

electrodes, and while in this condition the finger can be pricked with a pin without any resulting sensation except that of dull contact. Sensitiveness to cold is also removed.

In a new process, proposed by chemists of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, meats are sterilized by placing for a certain number of hours close to an electric light, and at the same time are dried by a stream of air at a temperature of 115 to 150 degrees F. When powdered, the dried and sterilized meats are ready for use by army and navy or on long exploring expeditions.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN.

Salt Lake City, June 20, 1898.

Though the mean maximum temperature of the State for the past week was 83.7 degrees, the minimum 50.4 degrees and the average 67.0 degrees, the weather has not been excessively warm, since the average temperature for Salt Lake City for June, embracing a period of twenty-four years is 67.1 degrees. The past week was the warmest for the present season, a maximum of 96 degrees having occurred on the 18th at many places throughout the State. On the 13th and 14th, the weather was partially cloudy attended in some sections by unimportant showers; on the remaining days the possible sunshine occurred.

Under the beneficial influences of increased sunshine and rising temperature all crops have improved, though a resort to irrigation has been necessary. Fortunately the streams are unusually full for this time of the season.

Most of the fall grain and much of the early spring grain is in the head. In portions of Washington county the harvest of fall grain has commenced. Wheat is coming to maturity with large, well filled heads giving promise of a yield that will likely be most satisfactory. Fall wheat on low ground, that received too much moisture from the May rains, has greatly improved by the warm weather.

There has been improvement in corn potatoes, peas and garden vegetables. Small fruits give evidence of abundance; cherries and strawberries are plentiful in the markets. Appearances indicate an abundance of apples, peaches, apricots, plums and prunes will have limited yields.

Sugar beets have passed through the stage of thinning and weeding; they are looking well and are growing as rapidly as could be desired.

Well pleased are the farmers that the harvest of lucern was attended by warm weather that cured the product so that the first crop is well advanced to completion.

Greenville—On the 13th there was a rain with thunder and lightning. The rain has done much good. Crops are growing rapidly.

West Portage—Since the rain of the 11th the weather has been warm and almost cloudless. The first crop of lucern is being harvested. Winter grain is in the head and spring grain looks well. Fruit promises good yields and grass on the range is looking well.

Brigham City—Early cherries are ripe, spring wheat is heading. Prospects are good.

Minersville—Crops are growing rapidly. Streams are very low.

Syracuse—Lucern is in the stack. Corn and potatoes look fine.

Newton—Last week the weather was warm. Grain is advancing rapidly. Fall grain is heading. A small amount of lucern has been cut. No rainfall last week.

Smithfield—The weather is warm and dry. Fall grain is heading. All kinds of fruits are doing well. Sugar beets are receiving proper care and attention.

Cache Junction—Last week the weather was very warm. Fall grain has headed. Farmers have commenced cutting lucern.

Logan—There was a plenty of sunshine last week. All kinds of crops are growing as well as we could desire. The weather has been good for curing lucern.

Hyde Park—Owing to the warm, dry weather, irrigation has commenced. Much lucern is being cut. A very large crop of fall grain is heading. Beets have been thinned.

Trenton—Wheat is in the head and haying is progressing.

Tropic—There was very warm weather the past week. Some rain fell in the hills. We have enough water. The first crop of lucern is being cut. Peas are on the table. All vegetables is making a satisfactory growth.

Parowan—It has been warm, causing an excellent growth of all the crops. Farmers are beginning to irrigate grain. Lucern will soon be ready to cut. Thunder showers occurred in the mountains on the 12th and 13th, also in the north end of this valley.

Levan—Grain has received the first watering. Lucern will be ready for cutting next week. Small grain promises well. The weather is warm; just what is needed.

Ranch—Very good weather. Grain is making a fair growth; on bottom lands the grain has improved; all kinds of crops are making good progress.

Hinckley—Farmers are very busy with their hay. All grain is growing well. There is a plenty of water.

Deseret—Crops made a favorable growth last week where they were well watered; we have a plenty of water. Haying is receiving its full share of attention, with the yield proving heavy, except on land that raised seed last year.

