failure, two immense stars will be added to Nebraska's great constellation. That packing house in addition to those already at South Omaha will make that city second only to Chicago as a packing center and fat stock market. It will cost over $1,000,000 and give employment to over 2,000 men. This will greatly benefit all Nebraska and adjoining states. And the said sugar factory will give a ready market for what will be a sure and profitable product of Nebraska, and with the railroads centering into that point it will be of easy access to a great portion of the state. It will become in a short time the great refining center for refining the crude product of the many factories which may in the near future spring up throughout the state, and Nebraska with its varied industries will become the banner state in the union. All this is not a mere possibility, but a probability. Yes, stand up for Nebraska!

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

There are bombs in the affairs of nations, which, if taken in the hand, lead up to amputation.

This is the one day of the year in which every small boy and not a few old boys delight to prove themselves crackerjacks.

New York is going in heavily for rubber tires on carriage wheels and rubber horseshoes. Thus a chord of harmony with rubbernecks is established.

"Cotton-tailed democrats" is the title Senator Vest bestows upon the members of his own party who voted for protection to cotton and other farm products.

There are other ways of promoting "good" Indians than the plan operated by Generals Harney, Crook and others. Five Minnesota braves absorbed enough hair oil the other day to insure an elegant growth of moss on their shrouds.

Bill Berry, the hobo millionaire, is down in St. Louis laying in a large number of juicy jags. Mr. Berry is an advanced prohibitionist who thinks the best plan of promoting the cause and contracting a happy death is to absorb all the booze in sight.

Speaking of long reigns, the New York Tribune shows that the Egyptian Pharoah, who entertained Abraham, held on to the throne for ninety-nine years. Fortunately America's special ambassador, the Tribune, did not reach Sandringham before the jubilee lawn party.

Senator Joseph Hawley, when in the class of '47 in Hamilton (N. Y.) college, was at the head of a band of sophomores who stole the college bell. For fifty years the names of the perpetrators were kept secret, but at the recent reunion of the class they were made public.

The anxious spouse of Prof. Glibschin poked him in the small ribs at 1 a. m. and whispered, "Something is moving down stairs." "Mrs. Glibschin," exclaimed the sage of Saddle Creek, "can you not comprehend the law of gravitation? That is perspiration flowing to the cellar."

Mr. Hunecker tells a story of Herbert Spencer playing billiards with an antagonist who ran out without giving the philosopher a chance to handle his cue. "Sir," said Mr. Spencer, "a certain ability at games of skill is an indication of a well-balanced mind, but adroitness such as you have just displayed is, I must inform you, strong presumptive evidence of a misspent youth."

IOWA'S FAITHLESS OFFICIALS.

Sioux City Journal: If ex-Secretary of State McFarland has any bombs to explode he should not forget that this is the fireworks season of the year.

Sioux City Times: Commencement of suits against McFarland and Spaulding by the attorney general of Iowa gives assurance to the people that Iowa is just as able to punish those who betray the confidence of the public as Nebraska or South Dakota.

Davenport Democrat: Attorney General Remley has brought suit against ex-Secretary of State McFarland on the specific charge of defrauding the state. Now let the attorney general push the prosecution. If Mr. McFarland has anything to say in self-defense, if others are as guilty as he is, let him have all the facts brought out.

Dubuque Telegraph: The attorney general of Iowa has instituted a civil suit against ex-Secretary of State McFarland to recover from him for the state money which he is alleged to have extorted from census employes and put in his pocket. The petition practically charges McFarland with a crime, and it is unmerited leniency that he is not made the defendant in a criminal as well as a civil action.

Davenport Republican: The state has sued Suel J. Spaulding and W. M. McFarland. The attorney general seeks to recover $5,000 from the bondsmen of each. Suel J. Spaulding was secretary of the pharmacy commission and embezzled $13,000 belonging to the state, as is well known. The suit against ex-Secretary of State McFarland charges him with gross misconduct in office and is the outgrowth of the investigation of last winter. The suits are both civil actions. Spaulding is charged with embezzlement and Secretary McFarland with having compelled certain persons employed by him in census work to divide their salaries with him. The sum asked is in lieu of damages.

JOKERS' EXPLOSIVES.

Indianapolis Journal: Tommy—Paw, what is the difference between "well" and "good?"

Mr. Figg—Well, I have noticed that about the only time you can be depended on to be good is when you are not feeling well.

Chicago Tribune: Imposing Personage (at the queen's jubilee)—Sir, you are obstructing the public view of me!

Equally Imposing Personage—Sir, the public did not come here to see you. It came to see Me.

"Sir, I am General Miles!"

"Sir, I am Richard Harding Davis!"

Chicago Record: "Well, doctor, how's everything? Is your business good?"

"Not specially; but I can always boom it by going fishing; all my patients get sick if I take a day off."

