

## ELECTION MATTERS.

The Utah Commission has just finished sending out instructions, blanks and all necessary materials to the registrars, their deputies and all other officials for the coming election so far as appointed. The counties still un-supplied with such officers are Salt Lake, Weber and Utah. The wants of those three, however, will be provided this week. The most interesting features of the new code of instructions are the specified requirements of the Enabling Act, the oath for new registry list and the one just formulated suitable for citizens of both sexes containing the suggestion that registrars enroll all female electors in the "Blue Book" in alphabetical order, on separate pages, so as to be readily distinguished.

The registration officers are required to visit every dwelling in each precinct before the first Monday in September and make careful inquiry as to any or all persons entitled to vote, and shall administer the proper oath. They are also required to revise the registry list, erase and add names as provided by law, to enter the name of any voter omitted commencing the last Monday in September, to make lists for the county clerk and deliver the same on or before the second Monday in October. The clerk of the county court shall deliver the registry list whenever necessary for the revision thereof or addition of names thereto. Voters changing from one election precinct to another in the same county, may appear before the registrar at any time previous to the delivery of the registry list to the clerk of the county court (October 14, 1895), and have their names erased therefrom, and they may thereupon have their names registered in the precinct to which they may remove.

The clerk of the county court shall file, and carefully preserve all said affidavits and registry lists, and the registrar shall make a copy of each precinct registry list, and cause the same to be posted up at least fifteen days before any election, at or near the place of election, and shall make and transmit another copy to the judges of election. (P. 245, s. 7, page 320, vol. I, Compiled Laws of Utah, 1888.)

The provisions governing registration are as follows:

Section 2. That all male citizens of the United States over the age of twenty-one years, who have resided in said Territory for one year next prior to said election, are hereby authorized to vote for and choose delegates to form a Convention in said Territory. Such delegates shall possess the qualifications of such electors; and the aforesaid Convention shall consist of one hundred and seven delegates, apportioned among the several counties within the limits of the proposed State, as follows: (List of counties and apportionment); and the Governor of said Territory shall, on the first day of August, 1894, issue a proclamation ordering an election of the delegates aforesaid in said Territory to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November following. The board of commissioners known as the Utah Commission, is hereby authorized and required to cause a new and complete registration of voters of said Territory, to be made under the provisions of the laws of the United States and said Territory, except that the oath required

for registration under said laws shall be so modified as to test the qualifications of the electors as prescribed in this act, such new registration to be made as nearly conformable with the provisions of such laws as may be, and such election for delegates shall be conducted, the returns made, the result ascertained, and the certificate of persons elected to such convention issued in the same manner as is prescribed by the laws of said Territory regulating elections therein of members of the Legislature.

Persons possessing the qualifications entitling them to vote for delegates under this act shall be entitled to vote on the ratification or rejection of the Constitution, under such rules or regulations as said convention may prescribe, not in conflict with this act.

The county registration officers should recommend to the Commission, on or before September 1st, for their information, the names of at least four persons, two of whom should belong to the party being in the majority at the last general election, and two being of the party then in the minority, and who are eligible and proper persons to act as judges of election in each precinct of the county.

The county registration officers and their deputies will receive compensation as follows: For county registration officers, four dollars per day; for each deputy registration officer, three dollars per day for the time during which said officers have been actually and necessarily employed in the discharge of their duties. [There being no appropriation for the payment of these officers, persons acting must await future action by Congress or Legislature.]

There are the usual provisions for the punishment for fraudulent registration, appointment of judges, taking of oaths, filling of vacancies, opening of polls, how judges are to qualify and return oath.

It is suggested that the registrars in the several precincts should be at their respective polling places during the election, either in person or by deputy, and conveniently accessible to all electors, for the purpose of hearing complaints of any persons whose names may have been erroneously omitted from the registry lists, and in case any voter has been so erroneously omitted from such lists, the registrars are authorized to reinsert their names thereon, and, if otherwise qualified, such voters should be permitted to cast their ballots, but in no case shall new names be added, or any name reinstated which had been stricken off for cause, after a previous hearing, as provided by law.

The Commission will provide the necessary books, blanks, stationery and envelopes, and the county court of each county should furnish two ballot boxes for each poll, one for the Territorial and county officers, and one for State officers and "On the adoption of the Constitution." There will be two sets of books for the judges and two kinds of envelopes for the ballots, one (buff) to be used for the ballots to be deposited for Territorial and county officers, the other (blue) for the ballots of State officers and "On the adoption of the Constitution." There will also be poll lists of persons voting, upon which should be written the names of voters and in the columns opposite the name should be indicated (by the mark X) for which class of officers ballots may be cast. Before opening the polls,

the ballot boxes should be carefully and publicly examined by the judges, who should satisfy themselves that nothing is therein. They should then be locked and the keys delivered to the presiding judge and not to be opened during the election.

The polls should open one hour after sunrise and be closed at sunset. Sun rises November 5, 1895, at 7 o'clock, and sets at 4:30, sun time. Standard time is 27 minutes after the sun time.

The duties of judges, casting of ballots, stipulations of the Edmunds-Tucker law and amnesty are dwelt upon in detail. No officer or soldier of the United States army or other person subject to military authority is eligible to hold office or vote unless his home was in the Territory at the time of entering the service.

Section 4. That in case a Constitution and State government shall be formed in compliance with the provisions of this act, the convention forming the same shall provide by ordinance for submitting said constitution to the people of said State for its ratification or rejection, at an election to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, at which election the qualified voters of said proposed State shall vote directly for or against the proposed constitution, and for or against any provisions separately submitted.

Section 1. The rights of citizens of the State of Utah to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex. Both male and female citizens of this State shall enjoy equally all civil, political and religious rights and privileges.

Section 2. Every citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who shall have been a citizen for ninety days, and shall have resided in the State or Territory one year, in the county four months, and in the precinct sixty days next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote at such election except as herein otherwise provided.

Section 3. In all cases except those of treason, felony or breach of the peace, electors shall be privileged from arrest on the days of election, during their attendance at elections, and going to and returning therefrom.

Section 4. No elector shall be obliged to perform militia duty on the day of election except in time of war or public danger.

Section 5. No person shall be deemed a qualified elector of this State unless such person be a citizen of the United States.

Section 6. No idiot, insane person or person convicted of treason, or crime against the elective franchise, unless restored to civil rights, shall be permitted to vote at any election, or be eligible to hold office in this State.

Section 11. The election for the adoption or rejection of this Constitution, and for State officers herein provided for, shall be held on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1895, and shall be conducted according to the laws of the Territory and the provisions of the Enabling Act; the votes cast at said election shall be canvassed, and returns made, in the same manner as was provided for in the election for delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

Provided, That all male citizens of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, who have resided in the Territory for one year next prior to such election, are hereby authorized to vote for or against the adoption of this Constitution, and for the State officers herein provided for. The returns of said election shall be made to the Utah