

The books are now, or should be, in the keeping of the county treasurer, preparatory to the equalization of taxes. The requirement of the statute does not affect the assessment of property, but is only an incident, intended to aid the officer in collecting poll taxes. To require the assessors, at this time, to go over the roll for this purpose, would be impracticable and expensive. I do not think it imperative under the circumstances.

Fourth—"In counties where one person holds the two offices of assessor and collector, will he be entitled to receive the full amount of the salaries fixed by the Legislature for the two offices?"

Answer—When the offices of assessor and collector are lawfully combined by the county commissioners, the incumbent of the offices 'may' receive the highest salary fixed for either office, together with one-half the amount fixed for the other office. That is to say, the incumbent is entitled to the highest salary fixed by the law for either office and one-half the salary so fixed for the other. This much seems clear. But the law does not seem to include (in terms) the case of a combination of these offices prior to the institution of a state government. Nevertheless, under the territorial law, the compensation of the assessor and collector was fixed by the county court upon the return of the assessment roll, and the present law provides for the fixing of the compensation when the offices are combined by the commissioner as prescribed by section 11, of the salary act, and necessarily the intention of the legislature was to continue existing offices and conditions until the new system should go into operation. This section expresses the legislative will as to salaries for combined offices and should not be ignored. I am of the opinion that section 11 of the salary act may be applied to existing conditions and its provisions as to the combined offices made effective as to the compensation of the assessor and collector, in counties where the offices are already united. I therefore answer that in such cases the incumbent is not entitled to receive the full amount of the salary fixed by the legislature for both offices, but as before stated, the highest salary fixed for either office and one-half the salary fixed for the other.

It is to be observed that the salaries of the assessor and collector are definitely fixed by the statute. Section 11 does not contemplate as to these offices, any action by the commissioners. As to other offices, the salaries of which may be fixed by the commissioners within the maximum, when combined the commissioners may also determine the compensation within the limit as stated.

UTAH WEATHER AND CROPS.

The weather during the week ending June 22nd, was hot and dry in all sections with moderately heavy thunderstorms throughout the northern portion of the State during the latter part of the week. The temperature was above, and the precipitation below the normal, with about the usual amount of sunshine. Severe hailstorms occurred during the latter part of the week in the northern portion of

the State where considerable damage was done to the hay, grain and vegetable crops, especially in Cache and Box Elder counties. The continued warm weather has been beneficial to irrigated crops which are maturing rapidly but the hot winds are having a detrimental effect upon dry lands which are beginning to look sickly in a few localities for the want of moisture. Cutting lucern is now general all over the State, and harvesting of wheat has commenced in the southern portion with indications of a diminished yield. Potatoes, corn and garden truck growing fast; beets thinned; wheat, rye, oats and barley heading out and strawberries, gooseberries, cherries and peas in market.

Levan—The hot, dry weather seems to force everything ahead; wheat, barley and oats heading out; early potatoes in blossom; other vegetables in market. Rain needed.

Moab—The weather the past week has been scorching hot and no rain. Tomato and squash vines in bloom.

St. George—Hot winds have prevailed during week. Harvesting of wheat commenced—prospects are that the yield of wheat will not exceed half a normal return.

Layton—Weather continues hot and dry. Grain looks sickly on account of drought. Strawberries, gooseberries, cherries and peas in market. Haying is the chief employment.

Holden—Fine growing weather; lucern cutting in full blast; corn and potatoes looking well; rye turning; water getting scarce; second crop of lucern will be poor.

Solpico—Everything growing fast; lucern cutting next week.

Newton—Heavy thunderstorm on evening of 17th. Everything growing nicely; wheat heading out; lucern cutting next week; no grain irrigated yet; plenty of water; farmers busy hauling wheat.

Harrieville—Good week for growth of watered crops; haying in full blast with heavy yield; spraying fruit trees in operation.

Henrieville—Warm and dry; everything doing well; will cut lucern next week; range bare, stock poor.

Lehi—The past week has been fine for growth; water holding out well.

Pinto—Weather very warm and dry; crops look well; range dry and needs moisture.

Brigham City—Crops on irrigated land doing well; heat has injured wheat on dry farms; half Wednesday morning done some damage to vegetables, particularly onions; changeable weather during week: thunder storms, hail, rain, strong winds, hot waves, rainbow Friday evening.

Payson—Hay cutting commenced; strawberries ripe but not plentiful; rain needed for dry farms; oats and barley ripening rapidly.

Lake Shore—Commenced to cut lucern; all kinds of grain heading out; good prospects for a crop if the water holds out. Sugar beets all thinned; potatoes and corn growing nicely; peas ripe; other garden truck doing well.

Moroni—Week very warm; grain and grass growing rapidly; lucern in bloom; potatoes coming up nicely; water getting low. Have had a few showers of rain but too little to do any good.

Tooele—Very warm weather, and the extreme weather is as hard on vegetation as it is on us where water is scarce. Started to cut lucern, but not quite ready.

Coalville—Thunder and lightning a number of times during the week, but only one light shower. Everything growing fast. The frost last week did not kill the apple blossom, quite a number of which have set the size of peas.

Spring City—The past week was a very good one for all kinds of crops. Very warm weather with rain Thursday and Friday. High water nearly over with; strawberries ripe; green peas large enough for cooking.

Plymouth—The week ending June 22nd was hot with drying winds. Grain and alfalfa are in need of rain very badly; spring grain burning up alfalfa ready to cut.

Uintah—Very large crop of strawberries. Lucern is being cut everywhere; crop very large. Wheat commencing to mature; corn is growing very fast; potatoes in blossom.

Heber—The weather during the past week has been very hot and dry. Thunderstorms on the mountains the past three days in the afternoons. Very heavy thunder with a trace of rain on Friday 6 p. m. Vegetation is growing rapidly. Lucern, hay and grain will be heavy, the cool, moist weather in the spring causing everything to tiller and spread out. It looks as though we would have a heavy crop of fruit if the present full moon passes without a frost.

Cache Junction—Very warm last week; wind, thunder and lightning evening of 16th, but no rain until evening of 17th, when we had a very heavy shower with some hail. Grain commencing to head; cutting lucern in progress.

Doweyville—The past week has been very warm; thunder shower on 17th; more or less cloudy and sultry every afternoon since. Farmers are busy getting up their lucern; lucern crop out as heavy as expected; wheat and barley doing well.

Vernon—Fruit is doing the best it has ever done here. All crops are good now, but unless rain comes soon there will be a falling off. The heat is oppressive; but fortunately there is a marked absence of drying winds.

Petersen—This has been a week of fine growing weather plenty of sunshine and a refreshing shower on the 18th instant. Irrigating the order of the day and plenty of water. Grain, hay and vegetables look fine, never better. Hot and dry. Vegetables looking well; early peas in market; grain not doing as well as it might from lack of water early in season. First crop of lucern being out.

Huntville—Warm and pleasant both day and night. All kinds of crops growing nicely. Several thunder storms during the past week; irrigation commenced; water plenty.

J. H. SMITH,

Observer and Section Director, Salt Lake City, Utah.

THE SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, June 22, 1896.—At a meeting of the county school superintendents of the State held in this city during the late