

ned, the same features being contained in other bills The majority of the judiciary commit Governor. Acting Governor Coon signed tee recommended the indefinite postpone-ment of Todd's bill, extending the labor the papers at 4:10. lien laws to apply to work done on bridges, wharves, dikes, flumes, mining claims and other structures and mechan-ical plants. In spite of the fact that a ILL-GOTTEN MONEY SOON SPENT For Forging Oregon Stockman's Name

minority of the committee favored the passage, there was no protest against the adoption of the majority report. man giving his name as Frank Sharp was The House also indefinitely postponed faloney's bill establishing whipping arrested last night and placed in the Maloney's Weiser jail. The charge against him is forging a check on the First National Bank of Vale for \$200 and disposing of posts and providing for corporal punish ment of wife-beaters, and Dawes' bill regulating the practice of architecture. A concurrent resolution introduced in the House was adopted by that body pro-tiding for an important to a committee the same. He sold the check to Thomas Brassfield of this city for \$150. The check was sent to Vale to be cashed and was reviding for an inspection by a committe turned with the statement that it was a of three from the House and two from the Senate of the grounds at the State Reform School, with the view of reportforgery. ing upon the necessity for the passage of the bill appropriating \$12,000 for the pur-chase of additional lands. The Speaker appointed McCoy, Lewis and Crane on the committee.

Lambert of Whatcom County, in behalf of the fishing men of Puget Sound who have trouble with fish thieves, introduced a bill in the House making fish-stealing in any quantity punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary for from one to

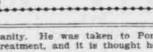
ten years. A bill that appeared in the Senate ap-

ert Lockett, a prominent stockman of Vale. Sharp also sold two horses in the city which it is stated had been stolen. Sharp's correct name is said to be Matt Hubbard, and it is reported that a reward is now being offered for his apprehension. It is not yet known whether Sharp will be tried in this state or in Oregon. The officials of Malheur County, Oregon, have been notified of his arrest, and Sheriff Landon is awaiting word from them. When arrested Sharp had but \$6 left of

over \$399, having spent it in the saloons.

sanity. He was taken to Portland for treatment, and it is thought he will re-

the affairs of the office have been administered meets with general approval.



C. J. Howard.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Feb. 3.-(Spr

cial.)-The reappointment of C. J. How-

ard as Portmänter has just been re-

ceived Mr. Howard served as assistant

Postmaster during the unexpired term

of P. B. Sherwood, and a full term under

commission from President McKinley.

The present appointment was not unexpected, as no opposition to Mr. Howard has been entertained. Under the pres-ent incumbent, the Postoffice receipts doubled, and the manner in which

great crostve action has been caused mainly by the suddon and tremendous "cloud-bursts," which occur only during the hot season of the year, and which are more or less of a local character, in one spot to-day, in another tomorrow. Lass Summer (1904) these descri regions of Nye and Esmeraida Counties, Nevada, were scoured to a very unusual extent by these elec-trical storms. Many unles of the newly completed Tomapah Railroad were com-pletely washed away by the mighty flows completed Tomapah Hallroad were com-pletely washed away by the mighty flows of water. The mountain ravines, guiches and slopes and even the distant means of the Raiston desert are covered with water-carried bouiders of immense size, and with a great depth of gravel and mand, the debris of decomposed indurated lava clas, mud and ash. (3) At this Winter season of the vest little rain and snow fall save

mud and ash. (3) At this Winter season of the year little rain and spow fall, save on the higher mountain ranges which en-circle the Ruiston and Amargosa Deserts, and there are only to be found within the desert area a few springs of water and a few water holes, and such are many miles apart. The enormous, but short-lasting, local Summer floods quickly sink away in the depth of the mess lands, and maught hut the desert surface of gravel, sand and all-pervading sagebrush form the desert iandscape. At various points are to be-found a growth of wild ryc-grass, and of the so-called "rabbit-brush," which fall not to indicate the presence of abundant water near the surface. The taller growth of the sagebrush in spots is also a safe indication of water. be frozen over by morning. Many factories and mills are closed down on account of the cold, and fundreds of laboring men are out of employ

