

J. W. VIRTUE DEAD.

Prominent Mining Man of Baker City Is No More.

Portland, Nov. 30.—J. W. Virtue, the pioneer mining man of Eastern Oregon, died at his home in Portland Saturday at 4:20 p. m. He had been sick for several months, but the news of his death came as a shock to his many friends in this section of the state. At the time of his death he was 68 years of age. His wife and two children survive him. The children are Robert Virtue and Mrs. Lillah Hardy.

Mr. Virtue was born in Canada. He came to Oregon in 1862 from Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he had been engaged as a banker's clerk. He located at Auburn, then went to Baker City and engaged in mining there and on Clark's creek. Some years later he became the owner of the rich Virtue mine, which was named after him, and which he later sold to G. W. Grayson of San Francisco.

Mr. Virtue was actively engaged in politics and in 1886 was elected sheriff of Baker county, which office he filled during two terms.

Afterwards he engaged in the banking and brokerage business and became prominent as a capitalist all over the state. Of late years he has been engaged in mining in the southern part of the state and has made his home in Portland.

PIONEER DEAD.

Well Known Citizen of Walla Walla Passes Away.

Walla Walla, Nov. 30.—Rev. A. W. Sweeney, one of the best known pioneers of the Walla Walla valley, died Sunday morning at 4 o'clock, at the residence of his son, Samuel R. Sweeney.

For some time the deceased had been afflicted with consumption, which was the ultimate cause of his death.

MIRACULOUSLY NARROW ESCAPE

UNDERGROUND TRAINS LOADED WITH WORKMEN.

Excitement and Terror in Paris Over Repeated Disasters on Her Street Railway System—Demands for Electric Motor—Threats Are Made.

Paris, Nov. 30.—Fire this morning occurred on the Metropolitan Underground, causing great excitement. It was at first reported the casualties equaled last summer's disaster, but none were injured, however.

At noon a second accident almost identical with the first, occurred. A car in which were 200 passengers, got ablaze. All sprang to the tracks and rushed for an open point. None were injured, as all escaped through an opening.

The first train had 1,000 workmen aboard, who owe their escape to the fact that the cars were just beneath an opening.

The conditions were so nearly identical with those which in July last resulted in the loss of 94 lives, that the whole city is up in arms over the negligent management of the company, and the streets are ablaze with open threats of violence to the railroad officials. The tunnels of the underground are so poorly ventilated that they are desperately liable at all times to the combustion of gases and inflammable dust. A moment's negligence resulting in a delay of but a few moments increases this liability to a probability.

But for the mere coincidence of the train this morning stopping beneath an opening, rigged for exit, nothing could have prevented a holocaust and wholesale asphyxiation—a horror that must have exceeded several fold that of last summer.

The second train was abandoned by its crew as well as passengers and until the engine fires burn themselves out and the light natural draft clears the tunnel of smoke and gas, no one will enter it.

The clamor for electric motor on the underground lines has grown into voluminous threats if it is not substituted for coal and steam.

GRAIN MARKETS.

Quotations Furnished by Coe Commission Company—B. E. Kennedy, Local Manager.

Pendleton, Nov. 30.—The wheat market at Chicago and Minneapolis opened strong this morning, despite the indifference of the Liverpool market. Elevator people are beginning to realize that they must bring their prices up to a parity with other prices if they would fill up their warehouses. Stocks have been feverish, panicky and irregular.

Chicago, Nov. 30.—			
Wheat—	Opening.	Close.	
Dec.	80 3/4	82	
May	80 1/4	81 1/2	
Minneapolis, Nov. 30.—			
Wheat—	Opening.	Close.	
Dec.	79 1/4	80 1/4	
May	80 1/4	81 1/2	

American exports to China in 1880 were \$1,101,000; in 1903 they amounted to \$18,803,000.

THE ECHO RABBIT CANNERY, IS NOW IN OPERATION

The Frisking Pest of the Umatilla County Alfalfa Fields Jumps From the Sagebrush Into a Tin Can

After One Year of Patient Labor, the Idea of H. C. Willis is Put into Execution—Cannery Starts Out With 5,000 Pounds of Dressed Meat Worth 30 Cents a Pound on Board the Cars—Pay Roll of \$30 Per Day—Capacity 1,800 Pounds of Canned Meat a Day.

This morning a whistle at Echo, Umatilla county, Oregon, blew over one of the most unique industries in the world, and so far as known, the only one of its kind in the world.