Detroit Free Press: Parke—I have a joint account in the bank with my wife now.

Lane—Good! You make an even thing of it, eh?

"Yes. I put the money in and she draws it out.

Washington Star: "You say that you want money to buy food for a hungry man whose face you never saw up to this time?"

"Yes, sir," replied Meandering Mike.

"Where is he?"

"He's standin' right here," was the hesitating reply. "I'm him."

Pittsburg Chronicle: "J. Addison!" "Yes, sire?" "I wish you would watch the newspapers carefully and cut out for my inspection all the commencement essays and orations you find." "Yes, your excellency, but may I inquire why you want them?" "Certainly. I want to know how to dispose of certain grave questions which are pressing for solution."

Household Words: "Do you think your sister likes me, Tommy?" "Yes; she stood up for you at dinner." "Stood up for me? Was anybody saying anything against me?" "No, nothing much. Father said he thought you were rather a donkey, but sis got up and said you weren't, and told father he ought to know better than to judge a man by his looks."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Brother," said the minister, gently, "you should read your bible more assiduously. Brother Burroughs—your next door neighbor, by the way—never lets a day pass without a perusal, at least, of his copy of holy writ." "He may read his bible all right," said the delinquent, "but he always borrows my newspaper."

SHIFTING THE BLAME.

Washington Star.

There never was a mortal yet
Who didn't say he had
Emotions of intense regret
Because this world is bad.
But, somehow, man can find no way,
Its standards to exalt;
The individuals all say
"It's other people's fault!"

THE DOMINANT IDEA.

Washington Star.

"When in the course of human events"—
Then came a deafening crash,
As if the big world
From its orbit were hurled
And were utterly going to smash!

"Come hither, my lad, for you surely must know
The rest of that powerful speech,
And its place with the day
Which we now make so gay
Wherever our banners can reach."

He paused while a great cannon cracker he lit,
And then took a moment to hoot,
"You are mixed in your dates,
And your facts are not mates;
We're not here to orate, but to shoot."

Pulse of Western Progress.

Ole Iverson, a rancher living on McNeil's island, started from her for home in a skiff today, says the Tacoma correspondent of the Examiner. His only cargo was a quarter of a hog that he intended to salt down for batching when the long days of winter come. As he passed Steilacoom he noticed a large school of porpoises all about his little craft and soon discovered they were following him. When he reached midchannel the school, numbering about 150, began to close in on him and two of the biggest ones worked up close alongside the skiff. Iverson by this time was pretty well scared and bent his oars like a good seafaring Swede. But the fleet-tailed sea pigs were too swift for him. As he drew opposite the United States penitentiary one of the two big leaders shot out of water into Iverson's frail craft, knocking the rancher overboard, breaking one of his ribs and upsetting the skiff. The other big fellow grabbed Iverson's quarter of pork and started to make off with it for deeper water. The rest of the school started to ram him as one porpoise, and for an instant there was a miniature maelstrom, with Iverson and the big porpoise as a storm center. Iverson, by a desperate effort, managed to swim out and made a landing. Dr. Macklinson of Steilacoom was sent for, dressed the man's wounds and says that he will be all right again in a few days. Iverson says he will sell his ranch cheap, and he has forsworn meat for as long a time as he must live on the island. While the sea fight was a serious affair for Iverson, it furnished much amusement to a party of excursionists who watched it as a safe distance while on a wayboat from Tacoma to Olympia.

NEW PLACER MINE IN MONTANA.

The little town of Harlem, of Choteau county, is all excitement on account of the discovery of a rich placer mine in the Cypress hills but a few miles distant from the town. The report had been carried into the surrounding country and many are preparing to leave for the scene of untold wealth. The exact location of the mine is about five miles from Malta in a direct line to the hills. The news reached here this afternoon through John Meier, an old mining man, who came in from Harlem to purchase an outfit and who proposes to return to the hills at once. The discovery was made by two Germans named Rudolph and Gus Helm, two prospectors who for several months past have been working in the hills and making a good living. Meier reports that a wash of six days resulted in $900 and the indications are that the mountain will last for an indefinite period. Mr. Meier says that several Indians became aware of the find and carried the news to Harlem and the surrounding country about a week ago. Several parties from that point started out and found the conditions as the Indians had represented. From Fort Benton comes a verification of the news this afternoon. It is said that several parties from there have started for the hills in company with several residents of the Milk River valley. Among the number who have caught the fever is John Gante, a prominent cattle man, who raised funds for the trip by disposing of a bunch of cattle. Mr. Meier left for Benton, from which point he will proceed overland to the hills tomorrow.

BLACK HILLS MINERAL WEALTH.

