

LITTLE GIRL MURDERED

Awful Crime Committed Near Butte, Montana

Cabin of the Watchman at Walkerville Reservoir Was Found in Flames and the Charred Body of a Little Girl Was Discovered in the Ruins

Butte, Mont.—Evelyn Blewett, aged 9 years, daughter of Mrs. Blewett, a widow of Walkerville, was assaulted and murdered in the cabin of the watchman at the Walkerville reservoir.

The place is believed to have been set on fire with the evident purpose of concealing the evidence of the crime. John Warne, the watchman, who is 71 years old, is under arrest, charged with the murder, and in the excited state of feeling at Walkerville tonight there would be a lynching if the prisoner could be gotten at.

At 2:30 o'clock this afternoon the cabin of Warne was seen to be in flames, and the Walkerville fire department was called out. When the apparatus arrived, accompanied by a large crowd of citizens, Warne was standing outside the cabin, apparently unconcerned. He had not even raised an alarm. By the time the fire department could get water on the cabin it was practically in ruins.

It was not until ten minutes after the arrival of the department that Warne told the firemen there was a little girl inside. Some of those present made a rush for the door, and within, on a bed, they found the body of the girl. It was badly burned, one foot falling off as the rescuers picked the child from the bed. Upon getting the body outside it was seen that the child's neck was broken and her skull crushed in.

Marshal Kennedy of Walkerville was in the crowd, and at once arrested Warne. He managed, with great difficulty, to get the man away from the scene, as the crowd had already begun to talk of lynching. On the way to the county jail, in this city, Warne said the girl had turned over a gasoline stove. Since then he has refused to talk.

Tonight, when the story got to be more widely known and there were more men away from work, active steps were taken to organize a lynching party. At the county jail it was stated that the sheriff, fearing something of the kind, had taken his prisoner to the penitentiary at Deer Lodge for safe keeping.

Russian Duties on American Iron

London, April 8.—According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail, import duties for Vladivostok had been raised on all American iron, steel and machinery.

Soldiers Are Punished

WASHINGTON.—Major MacArthur has taken stern measures to prevent the murder of innocent Filipinos by American soldiers.

Secretary Root received from General MacArthur a report of a crime of peculiar atrocity committed by Privates Edward M. Brodie and James F. Coffey, of Troop C, of the Third Cavalry. Brodie and Coffey were tried for murder and sentenced to be confined at hard labor for life.

Commenting upon the case, General MacArthur said: "The evidence upon record is conclusive that they, in a spirit of wantonness, murdered by shooting a harmless boy whom they met on the highway. The taking of the life of this innocent being was under circumstances as shown upon the record a crime of peculiar atrocity that might be viewed with horror by the most debased savage.

As soldiers in the army of the United States they should have been helpers and defenders of the innocent. Returning alone from a tour of detached duty to the station of their troop, they, in wantonness, perpetrated this crime for which any penalty known to law is not too great a punishment."

False Alarm

Walla Walla, Wash.—Chris Ennis of this city yesterday received an anonymous letter addressed to himself and Father M. Flohr jointly, directing that if the sum of \$2000 was not deposited at a designated spot in a field adjoining the penitentiary grounds by 9 o'clock last night a story would be

given circulation which would brand them both as ghouls.

The letter was at once placed in the hands of the police, and at the time stated in the letter two officers repaired to the place where the demand was made that the money be placed, but no one appeared.

The statement made in the letter is that Ennis and Father Flohr exhumed the remains of George Thomas, who is supposed to have committed suicide by drowning himself in the Spokane river, and who had been interred in the Catholic cemetery contrary to the creed of the Catholic church. Both Ennis and the priest deny that anything of the kind ever occurred.

To Sustain Market

SPOKANE, Wash.—It was announced that the output of lead and silver of the Coeur d'Alene district of Northern Idaho is to be restricted to sustain the market. The smelters have 50,000 tons of reserve, twice as large a surplus as is necessary. The reduction will amount to 25 per cent.

Governor Hunt has returned from a trip through the district where the riot two years ago made martial law necessary. He says the district is pacified and martial law is declared off.

