

PULSE OF WESTERN PROGRESS

Fresno's Big Scheme to Utilize the Wat. of the San Joaquin River.

WANTS TO BE A MANUFACTURING CENTER

Large Deposits of Mineral Cautchouc in Utah—How it is Being Utilized—Important Strike at De Lamar—General Western News.

Fresno people are jubilant over the formation of a company to utilize the immense water power of the San Joaquin river and transmit it by electricity to all points in the valley. The capital of the new organization is \$500,000, all of which has been subscribed.

Such a scheme as has now been successfully started has been under discussion for many years, says a Fresno dispatch to the San Francisco Call, and the value of the unused power of the San Joaquin has been frequently pointed out by well known engineers.

The country between this city and the river is very level, and consequently there will be but little expense in putting up the necessary lines of wire. The San Joaquin issues from the foothills at a point about eleven miles from Fresno, near the historic old town of Millerton, once the county seat, but now almost deserted. Here, in all probability, the dam to confine the flow of the stream will be located.

Above the dam, there is a considerable fall, amply sufficient to give power for additional wheels should there be a demand for greater electrical energy. It is intended to put in a turbine which is the latest pattern at the first dam constructed. Engineers who have made a careful study of the river say that a single dam during the season when the water runs in excess will be sufficient to supply five times as much power as is now used in the mills, etc., of this city.

Were it the intention of the projectors to supply only this city one dam would probably be sufficient for many years; but power will also be furnished to other cities. Fowler and other towns lying within a short distance of the works. Already an order for the first plant has been placed, and it is positively stated that the dam is ready for operation in three or four months.

Besides furnishing power for their own establishments the projectors have in mind the acquisition of a large tract of land in this city, which will be changed to electric lines and the system will no doubt be extended. With freight rates as high as they now are, the projectors are confident that the introduction of cheap power, but when the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley railroad reaches this city there is strong probability that the city will become an important manufacturing center. Excellent coal is now being mined in the Sierra Nevada and immense deposits of iron have been discovered in the mountains. When these mines are developed and the output is laid down at a small cost, the industries of the county will be revolutionized.

MILBANK AT HOT SPRINGS

According to Webster, elaborate in "an elastic mineral resin of a blackish brown color, sub-transparent and occurring in soft, flexible masses, called also mineral caoutchouc and elastic bitumen."

There is a large deposit of elastin in northeastern Utah, the title to which was acquired by William A. Perry some time ago, since which, says the Times, practical experiments have demonstrated how it can be utilized commercially.

It is used as a substitute for rubber in roofing material, elastic rubber paints and enamels, elastic iron cements, electrical insulating covers, rubber matting, rubber booting, etc. The raw material is shipped from the Utah, to the factory in Denver, where it is ground in a centrifugal mill, running 600 revolutions per minute, until it will pass through a wire screen of 200 meshes to an inch, and the roofing material it is then chemically dissolved in a brick tank having a capacity of 500 gallons.

Scotch jute cloth, in forty feet lengths and thirty-two inches wide, is passed over wooden rollers, then down into and through this mill, the rollers being driven by a "finishing machine" composed of heavy iron rollers superheated with steam to 60 degrees F. The pressure being 5,475 pounds to the square inch.

The result is a thick, pliable, but tough and durable material, of which the strong fibrous jute is the base, and which is pressed, but elastic elastin the superstructure. It is then put through a vulcanizing bath, which makes it positively impervious to moisture, not only in the ordinary sense, but proof. It is finally finished with a facing of pulverized mica obtained from near Salda, which gives it a gloss, and with this material a light and pleasant effect.

It can be manufactured and sold to the consumer at about \$3 per square, i. e. 100 square feet. The material is being shipped with the railroads by which this rubber roofing can be laid down as far east as New York and successfully compete with the best roofing material now being received from Australia.

BIG FORTUNE IN ORE

News has been received here of a remarkable strike made at the Alta mine at De Lamar, says the Boston Herald. The strike is being sunk. Some time ago it struck into mineralized matter, apparently a flat vein, similar in appearance to the veins in that vicinity. On examination it became apparent that the ore was valuable and the whole has been sampled.

The result of sampling and assaying has been astonishing. The average value of the first fifty feet of ore is shown to be \$27 per ton in gold. The next eight feet average \$70 per ton in gold. Below this the ore has penetrated to one and one-half feet of ore that has not yet been assayed, but which shows to be rich in gold.