In the twenty years that have elapsed since the first settlement of the Black hills, the enormous sum of over $110,000,000 have been produced in gold alone. The annual output for the year 1896 was the sum of $8,235,009, which was an increase of $3,325,000 over the output of the preceding year. It is now predicted that with the recent discovery of rich mines in the northern and central hills the output for the year 1897 will at its lowest estimate exceed $12,000,000. These estimates do not include the silver and copper that have been saved by the various processes of treatment of ores of the Black hills, which was during the year 1896 estimated to amount to the sum of $1,000,000. In every portion of the mining region of the Black hills the work of developing mines of exceeding richness is being carried on with renewed energy, while competent mining engineers at the present time estimate that there is fully twenty years supply of ore in sight to supply the various reduction plants now in operation in the hills.

MAJOR WORDEN'S GOOD INDIANS.

Letters from Major C. E. Worden, in charge of the Klamath Indian reservation, who is now at Yainax, in the heart of the great Klamath basin, show the remarkable improvement which has been made in the condition of the Klamath, Modoc and Pa-Ute Indians by the allotment of land in severalty and the encouragement given by the agent for establishing homes, raising cattle and growing crops, says the Ashland, Ore., correspondent of the San Francisco Chronicle. The major expects to have all the Indians located upon their allotments this season. He has almost completed the allotment of the Klamaths, is nearly through with the Modocs and expects to begin with the Pa-Utes next month. He has just finished the survey of an irrigating ditch six miles long, which will bring water upon all the Indian lands in the agency. The Indians this season sowed 1,200 acres of grain. The Indians thousands of cattle, and they attend to their ranches like white men, branding their stock and keeping up fences and corrals. They are rapidly forsaking their old wild life and its customs, for they are quick to see the advantages of civilization, especially for their children. Nearly all the Indians who have received allotments of land have made substantial improvements in the way of fences, houses and stables. The two sawmills on the reservation cut lumber free for them, and the government is assisting them with sashes and doors, locks, nails, glass and paint.

LIVELY BEAR FIGHT.

Arlington can now boast of the champion bear dog, says the Portland Oregonian, on the following story related by George W. McCredy, a prominent sheepman of Klickitat county, shows: Mr. McCredy says that he and a party of sheepmen, consisting of Will Coleman, Milt Moorehead, George Van Ostran, the elder Coleman and a herder, while in the vicinity of the "swamp corrals," on the upper Klickitat river, came across a yearling brown bear, which was quickly treed by the pack of coyote hounds, three in number, belonging to Will Coleman. The bear being only a yearling and being treed so easily, Van Ostran offered to climb the tree and shake him out, evidently thinking him on a par with a coon, but the bear held on to the limb and refused to be given the shake. Then a rope was passed to Van Ostran, who threw a noose over the bear's head, and, giving the rope to one of the boys who was on horseback, the latter took a turn around the horn of the saddle, and, as he was riding a pretty good cow horse, he succeeded in pulling the bear down, and right here the fun commenced (for the bear), as the bear rushed at the horse and struck him a powerful blow with his right, cutting a deep gash in the horse's shoulder and side and freeing himself from the lariat. The sheepmen were all up bull pines by this time, and had a fine view of the battle, the hounds being assisted by a shepherd dog. The shepherd getting too near, the bear made a swipe at him, getting his claws under the dog's collar, and, off at arm's length, made him dance a jig for some minutes, the hounds then closing in to help the shepherd dog out. They were put out of the game in one-two-three order, with the exception of A. Smythe's staghound "Rattler," who seized the bear by the throat and was immediately locked in an embrace such as only a bear can give, the two rolling over and over on the ground, the dog never breaking his hold and lying so close to the bear's breast that he was unable, apparently, to squeeze him very hard. Thus they fought for over twenty minutes, until at last the bear succumbed, with his windpipe cut in two. Old man Coleman said he had killed a good many bear in his time, but he never saw such a game fight as "Rattler" made on that occasion. "Rattler" was raised by A. Smythe of Arlington and is one of the strain of staghounds brought here by R. T. Cox from Portland some three years ago.

WYOMING.

Bernard Menkens, a midget cycler four feet ten inches long and weighing but ninety pounds, has reached Cheyenne on a wheel trip from New York to the western dry land limit.

Surveyor General Thompson has received instructions from the commissioner of the general land office to let a contract for the surveying of seven townships in the Grand Encampment mining district south of Rawlins.

Engineer J. A. Johnston, who has just returned from a tour through central Wyoming, says the demand for pasture land adjacent to ranch property was never so great. The cattle and sheep men want their stock within easy range and where they can watch them. In the state engineer's office at the present time there are applications for over 100,000 acres of land, the greater number of applicants desiring small quantities of land near their ranches. But as the donations are all used up the state is forced to disappoint the applicants.

