

Talk About Christmas! — and — Talk About Christmas Gifts!  
 THE MAMMOTH NEW STORE OF THE  
**Montana Hardware Co.**  
 In the Pennsylvania Block, West Park Street  
 IS THE PLACE TO FIND THEM!

From now until Christmas we offer the entire immense stock of the BEE HIVE CO. at 25 per cent discount from their prices, consisting in part of

- |                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Dinner Sets             | Bric-a-Brac |
| Tea Sets                | Jardinières |
| Ice Cream Sets          | Placques    |
| Berry Sets              | Salads      |
| Hair and Toilet Brushes |             |
| Lamps of All Kinds      |             |
| Fine Cups and Saucers   |             |
| Table Ware of all Kinds |             |
| Fine Cut Glass          |             |

**Ice Cream Freezers**  
**Washing Machines**  
**Carpet Sweepers**  
**Wringers**

We carry the largest and most complete line of Haviland china in Montana.

**Carving Sets**  
 We are making a special drive on a fine Pearl Handled Carving set, (knife, fork and steel) at \$8.50 per set; a price never offered before.

Also, a Big Line of Skates

**Elegant Ranges**  
 We have the largest line of Steel Ranges, in the state, consisting of the celebrated MONITOR and ESTATE ranges, at prices no higher than inferior makes.

**Finest Cutlery**  
 We have an immense line of Cutlery, Pocket Knives, from 5c to \$7.50 each, Carving Sets, Shears, Scissors, Razors, Butcher and Kitchen Knives. Slicers, etc.

**COME IN**  
 and examine this immense stock of plain and fancy Queensware, House Furnishing Goods and Hardware, offered at prices never equalled.

The Biggest Line of... **Machinist and Carpenter Tools**

REMEMBER THE PLACE  
**PENNSYLVANIA BUILDING, WEST PARK STREET**  
**Montana Hardware Co.**  
 PHONE NO. 425

**DR. HUNT'S**  
**Blood and Nerve Tonic**  
 A Valuable Remedy in All Forms of  
 Debility  
 Dyspepsia  
 Sleeplessness  
 Nervous Prostration  
 Loss of Appetite...

This remedy acts directly on the blood and nerves, purifying and nourishing the former and stimulating the latter to a healthy physiological action. Its tonic effects are due solely to the action of the remedies composing it and not to alcohol, as is the case in most tonics.

Prepared only by A. H. HUNT, M. D., Chicago, Ill.

**NEWBRO DRUG CO.**  
 Largest Drug House in the State.  
 109 N. Main St., Butte.

**GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
 The Best Friend the Northwest Ever Had

"The Road That Made the Northwest Famous."  
 LEAVES BUTTE.  
 For St. Paul and East, daily, 8:30 p. m.  
 Great Falls local, daily, 9:45 a. m.  
 ARRIVES BUTTE.  
 From St. Paul, daily, 10:15 p. m.  
 From Great Falls and Helena, daily, 1:50 p. m.  
 FULL INFORMATION FROM  
 City Ticket Office, No. 4 North Main street, Butte. J. E. Dawson, General Agent.

INTERESTING NEWS OF THE MINES

**REPUBLIC CAMP IS READY FOR BUSTLE**

PROMISED CONNECTION BY GREAT NORTHERN WILL CAUSE THE REGION TO BOOM.

SPECIAL TO THE INTER MOUNTAIN.  
 Spokane, Wash., Dec. 24.—The announcement that the Great Northern railroad will be into Grand Forks and ready to connect with the Granby smelter by April 1 has started preparation for action in the mines of Republic camp, which are on the Great Northern line. A number of the properties which have been waiting for the date the road was to reach the smelter will now make arrangements to have everything in readiness for shipping as soon as the roads can transport the ore.

The Tom Thumb, one of the big mines of the camp, will start work about the middle of March. There is already about 60,000 tons of ore in sight ready to be broken down and shipped. As soon as the mines start up, the pumps will be put to work to clean out the mine. As soon as the water is out of the upper level, ore will be taken out and the pumps will be put to work on the lower levels.

There are a number of other mines in the camp that have been waiting till the Washington and Great Northern was into Grand Forks before starting work. The properties which have not been developed to a point for steady shipments will now begin work and will have everything ready by April 1.

It will be good news to the mothers of small children to learn that croup can be prevented. The first sign of croup is hoarseness. A day or two before the attack the child becomes hoarse. This is soon followed by a peculiar rough cough. Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy freely as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the rough cough appears, and it will dispel all symptoms of croup. In this way all danger and anxiety may be avoided. This remedy is used by many thousands of mothers and has never been known to fail. It is, in fact, the only remedy that can always be depended upon and that is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by Faxon & Rockefeller, Newbro Drug Co., Christie & Leys, Newton Bros.

**WONDERFUL STRIKE MADE IN "THUNDER MOUNTAIN"**  
 But as Stories of Strikes Become More Frequent as the Snow Grows Deeper, It May Be a Hoax.

As the snow grows deeper sensational mining strikes are being reported. The Weiser, Idaho, Signal chronicles in snow-bound Thunder mountain one of the most remarkable strikes ever heard of, as follows:  
 "News of what is undoubtedly the biggest strike ever made in the Thunder

**ALABAMA GROUP SAID TO BE SOLD**

CLAIMS IN WEST FISHER ACQUIRED BY MUSTANG CONSOLIDATED GOLD MINING COMPANY.

