

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

A mammoth table beet weighing sixty-nine pounds has been added to the San Jose, Cal., board of trade exhibit by J. C. Birnbaum.

Last week J. Harbert of Phoenix, Arizona, shipped to Ootumwa, Ia., a pair of large, full grown ostriches, from which the gentleman who will receive them will make an effort to breed.

The funds of the San Francisco school department are getting so low that the teachers will only receive half pay for the present month, a resolution to that effect being passed by the board of education at its meeting Wednesday night.

A fatal accident occurred at Elk river, Cal., Wednesday afternoon. David H. Halliday, a well known lumberman, was working on a pile driver near the round house, when a scantling struck him on the side of the head, killing him instantly.

The Ohio, Cal., sugar factory used 1,431 carloads of freight for supplies during the sugar campaign just closed. The tonnage of beets worked up was as follows: Chino 47,000 tons, Anaheim 9,500, Buena Park 5,500, other points 1,900; total 63,900 tons.

The little three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Geer, at Cheyenne, Wyoming, was almost fatally poisoned Monday by eating some brown wrapping paper, which, it seems, contained arsenic. She and some playmates were making "pies" of the paper.

Geo. Byron of Milpitas, Cal., lost a thumb Saturday in a gunning accident. He was out hunting quail, when the gun was accidentally discharged. The hand was considerably lacerated, but he will lose only his thumb. Mr. Byron is a deputy in the office of the state superintendent of schools.

Thomas Wright of Lemoore, Cal., an unmarried man 28 years of age, committed suicide at the Fresno Hot Springs Sunday morning. He was suffering from melancholia, and camping at that place with his brother. He got up early Sunday morning and blew his brains out with a rifle.

San Francisco Chronicle, Nov. 10: George W. Helitz, chief clerk of the passenger department of the Rio Grande Western railway, and George E. Forrester, traveling auditor of the same road, arrived from Salt Lake yesterday, and are guests at the Palace. They will sail today for Honolulu on a pleasure trip.

George Reeder, a seventeen-year-old boy, arrested at Santa Rosa, Cal., Saturday, made his escape from the county jail Tuesday. He was confined in an up-stairs room and when the cook took dinner to him he took advantage of the momentary absence of the attendant, slipped down stairs, opened the front door and disappeared.

James Eggar, an old and well known resident of California, met his death this afternoon while hunting near San Miguel, Cal. He was with a young man named Dunlap, who led the way

across the hills and was in the act of crossing a fence when the weapon was suddenly discharged. Mr. Eggar lived but half an hour. The deceased was 75 years of age and is survived by six children four of whom are in Oakland.

A flouring mill with a capacity of 100 barrels per day is to be constructed at Wheatland, Wyoming. There are about 30,000 bushels of wheat stored there and 10,000 bushels more will be added. The increase in acreage of the farmers there will be more than doubled during the coming year. The large new reservoir at Wheatland covers nearly 600 acres of ground. A large natural basin is being utilized and it will have a tunnel outlet.

A strong movement is on foot at Santa Rosa, Cal., for the establishment of a beet sugar manufactory. Beets grown near Santa Rosa have been tested at the Alvarado factory and show that they possess the necessary properties in an unusual degree. At the coming session of the Farmers' Institute there beet sugar will receive much attention. Many farmers are anxious to engage in beet-growing and it is believed a factory will be built in Sonoma county in the near future.

A dispatch from Colfax, Washington, says: "Come a seven, come a seven," muttered old Eugene Jaques as he was throwing craps at the gaming rooms in the Star saloon Wednesday night. The old man had down his last ten cent piece and was trying to make a raise. He had just thrown the dice when he sank to the floor a corpse. Death had come while he was trying to tempt fortune. Jaques had been drinking freely of late, which was probably the immediate cause of death.

Lodi, Cal., is suffering from an epidemic of robberies. Within the last six weeks at least ten cases of house-breaking and attempted house-breaking have been reported. As a result the burglars have reaped a harvest in watches, rings and other jewelry, besides a collection of guns and miscellaneous articles of value. As yet there is little clew to the guilty ones, although suspicion has been aroused. Scarcely a night passes now that prowlers about yards and houses are not reported.

Raymond Henke, Reynold Burke and William Bird, who returned Thursday night from the East were in the wreck down in Nebraska Wednesday morning, says the Laramie Boomerang. Mr. Henke said this afternoon that the fact no one was killed was remarkable, as four cars were turned over on their sides down an embankment. Holes were cut in the tops of the cars and the people taken out in that way. Himself and Mr. Bird were in the smoking car, which was not overturned. Mr. Burke was in the chair car which went down the bank.

The Evanston, Wyoming, Herald says: Indians from Fort Hall, Idaho, are actively engaged in killing elk, contrary to law, on Snake, Grey's and Hoback rivers, in Uinta county. A party of Evanston men, who have just

returned from Jackson's Hole, saw a large number of bucks on the river trail into the Hole, with their ponies laden with elk hides, the meat having been stripped out and left to lie on the hills. Ben Weidt, the famous trapper of Star valley, is authority for the statement that 1,000 elk carcasses are now lying between Grey's and Hoback rivers, slaughtered by these lawless redskins.

A special from Walla Walla, Washington, says that Tom Bassett and wife were both fined \$90 and costs Friday by Justice Nixon for starving their infant child. The evidence showed that Bassett and his wife were desirous of getting rid of their eighteen-month-old babe, and took the means of starvation. They neglected it in every way, left it at home daytimes without food or water, and no one to care for it. In default of the fine, both went to jail. Bassett and his wife were married three months ago, and he is not the father of the child.

E. E. Dunn of Alameda, Cal., was taken to the county jail Saturday afternoon on a charge of insanity. Dunn has been in poor health, which affected his mind. It has been ascertained that he himself started the fire which occurred at his house Monday evening, while in a fit of delirium. Saturday morning he was discovered by his wife piling kindling under his bed and trying to set it on fire. He imagines himself to be Satan and that he will die if he does not cremate himself. The unfortunate man was examined as to his sanity before Judge Frick, who committed him to the Stockton asylum.

When the trial of James Lee for the murder of his mistress, Mollie Allen, last August, was called in Judge Hinkson's court at Sacramento, Cal., on Saturday morning, one of the jurymen, John Shellars, failed to respond, for the very good reason that he had been dead for almost an hour before court opened. About 9 o'clock that morning Juror Shellars walked into a cigar store not far distant from the courthouse to await the opening of court. A few minutes later he was seized with a violent fit of coughing, which brought on a hemorrhage. He sank into a chair in the store, and in less than ten minutes expired.

The election result in Idaho was 5,060 votes for the McKinley electors, 16,269 for the Bryan electors, and the choice of Steunenberg, Democrat, for governor, Gunn, Populist, for congressman, and 28 silver Republicans, 1 Republican and 41 Democratic-Populist fusionists for the state legislature. Senator Dubois has but 28 supporters, and as it takes 36 to elect, there would have to be 8 Demo-Populists come over to him to give him the necessary number. At present the chief contest among the majority side's candidates for U. S. Senator is between Clagett, Populist, and Ballantine, Democrat, though there are a number of others who hope to be chosen.

Monday the boats of the Monterey, Cal., whaling company were out and succeeded in killing a large cow whale about sixty feet in length. The whale when killed sank to the bottom in about forty fathoms of water. The spot was marked with a buoy and Thursday the whale was brought to the surface and towed to the whalers. Tues-