The Alta mine adjoins the De Lamar mine. It was recently bonded to Dutch parties who have transferred the bond to Chicago capitalists. The price at which the property is being taken the property is understood to be \$100,000, and they have paid \$5,000 to bind the contract.

ANOTHER "HOLY TERROR"

Considerable excitement was caused in this camp by the report that Wall Espy had uncovered another Holy Terror here, says the Spokane Nugget. The Nugget makes the claim that Espy up and into the mountain, and the Espy. He brought a piece of rock into town which weighed about three pounds. The rock was only filled with gold, and upon being pounded it yielded something like \$10. Ten dollars in gold from three pounds of rock? Mr. Espy says that while he has not yet found a vein, he has defined ledge of this character of rock there is plenty of "float," such as he brought in, and the ledge is there somewhere near. He also stated that he had already had \$10,000 offers for a half interest in the find just as it is—some party offering him \$5,000 cash.

Some wisecracks, when the find became known, pronounced it a fake. One claimed that the ore tested was from the Holy Terror. A comparison of some of the ore brought in by Mr. Espy with some from the Holy Terror, however, showed that the latter was a cooked bait. The find is genuine, and a little time and work will do the rest. In the meantime look out for some startling news regarding the Holy Terror.

FARMERS BRANCHING OUT

A number of farmers in the vicinity of Warner, in Brown county, have banded together and will cultivate a large amount of sugar cane. The cane will be raised on small expense, and the growing of the crop is by no means an experiment, says the Sioux Falls Argus-Leader. It has before been tested, and the present association of farmers contemplates the purchase of a sorghum mill, including crusher, evaporator, etc., they will have the facilities at hand to make the venture a reasonably successful one if preserved in it. It is estimated that a twenty-acre field of fair cane should yield 2,000 gallons of syrup, worth 40 cents a gallon, or \$1,200 in the aggregate.

S. D. Cone, a farmer, has been experimenting to some extent in the cultivation of mustard. His efforts, so far as profits were concerned, were not altogether successful, but he has found it his own to grow that the crop could be successfully grown and has interested quite a good many of the best farmers in the county in the enter-

prise, and to that end will furnish the seed for about 1,000 acres. In Italy the crop averages from thirty to forty bushels per acre, by hand cultivating and hand harvesting. Mr. Cone has had his experiments with high-priced herbs, and says they can be successfully grown here. His experiments cover peppermint, sage, wormwood, fenugreek, anise, tansy, coriander and caraway. This venture will be watched with a great deal of interest by the farmers, who are gradually getting into mixed farming, and will very likely make this country blossom by their efforts.

ORANGE SHIPPERS WORRIED

The orange growers of southern California have been greatly worried for some time over the keen competition made to their oranges by the foreign growers. Says a Los Angeles dispatch to the San Francisco Call:

This culminated in the meeting at the Southern Fruit exchange, in that city, at which representatives from Riverside, San Bernardino, Pomona, Pasadena and other points were present. It was decided at the meeting that the prices at which oranges from this section were quoted offered a good margin of profit for the orange growers; that the latter could not avoid the competition from New York and other eastern points and under the California growers.

A Bormer representative saw some of the members of the company, and they refused to give all the particulars at present, but they stated that the principal owners of the property are of English and, and it is presumed that satisfactory arrangements must have already been made for the use of the property. It is presumed that this new company will erect whatever works they will finally have at the lakes. Mr. Davis' system is a series of ditches, which are to be cut and connected with it. It is known that John Davis has a system of securing soda which it is believed will prove successful when an opportunity is afforded to be anticipated.

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FOUND ON THE DESERT

Word comes from the desert, says a San Diego special to the San Francisco Examiner, that well known prospector, the instigator of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders, was found a few days ago in a crazed condition, wandering in the vicinity of the Colorado Springs desert. The man was found by a cattleman named McCain, and taken to camp.

His utterances were incoherent, but afterwards he had been taken to a station to walk across to Elsinore, and had been directed to take a short cut by either the trainmen or people at Walters station. It is not believed that the man is a Cooper. A railroad station on the desert would have the hardship to send a man unused to the dangers 150 miles across the desert and across the foot of the mountains.

The stranger failed to give his name, and after two days' rest started on with a canteen of water and some provisions, given by the station agent. He was in sight until he entered the mountains. He held the course indicated, however, and was later seen in the vicinity of Hot Springs, where he was taken to a camp. One more day would have finished him.

