right when he was first elected, and probably he was so far as could be then determined. But there was certainly a moral weakness in his make-up and when he was confronted with the temptations arising from the handling of vast sums of money he fell. His party will be more or less hampered with the disastrous record he has made, but no honest republican will attempt to palliate the crime or to stay the officers of the law in meting out merited punishment. The party should be purged of such untrustworthy material and the penalty wherever the law has been infracted should be in adequate proportion to the crime.

Wisner Chronicle: Hundreds and thousands of honest republicans in Nebraska who place the welfare of the state above party name are rejoicing that the old ring politicians who have been holding the party up and filching from the public for years are completely unhorsed and the real condition of the state's finances disclosed. The purer elements of the party had been striving for a long time to wrest the control of the party and its conventions from the corrupt combine, but without success. They had longed to see the party purify itself until they lost patience, and in 1894 and 1896 forsook party for principle and turned the state over to the party promising reform. The entire republican press now stands aghast at the state of affairs as they are shown to exist, and ceases to condemn the bolters of the two last campaigns whose courage made the chastisement of wrong doers effective for the public good.

Wood River Interests: Ex-Auditor Moore and ex-Treasurer Bartley are being hauled over the coals for filching from the public treasury and betraying the public trust. If these parties are guilty of the offences charged against them the full penalty of the law should be meted out to them. The public morals and the republican party have been too much imposed upon by traitors to their trust of late and it is high time that a stop should be put to it. A man is doubly a thief who steals not only the public money, but robs the people of their confidence in their public servants. The public has been too much inclined to condone such offences and say that the guilty party was such a nice man and that at heart he didn't intend any wrong and that mercy rather than justice should be meted out to him. We are firmly of the opinion that it is high time to do away with sentiment and get down to business.

Alma Record: The people of Nebraska are all pleased at the action of the Nebraska legislature in getting to the bottom of the shortages of the ex-state officers. While these steals have been made by republican officials, it is in no way a party matter, now that the thefts have been committed, but if there is any way to recover any portion of the shortages, we should all lend our efforts in assisting in the matter. Past experiences with defaulters of the people's money have been indeed dismal failures, and while the defalcations of Bartley and Moore represent over half a million dollars, it is indeed a question if the state will ever recover enough of the amount to wad a gun with. If such acts as these continue, and the hand of the law deals as gently with the offenders as it has in the past, it will but result in an increase in the number of lynch cases and a corresponding decrease in the numbers on the court docket. The taxpayers of the country are sick, tired and disgusted with such acts.

Norfolk News: Ex-Treasurer Bartley's arrest was the only thing that could be done under the circumstances, and the wonder is that he was not arrested long ago. When a man walks out of office and bluntly refuses to account for half a million dollars of public funds, it is high time something be done to bring him to a realizing sense of where he is at. For sublime nerve and supreme bravado, Bartley has put up an exhibition that is worthy of admiration and should entitle him to a warm place behind massive walls and barred windows for many years. The claim that is now advanced that Bartley never qualified for his second term, and consequently he and his bondsmen are not liable for the money which he received on behalf of the state, is a very flimsy excuse, and should not be allowed to stand for a moment. If Bartley is short in his accounts, and there seems no doubt but that he is, his bondsmen should be compelled to make good the shortage and he should be prosecuted with the same vigor as any other criminal. There has been altogether too much defalcation of public moneys in this state and it is time a few examples be made. Let the populists proceed with their work and let them do it well.

Central City Nonpareil: Ex-State Treasurer Bartley has been arrested for the embezzlement of about a half million dollars of the state's money. He persists that he has not stolen a dollar and that if given time this money will be turned over to his successor without the loss of a dollar to the state. This sounds all very well, and we hope Mr. Bartley will be able to and will keep his word. It is not pleasant to be compelled to think of our public officials as possible thieves. But the question is, how much time does Mr. Bartley want in which to make this settlement? He has had a reasonable time already and we agree with Treasurer Meserve that it is high time that a settlement be made. Mr. Bartley knew that he would have to make this settlement with his successor, and should have been prepared to do so at once. The delay justifies the public in suspicioning crookedness on his part. If honest, let him make an immediate accounting, and if dishonest, let the law take its course and give him the full prescription. We have had too much dishonesty in our public officials already, regardless of party, and if the state legislature wishes to redeem itself, let them pass a law that will give officials no privileges other than strict obedience to the duties pertaining to their office.