One Day's Shipment

From Southern California the following shipments of citrus fruit have been made:

April 5, oranges.....111 cars
April 5, lemons..... 9 cars

Grand total for the season since November 1, 1900, being 13,824 cars; of this total 888 cars of lemons are included.

Fight to Death

Santiago de Cuba, April 6.—Stench and buzzards revealed the bodies of two Cubans in the mountains sixteen miles from this city last night by a native coffee pack train, which arrived here this morning. The men had fought to the death with machetes and knives. One man had his head at the other's throat; the other man had his knife in his opponent's breast. They were both terribly mutilated.

The men were recognized as neighboring countrymen who were returning from the city with mule loads of merchandise. The fatal quarrel occurred while they were camped by the side of the trail.

Raising Hogs on Alfalfa

Pork production in Utah has not been a profitable branch of the live stock industry, but with the introduction of creameries and cheese factories, creating a large by-product of skim-milk and whey, it has been found profitable to raise a limited number of hogs. Corn, of course, is largely out of the question as food in most sections of the state, but there is an abundance of alfalfa, some bran and shorts. The Utah experiment station instituted a number of tests in pork production, and these are reported in bulletin No. 70. These experiments show that fattening hogs can be economically accomplished on pasture in connection with a grain ration. Pigs running on pasture with partial grain rations produced gains at the least cost per hundred pounds. In the quantity of grain required for 100 pounds of gain, the pigs given one-fourth grain ration excelled in every test and gave the highest percentage of profit. Alfalfa without other food, whether pastured by pigs or cut and fed to them in pens, furnishes only enough nutriment for bare maintenance. When additional food was given the rates of gain were equally proportioned to the extra quantities they received. Alfalfa proved to be a splendid supplementary food in connection with bran and grain. Alfalfa hay and sugar beets each gave profitable results in connection with limited grain ration in winter.

To Make Oleo

A new company has been formed at Chicago, capitalized at \$1,000,000 to manufacture oleo, taking over the extensive plant of an unoccupied packing house. J. J. Murry is president of the new company, which it is said, will turn out 50,000 pounds of oleo daily. So much for courage over the defeat of the Grout bill.

FOR THE FARMER

The National Irrigation Survey Soon to Be Started

A Method for Disposing of Old Bones and Ashes—Value of Subsoiling—Sweet Potato Biscuits

Large shipments of nursery stock are being made from Orange county to Phoenix, Ariz.

There are five cheese factories at San Felipe, Santa Clara county which turn out 10,000 pounds of cheese weekly.

Texas papers are bragging about cabbage heads weighing 15 pounds, and onions measuring 17 inches in circumference. That's nothing; ask Murdock of Westminster how about cauliflowers that you can dance on.

American Gardening ridicules the efforts being made to have a law passed by the New York Legislature to protect purchasers of nursery stock against San Jose scale. When we remember the vast expense and labor and loss imposed upon California fruit growers by the scale, their fumigating tents, cyanide washes, and sprays innumerable, are forcible reminders that regulations can hardly be too stringent, if they will regulate; and protection too costly, if it protects. Will a method prove effective? is the only sensible question that properly applies in this case.

A large amount of bone will accumulate about a family residence; also a large amount of wood ashes. These combined form a most valuable fertilizer for fruit of all kinds, especially grapes. The bone may be broken in small pieces and mixed with the soil about the roots of trees and vines, or the bones may be mixed with the ashes, when they will be dissolved, and the mass scattered on the surface. A method we once used with a very marked effect was to punch holes in the ground around the trees and vines with a hand spike, a dozen or more holes to each tree, from four to eight inches deep, and then, with a basket of broken bones, drop in each hole a handful of small pieces, or one or two large pieces. Holes enough for one large tree can be made in one minute, the bones introduced in a little more than a minute, and one stroke with a hoe will fill each hole. Ashes are best applied on the surface.

National Irrigation Survey

The recent news from Washington that several parties from the United States Geological Survey, comprising in all about 100 men, will begin early in April to work on the California-Nevada border is of vast importance to the two states mentioned, and of almost equal interest to the whole country. It is the inauguration of a national system of irrigation, which will not end with this generation, though in thirty years the whole face of the western half of the country can be transformed.