After just a year of patient, persistent labor on the part of the people of Echo, backed by the confidence of the surrounding country, the rabbit cannery, built and owned by the American Hare Packing & Cold Storage Company, started this morning to can the flesh of the American hare, as the Umatilla county rabbit is called.

Origin of the Idea.

The story of the origin and foundation of this industry is not long and is worth repeating at this time.

H. C. Willis, night operator of the O. R. & N. at Echo, with few trains to interrupt his quiet, or disturb his thoughts, last December began to study a method of ridding that portion of the country of the rabbit pest which played such havoc with young and growing crops, and which so far had been successful in eradicating the destructive genius of man.

They were known to be edible, and their flesh when prepared in proper manner equalled that of many game animals, sought after far and wide. So he conceived the plan of canning their flesh for market, and to make his plan feasible, killed and canned a few dozen, with the assistance and direction of Mrs. Willis, over the cook stove. The result was entirely satisfactory, and from that day to this Willis has been talking, writing and thinking rabbit, night and day. He organized the company, raised funds, built a building 20x30, equipped it with an eight horse-power boiler and engine, vats, cooking apparatus, store rooms, cold storage, and all the needed paraphernalia of a cannery, and today started the wheels turning.

From Sage Brush to Tin Can.

To follow the live rabbit from the sage brush to the tin can is not a long route, but it is one fraught with the most scrupulous care and cleanliness, scientific treatment and studious taste.

The rabbits are driven into a pen, caught with as little excitement as possible, and beheaded. The maimed and broken-legged ones are thrown away at the pen. The beheaded rabbits are hauled to the cannery, drawn, but not skinned at first, and hung in cold storage. By hanging them up for a few hours with the skin on the natural color of the meat is preserved and the natural taste of the animal retained.

Are Carefully Prepared.

Then the rabbit is skinned, washed in hot water, containing a solution which is one of the secrets of the trade, and put in pickle for 12 hours before going into the cooking vat. The carcasses are cut in halves, the fore-quarters being cut off and pickled and cooked separate from the hind quarters. After they have been in pickle for the required length of time, they are put in the cooking vat, which holds 400 rabbits at a cooking. Here the flesh is cooked and seasoned under the direct supervision of Mrs. Willis, who watches each cooking with the utmost care to see that the flesh is cooked to the proper stage, and seasoned exactly to taste.

Ready for the Cans.

The cooker is a large vat, zinc lined and air tight, which will bear a pressure of 60 pounds, permeated with perforated pipes from the boiler, and the cooking is done by steam. The vat is locked up air tight, and all the flavor of the animal is cooked into the flesh, and after cooking two hours the carcasses are then placed in large zinc vats and set on tables where women pick the flesh from the bones, cut it into the desired fineness, place it in the cans and it is partially sealed at first. The cans pass down a long table where several people are at work, and when sufficiently cooled and sealed up are placed in the store-room, where each can must remain for 20 days as the final test. At the end of 20 days each can is examined and boiled again, all the air and

team being allowed to escape through a vent hole in the cover of the can, when it is then hermetically sealed and placed on the market.

Undergo Three Inspections.

The rabbits that come into the cannery undergo three inspections. One at the pen, where they are killed. There all the maimed ones are thrown away. The skinned again inspecting every one and all showing any signs of bruises, after hanging for a few hours in cold storage, are cast out, and again, when the dressed meat comes out of the pickle, ready for the cooker, it is finally inspected by Mrs. Willis, who selects everything that goes into the cooking vat.

Capacity 1,800 Pounds a Day.

The cannery started this morning with 5,000 pounds of dressed meat ready for the cooker. Each rabbit produces two and a half pounds of meat, which is sold at 30 cents a pound, net, on board the cars at Echo, and there are orders ahead for samples that will keep the cannery busy for months to come.

Fifteen people are employed and the pay roll amounts to \$30 per day. The two drives of Thanksgiving day and yesterday produced about 2,000 hares, which will be all the cannery can use for the present, as the capacity is about 1,800 pounds of canned meat per day. When more rabbits are needed the stockholders order a drive and furnish enough for another run.

German Expert in Charge.

Theodore Schaffenberg, a cannery expert of Portland, who also is connected with the commissary department of the German government and German steamship lines, as purchasing agent, takes charge of the cannery, while Mrs. Willis will be the official cook and attend to the details of the seasoning. H. C. Willis is general manager and attends to the business.

Rabbit Skin Caps.

