

## WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

The agricultural acreage of the Palteau valley in Mesa county will be increased by over 1,000 acres of productive land this year.

The Back grant in Arizona, containing nearly 100,000 acres, was sold for taxes last week. The amount due was \$1,200.

A cave-in on the 1,300-foot level at the Dead Horse mine, near Summerville, Tuolumne county, Cal., injured Albert Nicol Jr. He will recover.

Out of 187 plans submitted for Washington's new state capitol building the commission has selected that of Ernest Flagg, of New York. The building will cost \$1,000,000.

A big sale of Rock Springs coal land, says the *Wyoming News-Register*, aggregating 1,000 acres, and owned by Evanston capitalists, has been made by C. D. Clark to the Union Pacific.

The largest cinnamon bear ever seen in Mendocino county, Cal., has just been shot and killed, thirty miles north of Ukiah. The beast had been a terror to sheep-raisers.

The Boise Ice and Commission company, of Idaho, have loaded five cars of potatoes for Kansas City. They have orders for twenty-five carloads for Omaha and Kansas City.

Lai Yuen, a Chinese girl of 12 years, jumped from a Victoria wharf Tuesday. Her body was recovered the next morning. She had lost a small account book belonging to her uncle and feared a whipping.

Cut worms have made their appearance in many Fresno county (Cal.) vineyards and are doing considerable damage. One raisin-grower hired thirty men to go through his vines and gather the pests.

A Placer county rustic visited Sacramento last week to see the sights. He met two "bunco" gentlemen, who taught him a trick with a pocket-knife. His experience cost him just \$35, all the money he had.

Grasshoppers are hatching out near Greeley, Colo., and are said to be quite lively for the season. The Weld county farmers are preparing the bran and arsenic dope which was used so effectively last year.

Charles Hiltshew, a ranchman residing near Manville in the eastern part of Converse Co., Wyo., dug a sheep out of a snow drift on April 11th, which had been buried since March 20th, the date of the big blizzard. The animal was alive.

Thirty thousand sheep have been driven into San Bernardino county, Cal., enroute to Inyo. The license collector has commenced suit to collect the county tax, which amounts to \$8,000. Thirty sheepmen have been arrested.

The town was full of tramps, if they can be called such, Tuesday, says the *Glenwood Springs Avalanche*. They were begging on every corner. Some of them were superior looking men to the average tramp that goes through our state every spring and fall.

A Los Angeles man entered his room the other evening and found a

burglar. "What are you doing here?" he demanded of the man. "I am robbing you, sir," coolly replied the fellow, and he proceeded to pocket a purse, a key and other articles which he had stolen from a valise.

The Salvation Army gave a rousing farewell on Tuesday night to its band of charioters at San Francisco. They left next morning on a "hallelujah campaign" through the southern part of the state. They will carry a tent with seating capacity of 800, and anticipate many converts.

Dr. M. H. Dean went to Satank Tuesday, says the *Glenwood Springs Avalanche*, to perform an operation on David Lyons's leg, removing some decayed bone, caused by a gunshot wound in the leg received during the war. Mr. Lyons is an old soldier. The operation was successful and the patient is doing well.

Leong Sang, a Chinaman, has been arrested at Vallejo, Cal., for abducting the Japanese wife of Mukami, a Japanese of Portland, Or. He is held under \$5,000 bonds until Mukami can be found. Sang claims that he married her in San Francisco, January 24. The woman says that he stole her and that she is not his wife.

B. M. Stiles, mate of the ship *Portland Light*, has been arrested at Portland, Or., for cruelly beating a sailor, John Garbreit. The latter shows scars which, he says, were caused by Stiles. The mate used a baton on him with terrible effect, so he says, and afterward confined him in the hold on scant rations.

Alfalfa is rapidly obtaining a firm hold in the estimation of the stock men and farming interests of western Nebraska, as well as in Nebraska soil. Experiments have been made in growing alfalfa in every county in the state, and while many failures have been reported the general expression is one of satisfaction in its adaptation to the soil.

The chief irrigation enterprise now in operation at Haigler, Neb., is the canal of the Haigler Land and Canal company, with a length of seventy miles. This canal covers in the neighborhood of 25,000 acres, 4,000 acres of which are natural meadow. Three thousand acres of grain land are under cultivation this year.

The *Phoenix Gazette* says that fully 2,000 head of cattle will this spring be driven from the ranges of the Lower Tonto creek and Upper Salt river to the Salt River valley for market. By drought and by removal the ranges noted, so long heavily overstocked, will soon be brought down to their proper number of cattle for profitable holding.

The North Platte river, says a Wyoming exchange, seems to be catching its share of the fish travel. For the past week the pike and sturgeon have got so numerous in the river that the suckers had to get out and walk. They have worn a nice path along the edge. The pike and sturgeon evidently knew they were suckers and played them accordingly.

Probably the largest specimen of the American eagle ever seen in the Rocky mountain region is now on exhibition in Lander, Wyo. The eagle measures eight feet from tip to tip and four feet from bill to tail. It weighed fourteen pounds. The bird has been in the vicinity of the Little Pope-Agle for a number of years and has killed a good many lambs in that neighborhood.

The Western Kansas *Farmer* says the Salina irrigation farmer should learn not to despise small things. A five-acre garden in western Kansas, eastern Colorado, western Nebraska or northern Texas, well irrigated and carefully cultivated, will yield more profit at the end of ten years than any half section of land in that region cultivated by dry farming.

Work was begun at Tacoma, Wash., on Saturday, of clearing the forty acres to be used for the interstate fair. Notwithstanding a heavy rain that fell all the forenoon, one hundred volunteers were on the grounds by 8 o'clock and worked all day. The clearing bee will continue until tomorrow (Wednesday) and work on the buildings will be started immediately thereafter.

The Children's Home at Temescal, Cal., was burned to the ground on Tuesday afternoon. The fire occurred at such an hour, however, that the children found it an easy matter to escape, and the attendants removed the infants without any trouble. It was a very fortunate fire in some ways, for had it occurred at night there would undoubtedly have been some loss of life.

William Dillon was instantly killed at the Ida Bell mine, Cripple Creek, Colo., on Friday. After touching off eight shots in the shaft he gave the signal to be hoisted to the surface, when within a few feet of the top, one of the shots went off, and in attempting to jump from the bucket and catch the top curbing, he missed his hold and fell a distance of sixty-five feet. The body was badly mangled.

Judgment has been rendered in the court against Alturas county, Idaho, for \$34,160.41. This, says the *Statesman*, represents the principal and interest on the Alturas county court house bonds. Alturas refused to meet the interest after the county was divided, claiming the new counties should pay their portion of the indebtedness. The case will undoubtedly be appealed, and, if the judgment be affirmed, Alturas will be forced to meet the obligation alone.

Fred Borchett, of Cherry creek, observes the White Pine (Nev.) *News*, reports that several cattle, the property of ex-Governor Adams, made their way to the mudholes at Goodrich's hot springs. Several have been taken out, but the flesh on their legs being cooked by the hot water in the springs, they had to be killed. The governor's men have moved the herd south so that there will be no more danger. This is the first time that stock has been known to perish at these springs.

On Tuesday afternoon the entire city chain gang at Los Angeles, Cal., made a dash for liberty. Four of their number made good their escape, while the remainder surrendered when the guards began firing with revolvers. Investigation revealed the fact that the legions were neatly filed at the joint,