NEWS OF THE WEST.

Family With a Peculiar Series of Misfortunes.

RAILWAY CONDUCTORS SPOTTED.

A Young Horsethief—Heavy Storm—Peculiar Work—Other Expeditions.

Greenwood Springs, Colorado, Avalanche: At noon today some seven immigrant wagons, an amount of smoke freight, and their usual travelling utensils, passed through town from Gilman, westbound.

E. E. Harrison, ex-traveling auditor of the Northern Pacific railroad, committed suicide in Tacoma, Wash., Wednesday morning by shooting himself through the mouth. He has been very ill recently. He leaves a widow and two children.

A freight and passenger steamer will probably be put on between San Francisco and Tahiti within a short time by the Union Steamship company of Tahiti. The announcement is made by Jacob Lazard Doty, American consul at Tahiti, who arrived Wednesday aboard the sailing vessel Tropic Bird. A passenger on the same vessel was Eugene Cannon, of Salt Lake City, who has been engaged in missionary work on the islands.

Sam Morgan, a 15-year-old boy, was arrested at Rawlins, Wyoming, Tuesday for horse stealing. He was given a preliminary examination and bound over to the next term of the district court. Morgan has been operating upon the Snake river range, sixty-five miles south, and is supposed to belong to the notorious gang of outlaws whose headquarters are in the Brown's Hole country, where the three states of Colorado, Utah and Wyoming meet, so persistently easily managing to successfully elude all efforts on the officers to capture them.

Cedros and Guadalupe islands, off the Mexican coast, are to be carefully explored under the direction of the government. A scientist of San Diego, Cal., has chartered a vessel, employed a captain and with two young men as assistants for a crew, will make a three months' cruise among those islands. This is said to be in reality in fact for the antiquarian. About two years ago a different unknown species of the feathered tribe was discovered upon one of these unfrequented landmarks of the sea, and since life of interest to the scientific world only awaited the labors of the enthusiastic explorer.

Over two weeks ago an accident happened to a stage on the road near Hupp's mill, about twenty-three miles from Chico, Cal. A passenger by the name of Spencer was quite badly injured, but, thinking nothing serious would result, he walked to his cabin, about one and one-half miles away, located near the mill. This was the last seen of him alive. Spencer was regular in his habits, and it was noticed of late that he had not called for his mail, as was his usual custom. Tuesday night some parties went to the man's cabin to see if he was all right. They found everything dark around the place and the cabin empty. Thinking something was wrong, two men employed in the Hupp mill went out next morning to investigate. On approaching the cabin the door was found open, and outside, about ten rods away the men were horrified to find the mutilated body of Spencer. It is supposed that hogs had dragged his remains out of the house.

Little Sam Hollinsworth, the thirteen-year-old son of John Hollinsworth, was accidentally shot through the heart at what is known as the German settlement, near Long Beach, Cal., Tuesday afternoon. Sam and his brother George had started in a cart for Wasson's Lake to hunt and fish. The boys had a double-barreled shotgun which Sam placed on his knee, the stock to the bottom of the cart and the muzzle resting against the boy's breast. They had proceeded but a short distance when in some manner the gun was discharged, the contents passing through the lad's heart. A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hollinsworth, aged 18 years, started in a carriage with four younger brothers and sisters for a drive Tuesday afternoon. The team became frightened and ran away. The girl was unable to check the horses, and in their mad flight they jumped over a barbed wire fence, throwing the occupants out. Three of the children were badly injured, and one may die. The grief-stricken parents had hardly recovered from this shock when the lifeless body of their boy was brought home.

Los Angeles Times: One of the most famous gangs in the law that the county jail of Maricopa has ever contained is now featured in that institution. Their career is long, and they are versatile criminals. The gang includes a Tempe negro known as Howard Wittrow, Jim Williams, white, and "the John" Averlock. The thieves had hidden their plunder away in some willows near Tempe. They were trailed to it through the instincts of the negro. He had entered a yard where a young lady was sleeping, when the raw lim became excessive. His tracks were following, his feet clad in canvas worn, to a boot, and the tuggy trailed to the skin. A new charge has just been spring on the gang, that of murder. Frank Smith, a rancher living on the Tempe road, was murdered by burglars a year ago. At the time the tracks were found and remembered, although the trail was lost. One man had mismatched feet, the foot turning out like a penguin's, while the other turned in like an Indian's. These tracks have just been filled to one of the gang, Williams.

