NEWS OF THE WEST.

Supposed Murderer of an Old Mormon Family Escapes.

WOMAN DUPES SEVENTY LAWYERS.

Railway Men Cooked to Death—Record of Accidents and Other Events.

A structure at Wallington, Nev., Monday evening did several thousand dollars' worth of damage in washing out and filling in irrigating canals and ditches. No lives were lost, so far as known.

Early Wednesday morning the dead body of a man was found in the cemetery, near the depot, at Winnemucca, Nev. It was discovered later on in the body of James Ricketts, of Paradise valley. His shooting was seen in several places, and as the body was raised a pistol fell, apparently from the grasp of his right hand. Two chambers of the revolver were empty. On examination it was learned that he was shot in the mouth, and it is supposed to be a case of suicide, although no reason for such an act was known, further than a small financial embarrassment. A few years ago he was one of the wealthiest men of Humboldt county and prominent in its affairs. He was a member in good standing of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Free and Accepted Masons. He leaves a wife and a 14-year-old son.

Seventy lawyers are on the trail of Mrs. Ida Heydenfeldt, alias the widow Frost. They claim that she has taken them in, each to the amount of $1, and they swear they will have satisfaction if justice can be obtained in the courts of San Francisco. The cause of their ire is thus explained by one of the legal gentlemen: Last April Mrs. Frost called at his office, and after stating that she was the relict of Louis P. Frost, said she was in financial straits. To escape from it she proposed to sell a set of the 130 volumes of her late husband's library. The tickets were $1 each and 200 would be issued. Would the lawyer take one or more? The attorney consented, but after paying over the coin handed back the ticket. This Mrs. Frost refused to accept and departed, wishing her customer good success on July 15th, when the drawing would take place. His enquiries were crossed by a statement which she made that he could purchase separate volumes if necessary, and it was strengthened when he heard of her marriage on the high seas to young Heydenfeldt. July 15th came, but there was no sale for Mr. Frost's law library, and soon it became known that the volumes had been purchased by Tom, S. Wilson. Then the lawyers became convinced that they had been sold. All attempts to get the money back from Mrs. Heydenfeldt or her brother, Frank Paterson, who they believed had a hand in the affair, have failed.

Francisco Paterno, one of the most desperate men on the border, escaped from the Fresno jail, Cal., Sunday night, and has made his way into this country. He was charged with the murder of the Lemcke family at Valley of the Palms, forty-five miles below San Diego, and had been in jail two months awaiting investigation of the case and trial. Paterno was born just below the line and has been a hard case all his life, giving trouble to the officers by smuggling and horse stealing. The crime of murdering the Lemcke family, charged against him, was most atrocious. Lemcke and his wife were old Mormons, running a halfway house at Valley of the Palms, and Paterno had stopped there on the way to Escondido. About a year ago the house was found burned to the ground and the bodies of Lemcke and his wife were found in the ashes, with evidence that they had been murdered. On the trail from the Valley to an Indian rancheria, some miles distant, were some small articles belonging to the Lemckes, and the officers believed at first that the killing was done by Indians. Suspicion later pointed strongly to Paterno and two deserters from the Mexican army, who had been at the Valley of the Palms just before the murder, making their way from Ensenada to the United States. One deserter was arrested, but the other got away, and Paterno was captured a month later while visiting home.

A correct account has been received of the terrible accident at Shelton, Wash., on Saturday last, by which two men were cooked alive and two others terribly burned. At 8 o'clock Saturday a logging train of twenty-four loaded cars was thundering down the grade on the Pentosula railway toward Shelton. Unknown to the train crew the forest fire had traveled many miles since the train passed up and the dense smoke prevented the engineer from seeing that trestle 1, three miles from Shelton, was ablaze. A trout fisherman flagged the train, but too late. As the engineer reversed the lever the engine, tender and four cars crashed through the trestle, falling sixteen feet upon a mass of burning drift wood on the banks of the creek underneath. Engineer Snyder escaped unhurt, but looking back he saw Fireman Joseph Sneman covered with burning wood, a heavy coal box across his chest and steam pouring over him from the head end of the engine. In rescuing Sneman, Snyder burned his hands to the bone. He was turned inter-rally and is in a precarious condition. Sneman was literally cooked from head to foot and died the next day. He leaves a widow and two children. Nels Peterson and Thomas White, workmen, were riding on the back end of the tender. They fell into the blazing mass of wood and were fatally scalded. Only one-fourth of Peterson's body—the rest being ashes—was recovered next day. White left a wife and seven children. George Sundeleck, who was riding in the cab, jumped into the mass of burning timbers and was horribly burned. It is feared he will be crippled for life. Traffic on the Pentosula railroad is still suspended, and a pall of gloom hangs over Shelton.

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SALTAIR TRAINS on Page

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