Minden Gazette: The peculations of Treasurer Bartley and Auditor Moore deserve and are receiving the condemnation of all good people, regardless of political considerations. If conditions are as bad as they seem to be, the fact that they have heretofore been men of unimpeachable character and integrity should be no bar to their disgrace and punishment to the full limit of the law. Moore, especially, has been characterized as the "clean" man of his party, and even populists and democrats, who, while they did all they could to defeat his election and retention in office, spoke of him as the one honest man in his party. These men have not only disgraced themselves and their families, but they have brought disrepute and dishonor upon the party which has been responsible for their elections and induction into office. There can hardly be any good or acceptable excuse for the course they have pursued. There are a whole lot of us who would like to have money to invest in profitable mines or put into banks at a good rate of interest, but that fact would not justify the misappropriation of funds which did not belong to us, in order to do it. The republican party will have to suffer the consequences of the acts of its trusted servants, and Bartley and Moore have given the party quite a jolt, yet none are more severe in their denunciations or more earnest in their criticisms of this whole matter than the republicans themselves.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

British vegetarians offer a prize of $100 for the best ten biblical texts in support of vegetarianism. Eve's eating of the apple is suggested as a repast that "brought death into the world and all our woe."

An Indiana man, who purloined a sandwich, has been sent to an insane asylum. The unfortunate nibbled at the alleged edible and drove the roots of his wisdom teeth far into his gray matter. To point a moral is superfluous.

While lecturing, says a London paper, Nansen talks in a kind of staccato manner, subdividing his words into little groups of one or more, with a sharp stop between them. Sometimes it sounds like a child learning to read.

Four letter carriers in St. Louis have been ordered to show cause why they should not be dismissed for rupturing the rule forbidding the sale of ball tickets on their routes. Now they are giving an exhibition of dancing on the carpet.

Frederick H. Rindge, long a resident of California, and who has given his native town of Cambridge, Mass., a city hall, a public library building and a manual training school at an expense of more than $1,000,000, has decided to return to Cambridge to live and to educate his children.

The Swiss engineer, Ilg, to whose good offices the peace negotiated between Italy and Abyssinia is chiefly due, has received from the negus, in recognition of his valuable services, a concession of land necessary for the construction of a line of railroad from the interior of Abyssinia to a port on the Red sea. The line in question is to be several hundred miles long, will be financed by French capitalists and is to be put under way at once.

Rev. Charles W. Stowe of Simsbury, son of the late Harriet Beecher Stowe, acting for himself and his two sisters, has withdrawn all objection to the model of the statue in memory of Mrs. Stowe, which is now on exhibition at the Massachusetts capitol. The Equal Rights club, under the direction of Mrs. Ella B. Kendrick, purposes erecting the statue on the capitol grounds. It is to cost $25,000.

The artist, Whistler, is a conspicuous object as he threads his way along the crowded Strand in London in flat-brimmed French hat and overcoat, with frequently a brown paper parcel under his arm. People turn to look twice at his remarkable hat, but usually they fail to recognize the wearer, for he is photographed less often than almost any other celebrity, and the public is not familiar with his features.

IOWA PRESS COMMENT.

Des Moines Capital: The city of Des Moines having bought ground for a new cemetery one grave public question is removed from discussion.

Sioux City Journal: Nebraska beet sugar refiners are contracting with Iowa farmers for sugar beets to be grown this year. There is no doubt that Iowa soil is good for sugar beets.

Davenport Republican: If Speaker Byers is correct in saying that the code revision work in the house is only one-third done, the extra session has still three months or more before it. It had been supposed that the session would close in April.

Dubuque Times: Each man who labors for a living, as well as those who are tradesmen and professionals, should keep up courage and look into the future and be prepared to take the industrial tide at its flood when it sweeps the shore line upon which he stands. The tide is rising now, slow to be sure, but it is on the inward flow, instead of the outward ebb, and will reach this good land some time in the not remote future.

Davenport Democrat: It is not often that there are so many buildings in contemplation at this time of the year as there are at the present time. It is only the first part of the month of March, and yet there are buildings in sight for the year that will cost $100,000 or more, while a month later than this there is ordinarily not so much in sight. The low price of building materials and labor is having its effect, and many who would not have built before next year, if at all, will put up buildings just because they can be put up so cheaply.

THE "CRIME OF '97."

Springfield Republican: Silver now staggers under another whack, this time given by Japan. The price has fallen within a day or two to the lowest point touched in two years. It may yet rise, as Bryan says, "and in its rising bless mankind," but mankind at just this moment seems determined not to be blessed.

Courier Journal: Not only has Japan determined to adopt the gold standard, but there is now also the best reason for believing that India will soon begin to coin gold as a legal tender. These are the two greatest silver-using nations, and with their accession to the ranks of the gold standard there is no hope left for international bimetallism, to say nothing of a return to the debased monetary system advocated by the calamity-howlers of Europe and America.

New York Post: Japan's abandonment of the silver standard is an et-tu-Brute blow to our silverites, both of the free and independent kind, and the slavishly international sort. Japan, alluded to in a large way as "the Orient," has long been a tower of strength to them. Free silver coinage might have its risks, but how about the Oriental trade? We might ourselves manage to worry along on the gold standard, but could you hope that the Japanese ever would try it? Besides, there was that terrible par of exchange which we must contrive to keep from being dislocated, and doing something for silver was the only way to accomplish this. But this "Asian mystery" of bimetallism is now fast crumbling to dust.

SMILING LINES.

Detroit Free Press: "They say now that a bicycle cures consumption."

