NEWS OF THE WEST.

Crockmen Visit the Broadwater Bank at Helena, Montana.

A RAILROAD EMPLOYE KILLED.

A Boy Living With a Bullet Hole in His Brain.—Suicide in the Oakland Free Library.

All indications now point to a heavy yield both of grain and hay through this section says the Laramie, Wyo., Enterprise. An unusually large amount of ground has been cultivated this year.

It is reported that Custer county, Idaho, has a calf that is a curiosity. Its eyes are located on the side of the head just below the ears. When approached from the front it cannot see an ell, but when approached from the rear it can readily see.

Springfield, Colorado, had a narrow escape from being destroyed by fire, a prairie fire which burned southeast of it was having been driven in that direction by the wind. Men were hard fighting the fire for over twelve hours. The recent rains had softened the ground so thoroughly, however, that it did not reach the town. Had the fire occurred during the recent dry weather it would have done great damage.

A dispatch from Denver says that J. P. Gilreth has been run over in the Union Pacific railroad company's repair yards and instantly killed. He was about to make a car coupling in the rear of a moving train, when his foot caught in a frog and he fell to the track with his head upon the rail. Gilreth was foreman of the repair yard and went from Laramie. He carried $1000 life insurance in different lodges. A sister living in California is said to be his only living relative.

A remarkable instance of a person living with a bullet hole through the brain is afforded in the case of a little son of D. M. Alvarado, who was shot by a playmate sixteen days ago in San Bernardino, Cal. The bullet entered the forehead, almost between the eyes, and emerged at the back of his head. Dr. Dicker, who has had charge of the case, says it is one of the most remarkable recoveries of human vitality ever known. In dressing the wound a portion of the brain was necessarily removed and since that time more of the gray matter of the brain has coughed off. The loss of brain matter has so far failed to affect the child in the least and he is doing comparatively well.

F. E. Wild, a middle-aged man, crept into the Oakland (Cal.) Free Library building on Monday night and stole the city's gas to commit suicide, says the San Francisco Chronicle. It was a very queer case and not too the unfortunate got into the building no one can tell. It is surmised, however, that he went into the building during the regular hours and amused himself reading the papers. When it came time to close up he must have given the janitor the slip and remained in the building. Evidently Mr. Wild did not care to die by poison, and even if he did he had no money to buy it. He must also have been averse to passing away by the drowning route and his actions would indicate that he was opposed to being strangled to death. Evidently he thought that the easiest and most inexpensive way to die was to use the city's gas. Some time during Monday night he made all his arrangements to die in the back room of the public library. He wrote a little note to the coroner and left it on the table, saying this is what it says: "To the coroner: I am out of money and sick. I am using this room because I have no means of getting another one. F. C. Wild." The note was written on a little brown piece of paper. The unfortunate then closed the door to the little room and turned on the three gas-burners. Then he laid on the floor, folded his arms across his breast and died. Yesterday morning the body was discovered and removed to the Morgue. The name of F. C. Wild does not appear in the directory, and nobody seems to know the unfortunate.

The first attempt at bank robbery in the history of Helena, Montana, occurred about 1 o'clock on Tuesday morning. The bank selected for the crackmen was the Montana National, commonly known as the Broadwater bank. A tremendous explosion at the hour mentioned soon drew a crowd to the corner of Main and Edwards streets, and the building was surrounded by policemen. An examination of the building disclosed all the landing on the second floor, the effect of the explosion. The upper step was torn out entirely and shattered into pieces, and the fragments had been driven by the force of the explosion up against the ceiling just over the stairway, leaving large holes in the plaster. The weatherboarding alongside the upper steps had been splintered. At first it seemed as if the burglars had gotten over the vault and exploded a charge of giant powder that had blown in the whole top, but an examination revealed the fact that the vault was not injured, though the ceiling of the room under the stairway was badly broken. The room back of the vault and over which the explosion occurred was littered with plaster and lathe from the ceiling. About ten feet from the upper step two holes were found, one in the wainscoting of the wall or one of the rooms on the second story and about eight inches from the floor, and the other in the floor of the landing, just under that in the wainscoting and a few inches from the wall. The crackmen had evidently started to bore the hole in the wainscoting with the idea of dropping a dynamite cartridge or giant powder in there, but thought that the same object could be accomplished much more quickly by boring down through the floor. This it is evident they started to do, but found too much wood. Then they looked for a more vulnerable point, but made a miscalculation. They went to the stairway, bored a hole in the corner of the upper step and put their explosive in there. They no doubt thought they were directly above one end of the vault, but in reality they were about six feet to one side of it. The job was either the work of men not expert at the scheme and have been hurriedly planned and executed without taking sufficient observations. Had the men taken proper measurements and had the proper appliances they might have got their explosive on the top of the vault, blown a hole clear through, and, provided the holes did not cause any one, get into the vault, in which there was $500,000 in gold and good bank paper securities worth more than $1,000,000. There is no clew to the criminals.

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