if water. In and along the slopes of the snow

capped Grapevine and other high mountain ranges which bound the Raiston and Amarranges which bound the Raiston and Amar-gosa Deserts on the west and on the east, water may be found. The Amargosa River, the headwaters of which are found near the junction of these two deserts, can be seen, at certain seasons, flowing a width of 200 fest in some parts, then it sinks under the gravel and sands, through which it is lost at last in the depth of Death Valley, which is several hundred fest below sea level, the lowest land surface in the United States. The United States Geological Survey De-partment has furnished a semi-topographi-cal and geological map of these desert re-gions, in a tentative fashion, but which is not easily obtainable by the ordinary pros-pector. The general range of a few of the mountains, the localities of a few of the

ountains, the localities of a few of the

orings of water and a few altitudes are

GREAT GORGE IN THE OHIO. Central South. In Memphis the street-car service is demoralized and all trains are reported late. The same conditions are Ice Chokes River for Fifty Miles, as eported from points in Mississippi, Ar-Well as Tributaries. kansas and Texas. EVANSVILLE, Ind., Feb. 3 .--- The vorst condition in many years prevails

able to land. The boat has been fighting the ice for several hours, but can make

Never in its history has the Ohio been so full of ice, and river men say it will

no headway.

in the Lower Ohio River. The ice gorge NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 3 .- This city at Cloverport, Ky., which formed the first of the week, is growing in size experiencing the severest weather in ears. The ground is covered with snow years. hourly and is said to be almost 50 miles in length. The gorge at French to the depth of nine inches and snow is still failing. The Cumberland River is frozen for the first time in several years. Islands is holding intact and a new gorge several miles in length formed at Newburg, Ind., ten miles above the

CUMBERLAND, Md., Feb. 3.- The thermometer here today marked five de-Other gorges are forming at differthermometer here today marked five de-grees below zero. At Terra Alta it was the first time in many years and the Wabash and Ohio Rivers are frozen solidly at various of dints.

perature at the Weather Bureau falling ham Young at Omaha in 1848, coming to 4 degrees below zero. At several points to Utah immediately thereafter. She In the state a temperature of 10 below was was a descendant of the Bigelows of reported early today.

Massachusetts, was a Daughter of the American Revolution and a member of MILWAUKEE, Feb. 3 .-- In Milwauthe National Council of Women kee the thermometer registered eight below zero today. At Madison it was

Results of Motor-Roat Races.

18 below and at Green Bay 20 below. PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 2 .- The motor-boal races today resulted as follows:

MEMPHIS. Feb. 3 .- One of the heaviest First, high-speed motor-boats, handi-ap, one mile, for Thomas Dewar trophy snowfalls in recent years spread its mantle to a depth of six inches over the -Wriggler, owned by C. G. Burgoyne, won; time 6:25-1-5. Second, special handicap of two miles

for Beach Club cup-Challenger, owned by W. G. Brokaw, won; time 5:28. Third, eight miles, high-speed motor-

boat handleap for Royal Poinciana trophy-Challenger won; time 15:33. Fourth, cabin motor-boats for Pomoy cup-Enterprise won; time 12:46

Fifth, eight miles for motor-boats nder 18 miles an hour, for W. G. Brokaw cup-Wriggler won; time 43:46 2-5.

Younger Wants to Live in Minnesota. ST. PAUL, Feb. 1.-Governor Johnson uoday laid before the pardon board a letter from Cole Younger, the former letter from Cole Younger.

he conditional features attached to his

bandit, who was pardoned after serving 5 years of his life sentence, asking that

propriates alloyou for the erection of a library building at the State University and a bill in the House appropriates \$7000 for a laboratory at the same institution.

New Bills in the Senate.

McCoy introduced a bill providing that timber when sold separate from the land shall be taxed as personal property.

A new tax commission bill appeared in the Senate. It provides for three commissioners to be appointed by the Governor, and who shall serve ten years.

A measure that met defeat in several previous Legislatures, and which provides for the taking from the Supreme Court the power to appoint the clerk of the court and making the office elective, was introduced in the Senate.

The Senate was in session 11 minutes and the business was confined to the introduction of bills.

Bill for Reclamation Work.