"Yes. I can't expect three meals a day until I get mine paid for."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "I will be remembered," said the poet, "when you are forgotten."

"Very likely," said the plutocrat. "I always pay cash."

Washington Star: "Sometimes," said Uncle Eben, "de man dat pays hundu'hds ob dollahrs foh flags an' decorations ain' ez much ob er patriot ez de one dat goes quietly 'long an' pays 'is taxes an' serves on de jury wifout kickin'."

Chicago Record: "How's business?" asked one street fakir.

"Not very brisk," replied the other. "Sold anything?"

"Only three or four people so far."

Indianapolis Journal: "I wonder if Adam could have had any poetic talents?"

"Of course not. Poets are born; not made."

Detroit Journal: "Sir," exclaimed the citizen, "your reasons are a rope of sand!"

"No," replied the editor, sadly, his mind reverting to the price he had been paid for his influence, "a cord of wood."

Philadelphia Record: An old bachelor says: "It is all nonsense to pretend that love is blind. I never knew a man in love who did not see ten times as much in his sweetheart as I did."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "I wonder who wrote that song about 'down in a coal mine?'" asked the reminiscent boarder. "I suppose he was one of these minor poets we hear so much of," said Asbury Peppers.

Chicago Record: "Josephine has an interesting measure to put before the mothers' congress."

"What is it?"

"She wants a law compelling every woman who has a son to remember that he will probably be some other woman's husband."

Indianapolis Journal: Watts—I suppose, when one takes Adam's conduct in that fruit deal into consideration, that he can hardly be called a gentleman.

Potts—He could not have been a gentleman anyway. How could a man be a gentleman without any ancestors?

Philadelphia Times: "The train boy was caught smoking one of his own cigars, wasn't he? What did the company do about it?"

"Nothing. He died before he could be prosecuted."

THE RECTOR'S RETURN.

By J. J. H. Reedy.

Beloved pastor, once more returned the bread of life to break
To hungry souls; again the consecrated chalice to take,
And minist'ring in His holy name the sacramental feast;
In triple sacred gifts as did the kings from far off east;
Again commemorate with heart and voice the praise of Him
Who did Salvation bring to all the race; and bring to Him
The off'rings of sincere and grateful hearts now full aglow
With gratitude and love; we come unitedly to show
Our glad remembrance, reverence, Godly fear and hope—
With thee, our chosen leader.

The union of our hearts is doubly blest, reciprocate.
In act and deed—unitedly to supplicate
The throne of grace in time of sorrow and of need,
That priest and laity, happy, content with that mead
Of full supply against the day when earthly friend
No more can each want remove; no human hand extend
Relief. Then coming in His name thou canst bring
Heaven's blessing down to us.
We welcome thee within the hallowed walls of church
And home; nor hence depart till thou hast searched
Each soul, and find the consolation—deep and pure—
That Christ to thee imparts; in holy faith secure
Against the wiles of earth's most dreaded foe;
And with the absolution of the gracious Lord
And peace of heart no other ways or means afford.
And now we bid thee welcome.

(Composed on the occasion of the return of the Rev. Canon Liwyd to the Church of the Good Shepherd, Omaha, after having conducted a successful mission at Falls City, Neb.)

Pulse of Western Progress.

That there are now in the hills more idle miners and workingmen of all classes than can find employment even during the busiest season is a fact, says the Deadwood Independent, that should be borne in mind by all who are contemplating going there in search of work. But for the experienced prospectors, with sufficient means to carry them through with their work, and for capitalists seeking the most promising investments, the field in South Dakota is the best in the world. To one not familiar with the vast territory to be disposed of its remarkable activity might indicate that all the choice ground has been staked off, but this is by no means the case. Plenty of promising ground yet remains for the gold hunter in the region of Englewood and west of Bald mountain and Spearfish canon. A vast region of unexplored territory lies between the headwaters of Spearfish and the Black Buttes in Wyoming that cannot be prospected to any advantage until the snow disappears in the spring. This region has an altitude of nearly 5,000 feet above the sea level, is heavily timbered, and the snows that fall in the early winter remain until spring. It is an inviting field for the summer prospector, as the region abounds in game, and the formation is the same as that of Ragged Top. Another favorable locality is the limestone range, that commences southwest of Englewood, and continues down through Pennington and Custer in the southern hills. Some of this region has been looked over in the past, but on the whole it has been scarcely prospected. The meager examinations that have been made show glowing results. As Ragged Top, Boulder Park and Slaughter House gulch have proved that gold exists in the limestone, it is safe to conclude that the latter regions will be alive with prospectors the coming spring and summer. The great drawback to mining in the Black Hills for several years has been the lack of reduction plants to treat the ore. With reduction plants for the treatment of all ore that could be produced at little cost for mining there is scarcely a doubt that 50,000 tons of ore could be produced daily for the next fifty years. The ores of the archean formation with few exceptions will have to be crushed and concentrated, then heated by smelting, cyanide or chlorination, whichever method is best adapted to each particular ore.

