under Eisenhower, an outspoken political and social conservative, and next in line for the presidency of the church.

Besides meeting at the Alta Club, the Country Club (a relaxed golfers' enclave, which costs \$35,000 to join and dropped the "Salt Lake" from its name a while back in a fit of uncharacteristic hauteur), and the remote and very expensive duck-hunting clubs, many of these movers and shakers get together on weekends on the golf course or ski slopes of Park City, a nearby mountain retreat where many have year-round homes and condominiums. Park City parties tend to be informal shirt-sleeve affairs, either in private homes or at the posh Deer Valley Lodge. The inner circle of the power elite wouldn't think of leaving for Park City before stopping in for Saturday morning coffee at Lamb's Grill, where the *Tribune* and the most important downtown banks and law firms have permanent tables reserved for lunch throughout the week.

Lamb's façade belies its importance as an informal gathering place of the ruling elite. Its front window is given over to a seasonal display, usually involving stuffed and ceramic lambs. Inside, the décor is simple dark wood, red leather, and white linen tablecloths. The cuisine is blue-plate-special spiked with good Greek. Even on Saturday mornings, the tables toward the back are full of bankers, merchants, developers and politicians, trading jokes and swapping information about which investments are hot and how leases are going in the American Towers and other downtown projects.

"More business gets done over lunch at Lamb's Grill than ever gets done in any boardroom in town," Chamber of Commerce head Fred Ball observes.

For example, *Tribune* publisher Jack Gallivan and the rest of the group that lunches at Lamb's were largely responsible for liberalizing Utah's liquor laws, which helped turn Salt Lake into a convention center, providing 10,000 new jobs and drawing five million visitors a year.

Although the state Solons voted down liquor-by-the-drink in 1967, they offered a compromise—the Minibottle Law—permitting restaurants to operate their own state liquor stores selling airline-size, 1.7-ounce bottles. Except at the Hotel Utah, where guests still have to brown-bag their own booze, visitors can now buy drinks all over town, provided they're willing to mix them themselves.

Apart from the minibottle compromise, one of the major accomplishments of leaders like Jack Gallivan, former Governor Cal Rampton, and the others who lunch at Lamb's and play cards at the Alta Club has been Salt Lake's impressive convention and arts complex. The 201,000-square-foot Salt Palace, home of the Utah Jazz NBA basketball team and host to scores of trade shows, sits like a Brobdingnagian snare drum just two blocks from the Mormon Temple. Immediately to the north is the elegant gray wedge of Symphony Hall, the \$12 million showcase for the Utah Symphony, designed exclusively for orchestral concerts. Next to that is the Salt Lake Art Center, dedicated to the visual arts. A block away, the Capitol Theatre reposes in gilt-edged Viennese Renaissance glory, since a \$4.5 million facelift transformed it from a decaying vaudeville playhouse into a proper setting for Ballet West, the Utah Opera Company, and Salt Lake's two most distinguished modern dance troupes—Repertory Dance Theatre and the Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company.

Says Glade Peterson, the flamboyant white-maned founder and artistic director of the Utah Opera Company: "Salt Lake now has better arts organizations and facilities than any other community its size in the U.S."

Critics, however, claim that the church, with its aggressive optimism and emphasis on family values, is to blame for the lagging quality of Salt Lake City's theater, keeping it fifteen or twenty years behind national trends. Owned by the state but located on the University of Utah campus, Pioneer Memorial Theatre, the largest in the state, concentrates on Broadway-proven musicals suitable for families—a strategy which has paid off with 15,000 patrons, one of the biggest subscription lists in the country. Promised Valley Playhouse, operated by the Mormon Church, is even more

conservative. But the city has spawned several small, innovative dramatic troupes: the Salt Lake Acting Company, Theatre 138, and Walk-Ons, plus the Babcock and Lab Theatres on campus.

Like drama, painting and sculpture have trailed music and dance. Citing the local public's "benevolent indifference" and reluctance to purchase "advanced or adventurous painting," Doug Snow, Salt Lake's painter of greatest national stature says, "If you can make it in Utah, you can make it anywhere."

Octogenarian William Christensen is the "grand old man" of Utah ballet. After touring on the Orpheum circuit during the Twenties, he founded the San Francisco Ballet, the first major company in the West. At 49, when his late first wife developed multiple sclerosis, he sought the familiar tranquillity of his native Utah. In 1951 he established the University of Utah ballet program, and in 1963 he joined local civic leader Glenn Walker (Mrs. John) Wallace in forming the Utah Civic Ballet, which became Ballet West.

Both the Utah Symphony and Ballet West owe their existence largely to the efforts of one energetic and determined woman: Glenn Walker Wallace, Salt Lake City's undisputed *grande dame*. Mrs. Wallace is the daughter of Matthew Henry Walker, the youngest of four English brothers who came to Salt Lake in 1852 and founded the first bank between the Missouri River and the Pacific Coast. The Wallace's home on Walker Lane is a scaled-down pink and white château, filled with French art and antiques, including a bed that once belonged to Marie Antoinette. Apart from the governor and his wife, Mrs. Wallace is the only one in Salt Lake known for her formal entertaining. Last September, her house was the setting for a symphony benefit dubbed "Musical Gastronomie"—a grand tour of Italian, French and Austrian music and food.