An effort is being made to have the Eighth United States infantry, stationed at Fort Russell, and the Wyoming National Guard unite in a summer encampment near Laramie City some time in August. The Eighth infantry always goes on a practice march and encampment each summer and is quite willing to unite with the Wyoming militia. The only thing uncompleted for this union encampment is the raising of sufficient money to bear the expenses of the state militia on this trip, no state funds being available for that purpose. The citizens of Laramie have undertaken to raise $500 to cover this expense, so that they may have this grand encampment of the federal soldiers and state militia for a week.

There is an immense dyke, some 600 feet wide, that runs through the Encampment country, and, so far as experts have been able to determine, the same dyke crops out over in the Sandstone country in the neighborhood of the Douglas mine. In the region of the Encampment this dyke is found to carry gold all through it in small quantities, averaging by assays from $4 to $60. It is of a dark brownish color, and large bodies of it stand up out of the ground, where it could be easily gotten at, and tons of it can be shot down with scarcely any more labor than the drilling for the charge. Throughout this dyke there are said to be veins of mineral, running parallel with it, that are quite rich in gold, running all the way from $20 to $225. It is one of these leads, about four feet wide, that Musgrove, Beagle, Judd and Sheldon have claims on, and which are considered very valuable.

THE DAKOTAS.

The creamery at Irene is prospering; the daily receipts being about 20,000 pounds.

All the empty dwelling houses in Parkston have been taken, and only one empty store building is left.

The old assay office building near the Homestake mill is a thing of the past, having been torn down and the boards sawed up for fuel. The floor and minor rubbish will be burned when it is expected that a good revenue will be found in the ashes of the floor, on which so many million dollars of bullion has been cut up and handled.

The Indians are figuring for a big celebration to take place at the Yankton reservation. A party of Flandreau Indians, seventeen wagons, carrying from five to twelve each, passed through Sioux Falls on Sunday evening bound for the celebration. They had about twenty dogs in the outfit, which would indicate that dog soup would be served up by the wholesale.

From every part of South Dakota comes the news of heavy rains which accompanied by hot weather for the last two weeks have made the crop outlook more promising than it has been in years and probably never surpassed in the history of the state. Corn has made wonderful progress since the last report. You can "see it grow" these days. Farmers are everywhere feeling happy over the outlook.

The wedding of a Sioux Indian maiden and a foreigner of wealth and social prestige was solemnized at Bismarck, N. D., last week. The bride was Picture Eyes, the daughter of John Moose, an old warrior, who has scalped many a white man and participated in many a tribal battle with contending aboriginal nations. The groom was Thomas Dulaine Cronan, an Irishman. This romantic wedding was the culmination of a courtship extending over a period of seven years.

Howard has adopted the novel plan of issuing tickets for the use of tramps who blow into that town. The tickets are furnished by the city to all who desire them, and when a Weary Willie calls at the back door for a meal he is given a ticket with instructions to go to the city marshal and have it countersigned, when it will be good for a meal. But in order to get the marshal's signature it is necessary to perform labor for the city to the equivalent. The plan is a good one and is meeting with success, and Howard has considerable less tramps than before the plan was started.

The Great Northern's crop report for the week ending June 26 is almost uniformly gratifying. The Willmar, Fergus Falls, Breckinridge and Northern divisions report the weather cool and damp throughout. Rains were frequent and spread generally over the entire country. The Dakota division stations report the weather cool with one shower and very favorable. It may be said that the weather last week, of the entire territory traversed by the Great Northern, was ideal wheat weather. The sky poured forth enough rain to soak the soil thoroughly and neutralize any injurious effects that might be experienced by too warm weather. Coolness was what the crops needed to give them a strong stalk and insure a high grade. The ground is in almost perfect condition everywhere, according to the agents' report. Grain is looking well, growing rapidly and is up to the season.

COLORADO.

Reports from Vulcan are to the effect that the Vulcan mine is still on fire.

The El Paso chlorination works will be ready to commence business early in August.

The Aspen Times says that Grand Junction business men and fruit growers have subscribed several thousand dollars to make Peach day a greater success this year than ever before. There is promise of a most abundant fruit crop in the Grand valley and tributary this year.

Shearing season around Antonita is nearing its end and wool buyers will soon begin operations.

The warm weather of the past few days has caused the snow to melt rapidly around the headwaters of the Roaring Fork, and it is on a tear again.

W. S. Stratton's sudden visit and a shipment of twenty-four sacks of rich ore, watched over by armed guards, were the two excitements at Victor last week. They are now found to be intimately connected, the ore having been sent out from the Independence mine. It is valued at between $50,000 and $60,000.

The biggest fish stories ever heard in Colorado may come from the direction of the large lakes down the Arkansas river. The Pueblo Chieftain tells of two men near Ordway who caught 200 pounds of carp. From the Holbrook lake somebody took a catfish weighing seventeen pounds—probably the largest fish ever grown in the state.

