

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

Deputy Sheriff Hamerson dropped dead in his office at Colusa, Cal., recently.

The peanut acreage in Santa Ana valley, Cal., has increased five-fold this year over the acreage of 1896.

The trustees of Fort Bragg, Cal., have passed an ordinance forbidding the beating of drums or singing on the streets of that city.

At La Grande, Ore., Monday night, Wm. Trevel was killed while working on the night shift of the French company's mines at Woodley, by the caving in of rock.

Thomas Maloney, 4 years old, living in San Francisco, was knocked down by an electric car Thursday while crossing Mission street, and his feet were crushed by the wheels.

The California Press association is on its annual outing, its members having left San Francisco for Victoria, B. C., Sunday evening, in three special Pullmans.

George Savetta, about twenty years old, whose father is foreman of the railroad section gang at Oceanside, Cal., is suffering from mental derangement as a result of smoking cigarettes.

Julius Arno, a ranch hand, is lying at the Grand Central hotel at Fresno, Cal., in a critical condition. Thursday afternoon while at work he was attacked by a ferocious steer, which "horned" him twice.

Frank Gould and Charlie Phelps entered into an onion-eating contest at San Jose, Cal., a few days ago. Phelps won, devouring half of a two-pound onion in six minutes, while Gould struggled with the other half for thirty minutes and still had a large portion of it before him when he gave up in despair.

A peddler named John Carroll, who lives in San Francisco, while driving a one-horse wagon Friday was struck by a Southern Pacific train at the Mission road crossing, and instantly killed. The verdict of the coroner's jury was accidental death, and no blame is attached to the trainmen. The wagon was demolished and the horse killed.

Adam Beaver, a veteran rancher of the Scandinavian colony at Fresno, Cal., died early Friday morning as the result of an accident. Thursday afternoon Beaver was bringing in a wagon load of hay when the upper part of the load, on which he was sitting, fell, and he slid to the ground. The hind wheels passed over his chest, crushing the ribs over the heart and left lung.

Wednesday night a young boy named Ole Oleson was killed at New Westminster, B. C., under most distressing circumstances. His father is a locomotive cleaner at that station and was cleaning an engine there, while Ole and his younger brother were playing around the locomotive. Ole jumped on the cowcatcher not known to his father, who at that

moment started the engine. The boy lost his balance and fell beneath the wheels, his head and shoulders being crushed. His head was severed from his body. Death was instantaneous.

James Floyd of Oakland, Cal., seated himself near the railway tracks Friday while under the influence of liquor and fell asleep. The 10 o'clock train from the mole struck him and cut off the toes of his right foot. Floyd is the man who, with two others, was in the company of a tramp, known as "One-armed Bill," when the latter was overtaken at the same spot and instantly killed by the local train.

Mrs. L. M. Norlem of Lorin, Cal., is believed to be dying as a result of injuries received Friday afternoon in a runaway. She was driving when her horse became frightened and uncontrollable. A pane of glass in the buggy broke, and the sound increased the animal's terror. The horse swerved, the vehicle overturned and its occupant was buried violently to the ground.

Chief of Police Kingsbury of Stockton, Cal., resigned the position Wednesday evening and was immediately elected as a patrolman on the force. The reason for the action is found in the fact that a new city administration is about taking office, and a new police commission and a new chief will result. He has been designated to act as chief pending the appointment by the new board of a successor.

Hiram Frost, a well known woodman, met with an accident at Elk river, Cal., Friday afternoon which resulted in his death. He was canting a heavy log with a crowbar. The bar slipped and in some unaccountable way flew around and struck him a heavy blow on the jaw. He sank to the ground and said to his brother, who was working with him, "It is all over with me," and a few minutes afterwards expired. His jaw was badly shattered, but the physicians say death was caused by the shock.

Two burglars, one of whom wore a mask, entered the house of Professor J. W. Anderson, three miles south of Fresno, Cal., Friday, during the absence of the family. The only occupant of the house was the Japanese servant. The burglars chained him to a post and ransacked the house securing several articles of value. The burglar regained entrance to the house by cutting a screen door. When the professor returned in the evening he found the Japanese so tightly bound to a post by a chain that it took nearly an hour to remove the links.

While polishing the glass panel of the elevator door on the fourth floor of the Pacific Mutual Insurance company's building in San Francisco on Wednesday morning, Jess Nelson, the head janitor of the building, lost his hold and fell down the elevator shaft to the concrete pavement of the basement. He was picked up and taken to the receiving hospital, where he soon afterward died. Not a bone

in his body was broken, although the distance he fell was fully forty feet. His death was caused by internal injuries resulting from his contact with the concrete pavement.

One of the most interesting and exciting school elections ever held in Santa Barbara, Cal., took place Friday. The interesting feature of the election arose from the fact that a prominent lawyer, Charles F. Carrier, was pitted against two women, one Mrs. B. F. Thomas, wife of a leading member of the local bar, and the other Mrs. Fillmore Moore, wife of an active socialist. The man won, as did also the male candidate in San Luis Obispo, where Judge M. D. Yeable was elected trustee over Mrs. B. D. Whitmore, candidate of the woman's suffrage club, by 300 majority.

The 2-year-old child of Gus Albers and wife of Alameda, Cal., had a narrow escape from death by poisoning Friday. While playing in one of the rooms alone the little one found a small bottle on the bureau, and securing it took out the cork and swallowed the contents. The phial contained a mixture of morphine and chloroform, from a prescription filled by a doctor. When the mother discovered her child deathly sick and saw what it had swallowed she hastily called in a physician. The poison had been taken in such an overdose that the infant was relieved, an antidote being promptly administered.

W. H. Knowlton, known as "the gold brick man," had a fight Wednesday night in the hallway of a lodging house with his former friend and partner Anthony Mellon, alias Kelly, who is said to be the superior of Knowlton at his own business. Mellon held Knowlton up while the latter was in bed and took \$1,300 from him. Knowlton chased Mellon down the stairs and jumped on him. Then commenced the struggle for life or death. During the fight Mellon's revolver was discharged, slightly wounding the latter. Knowlton then took the gun and gave Mellon a terrible beating with it. The money had dropped to the sidewalk. Knowlton held his adversary with one hand and scooped up his money with the other. He held his man until the police arrived, and both were locked up.

Benjamin Rule, a young miner, was killed Friday morning at the Massachusetts Hill mine, Cal., and John Rippingham, one of his partners, was slightly injured. They had drilled and charged ten holes, nine of which exploded. The tenth charge Rule and his partners did not hear, but they thought it had exploded simultaneously with one of the others. They descended to the bottom of the shaft to send up the rock loosened by the blasts. Several loads had been sent up when suddenly the tenth charge exploded. Rule was in a stooping position and received a terrible wound on the head, the skull being split open. It was an hour and a quarter from the time of the first discharge that the last blast went off. Rule was 31 years of age, and a native of Michigan. He leaves a widow.

Information from San Bernardino, Cal., is to the effect that trouble in