

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

At Douglas, Wyo., A. M. Craft last week discovered a valuable deposit of coal.

The Spokane Indians are now being located on the Cœur d'Alene reservation.

Platteville, Colo., will probably have waterworks, a flouring mill and cannery this year.

Florence, Colo., is about to add an ostrich farm and large poultry ranch to its other attractions.

A party of prospectors from Eddy, New Mexico, are searching the Organ mountains for gold.

In Central Wyoming the cattle have suffered greatly for want of water and many have died in consequence.

A butcher in a Washington town recently purchased a hog which weighed, when dressed, 755 pounds.

Arizona cattle ranges are in prime condition and stock men are rejoicing over plenty of feed and small losses.

Northern Arizona counties are rejoicing over an unusual heavy snow fall which assures an abundance of water.

Five double decked car loads of fine Cotswold sheep were shipped from the San Luis valley to Kansas City last week.

Rawlins, Wyo., will set out 3,000 shade trees this coming spring, as a result of a better water supply for irrigation.

Ruffians raided the Del Norte, (Colo.,) Daily *Inquirer* and gutted the office during the night, scattering all the type over the office floor.

Montana's state flower has been selected. It is the gorgeous blossom of the prickly pear, and the motto, "Step Not on Me," goes with the flower.

Chinese have leased 120 acres of land adjoining the Stanford ranch at Vina, Cal., for a term of five years at a yearly rent of \$3,000.

A Rifle, Colo., liveryman named James Clem has broken a pair of elk to harness and drives them out when the girls want a sleigh ride.

At Las Vegas, N. M., the *Optio* complains languidly at the continued fine weather and laments the absence of the usual snow storms of winter.

San Diego will soon be joined to La Mesa by a motor line. Work will be commenced at once, and in thirty days it is thought the line will be in operation.

Near Verdi, Nev., last week, five woodchoppers were buried alive beneath an avalanche of snow. Only one was saved and he was partially injured.

There were shipped from Rawlins, Wyo., in 1893 a total of 830 cars of stock containing 720 head of horses, 10,560 head of cattle and 53,380 head of sheep.

The head-gates of the Amity canal in Otero county, Colo., which takes its water from the Arkansas, are said to be equal in construction to the locks of the great Erie canal.

Bessemer, Colo., protests against the

circulation of reports that work is abundant there at at Pueblo. On the contrary, there is not work enough for the people now there.

The attempt to run a bloodhound at Cripple Creek one day last week to trail a tool thief resulted in the arrest of the wrong parties and counter arrests for false imprisonment.

Fort Marcy, at Santa Fe, N. M., is the oldest established military post in America. The Spaniards used it as a fort in 1602, and General Phil Kearney built a fort on the old site in 1846.

Ten thousand head of sheep were recently attached by customs officials at Maxwell, N. M., for having evaded the tariff in crossing the sheep from Mexico into the United States.

Western Nebraska people near Gering have started a movement for the annexation of the western counties of Nebraska to Wyoming. They want annexation on account of irrigation.

Las Animas, Bent county, Colo., last week shipped seventy-eight hogs to Denver weighing 200 pounds each. These hogs had each consumed seven bushels of wheat at 40 and 45 cents a bushel.

The coal deposit in Garfield county, Colo., is said to be one of the largest in the world. The vein reaches from Cardiff to Pallsades, a distance of 100 miles, and measures in many places sixty feet in thickness.

A woman in Stockton, Cal., after the recent flood, found floating in the cellar of her house a sack containing two skulls. They had been carefully cleaned and bleached, but as yet no one has claimed them.

Johnny Haley, who carries the mail from Eureka to Duckwater, Nev., got lost in the recent severe storm and was exposed to the cold for sixty hours. When found both hands and both feet were frozen and he was snowblind.

On Friday morning a large mountain lion visited the ranch of Mrs. W. B. Towle, near Laramie, Wyo., seized a yearling colt not fifty yards from the house, killed it and attempted to drag it off to its home.

Range cattle and sheep have wintered better in New Mexico than for many years past. The loss is estimated at only 3 per cent, and there are 800,000 head of cattle in the territory.

At Green River, Wyo., great interest is manifested in the placer diggings near there. Some excitement has been created by the discovery that the black sand of Green River yields as high as \$23 a ton in gold.

Cochita, N. M., gold discoveries are not new. Old Spanish archives in the possession of Territorial Librarian Samuel Ellison show that the Cochita gold mines were known to the Spaniards 200 years ago.

A grizzly bear, said to be about 1,500 pounds in weight, met George Stebbins on the American trail, near Ouray, last week. The bear was so astonished that it jumped the trail and fell over a bluff, breaking its bones.

At Greeley, Col., Landlord Hoechst

of the St. James hotel claims to have caught last week with his own hands, without either hook, line or net, fifty pounds of fish and three ducks in a slough near Greeley. He is said to be an expert sportsman.

Richard Gird of Chino, Cal., has received seventy-five tons of beet seed from France. It is being distributed to farmers preparatory to the season's sowing. A large force will be put to work enlarging the capacity of the sugar factory.

The Peoria canal at Gila Bend, A. T., is forty miles long and covers 50,000 acres. The dam is being completed as rapidly as possible, 160 men being employed in its construction. When finished it will be 1920 feet long, seventeen feet high and thirty-two feet wide.

The Nampa (Idaho) Producers' association has received 152 replies from 521 circulars sent to the leading fruit growers of Ada and Canyon counties. The replies gave 2,868 acres in fruit as follows: Apples, 621; peaches, 245; prunes, 1,889; pears, 89; cherries, 14.

The Indians of Wasco county, Oregon, have a novel contest at their festivals, which are now in operation. A gaudy blanket is hung up, and before this prize two braves dance. The one maintaining his performance for the greater time takes the blanket.

Ramey Brothers, near Grand Junction, have set out a model fruit farm. On ten acres they have 1,250 pear trees and 500 prune trees. During the past winter only twenty-three have died. The same parties propose setting out forty acres additional principally in prune trees.

The Las Animas *Leader* states that during the big storm in February about 10,000 head of cattle drifted from the northern ranges down to the Arkansas. They were driven back on the prairie and scattered, and are believed to have worked their way back to their home ranges.

At Carson, Nev., a man named Edward Reagan has invented a mercurial alarm clock which will strike when the mercury reaches any designated degree of temperature. The clock will be invaluable to those who desire to maintain a specified degree of temperature in any apartment.

Porter Williams has returned from Frodman's ferry on Snake river, says the *Idaho Statesman*, where the Prout gold saving machine has been placed. A trial run was made with the machine last Saturday. It worked splendidly but the water froze before a clean-up could be made.

Peach trees in San Juan county, New Mexico, just south of Durango, this state, are found to thrive best on high sandy soil with good drainage. That portion of the mountain region is said to be unsurpassed as a fruit growing region, and its orchard owners find a ready market in the southwestern mines.

Fruita, in the Grand valley, Colorado, boasts of a man who located there with 25 cents as his capital six years ago, who has just cleaned up \$8,300 from the sale of ninety acres of fruit land, which he took up and planted in orchard. He supported a family while making this little start in life.

A prisoner in the Deer Lodge, Mont.,