GOOD AS A MINT.

Last summer no one dreamed that the Carriso mine would inside of six months show up a body of ore that would rival anything ever struck in the west for size and richness, writes a correspondent of the Cheyenne Sun-Leader. When Mr. Marrin took hold of the Carriso he believed that he could make wages, but nothing more, with the aid of Edward Walsh, Morris Johnson and John McNeil a fine shaft house 18x36 feet was built. The building was fitted up with everything in its proper place, an upright engine and boiler, a forge and a work bench being placed in this room and still plenty of room being left to move around in. When the work was finished on top the work commenced below. In a few days free gold began to show in each bucket as it came to the surface. The vein began to widen out and the ore showed up in greater richness. The ore panned from $50 to $100 per ton, then $200, then up to $253, but still higher rock which showed no gold when weighed and panned has since given a net return when the bullion was weighed of $1,813.33 per ton. I panned a piece of ore taken from the bottom of the shaft, which gave about 10 cents from an ounce of rock. Not a particle of gold showing in the quartz. Mr. Merrin showed me a certificate from the miners' assay office at Salt Lake City of a net value of $298.20 per ton, this from a small piece of the quartz carrying pure sulphate, no gold being visible, even with a powerful glass, so that now the ore is known to run from $298.20 to $1,813 per ton in a vein of over twenty feet. How much wider the chimney will get when depth is attained, I will not venture to predict. I have been in mining camps ever since I was a boy and I have never seen a body of ore that will equal it for size and richness. There is already more ore in sight than Mr. Marrin can work out in a full year. There is over $200,000 in sight, this at a depth of sixty-five feet. Think of four men building a shaft house and extracting $30,000 in 100 days, and that from a worked out mine. The early-day miners did not know what they had in the Carriso. If the Carriso is proving to be such a mine, what will the Franklin, Mahomet, Doc Barr, Mary Ellen and a score of other mines be when opened up?

MONTANA BOVINES.

"The cattle on the north Montana ranges have passed through the winter in excellent shape," said John Harris, manager of the Benton and St. Louis Cattle company, speaking recently to a representative of the Spokane Spokesman-Review. "The winter started in bad early in November, and the snow was from one to three feet deep on the ranges. Severe storms prevailed and the outlook was serious. Early in December, however, the snow melted from the range and ever since the weather has been excellent. Our company was the first to range cattle in that section of the country in the vicinity of the upper Marias. This was about fifteen years ago. This range was not much thought of by other cattlemen, for which we were glad, as it gave us unrestricted use of the range for several years. The advantages of the new range soon became apparent and the stockmen kept driving their herds to north Montana. The cutting down of the Blackfoot and Assiniboin Indian reservations threw open a large tract of splendid cattle ranges. A large number of steers have been shipped in during the past two years, and now these ranges are pretty well crowded. The raising of cattle is not as profitable as it was a few years ago. There are a great many losses occur from other causes than storms. During the last ten years the wolves have increased in great numbers and they destroy a great many calves and weak stock during each year. There is now a bounty of $3 for each wolf and coyote, and since that bounty has been paid thousands have been killed, and now the wolf hunters have stopped the increase by killing pup wolves, for which the same bounty is paid. Another thing which is affecting the ranges is the great number of farmers who are taking up land on the water courses and fencing in their ranches. This winter there were thousands of antelope on the ranges, driven south by the severe November storms. It has been reported that during the cold spell they came close to Havre in great droves."

NOVEL HOME INDUSTRY SCHEME.

A novel factory for Oregon is now under consideration by some of Portland's business men. The articles of incorporation are to establish a company that will engage in manufacturing woolen goods and clothes therefrom in Portland. The new establishment, says the Oregonian, is intended to receive wool as it comes from the sheep and turn out clothing made to order. It will, so to speak, receive sheep at one door, and from another send forth tailor-made clothes, ready for wear. The new company has received much encouragement from business men of the city, and interested parties believe the venture will prove a success beyond doubt. A large number of employes will be required, and the stimulus such an establishment will give business in Portland is the desideratum all classes hope for. Charles Coopey is the principal promoter of the new concern. The plan, as outlined by Mr. Coopey, is to move to this city a woolen mill now in operation. To this plant additions will be made, and a department for manufacturing clothing will also be a part of the factory. A complete scouring apparatus will be used, so that wool can be received direct from the producers, and when manufactured into cloth the tailor establishment in connection with the factory will put it into the form of clothing. Mr. Coopey has been figuring with several persons for some little time in regard to organizing the new company. The woolen mill can be moved all right, as the owners are eager to get a location in Portland. This plant is estimated at $30,000, which amount the proprietors are willing to take in stock of the new concern. The entire capital stock, while not settled definitely yet, will be from $75,000 to $100,000, probably the latter sum. This will be divided into shares of $100 each. Many persons have already signified their willingness to take shares. The factory will turn out woolen goods, blankets, clothing, etc., including uniforms of all kinds. When running at full capacity, the mills themselves would employ about 200 men, while the number in connection with the factory would probably reach near 300 hands.