Every lover of music and the drama will rejoice when the old vaudeville theater at Cripple Creek has given way to the Grand opera; when all traces of the vice and sin and corruption and wild orgies have been obliterated; when what was once the bar room has become a ladies' reception chamber, and the private wine rooms made a gallery for the audience, says the Times of that place. The old theater was a noted place in the early days of camp life, but the Cripple Creek of today demands a higher form of entertainment, to which the citizen can bring his family.

A correspondent of the Denver Times writing from Garden, says: "It is rumored that a syndicate of British investors will within a few weeks purchase half a dozen gold mines in Cripple Creek, Colo., and two lines of railroad, connecting the mines with the nearest trunk roads, thus giving it control of the shipping facilities to the east. The railroads are the Colorado Midland and the Midland Terminal. I understand that all the necessary preliminary groundwork has been held on this side; but that everything is not fixed in Colorado, and that in any event the company will not be bought out for another three months, at the earliest."

Hogan and Brown, who are leasing on the Trail, on Bull hill, have a seam of high grade ore in sight, but evidently some miscreant is jealous of their good fortune. Early Friday morning two sacks of high grade ore were stolen from their shaft and ten sticks of powder. The latter was used in blowing up the shaft house and wrecking the shaft. They have been busy in the past three days repairing the damage done, and tomorrow will again continue sinking on their shaft of mineral, which shows the precious metal in the shape of rusty and bright gold on almost every piece of quartz. In the meantime close watch is being kept on the shaft and officers are trying to locate the party or parties who used the dynamite.

CALIFORNIA.

The first two carloads of green fruit for the season from Visalia were loaded June 16. They contained Clyman plums, tragedy plums and early peaches.

Los Angeles has about 90,000 barrels of oil in reserve. Dealers ask $1 a barrel for it. As consumers object to the price there is a prospect of a glutted oil market.

Owing to the scarcity of help to care for fruit the price of cutting apricots has been advanced in many orchards from 4 cents per forty-pound box to 5 cents per box.

Despite all the adverse reports of the prune crop, this county will send out this year one of the largest supplies of prunes ever raised in the state in one season, says the Santa Clara Journal.

The deer in southwestern Trinity are suffering from an epidemic, and numerous carcasses are strewn through the mountains. The disease is similar to the botts, and is generally fatal.

It is said that the Chino sugar factory will spend this year $125,000 for crude petroleum fuel; will take 140,000 tons of beets, extracting therefrom 15,000 tons of sugar worth $1,365,000, and pay the farmers about $750,000.

The Navy department has contracted with the city of Vallejo for water, for which it will pay $100 per month, unless more than 2,000,000 gallons is used. For all in excess of that quantity the rate is 20 cents per 1,000 gallons.

Celery shipments from Orange county are so large that there is talk of running a branch road to the peat lands for the special accommodation of celery shippers. Heretofore the Santa Fe has almost had a monopoly of the business.

The old Spanish woman for whom a coffin was procured a few weeks ago, and who rallied in time to save herself from being buried alive, says the Porterville Enterprise, died and was buried at Plano Thursday. She was 116 years of age and the oldest woman in the county.

Several years ago a swarm of bees settled in the attic of the residence of George Armstrong, at the Coronado vineyard. They swarmed, and with the succeeding swarms have remained there ever since, and all the honey Armstrong has had is what melts and drips through the ceiling on hot days.

The proposed bridge, which it is expected will be built this summer, will cross the main Kaweah river just below the North fork. This bridge will not only be an accommodation to the North fork people, but to all those residing on the north side of the Kaweah river, who are now isolated from the rest of the county during nearly three months of each year.

The British steamship Glenshiel, chartered by the Pacific Mail Steamship company to carry freight, which arrived last week, brought an immense cargo of tea. There were something like 16,000 packages, each containing about fifty pounds, for San Francisco importers, and about 29,495 packages for eastern importers. The duty imposed by the new tariff bill on tea, is the cause of the large imports at this time, importers bringing it in before July 1st, to avoid the duty.

The number of people who have become interested in the placers on the Boise is astonishing. For many miles the ground has been located and prospectors are going in continually to look for claims. Since the Twin Springs enterprise was inaugurated other projects for working the high bars have been set afoot and there is reason to believe that other heavy investments will be made this season. The waters of various streams are to be utilized in working the high, rich bars of the old channel.

After nearly three weeks' sojourn on the barren island of San Nicholas, a party of relic hunters reached Long Beach, loaded with skeletons, skulls and ancient implements and ornaments of stone and shells, the remains of prehistoric tribes. The party found eighty-seven skulls buried in the sand, but were only enabled to secure three entire. They made one excavation twenty feet square, in which they found nine skeletons in a crouching attitude, as though men, women and children had been buried alive. In another place they found the remains of hundreds of bodies that had been buried. Evidences were found that the island was inhabited by two or more different races, one of which was of great size, a peculiar characteristic being big bones.

