

IRRIGATION.

The subject of irrigation and the water supply is a matter of great importance to the welfare of the Territory. I urge the enactment of a broad and comprehensive law with relation to the use of water in irrigation, and the storage and preservation of the water supply. The question is a vital one, and is worthy enlightened consideration.

PROBATE JUDGES.

The Probate Judges of the Territory are required to perform duties imposed upon them by law, for which the status provides no compensation. In some of the counties the performance of these duties is a matter of daily occurrence. I recommend such a change in the law as will secure them adequate compensation.

WORLD'S FAIR.

I recommend that provision be made for collecting a complete exhibit for the World's Fair to be held in 1892, of all the natural and artificial products of the Territory, such as minerals, flora, fauna, agricultural and horticultural products and manufactures of every kind.

FISH AND GAME LAW.

I am informed by reliable authority that large quantities of native trout, destroyed by the use of dynamite, giant powder, quick lime, etc., are exported to eastern markets. Such agencies destroy fish of every age and size within their reach, and will ultimately destroy our trout supply. I recommend that county courts be authorized to offer suitable reward for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of persons guilty of violating the fish and game laws. Colorado and other States prohibit the exportation of fish caught in their public waters. I recommend such a law for Utah. I also recommend a law confiscating the seines, boats, etc., belonging to or in the possession of persons unlawfully taking fish; that persons and companies owning ditches, mill races, canals, etc., should be made to put and maintain suitable and serviceable screens to prevent the fish from descending or ascending such watercourses. They should be also made to build the necessary fish ways by law defined. This I believe has been totally neglected. Almost every State and Territory in the Union has a public hatchway, breeding ponds and fish commissioner. I recommend that you enact laws providing for them.

Some provision should also be made to protect the young fry placed in our waters by the general government, and feathered game which may be imported into the Territory.

PARDON BOARD-ADVISORY.

There are nearly one hundred and fifty applications for pardon pending before the Governor at the present time. These applications are supported by statements made by parties interested in favorable action, there being no other information furnished to him. The Governor as a rule must in his actions be governed by the ex-parte statements made. I believe it would be better for the

public interests if the Governor should be authorized by law to appoint a board of three persons, who should be authorized to meet once a month, or as often as the legislature may determine, to examine into the merits of all applications for pardon, and to report their conclusions to the Governor for his information.

FEES OF JURORS AND WITNESSES.

The appropriation for the payment of jurors and witnesses serving in Territorial cases was exhausted heartily nearly four months ago. It is not just to persons called to serve in this public capacity to be deprived of the limited compensation allowed them by law. I recommend an appropriation to meet such demands upon the Territory.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

The right of the Governor to appoint officers, other than township, district and county officers, has been in dispute since December 8, 1882, when the Governor in his message to the Legislative Assembly, used the following language: "I cannot arrive at any other conclusion in the examination of that act (organic act) than that the officers not included in the first class (township, district and county officers) must be appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, and cannot be elected by joint ballot of the Legislative Assembly." The decision of the Supreme Court has finally settled this vexed question.

ARBOR DAY AND FOREST FIRES.

In most of the States and Territories a day has been designated by law as "Arbor Day," at which time trees are planted by the people generally. In this arid region the value of trees cannot be over-estimated, and their planting should be encouraged. I think the people would welcome the Arbor Day. In this connection your attention is called to the forest fires, which ravish our mountains in the summer season. If some provision could be made for extinguishing these fires, if possible, as soon as they are discovered, it would save much valuable timber, and help to preserve the water supply.

MEMORIALS TO CONGRESS.

I recommend that you memorialize Congress upon the following subjects:

First—The proposed removal of the Durango Utes to Southeastern Utah without regard to the rights of settlers;

Second—The erection of a federal building at Salt Lake City, Utah;

Third—The establishment of a branch mint in Utah. The question of building a mint at some point in the west is now being agitated. Utah is the centre of a great mineral region, the greatest in the country, and an effort to secure the mint for Utah may be successful.

HASTY LEGISLATION.

That there may be no misunderstanding, I now respectfully state that any important acts which may be sent to me within three days before the close of the session will not be considered unless my table is clear of other matters. I expect to

examine every act personally, and shall require time to do so.

THE SITUATION.

During the past two years the Territory has been wonderfully prosperous. With the exception of two or three periods of temporary depression, the tide of prosperity which commenced to rise in 1882 has continued to swell, and we are now riding on the crest with the high water mark still beyond.

The influence of this prosperity has not yet reached into every portion of the Territory, and its inspiring influence has not been felt by all the people. If Utah shall be fortunate enough to secure in full measure the benefits which should accompany the prosperity and which flow from the development of industrial pursuits, it will present to the world the picture of a prosperous and busy people, and consequently a happy and contented people. In this connection the shadow of unhappy differences which have existed between the government and the people of Utah looms up before us. The absence of the degree of political harmony which exists between the people of this Territory and the people of the United States has led Congress to enact, from time to time, laws withdrawing from the people of the Territory the full measure of self government usually accorded to the people of a Territory. These laws are supreme within our scope and demand the support, respect and obedience of every citizen. It cannot be denied that exceptional conditions in this Territory demanded these laws, and we may expect that the permanency will depend largely (perhaps wholly) upon the permanency of the conditions which called them into existence. Whatever doubts may have existed as to the supremacy or obligation of these laws, they have been removed by decisions of the higher court of the country, and no citizen can now be misled as to his duty or obligations. There is no doubt that the Territory has been greatly retarded in development by its unhappy relatives to the general government and to the people of the country.

It is now attracting wide attention on account of its superior climate and great resources, and we shall render it a valuable service if the legislation in which we shall concur shall tend to put and maintain the Territory and its people in harmony with national laws and aims, and in accord with the spirit and progress of the age. If we can succeed in doing this we shall best promote the interests of the whole people and hold out additional inducements for an increase of our population and wealth from those seeking new homes, and the benefit of a superior climate.

There are many other subjects which will have to be considered by you, such as amendments to the Probate Act, the law for the impounding of animals, etc., which it is hardly necessary to mention here.

I am, gentlemen,

Very respectfully,

ARTHUR L. THOMAS,

Governor.