The subcommittee of the joint irrigation committee this morning received for consideration a bill drawn by D. W. Ross and T. A. Noble, the Government experts are here to secure legislation that will permit the Government to proceed with the reclamation work in this state. The bill will be favorably recommended by the committee. It does not cover the general irrigation subject, but is drawn with a view of aiding the Government work, regardless of subsequent action or the irrigation code presented by the State Irrigation Commission or other bills of that nature. The Government bill contains no provision for the adjudication at law of water appropriations already made, which provision was seriously objected to by the irrigation companies and residents of the Yakima and Kittitas Val-

It is considered unlikely that the con flicting interests can agree on a general irrigation code at this session, but the passage of the bill prepared by the Govcrament representatives, if adopted, will enable the Government to proceed with irrigation works, reservoirs and other reclamation work in districts of the stat not already thickly settled or where there

have been many appropriations of water. There is considerable discussion of a proposed bill to remove the Supreme urt at once to the City of Tacoma. The discussed in connection with the capital removal fight, and is favored more particularly by attorneys who object to

coming to Olympia to argue cases. The bill would necessarily include the removal of the state library or at least the last section

It is said that the Legislature has the power to change the location of the Supreme Court without submitting the quesion to a vote of the people.

DENIES BRIBERY CHARGE.

Says Union Attorney Did Not Offer

Money to Influence Vote on County. SALEM, Or., Feb. 3.-(Special.)-According to the statements of wilnesses, Representative McLeod, of Union, today de-nied before the House committee on coun-ties that Charles Cochran, an attorney of Union, had ever attempted to bribe him for his vote and support of the Hot Lake County project. According to the story which has gained circulation pround the Btatchouse, McLeod had appeared before he counties committee at a previous neeting and told the members that Cochthe countles ile in Portland, had told him he carried \$1500 to grease the ways for the

III. Cochran returned from Union to make his statement to the committee. Ex-County Judge Wilson, W. T. Wright members of the committee as members of the County Court: County been working for the passage Clerk Clinton and Hastie & Dougan, the and other of the Hot Lake County bill, were pres- | contractors.

CUT IN TWO BY TRAIN. cover. FISHERIES CASHIER MISSING. J. O. Christle is Instantly Killed at

Marshfield.

ently did not hear the hell, and not real-

with the train, was struck and cut in

for Marshfield, where he intended meet-

for Complete System.

Rock for Polk County Roads.

DALLAS, Or., Feb. 3.-(Special.)-A

o Falls City yesterday for the purpose of

nvestigating a certain form of rock dis-overed by Engineers Coovert and Van

Orsdel, and which they recommend to be

of great value for grading and building

With an unlimited amount of rock lying

In such a position that it may be con-

veyed to any part of the county with little

expense, and a crusher, the highways of Polk may be improved to at least a passa-

ble condition. The committee that visited the rock consisted of the County Com-missioners, County Court, Coovert and

Van Orsdel, and the president and man-ager of the Falls City Railroad.

Garfield on Electric Line.

GARFIELD, Wash., Feb. 2-(Special.)

will be held at the Opera-House Thurs

day afternoon at 1:30, February 9, to meet the representatives of the Spokane & In-

arrangement have been selected and there

It is understood that a proposal will be

made for the building of the line to Gar-field, extending on to Palouse and Mos-

ow. This is not antagonistic to the other

towns which have been agitating the matter, as the line will eventually loop

so as to take in all the principal towns of the Palouse, including Colfax.

Legality of Tax to Be Tested.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 3.-(Special.)-The

uestion as to the legality of the special

the levying of a tax and the letting of a

contract to erect a Courthouse in Clatsor

County is to be tested in the courts. This

afternoon an amicable suit was filed in

the Circuit Court by Asmus Brix, J. T.

passed by the Legislature to authorize

Electric Rallway. Committees of

A meeting of the citizens of Garfield and of the farmers of the surrounding country

land for the construction of a com water works system. The price for

Christie was about to board the train

izing that he was on the same

two

cost to \$10,000.

up the county roads.

week.

land

will be a big meeting.

Frank Sharp Is in Weiser Jail.

