

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

Omaha Stockman, Feb. 1st: J. Hanson was here from Hyrum, Utah, with three cars of cattle.

A refrigerator car loaded with merchandise for Salt Lake burned near Cheyenne, Wyo., Wednesday night. The car and contents were valued at about \$3,000.

Justice Huston, of the Idaho Supreme court has suffered an attack of neuralgia of the heart. He was unconscious for some time, but regained consciousness, and his physicians are now hopeful for his recovery.

The American bark, Alex. McNeill, which has cleared for Nanaimo to load coal for the San Francisco port, received the highest charter rate paid on the coast for ten years. On her last trip she got \$1.75 a ton. She is now chartered by George Fritch to carry a cargo of fuel at \$3.25 a ton.

Kenneth McRae, charged with the murder of Robert Gordon, was admitted to bail Tuesday at Cheyenne, Wyo., on putting up a \$30,000 bond. McRae is a wealthy sheep man, and his second trial, which was set for the 1st, has been continued for another term.

John Raddich, a cook who has been employed at a restaurant at 520 Sacramento street, San Francisco, was struck Sunday morning by the engine of a narrow gauge train on the trestle at First and Webster streets, Oakland, and so badly injured that he died Sunday night at the Oakland receiving hospital.

Little Hulda Marguerite Johnson, aged 2 years and 10 months was run over and killed by a car of the Mission street electric line, San Francisco, shortly before 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. She was the child of William Johnson, who, with his wife, lives at 947 Mission street, opposite which number the fatal accident took place.

Of the forty-one fire insurance companies engaged in business in New Mexico, it is estimated that fully one-half will retire because of the new legislative act, effective Tuesday, requiring a deposit of \$10,000 in cash or its equivalent, barring United States bonds, with the territorial treasurer. The Pacific coast companies as a rule will remain.

Mesa county, Colorado, has the start of most localities in sending men to Klondike. Forty citizens have already left for the frozen north, and next week the following citizens start for the Klondike by the all-land route, via Edgemont, Canada: John Hays, T. B. Duckett, Sam Norton, Fred Moeser, Charles Anderson and ex-County Treasurer R. E. Fletcher.

The latest addition to the Alaskan gold fleet is the wrecking scow White-law. The boat has been chartered by the North British Commercial Co., and will go to Talia with her diving apparatus, pumping outfit and other apparatus. Just what she is to do on the Alaskan coast has not developed, but in view of the recent disasters considerable use may be found for her.

The Holt Live-Stock company of Chicago has commenced suit at Denver, against Clay Robinson and company, for an alleged breach of contract in a failure to deliver 300 head of native Utah calves at \$8.75 a head. The agreement which it is claimed was never fulfilled was entered into Nov. 18, 1896. Therefore the plaintiff asks for \$2,000 damages.

Orange shipments from southern California are now under full headway. During the season they range from

40 to 120 carloads daily over the Southern Pacific, and at present that line is carrying toward the east 90 carloads every 24 hours. Three hundred boxes go to the car, containing each on the average 200 oranges. This would make the present shipments of that fruit over that line at present 5,400,000 daily.

he colony of Russian Jews located in Lyon county, Nev., three months ago, is reported to be in a prosperous condition. Thirteen families were then taken from San Francisco by the Occidental Colony company, and Harry Bell, the agent of the enterprise, is now there arranging to take ten more families to Nevada. The colony thus augmented will number 130 persons who settled on 5,300 acres of land.

The executive committee of the Denver Civil Service association has adopted resolutions urging the Colorado senators and representatives in Congress to use every effort in their power to prevent the passage of any bill designed to abridge or retard the progress of civil service reform. A resolution has also been adopted favoring the classification of the census bureau under service rules.

The six-year-old daughter of A. Olivera of Santa Monica, Cal., was bitten by a vicious dog over three weeks ago and died Tuesday, having shown every symptom of hydrophobia, which appeared on Monday night in the nature of extreme dryness of the throat and an intense longing for water, the child going into spasms at the sight of it. The attending physician pronounced it a case of genuine hydrophobia.

The statement of Charles A. Wet more, the well known viticulturist, that the wine growers of California are confronted with a serious condition of affairs, is denied by Percy Morgan, manager of the California Wine association. He says that the current market price was offered for the 240,000 gallons purchased from the Anglo-Californian bank. The amount paid for the bulk of the lot, which belonged to the estate of E. Granier, was 8 cents a gallon, and for the balance, including choicest dry wines, 9 cents.