NEWARKA

Plainview's new garage building is nearing completion. The city council will meet at Ponca in August.

The capital of the St. Edwards State bank has been increased to \$20,000.

Hanker C. T. Edge of Pawnee City, committed suicide at Lehigh, Pa., on the 10th inst. The Dikstra, a bicycle thief, has been sentenced at David City to one year in the penitentiary.

A fire caused a loss of \$3,000 to the Staplehurst company, one-half of which was covered by insurance.

D. T. Working's saloon at Wayne was entered by thieves, who carried away about \$100 from the cash register.

Willis Bentley, a Beaver Crossing blacksmith, was killed by the bursting of an emery wheel which he was driving.

Bonds in the sum of \$7,000 have been voted for the erection of a new school building in the Tenth district of Brown county.

Citizens of Tekamah are petitioning for an ordinance prohibiting children from remaining on the streets after dark.

About \$20 worth of bacon was stolen from the aid store at Scotia by some one who had not the patience to wait for the distribution.

George Grisson, a young man of Powell, was arrested on the 10th inst. for a crime confined in the county jail at Fairbury.

Johnson's store at Holdrege was discovered on fire the other day, but the flames were extinguished before any serious harm had been done.

Miss Mary Cook of St. Paul, who recently won a suit for damages from the railroad for injuries received by her sister and Elba, were here left for amputation.

Cattle stealing is reported to be very serious in the northern part of Deuel county. For their better protection the thieves have adopted the rule of themselves into so-called vigilante associations.

Dr. J. R. Morris of Humboldt was knocked down by his horse, and becoming entangled in the lines, was killed. He was a well known and successful physician.

One of his ribs was broken and he was badly bruised.

A man who gives his name as James Harlan, of Scranton, Pa., has been arrested on a charge of a freight train at Lehigh and has both of his legs cut off, resulting in his death. Two pairs of stolen pants were found on the body.

Yates has a new paper. It is known as the Advocate. Its managing editor is Mr. E. M. Messrs. Crane & Martin are the editors and proprietors. The Advocate will advocate what is right and uncontrolled by ring or faction.

fifty miners secured provisions enough for the winter and have staid with their properties, and it is astonishing the amount of development work that has been accomplished in so short a time. The chief part of the mine is chiefly quartz panning free gold of a low grade, running from \$10 to \$50 per ton. The surface ore is free milling, with indications of the concentration of gold in the mill. The best treatment as depth is gained. One ore body, by actual measurement, is over 335 feet in width, on which a tunnel forty-five feet has been run. This is a quartz, varying in color from blue to red color, and impregnated with iron pyrites, which has been assayed and found to be \$12 to \$12 per ton. Other prospects show streaks varying in width from five to six feet, and assaying from \$12 to \$65 per ton. The district covers over 200 square miles and is a perfect paradise for the prospector.

WILL MANUFACTURE SODA

The Laramie company has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. The company has a capital of \$50,000 and will engage in mining and refining soda. The incorporators and trustees of the venture are: H. G. Bales, John Davis, A. A. Johnson, E. D. Hickey and N. E. Corthell.

This company will be engaged in the manufacture for some time. It is known that John Davis has a system of securing soda which it is believed will prove successful when an opportunity is afforded to be anticipated.

A Bormer representative saw some of the members of the company, and they refused to give all the particulars at present, but they stated that the principal owners of the property are of English and, and it is presumed that satisfactory arrangements must have already been made for the use of the property. It is presumed that this new company will erect whatever works they will finally have at the lakes. Mr. Davis' system is a series of ditches, which are to be cut and connected with it. It is known that John Davis has a system of securing soda which it is believed will prove successful when an opportunity is afforded to be anticipated.

SOUTH DAKOTA

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The State Board of Agriculture has decided to make all purses for racing at the state fair \$100, with the exception of the 2:25 class, in which the purse will be \$200. The grandstand at the fair grounds in Iowa City, Saturday, April 27. The entries are very numerous and include some first-class men of recent acquisition. A hotly contested series of events may be anticipated.

The silver cup to be awarded to the class carrying off the greatest number of victories, or rather securing the highest number of points, will be an object of much interest.

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Oskaloosa, Knoxville, St. Journey, Cantonville and other places. The mine was a successful trip to the Pacific coast in 1892, winning every fifty-yard dash in which he was a contestant.

