

DESERET EVENING NEWS

WEATHER REPORT.

Record at the local office of the weather bureau for the 24 hours ending at 6 a. m. today:

Barometer reading at 6 a. m. 25.63 inches. Temperature at 6 a. m. 61 degrees; maximum, 81; minimum, 54; mean, 78, which is 5 degrees above normal.

Excess of daily mean temperature since the first of the month, 37 degrees. Accumulated excess of daily mean temperature since January 1, 472 degrees.

Precipitation since first of month, 1.22 inch, which is .54 inch above the normal.

Accumulated excess in precipitation since January 1, 1.68 inch.

FORECASTS TILL 6 P. M. SATURDAY.

Local forecast for Salt Lake City and vicinity: Probably local thunderstorms tonight and Saturday. Forecasts for Utah, made at Denver, Colo.: Generally fair tonight and Saturday except probably local thunderstorms in north portion; warmer in south portion tonight.

WEATHER CONDITIONS.

The barometric pressure has decreased west of the Rockies, due to the development of a low area over Nevada. The highest pressure is over the British possessions north of Minnesota. It is raining at San Francisco, and rain has fallen over southern Idaho, central Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, western South Dakota, western Nebraska, southern Texas and at New Orleans. Temperature has fallen over Nevada and southern Utah; risen over Wyoming.

JOHN GROVER, Observer Temporarily in Charge.

TODAY'S TEMPERATURE.

10 a. m., 70; 11 a. m., 75; 12 o'clock noon, 80; 1 p. m., 84.

THE Semi-Weekly News

Published Mondays and Thursdays. Contains the cream of the daily and Saturday News. Circulation greater than that of any paper published between Denver and the Coast. Sample Copies free.

10-day's Metals.

SILVER, Bar, 50 1/2 cents

LEAD, \$4.00

CASTING COPPER 15 3/4 cents a lb.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

J. Brodie is now the regular rabbi of the Hebrew congregation Montefiore.

Rabbi Reynolds will deliver a sermon at the synagogue this evening at 8 o'clock.

The Bell Telephone company will effect a connection between Park City and Provo, via Heber, in three days. The new line between Nephi and Tropic will be completed soon.

The county infirmary was visited today by Judge Stanford, chairman of the county board of Weber county, the superintendent of the Weber county infirmary and other Ogden officials.

Mrs. Mary E. Spence has resigned her position as superintendent of the Davis Daughters Home in this city, and in a few days will return to the East. She will be succeeded by Deaconess Robinson.

A large grass fire raged up City Creek, above the high line water tank, yesterday. The tankmen and others extinguished the fire, but not until a number of trees had been damaged by the flames.

The school principals will hold a meeting in the city and county building on Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. There will be a general teachers' meeting in the high school building on Saturday, September 7th.

Miss Bertha Hampton, a deputy in the county clerk's office, has tendered her resignation to take effect September 15. Miss Hampton has been in the office for nearly five years, and is very efficient in her work.

Tomorrow morning a new weekly paper will appear in Salt Lake. It is the Spectator and will be conducted by Kenneth C. Kerr and company. The paper will contain twelve pages, devoted to literature, society and arts.

County Superintendent of Schools Ashton has been notified by the state board of health that the county schools will have to be inspected as to sanitation before the fall opening. The county board of health will attend to the matter.

The city board of equalization on water rates is meeting every day in the office of Superintendent of Waterworks Hines, and will continue to do so till the 4th of September in September. After that no grievances will have any redress.

The county clerk today addressed an inquiry to the registration agents in the city as to whether or not they were willing to serve at the coming city election. Chairman Elchorn and Wilson were asked to submit lists of names for appointments to fill vacancies.

B. J. Clayton has filed a petition in probate to be appointed administrator of the estate of Sarah E. Cole, who died in this city ten days ago, leaving property valued at \$1,500 to be distributed among two daughters and a minor son. The hearing will be on Sept. 13th.