Scipio—A very good rain occurred on the 13th. The weather has been very warm, causing vegetation to grow rapidly.

Holden—Good growing weather. Have finished planting potatoes. We have a fine crop of lucern hay.

Circleville—The recent high winds did considerable damage to small grain on new ground.

Koosharem—Excellent growing weather; grain is very promising; meadows and pastures are better than usual.

Greenwich—The first part of the week thunder showers occurred. Crops are recovering from the frost that occurred during the first week of the month, and are making a satisfactory growth.

Halliday—Farmers are very busy. Lucern is being cut; grain looks well; corn is large enough to be cultivated; Bees are making a plenty of honey.

Mill Creek—It has been good weather for growing crops. Hay making is progressing; fall wheat is in the head and some spring grain is coming into head. Water is getting scarce.

Manti—The weather of the past week was all that could be desired for the growth of crops.

Chester—Crops are being irrigated. Streams are falling off.

Plateau—A few showers occurred in the early part of the week. No frost occurred. Crops are growing nicely.

Hoytsville—The past week was the warmest of the season. Light showers occurred on the 13th and 14th. Grain, lucern and garden truck are progressing.

Salem—The people are in the midst of haying. Grain and lucern promise large yields. The warm weather has been excellent for the crops and farmers are rejoicing.

Colliston—One more good rain is needed before harvest. Lucern is being cut.

Pleasant Grove—All crops are growing rapidly. Strawberries and cherries

are abundant. Prospects are good for all other fruits.

Lake Shore—The grain crops are growing nicely.

Heber—Splendid growing weather, the best for the season.

Charleston—A good growing week. All crops look well. Grass and grain will be heavy. Some damage is being done to dry land wheat by the squirrels. Potatoes are improving.

Lyman—The weather has turned warm, which is beneficial to the crops.

St. George—Wheat harvesting has commenced. The first crop of lucern has been harvested and it is found to be a large yield.

Pinto—Potatoes are coming up. Lucern is till showing damage from frost.

Plain City—Early spring wheat is heading. The first crop of lucern is nearly secured. Green peas and young potatoes are being used.

Uintah—Crops are commencing to suffer for need of water. Fall wheat has a fine head.

Kaysville—The past week has been unusual warm. Haying is in progress with yields above the average. Fall grain is maturing and will be ripe in about two weeks.

Peterson—Crops on upper land are getting dry. The first crop of lucern is being cut. There is a good crop of small fruit.

Westwater—The weather is very warm. Vegetation, not irrigated, is in need of rain. The first crop of alfalfa has been harvested; it is a fair yield.

J. H. SMITH,

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Per S. M. BLANDFORD.

DROUTHS IN AUSTRALIA.

[From John Plummer's Australian Correspondence.]

Considerable misapprehension appears to exist with regard to Australian drouths, many writers alluding to them as if they were phenomena peculiar to New South Wales and the other colonies, overlooking the fact that all countries are more or less exposed to drouths or temporary defective rainfall; some, indeed, which have never been credited with drouth, being by no means free from the unwelcome visitation. For instance, the United Kingdom has frequently been subject to drouths, not simply for a month or two, but for several years in succession, and more than once to an extent unknown in Australia. There were four consecutive years during which the British rainfall in no year exceeded 65 per cent of the average. No such drouth has ever yet been recorded in Australia. In Sydney, with 50 years' experience, the lowest rainfall of any single year—that of 1849—was 44 per cent of the average; while the smallest rainfall for any two consecutive years gave 74 per cent of the average for each year. Where, then, is the difference, for it is readily admitted that the effects of drouth are greater in New South Wales and the other colonies than in the United Kingdom?

The explanation is simple enough. In the first place, the high state of cultivation in the mother country tends to preserve the moisture in the soil; in the next place, the heating effect of the sun is not by any means so great in Britain as it is in Australia; and, thirdly, the abundance of supplies from other countries naturally tend to mitigate the effects of a drouth in the United Kingdom. But in Australia cultivation has not yet advanced sufficiently to mitigate to any considerable extent the effects of drouth, and a beautifully bright sky gives the sun almost absolute power over the water, especially in those districts where little or no attempt at conservation has been made. Moreover, in the early days of