

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

More than 1,000 tons of raisins are said to be held in Fresno by packers in anticipation of an advance in the price, which is expected to take place.

The saloon business is on the increase at Rock Springs, Wyoming. Two more "houses" of this class were opened last week and several others are promised.

The Fresno (Cal.) Mining company has filed a suit against the State of California to recover \$490,000, which the plaintiff alleges is due it for damages resulting from the destruction of its water power by the state authorities.

The body of an unknown man was found near Durango, Colo., in what is known as the Hadley coal mine. Only a few scratches on the head furnish a basis for a theory as to the cause of death, and it is not known whether he met death by foul play, air, accident, natural or unnatural causes.

Edith Farley, a 15-year-old San Francisco girl, is missing. She was suspended from school for an accidental violation of rules and felt the punishment so deeply that she wrote a note saying she would kill herself, and then disappeared. It is feared she has carried out her threat.

Chris Campbell, a 12-year-old Reno, Nevada, boy, jumped on the switch engine for a ride. He lost his hold or slipped in some way, falling under the engine so that his left arm was caught under the wheels, completely crushing it. It was necessary to amputate the arm near the shoulder.

The Casper (Wyo.) *Tribune* says: Jesse James arrived in town from the Cheyenne reservation — ex-sporting man and an old timer. He has now married in the royal family of the Cheyenne tribe, Miss Standing Elk, daughter of the Big Chief Standing Elk. Now running a large cattle ranch on the reservation.

A large brick chimney on the First West Centreville school at Butte, Mont., was blown down at noon on Monday and crashed through the roof and into a room just vacated by about sixty children, who were dismissed a few moments ahead of the usual time. But for that fact, it is doubtful if one would have escaped alive.

In the poisoning case at San Bernardino, Cal., the confession of Mrs. Barnes stated how she had for months entered into a conspiracy with Salter to kill her husband, and how they together had prepared and administered arsenic in small doses until the victim became a physical wreck and near death's door.

A Fresno (Cal.) firm is sending dried fruits to San Francisco by mule teams, and is arranging to ship oranges, in the season, this winter by the same method, except that they will be hauled to Stockton, thence brought to the city by boat. They believe their team route will result in a great reduction of transportation charges by the railroad.

Carson (Nevada) *News*: Henry Van Sickle was driving on the road near Mottsville when his team became

frightened and ran away. They ran into the flume that crosses the road, throwing Mr. Van Sickle violently to the ground. The injured man remained unconscious seven hours. He is 72 years of age and should he recover it will be a miracle.

The Fresno, Cal., *Evening Expositor* has passed into new hands. The Fresno Loan and Savings bank bought the presses, type and outfit at a commissioners' sale, and N. L. F. Bachman, delegate-elect to the assembly from the Sixty-third district, will be the editor. It is said that the policy of the paper will be changed from Democratic to independent and that it will be anti-railroad.

Laramie *Boomerang*: Johnson county will endeavor to have the state legislature make an appropriation of \$25,000 to reimburse the county for expenses incurred in prosecuting the parties who took part in the cattlemen's invasion. A bill of this kind passed both houses of the legislature two years ago, but failed to become a law on account of the premature adjournment of the house of representatives.

The Gurney cab drivers at Vancouver, B. C., have struck. The company formerly paid the men weekly, but recently made a change and hired the cabs to the men. The drivers claim that the company charges an exorbitant price for the cabs and refuse to take them out. The Gurney company claims to be able to get enough drivers in a few days.

Four Chinamen were arrested at Walla Walla, Wash., on the ground that they had not complied with the law requiring them to register. Through attorneys they proved that they were residents of Walla Walla at the time the act was passed providing for registration. Upon this showing the order of deportation was suspended for ninety days, to give them an opportunity to register.

Stephen Culbertson, an aged resident of College Park, near San Jose, Cal., while walking on the railroad track on Monday morning toward San Jose, was struck by a car and had his right leg so severely crushed that amputation was necessary. He saw the locomotive and stepped out of the way, but did not notice that a flying switch was being made, so he went back on the track just in time to be struck by the loose car.

A fatal accident occurred at Vancouver, B. C., on Monday, by which Frank Burns, 16 years of age, lost his life. He was out shooting ducks in a boat across Burrard inlet and reached forward to get a gun. The muzzle was pointing toward him, and the hammer, striking athwart of the boat, the gun was discharged, the charge entering the right arm. His companion had to row four miles for medical aid. Late in the evening he died from loss of blood.

It is estimated that over 500,000 head of sheep have been driven into Sweetwater county from outside points principally from Utah, to graze during the winter, says the Laramie (Wyo.) *Boomerang*. Sweetwater county derives

no revenue from these herds, and the ranchmen in that country seriously object to having the ranges destroyed by the foreign sheep. The matter will be a subject for legislation at the coming session of the legislature.

Warden Campbell says prisoners in the Boise penitentiary were allowed to hold an election among themselves at their request. That is a statement contained in the Hailey (Idaho) *Times*. Regular sample ballots were used. There were ten Republican votes and some Democratic; but the Populists had a clear majority of twenty-three votes over the combined vote of the Republican and Democrats.

Says the Boise (Idaho) *Statesman*: The directors of the Artesian Hot & Cold Water company have adopted a new method of determining the cost of hot water, entirely abolishing the radiation system. The rates to be paid in future by patrons will be based upon the amount of water used, instead of the space heated, as heretofore, and will effect a great saving of money to users and of water to the company.

Through the fact that the clock in one of the city schoolrooms at Butte, Mont., indicated the wrong time on Tuesday, about fifty children were dismissed about ten minutes ahead of the usual time. About five minutes later, during a severe windstorm, a big brick smokestack fell and crashed through the roof and into the room just vacated. The furniture was wrecked, and the teacher, who was just leaving the room, sustained slight injuries.

Battery A will hold its annual practice shoot with field pieces next Sunday, says the Nevada *Enterprise*. The range over which the shoot will take place is a mile and a quarter in length. It is not nearly so easy to make a bulls-eye with the big guns as it is with a rifle. Notwithstanding this, the feat was accomplished several times last year, at which shoot Josh Healy was the most successful workman.

W. Wencke, of San Francisco, while hunting near Santa Rosa, Cal., on Tuesday, met with a painful accident and narrowly escaped losing the sight of his left eye. In company with a friend, J. Haltimire, he was shooting quail. Haltimire fired at a bird and in so doing shot past Wencke, but did not think him near enough to be injured. The shot either spread or a portion of it glanced, for one of the pellets lodged in Wencke's face just beneath the left eye. Wencke's sight will not be impaired.

The Idaho delegates to the Trans-Mississippi congress will put forth their best efforts to bring the next meeting of the congress to Boise, says the *Statesman*. This city came near carrying off the plum last year, and there is every reason to believe Idaho's capital will come off successful this time. Governor McConnell has written a letter to each of the Idaho delegates who will attend the congress, urging them to make a strong stand for Boise. He has also addressed a letter to the president of the congress on the subject.

Quite a force of men are at work at Morrison, says the Manti *Sentinel*. The plans are so extensive that it is necessary to crowd the work along and have it completed before snow flies. Switches