OREGON.

The chittim bark business is quite lively these days in Toledo, several thousand pounds being shipped from there last Thursday.

Joseph, in Wallowa county, has long been without a saloon, but the council at its last meeting voted in favor of granting a license to a Dayton, Wash., man.

The grasshoppers are dying off by the thousands in the Eight-Mile country. A small worm has attacked them and seems to be fully as industrious as the hopper.

A special train of eleven cars, loaded with fat hogs from Nebraska, passed through La Grande recently on the way to Troutdale. Only a few months ago stock hogs were being shipped from Oregon to Nebraska to be fed.

Multnomah county's outstanding warrants will probably be paid out of state tax money, but not at the present time. The mandamus suit of H. H. Northup against County Treasurer Hoyt was decided the other day by Judge Shattuck, who inclines to the opinion that the money is to be used to pay the county's debts.

Astoria cyclists have formed a good roads and cycle club. The object is to secure better highways throughout Clatsop county. Already a bicycle path is being constructed around Tongue point, the necessary funds having been raised by subscription from wheelmen. It is the intention to extend the work as far as is possible.

The city council of Forest Grove has decided to levy a tax on all business houses and professional men, varying from $5 to $25 annually. Merchants must pay $25, as will drug stores; banks, $20; livery stables and groceries, $15; butchers, hardware stores, doctors and dentists, $10; printers and barbers, $6; tinners, $5; lawyers, $4. Telephone, telegraph and insurance companies will also be called upon to contribute. Cows at large must pay $4. Men are taxed $1.

The Columbia Stone & Contract company has a contract to build thirteen miles of grade for the Astoria-Globe railroad, through the tide-lands. They have seven powerful dredges at work night and day, employing about 100 men, and also a steamboat to act as tender to these dredges. About five miles of the thirteen they have contracted for is completed. The grade is fifty feet wide at the base, from six to fourteen feet in height, and sixteen feet wide at the top.

The Western Union Telegraph company has received in Astoria 125 miles of wire for the new line to be constructed between Astoria and Portland. The new line will be along the line of the railway and will be completed as fast as the rails are laid. Two wires will be strung the whole distance. While it will require several months to complete the work in and about Astoria, it is the intention to have the main line in working order as far as Knappa before the rainy season sets in.

The prevailing rains during the past week over the entire state will prove of inestimable value to the farmers, and what proves helpful to them is in turn beneficial to all. The rains, while more abundant in some localities than others, have been general. Eastern and southeastern Oregon have been the prime beneficiaries of the summer showers, and with these and the cool moisture-laden west winds that have and are still prevailing, a more than ordinary good cereal harvest is insured. All that is to be feared now is the hot east winds, the bane of eastern Oregon farmers, which sometimes come in July. Escape from these insures a bountiful harvest. The conditions in western Oregon are not less favorable. The late rains, while accomplishing scarcely any good, came too late to be of material assistance to the growing grain, but fruit trees and vegetables were benefited.

The horse abattoir at Linnton, which was operated awhile some two years ago but did not prove a success, has been started up again, and from thirty to forty horses per day are being slaughtered there. The Western Packing company, which inaugurated the enterprise in hope of aiding in clearing the ranges of the stock of useless horses which are now devouring the grass which might fatten many beef cattle, is making another effort to introduce American horse meat into Europe, as it is a staple article in most European countries, and American horses from off the ranges make much superior meat to the broken-down work horses slaughtered in Europe. It is uncertain how long the abattoir will be operated. The company is putting up a lot of meat to ship to Europe, and in the success of this venture will depend whether the operation of the establishment is continued or not.

WASHINGTON.

Prunes promise an immense crop in the state of Washington, and preparations are under way for making larger shipments than ever of the fresh fruit to the east.

The courthouse in Colfax has become so filled with bedbugs that the officers took a half-holiday recently while the janitors fumigated the building by burning sulphur.

Another large cannery may be built by an English company at Blaine this fall equal in size to the Alaska Packers' association cannery at that place, says the Whatcom Reveille.

A dispatch from Port Townsend states that Sealskin Inspector Fowler has returned from a visit to Victoria, B. C. He says that out of fifty Victoria sealers only ten will go to Bering sea. The low price of sealskins and the scarcity of seals are the causes assigned.

Because of the cloudburst on Mill Creek, in Walla Walla county, the fish in the creek are dying by hundreds. They come to the surface of the muddy water, apparently suffocating, and in a few minutes leave the water entirely to die by the hundreds on the rocks, too exhausted evidently to return to the stream a foot or two away.

Over 10,000 cayuses are being pastured on the Yakima reservation. This is sufficient to decimate any range, but Agent Erwin is authority for the statement that the figures are conservative. Six hundred head were sold the other day for $1 a head. Thousands more can be bought at that figure or less, and still there would be enough left to work serious injury to the range of Yakima county. It has been claimed that they are just the animals wanted for the Japanese cavalry, and that buyers would be sent to this country for the purpose of securing them.