SINKING RAILROAD TRACK.

The accident on the Spokane & Palouse at the crossing of McKenzie marsh, near Marshall Junction, by which ten or twelve rods of track disappeared is one almost, if not quite, without parallel, says the Spokesman-Review. The swamp is like many others in that region, being so nearly level that the water stands all over it for months in the spring, but the lack of inflow causing it to dry out in time to permit the cutting of the luxurious grass that the water brings into being, making the ground extremely valuable for the production of hay. It has been utilized for this purpose for years, and, except for high water undermining the track, was an ideal location for a railroad. The track crossed the marsh on a fill four or five feet above the sod, a culvert allowing the water to pass under the rails. The sod was nearly eighteen inches in thickness, and drain ditches had been dug in various directions, some of them as much as four feet deep, the bottom of them apparently being solid earth. But after settling gradually for some time, the sod on each side suddenly broke, and nearly the whole right of way for nearly the whole width of the marsh sank. It evidently went down one side first, as that part of the track still visible is turned up, only the ends of the ties sticking out of the mud. About three rail lengths is entirely out of sight, and where formerly was a smooth surface of firm turf is now a bog, into which any heavy object thrown instantly disappears. When the company started to repair the break gas pipe was lowered to find how deep the bog was, and in one place sixty feet was put down without finding bottom, although the mud was stiffer as it went deeper. The injury is being repaired with a trestle, fifty-foot piling going deep enough to hold a train. Whether it will last or continue to settle time only will show.

DOGS FOR ALASKA.

Some time ago an Alaska trader visited the city looking for dogs, says the Portland Oregonian. He spent several days here, and left with six lusty canines which he had purchased at very reasonable rates. He said he wanted the dogs to take to Alaska and make common carriers of them, dogs being the only animals that can stand the grief of a trip up the Yukon, and be good for anything when they get there. Eskimo dogs are, of course, preferable for this purpose, being intended by nature for such use, but Eskimo dogs are scarce and expensive, so ordinary dogs are used to take their places and answer very well. All that is required is a long-haired dog, big enough to haul his share of a sledge and sufficiently young and intelligent to be capable of learning the business. Such dogs command a good price, a fact which many men who are now working extra hours for money to feed household pets will be glad to learn. There has been more or less inquiry for dogs in Portland and the cities of the Sound every spring. This year, however, the development of the mines on the Yukon has taken so many miners into the mining district that the demand for pack animals is greater than ever, and the dog market is likely to be very brisk before long. St. Bernards and Newfoundlands are next to Eskimo dogs probably best adapted to use on sledges, being more intelligent and better protected from cold than other breeds. But setters and the great variety of animals that are "just dogs," will do very well if they are large enough. In France, Germany and Holland dogs are used very commonly to haul milk carts or peddlers' wagons. They sometimes are hitched ahead of the cart, and sometimes behind it, but usually are harnessed underneath between the wheels. They are perfectly willing to work, and will haul a surprisingly large load.

THE DAKOTAS.

Cattle on the ranges at Fort Pierre are reported in excellent shape.

The Onyx cave, which is not far from Hot Springs, bids well to rival Wind cave as a natural attraction for tourists.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway company has paid its 1896 taxes in Beadle county, amounting to nearly $3,000.

The poultry exhibition of the Davison County Poultry association, held last month at Mitchell, is said to have been the most successful of its kind ever held in the state.

Farmers up around Iroquois have begun to use skees, or Norwegian snowshoes, to go to town with, because the trains are blockaded and wagon roads are still worse.

The Oceola cheese factory will be turned into a creamery, the necessary addition in machinery having already been ordered. This will give them eight creameries in Kingsbury county.

With the nearly $60,000 that the State university at Grand Forks, N. D., will get from the state this year, an effort will be made to keep the institution open. It will necessitate the cutting down of the expenses and the discharge of some of the instructors.

A. E. Swan, who put in a government well on the Yankton reservation, says it is a gusher. It flows 1,600 gallons a minute, has seventy pounds pressure and is 775 feet deep. It is the first of two wells being put down by the government to fill up the dry bed of Lake Andes.

The large site donated by Bismarck, N. D., to the government for a new military post has been accepted and work will begin as soon as frost leaves the ground. The post will accommodate twelve companies of infantry and four of cavalry and will cost $1,000,000.

Work has been suspended on the artesian well that the government started at Rosebud Indian agency, the appropriation made by congress having become exhausted. The hole is 2,500 feet deep, and the artesian basin has not been reached. The hole is thirteen inches in diameter at the surface and is six inches at the bottom.

The Rapid City School of Mines has recently purchased a ten-ton smelter, which will be used to instruct the pupils in the practical reduction of ores by the smelting process. The school has a big attendance and a number of the classes have overflowed their regular laboratory rooms and are utilizing all kinds of rooms and corners.