Although she bears a regal resemblance to Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, Mrs. Wallace's grandeur is anchored in a refreshing Western directness. Born in Salt Lake, she studied piano in Boston, where she was accepted into the 1916 Sewing Circle. After making her debut with a piano recital at the Tuilleries, she married John Wallace, a childhood friend from Salt Lake then studying business at Harvard. In 1922 they returned to Utah, where he eventually became president of the Walker Bank.

"We're very isolated here, and whatever we've done in the arts or in business we've had to do on our own," Mrs. Wallace says. Not only did she raise most of the initial money for the symphony, she also went to New York where she chose Maestro Maurice Abravanel to become its conductor and

artistic director. Now retired but still on the board of directors of the National Council of the Arts, Abravanel arranged for world tours and recording contracts.

Salt Lake has a handful of prestigious women's organizations: the Junior League; the Assistance League; the Town Club, a largely social organization; and the Ladies' Literary Club, founded in 1877 and the oldest women's club west of the Missouri River. Literary Club members are still proud of their group's role in establishing Utah's first public library in 1880.

Family and church responsibilities keep most Mormon women too busy for additional social and civic involvement. All Mormon women over the age of 18 are automatically members of the Relief Society, a spiritual, educational, and charitable group organized by neighborhood. Barbara Smith, the group's director, is the distaff leader of Mormon society. Esther Landa, a member of the influential Rosenblatt clan and an outspoken advocate of liberal social causes, holds an opposite but equivalent position in the community.

Mormon or otherwise, the same family names appear again and again on lists of contributors to the arts, to medical research, and to other community causes. Delores (Mrs. George) and Sally (Mrs. Marriner) Eccles, whose late husbands founded First Security Bank, are two of Salt Lake's prime philanthropists, although Sally Eccles now spends most of her time in San Francisco. The Browning family of Ogden has been extremely generous, as have Zeke Dumke, Sam Skaggs, Joe Rosenblatt, the Bamberger family, the Hogles, the MacKey-Warshaw Grand Central Stores clan, and Leon Jack Sweet, who made his fortune in the candy business. And there are others.

Salt Lake's most colorful philanthropist is O. C. Tanner, founder of a company that designs and produces emblematic jewelry for more than 15,000 corporations. Along with his nephew Norman Tanner, a company director, O. C. Tanner contributes to many arts organizations and is also an enthusiastic fundraiser. He is best known for his penchant for making highly visible contributions, such as the gold leaf that decorates the lobby of Symphony Hall and the fountain out front. In fact, Tanner has given thirty-six fountains, including several to the University of Utah, one to Stanford, one to Harvard, and one for the broad esplanade in front of the Mormon church office building.

It's not surprising that O. C. Tanner, a Salt Lake native who calls beauty "the very heart of my values," should find a fountain one of man's most beautiful creations. In Salt Lake City, as in the rest of the Intermountain West, water is a rare and pre-

cious commodity. When it does come, all too often it takes the form of uncontrolled torrents, as it did after the record snow melt along the Wasatch Front this past spring. The city's annual precipitation is 13.9 inches, making the hiss and gurgle of sprinklers and fountains a symbol of individual and institutional status as well as of the power of civilization over the desert.

Next to Nevada, Utah is "the second most arid state in the country," explains Governor Scott Matheson, who served on the Intergovernmental Task Force on Water Policy under Carter. "Water is the resource that will ultimately limit growth," he adds. "It's the life-giving and life-limiting resource of this region."

A graduate of Stanford Law School and a former attorney for the Union Pacific Railroad, Utah's 54-year-old governor looks both more polished and more Western than most men in Salt Lake. He stands well over six feet tall, with a full mustache, receding gray hair, and thick glasses that magnify his direct blue eyes. And he exudes an unlikely combination of charisma and approachability, key factors in his phenomenal popularity. In 1980, after taking a strong stand for the Equal Rights Amendment, which he says cost him votes, he became the West's only incumbent Democratic governor to win reelection. In August of last year, he became chairman of the National Governors' Association, and local pundits are already discussing a third term or a national position if the Democrats win in 1984.

Locally, Governor Matheson and his wife Norma have been leaders in Salt Lake's historic restoration movement, restoring the Thomas Kearns mansion—the most graceful and elegantly detailed house on East South Temple—as the official residence. The Mathesons open the public rooms for Red Cross teas and other worthy functions, yet allow their children to keep a pet rabbit on the upstairs balcony.

Norma Matheson's support for the restoration movement encourages the trend begun by her predecessor, former First Lady Lucy Beth Rampton, who started the Utah Heritage Foundation in 1966.

In those days, "If you had said 'preservation' to ten people in the street, maybe one would have known what you were talking about," says the foundation's director, Stephanie Churchill. "There's always been a great concern for heritage, but it didn't extend to the built environment."