The present indications for an unusually large shipping season at Puget Sound ports are based upon the promised wonderful yield of wheat and the gradually increasing lumber traffic with the east. The Northern Pacific officials having in charge the big question of handling freight are gathering the company's cars from all over the country, preparatory for the transportation of grain from the Minnesota wheat fields to Duluth and other commercial centers along the lakes, and from the eastern Washington gardens of grain to the head of navigation on Commencement bay. The phenomenal growth of grain this season points to an abundant harvest.

The army post committee has succeeded in accomplishing another important move in the line of federal development of the approaches to the Magnolia Bluff army post site by securing the magnificent roadway leading up from the landing on Salmon bay. This splendid road is a boulevard 100 feet wide. It will be an important military roadway, and it has been suggested that it be named "Alger boulevard," in honor of the present secretary of war. From the landing at the Spencer place on Salmon bay a short run of road will lead to the boulevard, and the latter will intersect with Commodore way obliquely, continuing its delightful scenic features along that route. It will be a famous drive and an equally alluring path for bicyclers.

The camp of Florence has added $100,000,000 to the mineral wealth of the world from its placer mines and it is not at all doubtful that it will exceed that amount from its quartz veins, says the Florence Miner. The quartz ledges now being developed here are unquestionably the source of the placer gold. There is very little wash gravel to be found in the placers, the only wash being broken quartz, all rich in gold. Twenty years ago there were no less than eight arastras and one stamp mill at work crushing the rich auriferous ores exposed by the placer mining operations. The properties on which they were located are now being worked with renewed vigor and modern machinery.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The best evidence one can give of Alaska's climate is the fact that the heat of our summer is so great that it has been necessary to manufacture artificial ice here.

The hay crop of the farms tributary to Tucson will be double this year that of any previous year, being 5,000 tons. The hay cut from the mesa lands will be probably 2,500 tons more.

The Alaska Meat company of Juneau has just installed a cold storage plant, which has a capacity of one and one-half tons of ice a day. At present all the power is utilized in frosting the pipes of the cooling room.

The Walnut Grove Storage company proposes to rebuild the great Hassayampa dam. It expended $700,000 in the construction of a dam and reservoir at Hassayampa, but the dam was carried away by a cloudburst and hundreds of people lost their lives.

The better element in Alaska is jubilant over the bill introduced by Senator Perkins to regulate the liquor traffic in the territory. The Juneau papers say Governor Brady will enforce the law to the letter, and an era of moral growth is in store for Alaska.

The wool growers of Utah are preparing to fight the "county license tax," and President Jesse M. Smith of their association has issued an address to all men engaged in the business, whether members of the association or not, inviting them to attend a mass meeting in this city on July 17. In a poster this statement occurs:

So far this season sales of wool in Montana have not been extensive, though it is a little early yet for any large transactions, but a small proportion of the wool having been received at the different sales points. During the last week reports from the eastern wool markets are to the effect that the tone is firmer, and prices on Montana have advanced a fraction.

Mr. Olson of Ramshorn, while working in his placer mine located in that gulch a short time ago, picked up a very handsome gold nugget, and upon weighing it found that it amounted to $57. It is a perfect nugget, only a small particle of quartz about the size of a big pea being in the gold. From the roughness of the piece it plainly shows that it has not been washed but a short distance and Mr. Olson is very sanguine over his mine.

Three grown buffaloes, two males and a female, and two yearlings are at the Salt Lake Union stock yards and will be shipped to England. They are the property of the Island Improvement company and come from Antelope island, the scene of last winter's remarkable buffalo hunt. There will be another curiosity at the yards on Thursday in the form of an Aztec horse, thirty-six inches high and weighing 290 pounds, caught in Arizona by Ed Wetzel and Jack Killian.

The Gila Valley, Globe & Northern railroad will be pushed to a speedy conclusion. Two years ago the road was laid from Bowie station on the Southern Pacific line to Fort Thomas, a distance of seventy miles. President William Garland of Los Angeles and Vice President E. A. Cutler have been here for several days in the interest of the road, and as a result of their visit it is expected that the seventy miles from Fort Thomas to Globe will be built at once.

The Helena Business Men's association has begun in earnest a campaign for the union of the cities of Montana for the common good of the entire state. In a circular addressed to the cities of the state that have interests in common with the whole commonwealth the Helena association calls attention to the important facts that should be considered by the citizens in the building up of the state, and urges the co-operation of other business men's associations to the common end.

Juneau papers say no effort by the new mail contractors from Juneau to Yukon is being made to fulfill the contracts, as they have realized that the contract was taken far below actual cost, and that if even the contractors began to prepare for fulfilling the contract it would be impossible to get away on schedule time on the trip. The government will have to look to the bondsmen, if good, for the damage sustained by the neglect of the contractors to fulfill their contracts.