The annual roundup of half breeds and settlers by United States marshals is at hand in the vicinity of Rolla, N. D. More than 100 warrants are now out for wood poaching on government lands in the Turtle mountains. It is expected that thousands of cords of wood and posts, cut on public lands, will be seized and sold at public auction.

COLORADO.

The Leadville city council has appropriated $90,000 for the conduct of city affairs for the coming year.

Another streak of rich quartz has been encountered in the Venable mine, in Gunnison county, which, it is thought, will surpass all the rest in richness.

A body of ore three and one-half feet wide, assaying $17 its entire width, was opened up in the Nest Egg shaft on Oil creek, near Gillette, at a depth of eighty-five feet.

The big strikes that have been made in the Bare hills during the past fifteen days have brought prospectors to this camp from all over the country, the majority coming from Cripple Creek and Victor. James Redpark located on High creek, near King's ranch, and panned gold out of a twenty-foot hole to the tune of $900 per ton.

The people in the vicinity of Grant are preparing to go into the Middle Swan country, which is situated just over the range, twelve miles west. Some wonderful mineral veins and porhyry dykes were opened up in that country last season and a great rush is expected next spring. A few are going in there now, but it is advisable to keep out until the last of April.

A strike or high-grade, hard carbonate in the Nil Desperandum group, carrying 100 ounces, has caused a revival of interest in Leadville mines. For years this property has been prospected by those having faith in it, and the strike is but a reward of persistent seeking. Assays of the mineral show from 400 to 500 ounces of silver, seven-tenths of an ounce in gold and a good percentage of lead.

The greatest strike ever made in the famous Utica mine, Ward, has been reported. Fourteen feet of ore has been uncovered, eight feet of this matter being solid smelting ore and six feet of milling dirt. The smelting yields $90 per ton instead of about $60 as heretofore, while the stuff sent to the company's mill has also improved in value. The Utica has made Ward and gives the camp a standing in the mining world.

Another rich strike on Neoga mountain was made in the Niobe. In a fifty-foot tunnel a streak of ore was disclosed running seven and one-half ounces in gold and 101 ounces in silver per ton. This is the third property on this mountain to come to the front in the last few weeks. Neoga is just west and overlooking Lake City. More mines are being worked in this county than ever before at this season. A list of properties receiving continuous work would include the names of over fifty.

Two important strikes have been made near Capitol City. The Mineral Farm, owned by Nordquist brothers, has opened up a seven-foot vein of white quartz that has seven streaks of petzite averaging twelve inches width each. The values run up into the thousands of dollars per ton. On the Gaulicia, a short distance from the above claims, the owners, Guionneau Bros., have opened up a four-foot vein of ore that assays twelve and one-half ounces in gold and that mill-runs two and one-half ounces by the carload.

There is seen every Sunday in Saw Pit one of the most novel prospecting outfits in the mountains. At Deep Creek, eight miles above the place, lives a prospector and miner named Wilkes, the owner of a large St. Bernard dog. Every Sunday he hitches the dog into a small sleigh and drives to town for his week's supplies, often hauling back 200 pounds of merchandise, tools, etc. The intelligent animal trots off with a load at a much faster gait than his master can keep up, often having to wait for the latter to overtake him.

Andrew Le June, superintendent of the Gold Cup mine, near the town of Pitkin, Gunnison county, has received many congratulations on account of the remarkable strike which was made a few days ago in the property under his care. The strike was made at a depth of 720 feet and is one of the richest known in the district for years. The ore body is twenty-six feet across and assays $26 to $1,100 to the ton. The ore is of the same character as was yielded by the mine in its earlier history, when the property produced $2,500,000 and was known as one of the great mines of the state.

WYOMING.

The only boring outfit between Casper and Douglas is working a night and day shift. They are down some 500 feet.

Glenrock miners are not working full time owing to the cheapness of corn in Nebraska, which is being burned instead of coal for fuel.

The Albany placers consist of 1,500 acres of ground situated on Douglas creek, Cold run, Joe's creek, Willow creek and others, 1,200 acres of which, it is claimed, is pay gravel from five to ten feet deep, and accessible to water. The company has an abundance of water with which to work the ground, the same being supplied through several ditches.

According to the census of 1896 there are on the Shoshone reserve, says the Indian Guide: Shoshone males, 439; Shoshone females, 451; total, 890. Arapahoe males, 410; Arapahoe females, 445; total, 855. Total of both tribes, 1,746. School children between 6 and 16 years: Shoshones, 200; Arapahoes, 189; total, 389. There are a number in school over the census age of 16 years, but this number is about balanced by those below 16, who are married or not available for school.

Range reports are much more favorable in the vicinity of Rawlins. The recent warm weather has settled the snow, leaving many bare spots where stock can feed. Those who had sheep near the Union Pacific railway shipped in hay and have been feeding. Sheep are weak and losing flesh. If there are no more severe storms they will pull through with but a small increase over the average losses. West of the continental divide there is but little snow, the heavist fall being east of the divide toward Laramie.

