

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

It is now claimed that insurance men are responsible for the forest fires in Idaho.

John Winthrop, while exercising in a Menlo Park gymnasium at San Francisco, fell and broke his neck. He died a few hours after.

Joseph Pinkham has stepped down and out of the marshal's office and J. I. Crutcher has stepped in, says the Boise (Idaho) *Statesman*.

A band of wild mountain goats, some forty in number, are occasionally seen on the high mountain peaks near Kennedy, Nevada.

The people of Rock Springs, Wyo., gave a bonus of \$3,000 for the establishment of the stage line between that place and Lander, and now it has been abandoned.

At Stevensville, Mont., W. D. Cunningham was sawing a big log when it got away from him rolling down the hill and over his six-year-old son, crushing him to death.

The voting in Butte, Mont., for a state flower has closed with the following result: Bitter root, 170; dogtooth violet, 2; wild paque flower, 4; Mariposa lily, 8; evening primrose, 2.

Typhoid fever has become epidemic in Rock Springs, Wyoming. The *Miner* of last week reports several deaths and a number of cases. Physicians attribute the epidemic to the poor sanitary condition of the town.

The Casper (Wyo.) *Derrick* thinks the Lewiston and vicinity hotels and road ranches would get rich this summer for the Casper and Rongis trail is daily crowded with people headed for the South Pass gold fields.

John Hibbeler, a butcher of Bozeman, Mont., on Tuesday drank a pint of poisoned whisky, fastened a rope around his neck and to a limb of a tree, shot himself through the head and hanged himself.

Ranchmen and stockmen of Wyoming say that the recent rain was not needed, as it tends to keep the grass green and prevent it from curing for winter for the stock. If it remains green until the frost kills it it is not so good.

The Salmon City (Idaho) *Recorder* reports the accidental death of Charles Widdiman at Gibbonville. He was caught by a fall of rock in the Keystone mine and was not discovered for six hours. He lived some hours after being taken out.

Receiver Gleason, of the Warren Live Stock company, has filed an inventory of the property of the company, says the Cheyenne *Leader*. He finds that the total value of the property, with the exception of the unvalued lands, is \$114,660.19.

A. S. Yaryan, one of the enterprising farmers of Boise valley, brought a number of apples to the city which for size and flavor are exceptional. Many of the apples weighed two pounds each. Mr. Yaryan had some of his apples on exhibition at the World's Fair.

The Idaho *Avalanche* says that another strike in one of the Bryan groups in Owyhee has been reported.

"This thing is getting monotonous. These confounded tenderfeet come here and find several paying mines, while we old-timers are letting the moss grow on our backs."

The Casper (Wyo.) *Derrick* says: J. J. Hurt already has ahead orders for sheep amounting to 100,000 head, but so far he can't find anyone willing to part with their bands. This is not a bad indication and rather belies the assertion that the sheep industry is prostrated.

The wonderful success of our farmers with rye this year has caused many of them to go into raising this class of grain for hay altogether, remarks the Sundance (Wyo.) *Gazette*. In no instance has this crop yielded less than two tons of feed to the acre, and in most cases has produced four tons.

The case of ex-Chief of Police Emil Harris and C. D. Platt, charged with unlawful use of the mails in sending letters demanding hush money to E. E. Crandall, a retired hardware merchant, in connection with his divorce from his wife, is under investigation at Los Angeles, Cal.

At Great Falls, Mont., August Spooner, a lad 13 year old, was playing with his father's shotgun, and emptied a load of buckshot into the head and back of his eleven-months-old sister, tearing the head to pieces. They were alone at home at the time.

Iron county *Record*: Dr. J. H. Hall, of Parowan, in company with a gentleman named Lowder, has discovered and located a ledge of gold-bearing ore in Little Creek canyon, about twelve miles east of Parowan. The mineral-bearing ledge is about ten feet in width and free gold is easily seen in the ore with the naked eye.

News has reached Klamath Falls, Oregon, from Langell valley, in that county, that Frank Swingle shot and instantly killed Arthur Langell on the latter's ranch, during an altercation over some stock. Both men are well-known pioneers of Klamath county and large stock and land owners of Langell valley.

A woman named Bertha Mitchell has sued Street Superintendent Ackerson at San Francisco for \$500 for alleged unlawful interference with her business as fruit peddler at the corner of Post and Montgomery streets. Although she had a license, Ackerson caused the removal of her stand under the sidewalk obstruction order.

The Omaha *World-Herald* publishes the following fish story: J. H. McConnell, superintendent of motive power; Z. T. Sprigg, master mechanic at Salt Lake, and William Lawrence, general contractor of the Union Pacific, caught 8,000 trout in Idaho, the total weight being 15,000 pounds.—Boise *Statesman*.

The trustees of the Agnew Insane Asylum at San Jose, Cal., want an appropriation of \$277,400 from the next legislature, and in the biennial report to the governor, which was adopted at the meeting on Tuesday, it is said that this is the least the asylum can be conducted for in the next two years, it

being on a basis of 40 cents per capita per day for each of the 950 patients.

The Butte (Mont.) *Miner* says: Ed O'Donnell and an unknown engaged in a rough and tumble fight last night in Main street, near the corner of Park, and for a few minutes rolled each other in the mud until they had lost about all semblance to human beings. Officer Forest arrested them. Both were pretty badly used up.

The papers have been signed by the county commissioners and Architect J. J. Huddart, of Denver, for the building of a new court house for Dolores county, Colo. It is to be a large brick edifice, trimmed with red stone, with two stories and a jail underneath. There will be offices for all the county officers in the building.

A number of residents in and around Fort Laramie about 100 miles north of Cheyenne, near the junction of the Laramie and North Platte rivers, report great devastation by grasshoppers. They have eaten the grass for miles, and the crop of hay will be very short. They appear, however, to be gradually leaving the neighborhood, but the damage already done is very great.

Horace Philley was found murdered near Mt. Reno, Arizona, the 8th inst. The report received first led many to believe that it was the work of the Apache Kid. Now it seems that the killing may be a sequel to the celebrated Graham and Tewksberry feud, in which some thirty people have been slain. Philley was in the employ of a stockman, Lon Harman, who is handling the Graham cattle.

A mining man named Foster was in town this week en route to Atlantic mining district, says the Green River (Wyo.) *Star*. He has a new process for treating ore pulps, and he proposes to try it up in that district. He also claims to have abundant capital to buy and develop mines. We can tell him Atlantic don't want any new fangled processes, but practical mining men can find plenty in the camps to engage their attention.

The highwaymen who a few weeks ago held up twenty-four men in a saloon at Helena, Mont., have evidently removed to Butte, judging from the boldness displayed by two men, who held up a dozen of men at Meaderville Friday evening and then shot at the proprietor of the saloon, inflicting fatal injuries, from which he died Saturday morning. His name was Stephen Grosso, but there is no chance of discovering his assailants.

The killing of sheep near Parachute, Colo., is the talk of the country, and all sorts of wild rumors are afloat. The dead body of a man by the name of Taylor, who owned a ranch in Parker basin, on Plateau creek, was found on Tuesday by hunters at the head of Harrison's gulch with a bullet hole in the forehead. It is thought to be a case of murder. Taylor is said to have been a very ardent cattle sympathizer.

It has leaked out that Oregon officers are at Seattle, Wash., after W. H. Knowlton, alias "Rebel George," alias "Robert Rae," once in Folsom prison, in case of which he is acquitted of swindling Banker Wooding of Aberdeen out of \$5,000 by the "gold brick" game. It is claimed that Knowlton