

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

The business men of Santa Cruz, Cal., will close up their respective places at 8 p.m. from now on.

Fairhaven, Wash., reports that the run of steelhead salmon is at an end, and that halibut are coming in slowly.

New Whatcom and Fairhaven, Wash., have contributed over \$500 to the sufferers of the Blue canyon mine explosion.

A Chinaman of San Francisco who was bitten in the hand by a Pasadena rattlesnake, recovered from the effects of the poison.

A convict at the Folsom (Cal.) prison named Soto met with an accident on Saturday, from the effects of which he died on Monday.

The Alvarado, Cal., beet factory has contracted for 2,800 acres of beets this season. It has also reduced the price of beets 20 cents per ton.

A proposition to confiscate the property of the Salinas (Cal.) Gas and Water company will be voted upon at a coming special election.

Redlands (Cal.) fishermen are threatening to cause the arrest of those who are shipping mountain trout down to the valley towns for sale.

It is said that a recent experiment with the black sand on Damon's point, Wash., showed that it contained a dollar's worth of gold to the ton.

Experiments are being made at Latah, Wash., near Seattle, for the purpose of extracting turpentine, fir balsam, etc., from fir stumps.

San Diego, Cal., lemon-growers are contracting with buyers for this year's crop at 2 to 2½ cents a pound, as against 1 to 1½ cents a pound for the crop of 1894.

Jack Jones, a Cosmopolite (Wash.) young man, shot a bald eagle on Indian creek last week, the wings of which, when spread, measured a little over seven feet.

One Redlands, Cal., orange-grower, who has twenty-seven acres of grove, has sold his fruit this year for about \$10,000, which will net to the owner about 25 per cent interest on his investment.

The trial of W. E. Ellsworth, who was editor of the Casper (Wyoming) Tribune some time ago, is now in progress at Portland, Oregon. He is charged with poisoning his wife, who died after taking powders which he gave her while sick.

During the first twelve days of May over 12,000 head of cattle, valued at \$180,000, were shipped from Arizona points. Eight thousand head are at San Simeon awaiting cars for shipment. It is reported that 19,000 cattle will be shipped from that point within the next thirty days.

A meeting of the business men of Douglas, Wyo., was held Saturday to adopt the most feasible methods of thoroughly testing the oil fields adjacent to that city. Samples of the oil and circulars describing the field will be sent East with a view to interesting capital in sinking wells.

The Reno (Cal.) Journal remarks that the people of Truckee are feasting

on mountain trout. Eleven miles west of Reno it is lawful to catch trout in the Truckee river, but on the Nevada side of the state line hooking a trout is punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both.

A tramp was recently arrested in Alameda, Cal., for refusing to chop wood in payment for a meal. When arraigned he stated that the reason that he did not chop the wood was that he never worked in summer time and seldom in the fall. He got fifteen days—and for once he will work "in summer time."

Stephen J. Murphy, a miner in the Hope at Basin, Mont., was crushed to death on Saturday afternoon by a mass of falling ore. The cave occurred in a portion of the mine where a number of men had been at work, and until the debris was partly cleared away it was feared that many men had been killed. Murphy leaves a widow and four children living in Butte.

Work has been commenced on putting in the system of water works for Sheridan, Wyoming. Thirteen miles of pipe will be laid and a filtering system adopted ensuring a pure water supply for the city. The pressure will be thirty pounds to the inch, sufficient to throw four streams of water seventy-five feet high.

The Helena (Mont.) Herald says two women who reside in the upper end of town created not a little excitement on Main street yesterday afternoon. Both were clad in bloomers and both rode or tried to ride wheels. They were gathered in by the police and told to keep off the streets until they could ride properly.

On the 20th inst., near Sheridan, Madison county, Wyo., Joseph H. Soudant was thrown from a horse, receiving injuries from which he died in a few hours. Soudant was a veteran, serving during the late war in Company D, Fifty-seventh Massachusetts volunteers, and was a member in good standing at Wadsworth Post, G. A. R., Helena.

The sheepmen of this section will try the export of sheep, lambs and mutton to the Chicago market in the near future, says the Reno Gazette. P. L. Flannigan will ship 3,000 mutton wethers to that city within the next thirty days. He is satisfied that an outlet for Nevada can be found in the East, where better prices can be realized than in San Francisco.

Steamers from San Francisco report the waters along the coast fairly alive with thousands of fur seals. The Umatilla passed through immense herds fifteen miles southwest of Cape Flattery. This is an unusual occurrence for this season of the year, for it has been the general custom in the past for the animals to migrate in April to northern waters, for which place all the sealing vessels are now heading.

Homer Cushman, 15 years old, while in the mill of the Eaton (Colo.) Milling and Elevator company, found a stray bit of rope hanging from the main drive shaft and attempted to pull it down. In some manner the rope caught around his hand and he was

drawn up and whirled around and around the shaft. The mill was stopped immediately, but not until the boy was horribly bruised.

A dispatch from Boyd, Wyo., says the 16-year-old son of H. C. Heller of that place has been accidentally shot while hunting deer by a companion and is lying at his parents' home at the point of death. Young Heller and the boy who shot him were in the brush watching a deer lick. Heller arose out of his ambush and his companion, mistaking him for a deer, shot him, the ball entering the left shoulder blade and coming out below the right shoulder.

It is stated that another talented San Francisco girl is about to make a bid for histrionic honors in that city. This time it is Miss Freda Gallick, described as a young lady of great beauty and ability. She will make her debut in the Columbia some time next month. Though but a little over sixteen years of age, Miss Gallick is said to display a remarkable versatility and a thorough conception of the meaning of words. At first the girl aspired only to become a public reader, as her mother opposed her going on the stage.

Grand Junction, (Wyo.), Sentinel: Professor Marcus E. Jones, of Salt Lake City, who has for several years been connected with the geological department of the government, visited with the gas company people this week and after taking a drive to the country, he stated that his opinion as to the existence of oil in this valley was fully confirmed. The gas well was "touched off" for him, and he did not hesitate to state that the present gas is in every way indicative of the presence of a body of oil. Mr. Jones is an authority on such matters, and we have good reasons to consider his opinion of much weight.

Two young men neatly dressed and claiming to be journalists from Australia on a trip around the world have got stranded in Fresno, Cal. They arrived on Saturday with a letter signed by J. A. Fillmore, of the Southern Pacific railroad, which directed all section bosses to send the travelers forward on handcars from section to section as fast as possible. They came thus far on that letter, but when they reached Fresno they were headed off by telephone from Fourth and Townsend streets, San Francisco, saying that if they held such a letter signed with Mr. Fillmore's name it was a forgery. The travelers gave their names as Wilson and Yorke.

A special dispatch from San Diego says: After holding out for four days against the Mexican officials, backed up by armed rurales, the American miners at Juarez, below the line, finally decided to quit work. The officials demanded that the miners pay \$250 per acre outright for the placer diggings, in order to prevent the alleged smuggling of gold out of the country, avoiding the export tax of almost 10 per cent. The American miners took the new orders with bad grace and some not-heads proposed to resist by force, if necessary; but at a meeting a couple of days ago it was decided to peaceably give up the claims or pay the price demanded. Some claims are abundantly able to pay the extra tax. It is learned