

degree. Only one day is necessary there to bring about the desired result, while here from two to three days are necessary. In New Zealand I operated five times with satisfactory results. In crossing the Atlantic on a steamer last March, I caused several storms. It is just as easy to operate on sea as land. I came to the United States for the reason that there is a much larger field in which to work and prove to the world the truthfulness of my claims. I landed at San Francisco on the 19th day of March last, and proceeded direct to Canton, Ohio, where I had two brothers living. They had heard of my discovery. I reaffirmed it to their satisfaction. They accordingly interested themselves in my behalf. My claims were soon brought before the public and on three occasions I produced rain there according to agreement during the month of May. Then the newspapers selected their own days and a series of twelve successful experiments were made. I then issued a proclamation to the people of the United States that I was ready and desirous of further substantiating my claims. This circular was sent to the Board of Agriculture in every State and by that means I was invited to Wyoming, where I experimented on the first and seventh inst., with the best of results, although on the last occasion the rain was six hours late in falling, owing to a strong wind from the northwest.

"Mr. Terpenning of your city," said Mr. Melbourne, "by some means obtained possession of one of my circulars and a correspondence opened up between us. He informed Mr. Wantland of my pretensions and that gentleman thinking it was only a plain business proposition came over to Wyoming and satisfied himself that the claim was no fake, and that is why I am here."

Mr. Melbourne said further: "If the conditions are unfavorable I shall not experiment here on the date mentioned. What I mean is, if the indications are that rain will fall on the 15th inst., I certainly will not operate, as I want to experiment on some occasion when all signs are against rainfall. If I am not successful I make no charges. Today will probably disclose whether I will experiment during the meeting of the Irrigation Congress in this city."

Mr. Melbourne is about forty-five years of age, dark complexioned with full beard, and about five feet ten inches in height. After leaving Utah he will go to Idaho, Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska to fill engagements. In no instance, he says, has he accepted remuneration without complying with his agreement. His charges are \$150 a trial and expenses. He seems to be very earnest and says his discovery will yet prove a great boon to mankind. He will, he says, enter into negotiations with the government soon, for the sale of his great secret.

A local weather prognosticator called at our office early today and informed the writer that he was at liberty to tell Mr. Melbourne that it would rain on or about the 15th whether he experimented or not. This was communicated to Mr. Melbourne who did not deny it, but said if the indications were not for fair weather he would not operate.

Dr. McLean's almanac of astronomi-

cal calculations which is accepted as excellent authority has the following prediction for September of this year:

"The 3rd, and days next thereto, ought to bring reactionary rains, with a change to more pleasant weather. From the 7th to the 11th is a combination of causes which will, doubtless, result in active storms. Many dry sections will have rains at this time. Note the 8th to the night of the 11th. Reactionary movements will be more marked on and about the 13th, in consequence of the earth approaching equinox. The 18th to the 21st is a regular storm period, with earth at equinox. Storms must result. Be watchful, especially on or near lakes and seas. A center of minor disturbances on the 24th. A regular period begins on September 29th and runs into October."

By much study and constant observation and by the aid of careful observers over the United States and in other countries, the above calendar has been brought to as high a state of perfection as is possible.

With these facts staring the public squarely in the face, the experiments of Mr. Melbourne will only be accepted after careful observation and study.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Vice-President Nelson presided at the meeting of the Board of Education September 10. There were also in attendance Messrs. Colbath, Duke, Raybould, Newman, Pike, Pratt and Baldwin.

An application was read from Miss Maude Pratt, who asked to be appointed a music teacher in the public schools. The letter was referred to the committee on teachers.

Joseph Price applied for a position as janitor in one of the schools. Referred to the committee on supplies.

The committee on sites and buildings, to whom was referred the proposition of Peter Sinclair, to rent a room for school purposes in the Third Ward, reported that the proposition was accepted. The necessary repairs have been made and it is now occupied as a school. The committee recommended that a lease be executed and this was authorized.

A number of alterations have been made in various buildings, increasing the seating capacity.

The committee asked for authority to arrange for additional room in several localities, as schools are very crowded. The committee was authorized to act.

The best bid for a map of the city was from McAllister & Gibbs, for \$147, and, acting on the recommendation of the committee, the board authorized the contract.

The committee also recommended that the superintendent of waterworks be requested to remove the water trough from the front of the Nineteenth school. And also to request the owners of a pile of lumber on the west side of the Sixteenth school to remove the same as it was dangerous to children playing there.

The committee on supplies stated that a number of bids were received to furnish desks and seats for the schools, and as there are a number needed, the committee asked authority to buy a carload of seats.

Superintendent Millsaugh reported 4800 pupils in attendance now in the schools and more coming. The rooms were very crowded, four children sitting on one double seat and two on a single seat. There were other rooms about to be put in use, and many old seats which should be replaced.

The committee on supplies was empowered to act.

The committee on teachers recommended that Miss Robbing, a teacher of last year, be employed at the same salary as last year, viz. \$75.

Miss Effa Riddle has been temporarily employed at the Hooper building. She possesses a second grade certificate. The committee asked for her election by the Board at a salary of \$80 per month.

Mrs. Peck has been employed in the Tenth district. She has only a temporary certificate and the committee recommended that she be employed at \$60 per month, until the next examination.

The recommendations were adopted.

The committee on school work reported that they had received a number of bids from various book stores at a per cent for handling the goods needed. The bid of C. H. Parsons at 3 per cent was the lowest. The contract was authorized to be closed, and the form of contract presented by the president was authorized to be made out.

The following bills were referred to the finance committee:

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| Kelly & Co., supplies..... | \$ 11 55 |
| Grant Brothers Livery Company, surry..... | 4 00 |
| Deseret Company, advertising..... | 5 95 |
| Tribune Company, advertising..... | 36 65 |
| Sears & Liddle, repairing windows..... | 21 07 |
| Houlahan, Griffiths & Morris, Fourteenth school sidewalk..... | 318 43 |
| Odell & Son, calclmining..... | 154 50 |
| James Dwyer, desks..... | 120 90 |
| S. B. Dallas & Sons..... | 46 50 |
| Total..... | \$719 66 |

Mr. Pratt offered the following resolution: That all contracts for school buildings and other work coming within the jurisdiction of this board, be restricted to the bona fide residents of Salt Lake City.

Mr. Baldwin remarked that he did not think this would be a good plan. It would exclude some of the best contractors of the country, who might do the work the cheapest.

Mr. Raybould concurred in the suggestion contained in the resolution.

Mr. Colbath did not favor the plan, as it would give the home contractors a show to form a combination and make the board pay more for the work.

Mr. Pike was in favor of doing this, and giving the people who pay the taxes a chance to get work on the buildings.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Pike offered the following:

"Resolved, That the committee on school work be requested to ask the different street car lines to give special fares to the children attending the public schools of the city, under such regulations as they may deem necessary."

Mr. Newman deprecated the manner in which the building in the Seventh district is partitioned, and asked that the committee use due diligence in securing a room to be rented in the vicinity. The matter was left with the committee on sites and buildings.

Mr. Raybould, as a member of the committee on sites and buildings,