A pleasant surprise party was sprung on Deputy Sheriff Thomas Busby at his home Wednesday evening. The occasion was his 40th birthday and the feature of the party was the presentation to Mr. Busby of a fine silver mounted umbrella from his colleagues.

There are some vacancies in the corps of registration agents in this city. Before the county commissioners, however, can appoint qualified persons to the places the two political party committees will have to select nominees for the districts that are not represented.

The county commissioners have determined that a new road shall be constructed between Second West street and the Redwood road, a distance of about one mile, at a cost of about \$1,000. The new road will pass close to the Highland Boy smelter, and property owners have granted the right of way.

JUDGE BOTKIN ON PENSION SYSTEM

To the Editor:

I believe that you are in favor of fair play, and I therefore ask that I may be heard through your columns in reference to the subject of an editorial in your issue, August 23, under the caption, "Our Liberal Methods," which was inspired by a quotation from the New York Journal.

As a veteran of the Civil War I have no desire that any of my comrades should draw pensions unless clearly entitled to such bounty under the laws of Congress, and the facts proven in each particular case. Neither do I desire that any widow or minor child should draw a pension unless it is clearly established that she, or it, is the widow or minor child of a deceased soldier. I have no defense to make of the man or woman whose pension has been procured by fraud, or by false statements. If there be such frauds, the guilty ones should be hunted down and sent to prison.

The great and only Grover Cleveland once solemnly said in an official utterance, "There are thousands of well known cases of such frauds in every community," and the press took up that monstrous charge from one end of the land to the other, and detectives and secret service men rushed hither and thither and tried about in every community in search of those "thousands of well known cases." The result of all the investigations which cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars was the utter lack of a single case.

The charge made by President Cleveland was a calumny upon the American people. How long, think you, could any number of fraudulent pensioners exist outside of the prison in any community anywhere in all this great Republic? I grant you that once in a while some one is discovered enjoying a pension to which he or she is not entitled; but such cases are very much rarer than the cases of wolves in sheep's clothing in the pulpits of any organized church in Christendom. I challenge you to point out a single community in the United States where such a fraud could exist if kept secret for a day. The tenure of existence of a snow-flake in the hottest part of an orthodox hell, would be an eternity compared to such a person's continued freedom after discovery. And yet Grover Cleveland said, "There are thousands of well known cases of such frauds in every community." It was not only a wicked calumny upon the men who saved the nation, but it was a brutal and most outrageous impeachment of the great body of the American people whom he thus directly, but, by indirect language, charged with the perpetration of the crime.

Now, Mr. Editor, I come to the subject of your editorial in yesterday's issue. You quote from the commission's report, "that there are 97,735 names on the roll, and that on the 30th of June last there were still 49,000 claims pending," and then you say: "There are now more beneficiaries of the pension law than there were under arms when the armies were mustered out, thirty-six years ago, and the number is still growing, though the veterans are dying at the rate of many thousands every year."

Let us analyze the commissioner's report and look at some of the facts which help make up the roll:

Widows, war 1812 to 1815 1,727
Survivors war 1812 to 1815 1,478
Survivors, Indian wars 1,465
Widows, Indian wars 1,478
Survivors, Mexican war 1,478
Widows, Mexican war 1,478
Army nurses, Spanish war 650
Survivors, Spanish war 1,478
Widows and children, Spanish war 2,049

Now, compare the 15,677 pensioners on account of the Mexican war with the whole number of men on the firing line in Scott's Army, and then reflect that instead of 36 years, it has been 54 years since the Mexican war closed! And yet not even Grover Cleveland, nor the New York Journal, but only the commission, claim that there is any fraud in that part of the "Nation's Honor Roll." Here is one poor lone soldier, and 1,727 widows of the war with Great Britain, which closed 36 years ago! I challenge you to find a case of fraud there. Now, never compare the number 1,727 with the whole number of men under arms at the close of the war.