Nearly 300 people gathered at a lycosm south of Tama. Their great weight broke the floor and all went down a short distance. In the confusion several seats and windows were broken and property, \$100, was seriously hurt.

A man named M. Giesler, going from western Iowa to Galva in search of work, was swindled out of his money by confidence men who borrowed the amount on a bogus \$1,500 check at the Peoria depot in Rock Island. The rascals escaped.

For the first three months of 1895 the Northwest carried 3,700,000 bushels less of flour and grain to Chicago than during the same period last year. The Rock Island 4,000,000 less, the Burlington 6,400,000 less and the Great Northern 1,000,000 less.

Thieves visited the hog pen of B. F. Bell near Ottumwa, the other night, killed and dressed a live porker on the spot and carried it away in a wheelbarrow, leaving no trace except a few blood spots in the vicinity. Forty-five chickens were stolen from Charles Aringard, a neighbor of Bell, the same night.

The State University of Iowa spring field trials will be held at the fair grounds in Iowa City, Saturday, April 27. The entries are very numerous and include some first-class men of recent acquisition. A hotly contested series of events may be anticipated.

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good streak of ore that runs from \$15 to \$250. Hoffman has a lease on the Omega on which he has a shaft down eighty-two feet and his quartz runs \$24 to \$250.

D. W. Beck, leasing on the old Phoenix mine on Sherman county at Georgetown, brought down a mill run that ran over 500 ounces to the ton in silver. This mine has produced many hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of silver, and a revival of work is exposing these rich bodies of ore.

Ourray will have a gold boom the coming summer such as it never had, unless all signs fail, says the Silverton Plaindealer. Nobody ever saw better samples of nickel ore than can now be seen at our office, says the Silver Cliff Rastler. Millerite, uraninite, native, etc. It also contains a goodly showing of gold and copper. This ore is one of the famous Gem mine, twelve miles northwest of town. We don't believe the Gem has an equal in America.

Some excitement prevails over a strike just made in the neighboring mines, situated at the south end of Taos street, inside the corporate limits of Georgetown. On the 50-foot level was a vein of ore six feet in thickness, four feet of which is smelting ore and two feet concentrating, has been disclosed. The smelting ore returns at the mill two ounces gold and twenty-five ounces silver to the ton. The concentrating ore returns at the mill one ounce gold and twenty-five ounces silver to the ton.

The largest gold bar ever shipped from Cripple Creek is now on route to the New York assay office from the De La Mar-Pierce shaft at the south end of Taos street, inside the corporate limits of Georgetown. On the 50-foot level was a vein of ore six feet in thickness, four feet of which is smelting ore and two feet concentrating, has been disclosed. The smelting ore returns at the mill two ounces gold and twenty-five ounces silver to the ton. The concentrating ore returns at the mill one ounce gold and twenty-five ounces silver to the ton.

WYOMING

Seab is reported among the flecks near Casper.

The forces of men is soon to be put to work at Four-Mile, in Carbon county, taking out gold in the placers, ditches and flumes for which work are already in place.

The Standard Cattle company of Cheyenne has made arrangements to buy a large tract of hunting outfit. Men are to be sent out with dogs, a completely fitted wagon and all the necessary appliances to exterminate the "pesky" variety.

A large discovery is that of a large coal measure some fifteen miles northeast of Cokeville, which coal, on being tested, bids fair to be the best coking coal in the west. So far the result has been \$250 to the ton, but they were extremely satisfactory.

About 50,000 sheep will be clipped in the vicinity of Cokeville, and the wool, estimated at about 400,000 pounds, will be forwarded to the nearest station. The clip of the sheep here ought to shear on an average of eight pounds, and their wool is of the class to reach the top of the market.

John A. Forshey, a prominent rancher of Hot Springs, has been awarded a valuable Victoria copper mine and other valuable mining districts, and hence on to the Henry's Fork country.

OREGON

The Pendleton Scouring Mill company has decided not to erect a public warehouse at Baker City.

Chinese lettuce has spread so much in the vicinity of Pendleton that some wheat fields had to be plowed up on account of it.

The St. Paul persons who are working the black sand deposits on the beach north of the city, are reported to be very successful in extracting the gold, and are highly elated over their success in handling the sand.

The Pendleton Tribune says that a firm in this city recently shipped a quantity of gold bullion to the city of Umatilla county within one week's time, and that the price paid was 6 cents a dozen, cash.

The Athena Press says: "It is said there are some fields of wheat frozen to such an extent that they will have to be resown. Others have about a half stand, and owing to the thinness of the season many will not ripen."

