

are the improvements to which the Liberal party in its platform and by its speakers directs your attention, when offering an excuse for the expenditure of over \$2,000,000 by the City Council, "whose progressive policy" has just been endorsed in the platform adopted at their recent convention; yet when these various amounts are added together they aggregate but \$485,738. \$1,400,000 more has disappeared from the city treasury. What has become of it? Where are the improvements that have been made with this enormous fund?

Do you wonder that people have forgotten their party politics in a desire to rid themselves of such an administration? The most important public improvements remain unfinished; the city treasury is empty. The council's extravagance has been such as to alarm capitalists who have hitherto been glad to purchase our bonds at a premium. As a result the corporation has lately found itself unable to obtain money with which to conduct its reckless course of expenditure and has been compelled to sell our bonds for 90 per cent of their value with a provision for a redemption of the warrants it has been forced to issue, and which promises to pay are hawked about the city at ruinous discounts to the injury of the workmen and other creditors of the corporation, and to the shame and discredit of all citizens whose greatest pride is their business integrity.

Not content with squandering public money in such alleged public improvements, which have been a detriment in most instances, and as if incapable of getting rid in excusable ways of the money wrung from the people, the Council has been outrageously, if not criminally generous to its own members. In the year 1882, it voted to itself \$6665 as compensation for special sessions, not one of which did the public business require; all necessary work could and should have been done at the regular sessions for which this council received an additional \$3500; and up to the present time in this year these enterprising and public-spirited gentlemen are pursuing the same generous course with themselves, and have already appropriated \$2482.50 for special sessions that were utterly useless and uncalled for.

For many of these extra sessions the councilmen drew \$5 each for sessions at which they were not present. This infamous practice prevailed until the mayor interposed and stopped the same. Since then the extra sessions have been continued but with an increased attendance.

Among other evidences of the thrift of the councilmen, it will be proper to mention the junketing tour of the Pacific coast, paid for from the public treasury, in spite of the mayor's veto, and in defiance of the protest of the public press and people. If anyone has discovered any benefits which the city has derived from that tour of the pleasure resorts of the Pacific coast, he has failed to make them known. It is a matter of public notoriety that in numerous instances, in utter disregard of the laws of honesty and those principles which govern prudent business men, and in defiant opposition to the mayor, in the purchase of materials and supplies for public works, such as

waterpipe, etc., lowest responsible bids have been thrown aside, and extravagant prices have been paid. Whether or not this course inured to the personal benefit of the councilmen the public will have to decide for itself.

The extraordinary occasion is our excuse for referring to the scenes enacted at the sessions of the council during the last two years, which scenes brought the blush of shame to the cheeks of decent people, where all rules of courtesy toward each other and the mayor were violated; bad as were the reports of these meetings as recorded in the city press, their columns did not tell all that could have been said but were edited and eliminated in the interest of decency and respectability, the billingsgate, the blackguardism, the profanity which characterized so many sessions of the council could not be detailed in the columns of respectable newspapers.

It is notorious that in the employment of labor on the public works discriminations have been regularly made against home people in favor of transients, and that classes of floating humanity who would be of service at the polls on election day. In addition to the general misgovernment, extravagance and incompetency, defalcation and downright theft have been charged and proven, scarcely had the present administration been inaugurated when an inspection of the books disclosed a shortage of over \$20,000 in the previous city collector's accounts; this shortage being discovered through an investigation instituted by parties not in the city's employ. We may also refer to the case of the police court clerk, whose defalcation though discovered was not made known until he had an opportunity to leave the Territory and get beyond the reach of the indictment now on file in the Third district court.

A very recent case is that of the superintendent of water works, whose appropriation of materials and labor paid for by the city was expused by outside parties, and who has been removed in disgrace by the Mayor. Houses of ill-fame, gambling halls, low variety halls and vile grogeries have sprung up and flourished under this administration, if not by its direct protection, and the council has stood stubbornly in the way of the Mayor, persistently thwarting his efforts to suppress these vile establishments and agencies for the destruction of morals of young and old, as it has opposed him in his efforts to enforce the law against Sunday saloons.

AN OVERFLOW MEETING.

At this juncture Mr. Williams arose and stated that there was a tremendous meeting being held on the outside for the benefit of persons who could not gain access to the building on account of the great crowd. This gathering was addressed by J. H. Moyle, D. C. Dunbar and J. B. Timmony, other speakers were Rev. T. C. Huff, J. C. McNally, W. G. Van Horn, Master Ulysses Webster Campbell, the colored prodigy; Rev. Talbot, J. B. Timmony, Governor West, O. F. Whitney and Mr. Backmal.

THEY ARE experiencing such hard times and are developing such vice in St. Louis that burglars have even broken into and robbed the morgue.

NOVEMBER WEATHER.

The chief of the weather bureau directs the publication of the following data, compiled from the record of observations for the month of November, taken at this station for a period of 19 years.

It is believed that the facts thus set forth will prove of interest to the public, as well as the special student, showing as they do the average and extreme conditions of the more important meteorological elements and the range within which such variations may be expected to keep during any corresponding month.

TEMPERATURE.

Mean or normal temperature, 40 degrees.

The warmest November was that of 1891, with an average of 44 degrees.

The coldest November was that of 1880, with an average of 30 degrees.

The highest temperature during any November was 72 degrees on November 5th, 1891.

The lowest temperature during any November was 3 degrees on November 18th, 1880.

Average date on which first "killing" frost occurred (in autumn), Oct. 12.

PRECIPITATION.

(rain, and melted snow.)

Average for the month 1.48 inches.

Average number of days with .01 of an inch or more, 7.

The greatest monthly precipitation was 5.81 inches in 1875.

The least monthly precipitation was a trace in 1890.

The greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any twenty-four consecutive hours was 1.56 inches on November 18, 1875.

The greatest amount of snowfall recorded in twenty-four consecutive hours (record extending to winter of 1884-5 only) was 9.7 inches on November 24, 1892.

CLOUDS AND WEATHER.

Average number of cloudless days, 12.

Average number of partly cloudy days, 10.

Average number of cloudy days, 8.

WIND.

The prevailing winds have been from the northwest.

The highest velocity of the wind during any November was thirty-six miles on November 6, 1881.

GEORGE N. SALISBURY,
Observer, Weather Bureau.

Winter is at hand, observes the *Hocatello (Idaho) Tribune*, and some of the most provident editors of the state are preparing for it. The editor of the *St. Anthony News* this week makes known the fact that he "will take potatoes at a cent a pound on subscription." The editor of the *Rexburg Press* warns his subscribers that "now is the time to settle, while you can pay in hay, potatoes, wheat or anything else you raise upon the farm. Bring along your produce and let's have a settlement. We want some wood." The editor of the *Montpelier Post* is out after the stuff, too. He calls the attention of his subscribers to the fact that, "while we need cash, we also need wood, hay, flour, vegetables, fruit, wheat, and can use other things in the office and family."