Now, in the civil war, the government enlisted altogether 2,778,000 men. Of those, nearly 600,000 were re-enlistments. So the total of individuals who served in the Union armies from first to last was about 2,180,000. The total number of deaths was 360,222. That is to say that 16 per cent of all our enlisted men in the civil war lost their lives in that conflict. And as "every citizen" came to the aid of the army of 160 men to the war, so "every community" had sixteen deaths to mourn, to say nothing of the invalids and cripples, the maimed and the diseased, who

returned to be nursed, and to die and be buried after the war. Nor does it take any account of the thousands who were discharged for disabilities and who returned home to die from such disabilities, before the war closed, but after their names were dropped from the military rolls, and the guilty ones punished by no notice of their deaths.

In all other wars in which our nation has been engaged our soldiers fought men who were alien to our blood or to our institutions, but in our American Civil War, Americans, and as a result it was the most frightful in its casualties of all the conflicts since the application of gun-powder to military purposes. Waterloo, Marengo, Austerlitz, Borodino, pale into insignificance beside Shiloh, Chancellorsville, Franklin, Gettysburg, Spotsylvania, and Fredericksburg, and a hundred other fields where "the Yanks" met "the Johnnies."

Now, after such a service by such an immense host of men unused to war and military exposures, how can any one wonder at the enormous pension roll of the nation? I grant you it is a "burden," but it is not one one-thousandth part of the burden our soldiers bore during their campaigns, nor is it anything in comparison to the burdens borne by the loyal people of the land during the conflict. Without the services of our soldiers and the patriotic fortitude of their friends at home, there would not today be an imperial Republic such as we now have, and liberty would be a by-word and despots through the teeth of anarchists.

Complaint is made that "as fast as one of these old soldiers dies there is some one to take his place on the roll." That is true, as a rule, and it is altogether too bad. If these dear old wives of ours who have patiently and loyally stood by us during the years that are gone, had proper respect for certain classes of the American people, usually held in the Assembly hall on Sundays at 10 o'clock a. m. are discontinued until the 15th day of September, to the funeral services to be held in that place next Sunday, and the State conference the following Sabbath. All are cordially invited to attend these gatherings.

J. M. SODADHL.
M. CHRISTIANSON.
J. S. JENSEN.

SCANDINAVIAN MEETING.

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TEMPLE NOTICES.

MANTI TEMPLE.

The Manti Temple will close Friday evening, the 19th of July, and reopen on Wednesday, the 4th of September, 1901.

LOGAN TEMPLE.

Logan Temple will close on the 26th day of July and reopen on Sept. 4th, 1901.

ST. GEORGE TEMPLE.

The St. George Temple will close Friday evening, September 27th, 1901, and will reopen Tuesday morning, October 29th, 1901.

CHURCH NEWS.

The ladies' general meeting will be held in the Fourteenth ward assembly rooms Aug. 31st, 1901. All are invited.

GRANITE STAKE EXCURSION.

There will be an excursion to Saltair under the auspices of the Relief Society, on Thursday, Sept. 5th. All the other organizations of the Stake are cordially invited to participate in the outing. Any profits that may result from it will be used for the benefit of proposed academy.

HIGH PRIESTS' MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the High Priests of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion will convene in the Assembly Hall, Salt Lake City, on Saturday, August 31st, 1901, at 2 o'clock p. m. A good attendance is desired.

The regular monthly meeting of the High Priests of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion will be held in the Farmers ward meeting house on Saturday, August 31st, 1901, at 10 o'clock a. m. A full attendance is requested. The presence of other quorums of the Priesthood are cordially invited to meet with us.

DAVID MCKENZIE, President.

The regular monthly Priesthood meeting of the Granite Stake of Zion will be held in the Farmers ward meeting house on Saturday, August 31st, 1901, at 10 o'clock a. m. in the same place. A full attendance is desired at both meetings.

FRANK TAYLOR, President.

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