WEISER, Idaho, Feb. 3 .-- (Special.)-A

The name signed to the check was Rob-

Seattle Detectives Are Searching for MARSHFIELD, Or., Feb. 2.-(Special.)-

J. O. Christie, superintendent of the Co-quille Coal & Lumber Company, was in-stantly killed today at 11 o'clock by being Arthur Snorge. SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 2.-Pinkerton detectives are scouring the country for Arthur Shorge, the missing assistant cashrun over by the train at the Coquille City depot. The train was backing down to the station. The unfortunate man appar-

ier of the Alaska Fisheries Union, of this city. He had been employed as assistant cashler by the company for the past two years. He left about a month ago and was, according to the report of the bonding company, about \$7000 short. u.e day Snorge left he is said to have

cashed a check signed by the president

ing his wife, who is due here tomorrow company for \$3700. No trace of his of the on the Breakwater from San Francisco. whereabouts has been obtained. Saloon Men Must Answer.

IONE TO HAVE WATER-WORKS HOOD RIVER, Or., Feb. 1.- (Special.)-E. Hayward, J. L. Morrison, P. F. Contract Signed With Portland Man

uts and S. F. Fouts, of this city, will answer next Monday before Judge Brad-shaw, of the Circuit Court, to the charge IONE, Or., Feb. 3.-(Special.)-The Ione City Council this morning signed a con-tract with Charles M. Robinson, of Portof violating the local-option clasing or der. The Prosecuting Attorney swore out the complaint during the week, and yesterday the saloon men appeared before Judge Bradshaw, by their attorney, and work is \$9737, and extra work will run the waived examination. The contract price includes ample power

The case of Fouts vs. the City of Hood River, wherein the plaintiff seeks to re-cover \$260 rebate on his saloon license, will to pump the water for the city and also for an electric light plant to be put in by the city the coming Summer. Work on argued before Judge Bradshaw the the city reservoir will be begun next same day.

Prepares Sixtieth Anniversary Dinner

SILVERTON, Or., Feb. 1 .- (Special.)-Mr. and Mrs. John Hicks celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Friday, and a large number of friends and relatives them to make the event a happy one. They were married in Ohio, in 1845, and crossed the plains in 1853, arriving in Oregon October 12 of the same year. They have lived in their present home for more than 24 years. Mr. Hicks will be 85 years old March 19 and his wife will be 78 February 5. Both are well and strong. Mrs. Hicks prepared the anniversary dinner and proved that she has lost none of her skill in pastry cooking.

Berlin Will Take Supplies.

ASTORIA, Feb 3.-(Special.)-The Alas-ka Fishermen's Packing Company has closed the contract for the charter of the American ship Berlin to take supplies to and bring the salmon pack from its Nushagak River, Bristol Bay, Alaska, cannery, during the coming season. The ship will probably go to Portland to load cans and al, but the balance of the supplies will be taken on at this port. Captain Peter-son, formerly master of the bark Harry Morse, may be made captain of the vessel,

Put in Charge of Society.

and Hilda Johnson, aged 5 and 7 years, re-spectively, were ordered committed to the Boys' and Girls' Ald Soclety by County Judge Trenchard this afternoon and were taken to Portland this evening. The girls are the daughters of Mrs. Mary Johnson

came from Finland about two

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 3.-(Special.)-The own of Cathlamet, Wash., is to be incor porated. A petition has been circulated and is already signed by the necessary 60

voters, asking the County Commissioner to fix a date for a special election when

ICE CHOKES THE HUDSON.

Ferry-Boats Buck Big Floes or Have Tied Up.

springs of water and a few altitudes are shown on the map. What the mining com-munity and what the other classes who fol-low on the footsteps and discoveries of the prospectors need is more definite informa-tion in regard to water throughout these desert lands. This information is fully as important as that which is furnished re-ception the repletion formations and the NEW YORK, Feb. 2. -Marine traffic in the harbor and in the western end of Long Island Sound was badly hampered today by ice. Only powerful steam craft could important as that which is furnished re-garding the geological formations and the general topography of the region. As the region is believed to contain very important unneral belts, and as it is at present wholly unsurveyed by the Land Department. It would be a great help to the ublquitous pros-pector in making iocation of claims if the Government would show on the map the meridians of influede and iongitude of the known perings of water as also of the force their way through the fields of ice composed of floes broken from the ice sheet over the Hudson River and of thick new ice formed last night. Ferry-boats were much delayed or altogether tied un Long Island Sound for several miles eas of Hell Gate is packed with ice. If the cold snap continues, it is feared that traffic in the harbor will be tied up. known springs of water as also of the more conspicuous natural features existing