The steamer Eureka, owned by Goodall, Perkins & Co., which has been laid up for some time, is to be put in sailing trim and will probably go to Talia to be used for towing and carrying passengers. The bark Northern Light has been purchased by Captain B. Cogan, and is to be placed on the Kotzebue Sound route. For Talia, and Skaguay the Alaska Yukon Transportation Co.'s Albion will leave on Saturday with a full list of passengers.

L. G. Collett, a resident of Vermillion county, Ill., committed suicide at Santa Monica, Cal., Monday by shooting himself with a rifle. Collett went to Santa Monica several weeks ago and occupied a cottage on the beach near Crystal Plunge. With J. J. Quid, the owner of the cottage, Collett went on several hunting excursions, but soon became ill and had to remain at the cottage. He suffered from catarrh of the stomach and seemed quite despondent.

Thousands of sheep are reported to have perished from cold and starvation in western Wyoming. The cold has been intense for sixty days, and old-timers say that it is the hardest winter they have seen for the past nineteen years. Carbon county has 500,000 sheep, and stockmasters there fear the loss will amount to 25 per cent. Losses among cattle will not be so heavy, as owners had been preparing for several days to feed their stock during severe weather.

A Hope, Ida., special to the Spokane Spokesman-Review reports the drowning in the Pen d'Oreille river of Carl Hagan, R. Randall and O. Hawkland. The three were in a boat which became fouled in thin ice. R. J. Sage, who lives down the river, heard the men shouting about 9 o'clock at night, and tried to get to them, but found it impossible. The empty boat was afterward recovered, with some letters and a Swedish Bible. The bodies have not been recovered.

Governor Adams of Colorado has directed the state board of charities and corrections to investigate the management of the state industrial school for girls in which many inmates have been punished for insubordination by being imprisoned in dungeons, fed on bread and water and treated to cold water shower baths when they refused to be quiet. All the members of the board of control of the school have resigned on account of popular disapproval of the methods employed in the institution.

The Southern Pacific company received from the East Wednesday the largest engine ever built for that road. Its weight is eighty tons, which is about ten tons more than the largest "hog" engine weighs. It will be called the "Baby." It will be used in hauling freight trains over the pass between Colton and Beaumont and Beaumont and Palm Springs. The cylinders are twenty-two inches in diameter and twenty-six inch stroke. The capacity is 50 per cent more than any other engine on the line.

The revenue cutter, Corwin, is being prepared for her trip north, where she goes in a few weeks to supplement the review work of the Bear. Her engines are being overhauled and officers' and men's quarters are undergoing alterations to make them more comfortable in the cold regions. It is expected that within a few days she will be placed on the dry dock at San Francisco and sheathed with wood in preparation for her expected battle with the ice. Her stem will be provided with a steel ice cutter, and she in every way will be fitted for all possible emergencies.

The cattle in the southern end of Monterey county, Cal., are suffering terribly from lack of feed. There has not been enough rain to start the green feed and the result is that many cattle are dying daily. A few days ago twelve carloads of cattle belonging to Henry Miller passed through Salinas en route to Miller's ranch near Gilroy where they will be fed on beet pulp. When the train reached Castroville only twenty were all that were able to stand, the others all lying on the bottom of the cars. This shipment was all that were able to stand the trip out of a herd of 3,000.

The Colorado Fuel & Iron company and the Philadelphia Smelting & Refining company, whose works are situated within a mile of each other in Pueblo, Colo., are spending \$1,000,000 in improvements, which will be complete before next fall. The net result of this expenditure will be the location in Colorado of the largest smelter on the continent and probably the second largest in the world. The other industry expects to secure control of nearly the entire iron and steel business west of the Mississippi river, and will compete with the Illinois Steel company, and the Carnegie concern at Pittsburgh, in manufacturing projectiles, heavy guns and armament for the navy.

Tests of Shrapnel shells furnished to the United States army have been made by Lieut. E. B. Babbitt of Benicia arsenal, Cal. Twenty-six shells were fired, and 50 per cent of the ammunition was found to be perfectly worthless. The flimsy shrapnel was fur-