

heretofore organized or incorporated, may become organized under such general laws whenever a majority of the electors voting at a general or special election shall so determine, and shall organize in conformity therewith; and cities or towns heretofore or hereafter organized, and all charters thereof framed by authority of this Constitution, shall be subject to and controlled by general laws.

Sec. 6. No municipal corporation shall in any manner, directly or indirectly, lease, sell, alien or dispose of any water works, water rights or sources of water supply now or hereafter owned or controlled by it, but all of such water works, water rights and sources of water supply now owned or hereafter acquired by any municipal corporation shall be preserved, maintained and operated by it for the supply of its inhabitants with water at reasonable charges; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent any such municipal corporation from exchanging any water rights or source of water supply for other water rights or sources of water supply of equal value and to be devoted in like manner to the public supply of its inhabitants with water.

ORDINANCE AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

The committee on ordinance and federal relations reported the following article for incorporation in the Constitution, which was referred to the committee of the whole:

The following ordinance shall be irrevocable without the consent of the United States and the people of this State:

First—Perfect toleration of religious sentiment shall be secured and no inhabitant of this State shall ever be molested in person or property on account of his or her mode of religious worship; and polygamous or plural marriages are forever prohibited.

Second—The people inhabiting this State do agree and declare that they forever disclaim all right and title to the unappropriated public lands lying within the boundaries thereof and to all lands lying within said limits owned or held by any Indian or Indian tribes, and that until the title thereto shall have been extinguished by the United States the same shall be and remain subject to the disposition of the United States, and the said Indian lands shall remain under the absolute jurisdiction and control of the Congress of the United States; that the lands belonging to citizens of the United States residing without this state shall never be taxed at a higher rate than the lands belonging to residents thereof; that no taxes shall be imposed by this state on lands or property therein, belonging to or which may hereafter be purchased by the United States or reserved for its use; but nothing in this ordinance shall preclude this State from taxing, as other lands are taxed, any lands owned or held by any Indian who has severed his tribal relations and has obtained from the United States or from any person a title thereto, by patent or other grant, save and except such lands as have been or may be granted to any Indian or Indians under any act of Congress, containing a provision exempting the lands thus granted from taxation, which last mentioned lands shall be exempt from taxation so long, and to such extent, as is or may be provided in the act of Congress granting the same.

Third—All debts and liabilities of the Territory of Utah, under authority of the legislative assembly thereof, are hereby assumed and shall be paid by this State.

Fourth—The Legislature shall make

laws for the establishment and maintenance of systems of public schools, which shall be open to all the children of the State and free from sectarian control.

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

A large deposit of asbestos was recently discovered twelve miles north-east of Dillon, Mont., and can be traced for a distance of 2,500 feet.

The *Spokane Spokesman-Review* has a report from Colfax that buyers there are beginning to contract for wheat for next fall's delivery at 40 cents per bushel.

At Horse Creek, Wyo., the 14-year-old daughter of G.W. Hartley, a ranchman, has committed suicide by taking poison, because her father had threatened to whip her.

Laramie Boomerang: Mrs. Thomas Hood, near Casper, is an expert hunter. She shoots the heads off sage hens at one hundred and fifty yards. She was the first to kill a wolf and secured the bounty under the new law.

The oldest horse in the United States died recently in upper Willow Creek, Oregon. The animal lacked just one month of being 40 years old, and was the property of a farmer who had owned it since it was eight years old.

More extended examination into the systematic ore stealing by the McCroskey brothers from the Union Mining company at Cripple Creek, Colo., is said to show that the value of ore stolen amounts to nearly \$200,000. It is said that some of the rich mineral is stored away in Cripple Creek.

Mrs. Margaret Hardy has been taken to the Idaho state penitentiary, where she will serve a life sentence. She was convicted of poisoning a little colored girl. Mrs. Hardy is the only white woman ever incarcerated in the Idaho penitentiary. The only other female ever sent to the state prison was a squaw.

The Casper, Wyo., *Derrick* says from reliable sources it is learned that the new tunnel on Casper Mountain has been run in 160 feet and taps a lead in asbestos about 92 feet from the surface. A new strike has been made, and the parties are ready to demonstrate the fact that our asbestos mines can show as fine fiber as the best Canadian miner.

Grand Junction (Colo.) Sentinel: A steam jet has been in operation at the gas well for the past three days, to remove the water from the well and in an endeavor to start the flow of gas. Monday morning and also Sunday morning the gas burst forth again with considerable force. Manager Mendenhall hopes to restore the full flow in a few days.

The Great Falls (Mont.) *Herald* says: A large party of emigrants from the East arrived this week at Slocby en route to the Burton tract of irrigated land, where they will settle and go into the business of farming. These families who settled here last year are well pleased with their location and surroundings, and in consequence a great many of their friends in the East have decided to join them.

Payette (Idaho) people are considering the question of taking steps to prosecute the city council for failing to call a city election, as required by law.

The members of the council purposely absented themselves from the last meeting of that body so that no action could be taken, and as the day of the meeting was the last day on which a legal call could be made for an election, it cannot now be held.

A jury in the case of Phillip Boyle against the Great Northern railway for damages sustained while in the company's employ, brought in a verdict at Spokane, Washington, on Saturday awarding the plaintiff \$28,443. It is said to be the largest verdict ever returned in the history of local courts. Boyle sustained the loss of an arm and other injuries in an accident and sued for \$36,000.

An artesian well outfit which has been drilling at Delta, Colo., several weeks under difficulties aroused the town on Saturday morning by prolonged blasts of the whistle announcing that a flow of water had been struck at a depth of 570 feet. The water is pure and without any mineral taint. Work is still being pushed with the hope of striking a stronger flow. This is the first artesian well of pure water struck in the Delta valleys.

As the jailer was making his rounds on Saturday night at San Rafael, Cal., he discovered a cell occupied by Frank and Valentine Valencia on fire. An alarm was sounded and the two prisoners were rescued, but not before they were almost suffocated. The Valentinas were arrested during the afternoon. One of them then had a paper of meat, and it is thought that they tried to cook this in the cell. They had set fire to all the blankets. After recovering from the effects of the smoke they were placed in the county jail and a more serious charge will be made against them.

The district attorney at Santa Rosa, Cal., has brought the lottery and raffia business, which has been thriving there to a very abrupt end. Some of the clothing merchants had been selling envelopes containing tickets, which gave the purchaser a chance in a semi-weekly drawing for a suit of clothes. Many suits had been raffled off this way and other merchants and sailors were having serious inroads made in their business. One complained to the district attorney, who, after looking up the law, advised the officers to arrest every person selling tickets, or in any way promoting the lottery or raffia business.

Judge Keillogg, says the *Denver News*, who has for many years been prospecting on Cottonwood creek, in Duncan mining district, Colo., and who recently won a law suit against the owners of the Baca grant, No. 4, is on Cottonwood creek making arrangements to run a tunnel under Bonanza mine for 1,000 feet. It is on this hill that the Bonanza mine, from which there was recently shipped some high grade ore, is located. He expects to tap a large body of ore which he thinks the several small veins which have been uncovered on top lead to. This is the biggest enterprise that has yet been started in this district and the work on the tunnel will be watched with interest.

Ed Yelton, who rides a bicycle with but one leg, made the trip to Cheyenne from Laramie, Wyo., last Sunday in seven hours.