Natural Gas Is Frozen Up.

more completions instituted features cauting within the region embraced by the survey. It might be possible also for the Survey De-partment to show on the map in deeper lines of color such points of mineralized beits as have been noted by the geologists in their field work. Certainly the field notes of the Gaussian scales of the survey. PITTSBURG, Feb. 1.-The coldest eather in six years was experienced to day in this city and vicinity, when the ometer in the outlying districts Government geologist, in respect to the mineral zones, or belts of any economic imreached 15 below zero. Owing to a bad would be of great help and interbreak in the gas main in West Virginia, portance, would be of great help and inter-est to the mining community, and fully as much so as are the fleid notes of the Gen-eral Land Department, which are on file in the office of the Surveyor-General in each state, to the home-seekers and others who are interested in the field and forest por-tions of the nuclid domain a gas shortage was general all over the country and intense suffering resulted. A of manufacturing plants, were Corres During obliged to quit work on account of the cold. A number of schools were closed. The upper and lower mills of the ions of the public domain. The lack of this mineral information is Carnegie Steel Company closed down today on account of no gas, and 1000 men were sent home. Coal and river

The lack of this mineral information is clearly shown by the vast amount of wasted time and useless expenditure of muscle on the part of the numerous and ubiquitous prospectors, be they of the "grub-staked" or of the independent class, which are dis-tinctly in evidence in these desort regions. Amid the indurated clays, gravels and mathes of these igneous formations of Pielstocene age are to be seen this wanted time and work of the prospector in the interests are practically paralyzed by the cold weather. The rivers are frozen over, necessitating the closing of all the river mines. Thousands of miners are affected.

Too Cold for Horse-Races.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Feb. 3 .- On acount of the incloment weather and poor condition of the track, the races at Essex Park were p stroned until to morrow and the entries stand. There was about three inches of snow on the ground today, and the thermometer stood at zero.

Cold Wave Moves East.

CHICAGO, Feb. 2.- The crest of the cold wave has passed castward. The mercury today touched 10 below zero and then slowly up. The official forecast climbed places the minimum here tonight at about

ICE AND SNOW ON ALL HANDS

'Below Zero" the Common Cry From Ohio to Kansas.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 2 .- A blizzard prevailed today throughout Missouri, Kan-sas and Oklahoma, and was general in Arkansas, with below-zero temperatures in Missouri and Kansas. The snow fall in Missouri and Kansas averaged four inches. A strong wind drifted the snow and trains were late. The coldest point in Kansas was Concordia, with 12 below zero. It was 7 below zero at Kansas City.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 1-The coldest temperature reached today was 12 degrees below zero. Reports of suffering from the Trains ontinued cold are increasing. have not yet resumed schedule.

From Tacoma-Mrs. C. C. MacIntosh at the Nevarre; F. C. Brewer, at the Herald LA CROSSE, Wis., Feb. 2 .-- Yesterday's record-breaking temperature was exceeded today the temperature at the local river station being 22 below, a fail of 2 degrees, and at the Federal building, 24 below, a fall of 1 degree.

> CLEVELAND, Feb. 3.-Last night was the coldest of the Winter, the official tem-

Below Zero and Snowing in Kansas. pardon be eliminated. By the terms of the pardon Younger is prohibited from living in Minnesota. It is not likely that TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 3.-Three degreess elow zero is the temperature in Kansas favorable action will be taken tonight. At several points in the central part of the state snow fell until late this afternoon.

Texas Freezing and Snowclad.

DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 3.-Haif an Inch

f snow has fallen over North Texas and

the temperature stands four degrees be-

Coldest Known in West Virginia.

degrees below zero was the temperature at Elkins today, the lowest ever known

Canal Needs Steam-Shovel Men.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 .- It was an-

nounced at the office of the Civil Ser-

vice Commission today that for the present no more examinations will be

held for clerical and professional po-

attions for the Panama Canal service,

the applications already being far in

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 3.-Lucy B.