An electrical storm of unusual violence visited Reno, Nev., Wednesday morning shortly after 6 o'clock. At 5 o'clock dark clouds began covering the sky, and by 5:30 became threatening. Jitney drivers drove home to their stables and merchants hoisted in awnings and secured all that was movable about their premises, for the indications were that a severe storm was coming. National Bottom of Reno, rolling up the skies and both of thunder made these universally familiar hard companionship. The lightning followed the electric-light wires across the town, entering several stores and offices and frightening the people into the streets. The only damage of consequence reported was to the residence of E. D. Kelley, editor of the Daily Journal. The building was set on fire by the lightning and before the flames were extinguished some $60 worth of damage was done. Many persons were stood on the sidewalk, fearing to venture indoors, as the lightning crashed about the chandeliers, kitchens, etc., in a threatening manner. Hail, rain and wind accompanied the electrical storm, and much damage was done vegetation by hail stones the size of large peas.

Several conductors in the employ of the Southern Pacific company had a surprise in store for them a few days. Out of the month called strikes and they were notified that their services were no longer required. The National Detective company, which has a lot of conductors and all other employes of the company, who in the course of their duties, handle the company's money, notified Superintendent Fulton that he had decided to discharge the conductors would be required at the end of July. Seven conductors are wanted by the company, and several people a load from the National Detective company, and the letters of the company employing detective operatives to interest from the company's employ. The National Detective company has come just for fear a number of female spotters at work on the company's trains, inspecting the conductors, and as a result of the report made by the spotters the entire company has decided that it was no longer safe to guarantee the honesty of some half a dozen conductors. The conductors in question are accused of appropriating cash fares to their own use and of issuing tickets which in the interest of Pacific, Los Angeles and Ocean Park excursions. The officials of the operating department decline to interfere for fear of the string conductors.

THE CHINCH BUG.

Various Ways of Fighting This Little Insect of Western Grasslands.

The point of killing of chinch bugs by employing the habits of insects that dwell in immigrant wagons has not met with expert when conditions were just right. In wet weather and when the bugs are almost big that the disease spreads rapidly, but in time of drought, when the bugs are scattered, the method is ineffective. How to treat the matter Orleans of the Iowa college station says is a point in this subject.

In many localities the chinch bug is doing serious damage and many requests for information material for chinch bug disease are being received. I would urge that in all cases where serious damage is in progress, or threatened, other means be adopted, as reliance upon the disease is very likely to result in disappointment. He accordingly work or no disease spread attention, especially in the hot weather, when the weather is just right, to good may result. Even if the disease does spread in the field it will be from two to three weeks after work is begun before a general destruction occurs, in which time the damage may have gone beyond repair. With small, warm weather the disease is very likely to spread without artificial infection and save all the labor. For actual treatment where patches of grain are being destroyed plow under deep and pat to prevent spread of young bugs. If crop can be saved prepare to kill the bugs at time of migration by making barrier.

If the ground is dry, a furrow with sloping, dusty sides is the cheapest and most effective. If wet, a narrow strip of tar which can be conveniently drawn along a smooth surface by using a watering pot with the rose off is advised. Occasional holes into which the bugs will fall as they move along the barrier will trap them and they can be killed with a drops of kerosene or buried deeply.

Improved Hog Trough.

One of the most unpleasant features of hog raising is the unpleasant operation of getting them animals their food. They are in the trough, so upset it, and always under the feed when it is turned in to them—that is when the ordinary trough and spout are used. In the New York Tribune is given a sketch of an

A DRAWER TROUGH.

arrangement whereby the feeder can place food in the trough unmolested by his pigship and place the trough before him in an orderly and becoming manner. The trough is made like a drawer and pulls out to be filled. It can then be pushed in under the rail guides (shown in the cross section), with one of the unpleasant features mentioned. These rail guides hold the trough in place, as does also the short button on the outside of the front of the pen.

Growing Wheat.

R. O. Bullen of the Wyoming station gives tabulated data for three years' work in growing wheat on single acres on irrigated and unirrigated land at six experiments in the state. The cost per acre of preparation and sowing varied from $2.45 to $5 of irrigation, from $1.60 to $4.25 of harvesting, from $1.50 to $3.50 of threshing, from $1.50 to $3.50 (4.6 to 10 cents per bushel). The yield varied from 30 to 59 bushels per acre.

The author concludes that "indications of raising wheat under irrigation are (1) an assured crop (2) larger yields (3) heavier and better grain (4) maintaining fertility of the soil. The cost of raising wheat varies from $7.30 to $15.30 per acre. Estimated cost upon 40 acres or more for the use of improved machinery was $7.15 per acre. Profit varies from $1.75 to $10.70 per acre. Average profit is $10.10 per acre."

Beauty on Hawks.

The chief of division of ornithology, United States department of agriculture, reports that the beauty already lent in certain states on hawks and owls has resulted disastrously. He says: "As a result, thousands of million were spent and thousands of birds killed, most of which were really beneficial to agriculture. A careful examination of more than 2,000 stomachs of hawks and owls has demonstrated that only 6 of the 70 species and subspecies found in the United States are actually injurious, and 4 of these species are so rare that they hardly need to be considered."

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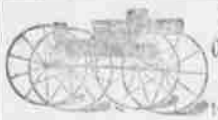

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