The storm between Wyoming and Fort Steele has been raging with unabated fury. For nearly three weeks there has been no cessation, and stock throughout the section covered by the storm suffered severely. All of Carbon county has suffered more or less. In many cases sheepmen have endeavored to haul their sheep to the railroad in wagons, in order that they might be able to feed them hay, but this has been an uphill job because of the deep snow. Many thousands of dollars will probably be lost to them. The high winds have kept the snow in the air and the piercing coldness of the atmosphere has added to the discomfort of man and beast.

Ninety thousand sheep are registered to be shorn at Johnson & Kincaid's Casper Creek ranch. The shearing pens at that place are twenty-two, and clean. The dipping facilities are complete. In fact every facility is much more complete than last year. A new bunk house is now in course of erection and a large new dining hall was built last summer after the shearing and dipping season. The dwelling built last summer is also finished. The horse stables will accommodate fifteen teams and the feed is grown on the ranch. A new ice house 20x20 was built and filled during the late cold snap as well as the old one, making 100 tons of ice stored for summer. Besides the native grass grown, forty acres will be sown to alfalfa this spring.

OREGON.

The steamer Czarina, on her latest trip from Coos bay, took out 1,200 tons of coal.

In some localities along the Columbia river peach trees are said to be putting forth their buds.

A large number of cottonwood and white fir logs are now being cut along the Willamette, preparatory to being rafted down the river to the pulp mill at Oregon City. A crew of loggers has gone to work also on the South Santiam, below Lebanon, cutting logs for the Oregon City mills. The price paid for logs in the river is about $3.50 per thousand feet.

Tillamook is to have an opera house. It is nearly finished, and when done, will be 40x100 feet, with a stage twenty feet in depth.

There is some excitement in Astoria over the reported discovery by A. J. Coultrie of gold in the black sand of the Cannon beach, on the Bell ranch.

The Paradise Valley Fruit company is still setting out fruit trees by the thousand in Douglas county, on a tract of land recently bought by the company.

Fruit trees on Snake river are reported to be in fine condition, and there is every indication that a large crop will be harvested during the coming season.

The bridge across the north fork of the Trask river, on the Yamhill and Tillamook tollroad, has been rebuilt. The bridge was washed out during the high water last November.

There are quite a number of horses dying on the range this winter, says a Lower Powder correspondent. This is not surprising, as there is no grass. Very few care enough about their horses to even look after them.

China mustard is getting to be one of the worst pests the farmers of Sherman county have to contend with. Its most troublesome feature is in heading and threshing. When tender, cattle do much to destroy it, but when left to its own sweet will, its roots take hold with a firmness that baffles the strength of a man.

Assessor Britt of Douglas county has on exhibition at his office in the court house a small bottle filled with flake gold which he picked up at different times along the river on his place near Riddle. He has about fifty acres of bottom land on his farm, and says there is not a rod of it that does not contain gold in greater or lesser quantities.

WASHINGTON.

A rich find of brittle silver has been discovered in the New Seattle mine on Martin creek, near Silverton.

Eastern Washington has shipped out its supply of hogs very close to the point where local consumption will require all supplies.

The irrigating plant in Pasco is in position, and it is the intention to operate it as soon as the water in the river rises high enough.

Ice is being harvested in Palouse. For a long time this winter it was thought there would be no ice to harvest, but the recent cold weather made ice of good quality four inches thick.

An experienced grocer, who himself sells and uses the weed, estimates that the tobacco bill of Olympia amounts to $5,000 per month, counting all the forms in which it is consumed.

The people of Wenatchee hope soon to have a creamery. A committee has been appointed to find out the number of cows in the valley and to act with Mr. Maltbe, who proposes to put up the creamery.

The wood famine at Palouse has gotten so far along that several carloads have been shipped in from Vollmer and many are burning coal. The city has put coal grates into the boiler at the pumping station, and coal is being burned. Never before had this been done there.

The professor of agriculture at the college at Pullman has made an examination of the fruit buds from various parts of Whitman county, and says positively that the cherry and pear buds are killed, and also most of the prunes and plums. Apples are pronounced safe so far.

An emery wheel running at a speed of about 2,300 revolutions a minute, exploded in the Dayton Foundry company's workshop recently. Although there were four men and two boys in the shop at the time of the explosion, none of them were hit by the flying pieces. A small piece of the wheel knocked out a portion of one window sash, and for a moment the air was full of emery wheel.

The daughters of Dr. Herdman of Westport, Chehalis county, have homesteads in the North river country, which they first settled on four years ago, and in spite of the many difficulties and inconveniences which have many times confronted them, they have faithfully "held down" their claims. In order to reach their claims they have to walk twenty miles from Montesano, over a trail.

The ranchers around Chewelah, who have been disappointed in finding a ready market in Spokane for the cordwood they cut during the winter, are finding sale for it up in the British Columbia mines at a fair price. Butter, eggs, poultry, milk and vegetables are being bought up throughout the Chewelah valley and shipped to Rossland, Nelson and other points across the line. One rancher, living a few miles from Chewelah, last year shipped over 6,000 pounds of butter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Nevada cattle and sheep raisers are on velvet. Sheep have advanced nearly 100 per cent and there is a heavy shortage in the cattle supply.