The skins are sold at two cents each to the Hatters Supply and Furnishing Company, of Philadelphia, and the fore feet are also sold to the same company at one cent each. The skins will be used in making caps, muffs and hats, while the feet will be converted into novelty goods.

Later the bones and waste will be converted into chicken food and there will be absolutely no waste in disposing of the hare.

Four Varieties of Hare.

At present four varieties of the hare will be prepared, namely, the family style, deviled hare, hare loaf and "chili con carne," or a red pepper grade of hare. The company has now on hand 4,000 one pound cans, 1,000 two pound cans and 4,000 half pound cans. The storage facilities of the company will accommodate 6,000 carcasses at a time.

Besides canning hare, the company has also canned an immense amount of beef, and now has on hand something like 400 cans of beef.

Yesterday's Drive.

The drive of yesterday was not a large one, the company not wishing to get more meat on hand at once than it could handle conveniently. About 125 people attended it and 500 rabbits were killed.

A party consisting of major Moorhouse, official photographer, A. M. Snyder, of the Spokesman-Review, Fred Lockley, R. A. Watson and Bert Huffman, of the East Oregonian, went down from Pendleton to attend the drive. The cannery company prepared an elaborate dinner for the party, at the Arlington hotel, after the drive was over, and the afternoon was spent in inspecting the plant.

Echo is thriving and prosperous. New buildings are being erected, larger stocks of goods are being handled, a first-class hotel and a newspaper are late additions to the industries, and more substantial improvements are promised in the near future.

The officers of the cannery company are W. H. Boyd, president; E. Ripper, vice-president, and H. C. Willis, secretary and general manager.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING.

Will Be Held Tomorrow Afternoon—Will Audit Bills.

When Mayor T. G. Halley left the city this morning he left a message to the effect that the city council be called at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. This is the meeting at which the bills for the past month are aud-

ited and allowed, and the business of the city straightened out for the month to come. Outside of the routine it is not thought that there is much of importance to need the attention of the city fathers.

Rev. Dr. W. C. Roberts, president of the Presbyterian University at Danville, Ky., is dead.

ONE SENATOR SHORT.

District Decides Not to Elect a Successor to Williamson at Present.

Prineville, Nov. 30.—The senatorial district comprising Crook, Grant, Klamath and Lake counties has decided not to elect a successor to State Senator Williamson for the special session.

Absence of a senator from that district will not, however, interfere with the business of the legislature. Some person or other from the district may claim a seat in the senate, but that body, being the sole judge of the qualifications of its members, will decide the claim.

WALLA WALLA WHEAT.

Bluestem Eased Off After Standing Up to 70 1/2.

Walla Walla, Nov. 30.—So far as could be ascertained, about 12,000 or 15,000 bushels of wheat changed hands Saturday. Bluestem started up in the morning at 70 to 70 1/2, dealers' open quotations, but later on eased off half a cent.

Some bluestem was bought at 59 1/2, but the quality was probably below grade.

TRIAL OF MRS. M'KNIGHT.

Michigan Woman Accused of Poisoning Her Husband.

Cadillac, Mich., Nov. 30.—The Wexford county circuit court was through today when the case of Mrs. McKnight the Kalkaska woman charged with poisoning her husband and children, was called for trial. An extra panel of talesmen was on hand and the work of selecting a jury was commenced. The trial promises to be one of the most sensational that has ever been held in Michigan.

COUNTERFEITING PENDLETON GOODS

INFERIOR BLANKETS ARE CREDITED TO OUR MILLS.

Complaint Filed With Manager Ferguson From North Carolina—Goods Were Sold by a Baltimore Firm and Not Made Here.

Several days ago Charles Ferguson, of the Woolen Mills, received a letter from M. L. Johns, of Lourenburg, N. C., stating that he had bought some blankets from the Pendleton mills and that they were not what was claimed for them, and did not give satisfaction to the trade, and asking for some redress. Mr. Ferguson could not find where the mills had sold any goods to the gentleman, but wrote to him saying that the mill stood behind their goods, and if the card attached to the goods was returned that the loss would be made good.

Yesterday he received a letter with the card enclosed. On the card was printed a large ram's head and underneath were the words, "Pendleton Wool Blankets." The card was of the same size as the regular label of the Pendleton mill, but did not have the copyrighted Indian head at the top. The blankets sold were bought of a Baltimore wholesale house, and it is the intention of the management of the local mill to ferret the matter out and put a stop to the thievery.

SURVEY COMPLETED.

Feasible Route for the C. R. & C. O. R. R. Now Located.

