

## **Hell on Wheels**

A while back, the Rhino told me about an excellent TV series on Netflix. It is called "Hell on Wheels". No, it is not about a motorcycle gang but rather the building of the American Transcontinental Railroad (This should tweak interest all you railroaders in our football pool). Hell on Wheels is the name railroaders gave to the supply town at the head steel. As the steel rail moved westward so did the supply town. The town supplied the railroad builders with manpower and materials but also entertained the workers with booze, gambling and ladies of ill repute. Most of the nefarious characters of the series are fictional but some are true people of history, such as Thomas Durant (the head of the Union Pacific RR), Ulysses S. Grant (American President) and Brigham Young (Head of the Mormon Church, founder of Salt Lake City and Governor of the Utah Territory). It was interesting to watch Young play the US Government, the Union Pacific RR and the Central Pacific RR against each other to the advantage of his Utah Territory. As I said, it is an excellent series and well worth watching. What does this have to do with football you ask? Steve Young, former all star quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers and now a football TV colour commentator is a great, great, great grandson of Brigham Young. Considering the number of wives Brigham Young had, his great, great, great grandchildren could probably populate a small city.