NEWS OF THE WEST.

Twelve More Companies of the California National Guard Dropped.

STATE APPROPRIATION TOO SMALL.

An Epidemic of Suicides at "Angel's Camp"—Starving at Denver—The Coeur d'Alene Trouble.

Albert Flash, a 17-year-old orphan boy, was killed at Payette, Idaho, a few days ago by a piece of timber falling on his head.

The Lewiston (Idaho) papers record the drowning of Jack Hogan in the Clearwater river. He was the seventh victim of the vicious Clearwater in the past year.

The Indians on the Shoshone reservation held their annual sun dance on Trout creek, about four miles from Fort Washakie, on Sunday, June 30th. They were in full war paint, and the dance was participated in by nearly all the Shoshones and Arapahoes on the reservation.

Miss Birdie Finn, aged 16 years, had a narrow escape from drowning on Monday, says the Sacramento Bee, in the American river, over the North Levee. She and a number of other girls were bathing in the river. The Finn girl was taken with a cramp and sank several times before her screams attracted the attention of some men near by, and they hurried to her rescue and saved her life.

A dispatch from Angel's camp, California, says: An epidemic of suicides prevails here. Frederick Tacher, a German, 55 years of age, drowned himself in a reservoir near Murphy's and W. C. Kelly, who took morphine here Saturday, expired Saturday night. Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Ferrari, who keeps a lodging house on Main street, took laudanum with suicidal intent. Although she objected to medical aid, she was relieved of the poison. She formerly lived in Sierra City and is divorced. Trouble with a young daughter is said to have led Mrs. Ferrari to attempt her life.

John Hoelwick, 57 years old, says the Denver Republican of yesterday was sent to the county hospital by Secretary O. H. Thompson of the Colorado Humane society from a hovel in which he lived in the rear of 1525 Market street. Hoelwick was in a deplorable condition, and had evidently not swallowed any substantial food for several days. He said he came here from Galena, Illinois, five weeks ago, the transportation being furnished him by a brother, who is a deputy county clerk in Galena. He stated that he is a lawyer and was admitted to the bar in this state in 1860 and practiced five years in Los Antonio county. He left Denver four years ago for a sanitarium in Wisconsin, where he was attended for nervous prostration until last January. He returned here in hopes of improving his health, but a decline reduced him to circumstances. His trunk is now being held at the Metropolitan hotel for $10 board bill.

Sunday morning Adjutant General A. H. Capwell, of the Idaho militia left for Wardner. The adjutant general's mission in the north is in connection with probable labor troubles in the Coeur d'Alenes. The celebration, says the Boise, Idaho, Statesman, of the blowing up of the Frisco mill and the killing of two men in 1892 will occur on the 11th, and the adjutant general will before that time have a strong company of militia organized and fully equipped at Wardner. Some of the mining companies have Gatling guns placed around their property, and it is said the sheriff of Shoshone county has threatened to disarm them. By this evening they will have been mustered into the service of the state, which will give them the privilege of carrying arms under orders for the purpose of protecting property. By this time there are about 125 stands of arms in the Coeur d'Alenes and 10,000 rounds of ammunition, and if trouble breaks out the law abiding element will be in a position to defend themselves and their property. In addition to this, inauguration of hostilities will be followed by a declaration of martial law, and troops, both state and regular, will be sent to the mines in short order. Governor McConnell does not really believe the situation will be so foolish as to precipitate trouble, but he feels it is his duty to be prepared for an emergency.

"How is the vice of our National Guard system?" said Gov. Budd to a Sacramento Bee reporter last Saturday afternoon. The governor was explaining why it will be necessary to cut off twelve more companies in order to keep the expenses within the appropriation made by the last legislature, which is $200,000 for armory rent, etc. The law provides that encumbrances of certain companies shall receive $100 per month for armory expenses, while others receive $150, and others $250 per month. This is regardless of the needs of the companies. Thus the rent and armory expenses of a company in San Francisco are much greater than those of a company in Sacramento. And those of a Sierra county company are much greater than those of a company in Solano, etc. "We have only $200,000 to spend for these purposes," added the governor, "and we will not go outside of that amount. Hence, it will be necessary to cut off twelve more companies in order to reduce the expenses to come within the appropriation." "What rule do you follow in weeding out?" was asked. "Why, those who are not efficiency," replied the governor. There were companies of fifty men that could not get more than seventeen members to attend drill. That company was dropped. We are not going to spend one dollar more than is absolutely necessary in case of a riot or an insurrection. In large cities like Sacramento, Los Angeles, Oakland and San Francisco it would be economy for the state to own the armories and save the rent that is now being paid. I am going to give the state a National Guard that will surprise people."

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