Condon, Nov. 30.—The surveyors of the Columbia River & Central Oregon Railroad company completed their preliminary survey to Condon Saturday. Mr. Bellinger, the engineer in charge of the work, stated that they had secured a good grade all of the way.

A number of suits have been filed condemning right-of-way between this place and Arlington and it is understood that the company will start proceedings at once against all the right-of-way required, this being the quickest way, they believe, of securing it. The Eastern Oregon Railroad company has also filed a number of suits of the same character.

MABEL M'KINLEY ILL.

Her Vaudeville Company Disbands in Kentucky.

Owensboro, Ky., Nov. 30.—Mabel McKinley, niece of the late president, is so dangerously ill that the vaudeville company of which she is the head, has disbanded and left for New York.

Ex-Surveyor Arrested.

Canyon City, Nov. 30.—Ex-County Surveyor White has been placed under arrest on information brought by F. C. Sels, charging him with larceny by bailies. The difficulty is said to have arisen over the ownership of some surveying instruments.

The populace of Cartagena, Colombia, is riotous. A mob stormed the hotel where the American consul resides, but did not find him. The police reserves were ordered out and restored order.

TESTIMONY IN THE WOOD CASE

Gen. Wood Had Prior Knowledge of Magazine Article Attacking His Superior.

REBUTTAL FILED AGAINST CHARGES MADE BY BRISTOW.

Defense Makes Admissions, But Qualifies Them—Other Defendants Go Before the United States Circuit Court at Baltimore With Demurrers—Are Charged With Defrauding Witnesses, Including Postmaster-General.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Rathbone, before the committee on military affairs this morning, urged the recall of General Bliss.

Horatio Rubens, who was counsel for the Cuban junta during the revolution, testified he could not accept Wood's word on anything even under oath. He went into details showing Wood did know of the contents of the magazine article prepared by Runcie before it's publication, and made comments on it afterward.

General Brooks is on the stand this afternoon.

Attack Bristow's Report.

Cincinnati, Nov. 30.—Wyberg, of the Ault & Wadborg Printing Ink manufacturing firm, this morning declares Bristow's report is entirely unjust to Heath. He says Heath and Louis should have left the position for the selection of Latta.

Also says the statement made in Bristow's report that Heath bought stamps for cancelling to the amount of \$14,000 in one year is not true, as the greatest amount ever sold in one year amounted to \$10,000.

He admits the price paid to be several cents higher per each stamp than that paid heretofore, but says that they could not be gotten for less; and also claims the ink, while the government paid an increased price for them, are absolutely indelible, which in itself saves the government thousands of dollars each year by effectively preventing the reuse of stamps.

Motion to Dismiss Appeal.

Washington, Nov. 30.—In the supreme court today A. P. Brown, in behalf of the Northern Securities, submitted a motion to dismiss the appeal of the state of Minnesota in the case against the merger on the ground that the appeal, if made at all, should have been made in the United States circuit court of appeals, and not to the supreme court.

Fight Over Demurrer.

Baltimore, Nov. 30.—Attorney Bryan in an argument for the demurrer in the postoffice cases, started before the circuit court this morning, made a statement charging the government with holding up Bristow's report until this morning for discreditable purposes, influencing the public against the defendants.

The cases opened are those of rural delivery clerks McGregor and Upton, charged with conspiracy with Chas. Smith to defraud 66 witnesses, including Payne. For the first time Bonaparte appeared personally as a special prosecutor.

DESPAIN PROPERTY SOLD.

Business Block May Be Built at Corner of Thompson and Court.

George Ferringer has practically arranged to buy the Despain property at the southwest corner of Court and Thompson streets, negotiations having been almost consummated. It is not known what use Mr. Ferringer will put the property to, but it is rumored that he will build a business block there as soon as he can make arrangements for the removal of the residence now standing on the ground, and for the plans for the new building.

A Pioneer Reader.

William Fitz Gerald, who has read the Weekly East Oregonian for the past 24 years, without missing a number, was in the city from his home on the Umatilla river, a few miles below Pendleton, Saturday. Mr. Fitz Gerald still has in his possession every one of the receipts which he has received from the East Oregonian during the past quarter of a century, and expects to add several more to the collection.

Murder by Wholesale.

Chicago, Nov. 30.—Chief O'Neill has received a copy of a confession made by Childs Kruger, under sentence of death at Greensburg, Pa., which admits of 18 murders, including two policemen in Chicago, whose deaths have long been mysteries. Kruger will hang in December.