According to the dispatch this initiative work is expected to involve the ultimate expenditure of about \$10,000,000, distributed over a period of ten years, and of course there will be an immense amount of labor required. It is stated that it is proposed to build large reservoirs on the California side of the border line, the water to serve in reclamation of fertile lands on both sides of the mountains. The first work done will be mainly along the Truckee, Carson and Kalker rivers. They will measure the volume of the streams, the capacity of the reservoirs and estimate the cost of construction. They will also ascertain in what valleys the water can be used to the best advantage.—Los Angeles Herald.

Areas of Profitable Cultivation

What is in some respects the most important work of the Division of Pomology, namely, the accurate mapping of the districts adapted to the commercially profitable culture of the important fruits, still remains practically untouched, and cannot be undertaken until a larger appropriation is available. Thousands of acres of trees and vines are annually planted on soils and sites manifestly unsuitable because of adverse conditions of soil or climate or of the prevalence of disastrous diseases.

The data obtainable at the present

time bearing upon this question consist chiefly of disconnected reports from growers more or less isolated, and until systematic field work can be undertaken, accurate outlining of fruit districts is impossible. On the other hand, a rapid personal survey of doubtful areas by skilled observers, in connection with the accumulated data, and such incidental investigations of soils, prevailing plant diseases, and perhaps of injurious insects as may be found necessary, would yield results of immediate and great value to fruit growers. Acting Pomologist W. A. Taylor in his last report urges that this work be undertaken at an early date by the Division, in co-operation with the Divisions of Soils and Vegetable Pathology and Pathology and the State experiment stations, and recommended that an appropriation be made for the purpose. The great utility of the suggested work needs no presentation.

Value of Subsoiling

Walnut and prune trees grown on Gen. Charles Forman's ranch at Toluca without irrigation show conclusively the remarkable results of subsoiling in winter when the ground is moist enough to yield to the plow, and of thorough tillage throughout the season. Gen. Forman has a very large subsoil plow, which requires four big horses even when the ground is in good condition; but results show that it is far better on his land to cultivate deeply and thoroughly than to irrigate.—Los Angeles Herald.

An Excellent Recipe

An old-fashioned biscuit, very popular in ante-bellum days, were those made by adding sweet potato to the dough. Below we give the recipe:

Wash and boil six sweet potatoes with peeling on; when soft take them out, peel and mash through a coarse sieve. Sift one quart of flour and with it one teaspoonful of soda; add one pint of the potato, to which has been added a heaping teaspoonful of sugar, three table-spoonfuls of lard, salt and buttermilk to make a rather stiff dough; mix thoroughly, mould and bake in a quick oven. They should be eaten hot with fresh butter.

Timely Work

Everything now in the orchard should be done with a view to the summer irrigation. Everywhere for the past few weeks the idea has been to get the soil well wet while water is plenty and it goes further than in the heat of summer. Many who despaired of having more rain and were waiting for it in order to finish up the regular winter work have gone to work and irrigated. This was a comparatively easy job where the land was left furrowed out in case of such an emergency as has arisen, but where the land was left flat and allowed to get hard and grow up to weeds it was not so easy to furrow and get ready. Those who still waited will probably have an opportunity. Whatever weather may come the cultivator must be kept going and the soil kept mellow if the best results are desired.—California Cultivator.

Rooting Cuttings

We have noticed grape cuttings planted with from six inches to a foot sticking out of the ground. There is no root to supply moisture to this and it is better if cut off at the surface of the ground. Where cuttings sixteen inches long or more are used, it will do to leave one bud above the surface and the next at the surface. The length is ten inches or a foot, six inches is better if the ground is loose and moist. Set the cutting straight up and down and cover the top bud with loose earth. In land that is apt to dry out, a longer cutting is better. We could never see the utility of planting a long cutting at an angle of forty-five degrees, so as to get the bottom nearer the surface. Better get it close by making it shorter and have the vine straight to begin with. Then when the young vine is planted in the vineyard, it will not need any extra training to start it in the way it should go. Cuttings that are already planted and have not started should be cut off at the surface, even if the top bud is not in sight. It will come through if the surface is not allowed to pack. In a wet climate or where land is liable to be flooded, it will be better to have the ends of the cuttings project a couple inches, so that they will not fill with water and rot.—California Cultivator.