With the help of such individuals as Zeke Dumke, O. C. Tanner, and the George Hansen family, plus funds from the Michael Foundation and the government, the Heritage Foundation has rescued whole neighborhoods from destruction. Now, four nineteenth- and early twentieth-century

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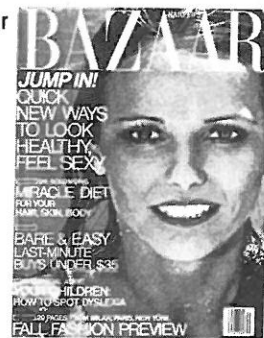
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SALT LAKE CITY

(Continued from page 199)

neighborhoods, all close to downtown, have been designated National Historic Districts. But before the restoration trend began, Salt Lake lost many of its finest structures: grand stone Gothic homes along East South Temple, ornate iron-front commercial buildings lining Main Street. Flamboyant developer Wally Wright lessened the loss somewhat by using door frames, windows, and other architectural elements from the old mansions to define interior space in Trolley Square, a trendy shopping mall in the former maintenance barns for the city's now-defunct trolley system.

Other Salt Lake leaders simply want to keep people in the city around the clock. Although population in Salt Lake County has mushroomed, and about 400,000 people work within the city limits, the city's resident population actually shrank—from 182,000 to 169,000—between 1970 and 1980. Suburbanites, as well as people from as far away as Idaho and Nevada, do their major buying in the city, but they, like the workers, still leave at night and will probably continue to do so until someone provides a greater variety of housing close to the downtown area.

Within the last nine months, attempts to fill that need have begun on a grand scale. By far the most ambitious of these is the \$410 million Gateway Project being developed by Triad Utah, and one of five U.S. multi-use developments bankrolled by the well-known Saudi brothers, Essam and Adnan Khashoggi. Adnan, a flamboyant international wheeler-dealer, who recently won a back-pay settlement from Lockheed of \$86.4 million, and whose 282-foot yacht has become a Monte Carlo landmark, leaves most of the planning of the Triad Utah venture to his brother Essam. After establishing the 900-acre Salt Lake International Center, Triad purchased two and a half of the city's ten-acre deteriorated downtown blocks immediately south of Temple Square.

Triad is betting that, over the next ten years, those blocks will bustle twenty-four hours a day. The master plan features three twenty-five-story residence towers; two forty-story mixed retail, office and condominium highrises with thirty-foot waterfalls in their atrium lobbies; parking garages for 9,000 cars; and an assortment of lower buildings. Local support of the project is indicated by the state's agreement to lease part of one building for its Social Services Department. The tenant of another, Broadcast House, will be Bonneville Corporation, the electronic media empire owned by the Mormon Church. The first space is scheduled for occupancy early in 1984.

Occupying the center of the Gateway Project is the Devereaux House, the city's

first mansion and the former home of Mormon merchant prince William Jennings, who served as a sort of go-between for Brigham Young and federal officials and representatives of other non-Mormon interests. To an extent, Manny Floor, president of Triad Utah, does for the Khashoggis what Jennings did for Brigham Young; he brings people together and makes things happen. Somewhat portly, with round glasses and a fringe of collar-length dark hair, Floor looks like a younger version of the picture of Ben Franklin that graces the \$50 bill. He exudes ambition and optimism; other businessmen call him brilliant, shrewd, hard-driving, a dreamer of big dreams with big money to back them up.

"We're taking twenty-six acres in a depressed, dilapidated area, and when we're finished, it'll be as nice an urban project as there is around the country," Floor says with conviction.

All of that development, however, is predicated on continued population growth. If the pace of Utah's high birth rate and influx from national corporations continues, the population along Utah's urban corridor—the Wasatch Front—could reach two million by the year 2000.

"We're not going to be able to control our growth," says Michael Budig, chairman of the Public Lands Committee of the Utah Sierra Club. "The question we have to ask ourselves is, will we be able to manage it when it comes?"

Water is already a problem. So is air. Although the Kennecott copper smelter and the U.S. Steel mill in nearby Geneva—once the area's two worst air polluters—are operating under stricter emission standards and at recession-induced partial capacity, automobiles alone are enough to turn the atmosphere brown on still winter days. The President's Council on Environmental Quality noted that the air in Salt Lake was unhealthy fifty-eight days out of the year.

Whatever determination and optimism fuels its dominant culture, whatever technological advances its scientists may make, whatever heights its artists may reach, whatever outside corporations and capital it may lure, whatever clout its representatives may wield in Washington, nothing can change the physical reality. Salt Lake is both an island surrounded by vast, arid emptiness and a high, narrow valley shielded—especially in winter—from the cleansing wind.

Ultimately, Salt Lake City's destiny may be molded by the most common of substances—air and water—and shaped as much by its geography as by the dynamic tension between Mormon and non-Mormon, between Zion and Babylon, that has long fueled its development and made it unique. □