Church, died today of pneu-Mrs. Young was born in Illi-

Young, the sixth wife of the late Brig-

dam Young, ex-president of the Mor-

nois in 1830, and was married to Brig-

ly cranemen and pit foremen.

ELKINS, W. Va., Feb. 2 .- Seventeen

low the freezing point.

here.

monta.

Six Inches of Snow in South.

Deep Snow in Nashville.

Frozen to Death in Maryland.

Sigourney Ahead at Billiards.

CHICAGO Feb. 3 .- W. H. Sigourney. of San Francisco, heads the winning column in the amateur billiard tournafor the National championship now playing at the Chicago Athletic Ciub. Tonight the Pacific Coast man assumed the lead in the number of games won. He has a perfect score. having won all the games participated in thus far.

His Family Relents After Four Years.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.-After nearly four ears' imprisonment for emi rs on from his mother and mother-inlaw, St. George d'Essauer, at one time prominent in Chicago society, was resed today from the County Jail on a habeas corpus writ. It was said tonight that he had become reconciled with his family.

excess of its needs. It was said, how ever, that competent and experienced Commander o. Zeigier's Expedition. persons are especially desired as mem-bers of steam shovel crews, particular-LONDON, Feb. 3.-W. S. Champ, secre William Zeigler, has engaged tary for Captain Kjeldensen to comm and the Arc tic steamer Terra Nova on its approach-Brigham Young's Sixth Wife.

ing voyage to the Far North. Mr. Champ will leave for America on February 8. The Terra Nova will sail in May.

line Denver & Rio Grande scenary is even more beautiful in Winter than Sum-mer. Travel East via that line and spend a day in Sait Lake City.



Of course consumption can be cured. Modern medicine teaches it. No one longer doubts it.

Babies have it. Young mothers have it. The aged have it. None 7 are exempt.

For over 50 years doctors have prescribed Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for this disease. It quiets the cough, controls the inflammation. If interested, talk this over with your doctor. Made by the J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass. Also manufacturers of ATER'S SARSAPARILLA. ATER'S HAIR VIGOR. ATER'S AGUE CURE. AYER'S PILLS.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 2.-(Special)-Lulu

who was committed to the State Insane Asylum some months ago, and since that time they have been county charges. The years ago.

Cathlamet to Be Incorporated.

the Nevarre, P. C. W. Alken, at the Na-Souare. From Seattle-G. W. Alken, at the Na-varre; A. D. Stevens, M. J. Heney, H. F. Grant, at the Holland. From Walla Walla, Wash.-Albert J. G. Bridges, at the Navarre.

to fix a date for a special election when the question will be voted upon. This petition will be submitted to the Com-missioners at the March term. The Mayor Liver Pills. One pill a dose.

Ficial town are are to be seen this wanted time and work of the prospector in the vain search for the precious metal which his carnal mind so fongeth for. The only other animal in Nature which rivals the human in this dolving into these unmineralized portions of the desert sur-face is the hadger. His seent is keen after the fat and soft-coaled species of marmet which the prospector calls the desert of the mountain rat, and he gets that juicy

which the prospector calls the desert or the mountain rat, and he gets that juicy reward for his delving. The badger is wise through his instinct of scent and appetite: the prospector is foolish in such work through his ignorance of geological facts. It is surely the interest of the Federal and of the sinte governments to facilitate in every possible way the search for and the development of the great mineral deposits which may lie within this extonsive and, at uresent, unexplored portion of the country

resent, unexplored portion of the country The available water should be found and be The available water should be found and be made easily get-at-able. The prospector and the capitalist will then have a show to do the rest. The Southern Pacific and the Tompah Railroads on the north, and the Clark's Etah and Los Angeles Railroad on the east, and the Santa Fe Railroad on the sent, will scon make this great descri-

R. M. BRERETON.

Major W. C. Langfitt left for San Francisco yesterday on Government business in connection with the repairs to the dredge Chinook.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.-(Special.)-North-western people registered at New York hotels today as follows: From Portland-S. Wolf, at the Raleigh. From Spokane-C. F. Veschoff, at the

PERSONAL MENTION.

the south will soon make this great desert region easy of access,