In the vicinity of Wallace, Idaho, one evening last week, as the cloud was coming down from Mullan the sun was just setting, the light reflected from the clouds, striking the upper portions of the mountains just south of town, giving it almost a glaring brightness, while the lower portion was in deep shadow, making as lovely a sight as one could wish to see. At the same time the entire mountain was arched by a mammoth rainbow that was so brilliant three complete bows could be seen and a fourth one part of the way, while the reflected bow was a complete double one. Nearly the whole town was watching it for ten or fifteen minutes.

E. A. McIlhenny, a well known naturalist, whose home is at Averys Island, La., is in the city equipping an expedition to make scientific explorations and observations in extreme northern Alaska. The expedition will depart from San Francisco on the steamer Jeanie on the 25th inst., and will proceed direct to Point Barrow. Here a station for supplies will be established, and the party will remain for one to two years. The expedition will number four expert naturalists.

"This license if enforced means the annihilation of the sheep industry of the state. Ten cents per head means a tax of $250 on an average herd of sheep; the average number of counties entered by sheepmen is about five, which means a license of $1,250. The attorney general has given an opinion that that law is constitutional, and there is no doubt but that the counties will try to enforce it. We believe that with the united efforts of the sheepmen of the entire state this question can be overcome."

The weather in Utah during the past week was generally favorable for the growth of irrigated crops. Except the 27th and 28th, which were unseasonably cool, the days were warm, dry and more or less windy, and the nights moderately cool, with light frost in a few districts. The high winds retarded haying operations in many localities, and also did some damage to orchards by blowing the fruit from the trees. The first crop of lucerne is about all gathered and stacked in good condition, and with very few exceptions the yield is fully up to the average of previous years. Fall wheat is heading out and spring wheat is turning. Corn is tasseling and potatoes are in bloom. In the southern portion of the state the wheat and barley are being cut and apricots and early apples are ripe. Cut-worms are doing some damage to the crops of Garfield county. The outlook for an abundance of fruit continues unusually promising.

TO HELL LIKE A MAN.

A Woman's Advice to a Wounded Soldier Terrorized by an Evangelist.

I asked Mrs. Livermore if she had ever seen any one afraid of death, or that which would follow death, at the actual hour of dying, says a writer in the Indianapolis Journal.

"Never but once," she replied, "and then it was the fault of an evangelist. It was after the fight at Fort Donelson. Eighty mortally wounded men had been brought into my ward at the St. Louis hospital, among them a soldier with both legs and an arm shot off. This man was lying in that stupor that usually precedes death, when an evangelist entered, and, bending over the bed, said: 'Have you made your peace with God? If not, you will be in hell in less than an hour.'

"Instantly the man's stupor was replaced by the most horrible fright. 'Pray for me,' he groaned. 'I can't stop,' was the reply, as the speaker hurried on to give his gruesome message to other sufferers. 'You must pray for yourself.' Delirious with pain, and wholly possessed with this new and terrible idea, the soldier sent out a shriek after shriek of agony. 'I cannot die! I have been a wicked man!' was his report of walls. His cries aroused and excited the other men, and the ward became a pandemonium of groans and screams and beseechings. In vain I urged and the surgeon commanded quiet. I directed the doctor to send the evangelist out of the ward and I got upon the bed of the man who had first been aroused. Taking him by the shoulders and looking straight into his eyes, I said: 'Stop this screaming at once!' 'But I am going to hell!' he cried. 'Well, if you must go to hell, go like a man!' I replied. 'But why must you go? What is Christ for if a man like you, who has stood up to be riddled and torn and killed for his country, is going to hell? It is a libel on God.'

"I had dispatched a messenger for a chaplain. When he came I said: 'Don't say a word, but sing,' and gradually peace settled down over the ward, while the poor fellow listened to 'Jesus, Lover of My Soul,' 'There'll Be No More Sorrow There,' 'Rock of Ages,' and many other comforting hymns. I kept my place on the bed, softly repeating bravers and reassuring passages of Scripture till my patient whispered, 'I do believe Jesus will save me.' He died that night.

"The overzealous evangelist received summary treatment at the hands of Mother Bickerdyke. When he began to question her 'boys' she approached him with the words: 'Look here; you leave this ward quick or I'll take you by the nape of the neck and pitch you out.'"

A Working Girls' Home.

A working girls' home has just been established in Denver, in which furnished rooms can be had for $2 a month. The design is to give comfortable quarters to young women who are working for very small wages—$4 or $5 a week. The building contains thirty-two rooms, and fifteen girls are already being accommodated. There are pleasant parlors and reception rooms, too, which all working girls are invited to frequent. The institution is being supported by gifts and by the fees of life and honorary members.

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