According to the statistics the total number of cattle available on Nevada ranges does not exceed 18,000 head, whereas the usual average at this season exceeds 50,000.

In a recent decision the supreme court of British Columbia holds that under the coal mines regulation act it is illegal to employ Chinamen in underground coal mining.

A tin cup with $200 in gold coin was found by diggers on the Swanson placer at Rio Vista, Cal. Swanson died in 1891 and his widow, believing he had buried money, set men to searching.

Farmers in the vicinity of Pixley and Saucelito, Tulare county, California, have been having rabbit drives for four weeks and in that time have slaughtered 11,000 of the long-eared pests.

On the recommendation of the chief of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry the governor has issued a proclamation raising the cattle quarantine against Arizona. Inspector Hill having reported that splenetic fever no longer exists among the cattle in that territory.

The salmon run in the Yukon was very light last season and to this cause is due the unusual scarcity of dog feed. Dried salmon is comparatively light and a dog team can quite easily draw a sufficient amount for its own feed and the provisions of a man and camping outfit from Circle City to Dyea, but fresh meat is so much heavier that if sufficient is taken to feed the team along with the outfit of the driver the dogs become weak and very footsore before reaching the end of the journey.

The Reno Gazette is reliably informed that the Walker Lake reservation, now under the control and management of the Indian agent at Pyramid lake reserve, Nevada agency, is to be separated from the jurisdiction of said agency and placed under the control and management of the superintendent of the Carson Indian school. It appears that this move is the beginning of a plan to place all the Indian reservations of Nevada under the care and supervision of the school department of the Indian service.

There was some alarm last week over a threatened uprising of Piute Indians on the Walker river reservation in Nevada, but the prompt arrest of two white men who had killed an Indian ended the trouble. The Piutes were once a powerful tribe, but they have dwindled to a few hundred. They are ruled by Nachez, a brother of Sarah Winnemucca, the chief's daughter, who showed marked literary ability, and used her influence at Washington to help her tribe. Sarah was the ablest Indian that education has produced on this coast.

The outlook for all kinds of fruits in California is exceptionally good and only the late frost can damage crops. In some sections cherry and almond orchards are already in bloom. The excess of rain has done no hurt to fruit, and it has greatly helped the dry districts of the San Joaquin. Reports from the big grain districts show that prospects are good except around Rio Vista on the Sacramento river. There about 100,000 acres have been flooded. Still the increased acreage sown, owing to the stimulus of higher prices for wheat, ought to make the yield this season considerably larger than that of last year.

ALBERT MOTT FOR GIDEON'S PLACE.

Isaac B. Potter Will Have a New Chairman of the Racing Board.

CHICAGO, March 7.—The Times-Herald's Philadelphia special says: From a well authenticated source it is learned tonight that Isaac B. Potter, the newly-elected president of the League of American Wheelmen, has tendered or determined to tender to Albert Mott of Baltimore the position of chairman of the new racing board. This news will be surprising to all wheelmen, in view of the fact that one week before the recent election at Albany, Mr. Potter publicly declared himself in favor of continuing Mr. Gideon at the head of that all-important committee.

Mr. Mott was one of Mr. Potter's most zealous supporters and trusted lieutenants during the late campaign for the presidency of the League of American Wheelmen. According to Mr. Potter's plan, Mr. Gideon is to be retired from the board and C. A. Dillon, captain of the South End Wheelmen of this city appointed as the Philadelphia member of it. It is understood that in the event of Gideon not being reappointed chairman, the present members of the board from Chicago and Boston will decline to serve another term, which will leave another vacancy to be filled after Mott and Dillon are appointed.

PENSIONS FOR WESTERN VETERANS.

Heroes of the War Remembered by the General Government.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—(Special.)—Pensions granted, issue of February 13:

Nebraska—Original widow: Ellen L. Ewin, Exeter, Fillmore.

Iowa—Original (special February 18): Henry Saugel, Ottumwa, Wapello; John M. McLaughlin, Atalissa, Muscatine; John B. Woodward, Oelwein, Fayette. Increase: Cornelius Pettit, Fontanelle, Adair. Reissue: Henry B. Summey, Polk City, Polk. Original widow: Clymena Shephard, Livermore, Humboldt.

South Dakota—Reissue and Increase: Alonzo Selby, Chandler, Charles Mix.

Wyoming—Increase: Jacob Davis, Merino, Weston.

Colorado—Original: William Laws, Longmont, Boulder. Additional: John McAllister, Delta, Delta. Increase: William H. H. Caughman, De Beque, Mesa. Reissue: John Inman, Gunnison, Gunnison.

Issue of February 15:

Nebraska—Restoration and Increase: Dorsey B. Houck, Omaha, Douglas