Byron Barnard is at Fossil and will buy 10,000 head of cattle, if he can get them, for shipment to Montana. He has already purchased over 100 head from Del Zachary, Coe Barnard and Ed Cummings. He is paying \$10 for yearling steers, \$15 for 2-year-olds, \$20 for 3-year-olds and \$15 for cows.

Four men are now at work for the Camas Land company, at Ukiah, preparing to start up the mill, which will probably be done by the 15th inst. The mill is being built on a double-barreled shaft, loaded with bird shot, "letter" gun, Gallagher, to the utter destruction and disfigurement of his adversaries.

COLORADO

Durango registers 2,117 voters.

No claim in Granite upon which a shaft has been sunk to a depth of 100 feet or more has failed to produce an abundance of good ore.

Creede claims credit for a daily output of \$1,500 in gold. Three years ago this metal was not accounted for in treating Creede.

The Small Hopes, on Grassy hill, at La Plata, has been worked all winter and now has a fifty-foot shaft with a forty-foot level showing. It has fifty-five feet straight drift, and within the town limits of Ukiah.

Prof. Kinnicut of Myrtle Point has a tame yearling deer that follows his children to school and would go into the boiling with the children. If permitted, at recess the deer will run around among the hundred or more pupils, hunting for his playmates, and when he finds Mr. Kinnicut's children he licks their hands and appears to be very glad to find them.

Thomas Jones, John Stam and Aaron White are operating a new quartz mine on the highway to Montana. He has already purchased 100,000 worth of ore. A few days ago they struck a very rich body of ore in the vein, the richest they have had yet.

A shaft has been sunk on the King of Diamonds, Cripple Creek. A mill run had the other day on a fair sample of the ore now being mined showed that it had a value of \$105 per ton. The shaft is about 100 feet in width from twelve to nineteen inches.

The Alpha and Omega claims can soon be abandoned, says the Creede Argus. Both are under lease to D. C. King and others, who have subleased considerable of the ground. Where the Hollinger recently had a chop, what he got out on the Alpha they are getting assays ranging from \$16.50 to \$70 to the ton. Seals and others, a little farther up the hill, have a

was not so great. Whole wheat produced about two pounds less per bushel, while wheat fed in the sheaf was almost entirely wasted.

The Asses Sentinel reports that spruce and pine in the Alps are in a bloom, and present indications point to as large a yield as last year.

Six shiploads of cedar telegraph and telephone poles have been sent from Puget sound to the coast of California this year, and the good prospect for a steady increase in the trade.

Everett Congregationalists are preparing to build. They find, on having plans drawn, that a church which would cost \$1,000 to \$5,000 two or three years ago can be put up now for \$2,500.

Sam Dervin, a cattle dealer from Montana, has between 500 and 600 2-year-old and 3-year-old steers in a pasture a mile from Alameda. The stock was purchased for the Montana range, and Mr. Dervin is preparing to start his herd for that section about April 15.

The delivery by the Oregon Pacific from Puget county of 10,000 tons of rock for government work at Yaquina has been completed. In a short time another contract is to be let for the delivery of 20,000 tons, to be used in the jetty at the entrance to the Yaquina harbor.

The Holland colony, which has been making arrangements to settle on the Sound, Puget county, 640 acres of land from the Sound. The purchase was made by S. E. Jones of Seattle, and the land is the fertile marsh between French and the Southworth ranges. The colonists are and are planning to go into the buttermaking business on a large scale. Some of the colonists are on their way from the four counties and others will follow when they receive the calligram saying that the land has been purchased.

For some days a cow belonging to Mayor Mann of Olympia appeared to be sick, refusing to eat or drink, and upon examination of her mouth it was found that part of her tongue had been cut off, and upon scrutinizing the cow it was found that she was in the horse's stall. The cow had evidently been carrying the horse, and he, becoming weary of her advances, had snapped at her. The horse's tongue was cut off by the tongue, two inches of which he had bitten square off and dropped in his manger. The horse has recovered sufficiently to chew her food and take a little refreshment.

MISCELLANEOUS

A Prescott (A. T.) man has opened a "bicycle fly stable," which is meeting with much patronage.

It is proposed that Riverside shall have an "orange palace" next season. The plan is to build a palace and keep it open for about two months.

J. H. Erickson, prospecting near Milford, Utah, discovered a rich vein of gold. About