SPECIAL TO THE INTER MOUNTAIN.  
 Libby, Mont., Dec. 24.—A report has been received in Libby that the Mustang Consolidated Gold Mining company has acquired of Herman Hildebrandt and A. Hines the Alabama group of claims situated in the West Fisher district. It is understood the property was bought outright. Messrs. Hildebrandt, Shawler and Cameron left Libby on the 14th inst., coming out by stage, arriving in Libby Sunday night and leaving Monday morning at 2 o'clock a. m. for Spokane, and while there the deal will be perfected.

The Alabama group is situated on the opposite side of Mustang gulch from the Mustang group. There are five quartz claims in this group, known as the Mayflower, Enterprise and Alabama Nos. 1, 2 and 3. In addition to these claims there are 160 acres of placer land situated on Great Northern mountain six miles northeast of Libby, which is about 35 miles southeast of Libby.

The outcroppings of the ledges are in Mustang gulch, the claims sloping towards Howard lake on the north side of Alabama mountain, and are so situated that a single tunnel will intersect all the ledges of the group. Hon. A. L. Jacqueth, a United States deputy surveyor, has made a series of surveys showing the course of the tunnel, tunnel site, distances to the veins, the strike and dip of the same and other useful information. The strike of the veins is the northwest and the dip somewhat sharply to the northeast into Alabama mountain.

The first known ledge to be encountered is the Mayflower at 180 feet, giving 440 feet of stopping ground to the surface. The Enterprise will be cut at 560 feet, giving 830 feet to the surface on the ledge and at 868 feet the crosscut will intersect the upper Alabama ledge, giving 1128 feet of stopping ground to the outcrop. From this latter outcrop, which is on the brow of the mountain, the slope measurement of the survey shows a distance of 1,926 feet. As the veins dip toward the tunnel it affords the easiest and cheapest method of mining formation ledges, where the dip is sufficient to carry ore naturally to a working tunnel.

The Mayflower is a partial fissure, cutting the hanging wall and having a dip of 34 degrees. The Enterprise is a true fissure, standing almost perpendicular. The other ledges lie with the formation and have a dip of 24 degrees.

The more recent discoveries made in Cripple Creek at the greatest depth just now reached seem to prove that this

**CRIPPLE CREEK MAY RANK HIGH AS COPPER COUNTRY**

THE MORE RECENT DISCOVERIES MADE IN CRIPPLE CREEK AT THE GREATEST DEPTH JUST NOW REACHED SEEM TO PROVE THAT THIS

camp, which for so long has been looked at as purely and an exclusively gold camp will turn to become a producer of copper. Tetrahedrite or gray copper carrying high values in gold and silver has been found at the bottom level of the Empire State company's shaft, in that extraordinary ore body opened quietly during the past few months, and which is said to be worth \$8,000,000.

The same gray copper, carrying from \$500 to \$2,000 worth of gold and silver to the ton has been found at the 1,220-foot level of the Last Dollar mine and at the 1,350-foot level of the Blue Bird mine, and at the 1,450-foot level of the great Portland mine. If these copper discoveries made at the limit of the permanent water level prove continuous in depth, the zone of secondary enrichment in the Cripple Creek district is very low. These findings may make Cripple Creek a copper-silver-gold camp of the future. The values are so rich that all the hundred millions produced in the past may prove to be nothing in comparison with the possibilities of tomorrow.

**GOLD PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD IN THE YEAR 1901**

Estimated Figures Place the United States in the Lead, With Australia Second and Africa Third.

According to the latest official figures the world's production of gold in 1901 was \$255,634,500, as compared with \$306,584,000 for 1899, the latter figures being the highest ever recorded. It will be seen that the compilation of the director of the mint (partly estimated), was not so far out of the way—\$258,000,000.

In 1899, the year of the highest output, the Rand mines of the Transvaal were in full operation, and in that year Africa produced \$73,227,100, which was a little more than the output of the United States but considerably less than that of Australia. In 1900 the United States advanced to the foremost place with \$79,171,000, with Australia second at \$73,499,000. In 1901 the same relative positions were held, the production of the United States declining about \$500,000, and that of Australia increasing by \$3,000,000, the world's total for the year being \$263,374,700. In this total the African mines count for only \$9,000,000, or about one-eighth of their maximum. If the normal production of these mines had been reached in 1901 the world's production would have reached \$327,601,000.

According to statistics of the London Economist, the actual production of the Rand for eight months of 1902 has been 1,321,012 ounces, say \$26,500,000. The recovery of production since the end of the Boer war has been much lower than was anticipated. Two reasons are assigned for this. One is the disorganization of labor in consequence of the new conditions of government in the Transvaal. The other is the reluctance of the mine owners to run their works to the full capacity until they know what taxes they will have to pay. Probably the latter reason is the more powerful of the two. Of the three leading ones Canada yielded in 1891 a little more than \$24,000,000 and Russia nearly \$23,000,000. The showing made by Canada is most interesting and serves as an indication of what may be expected in the near future, when capital is brought to bear upon a more extensive scale.

**Pianos, Organs**

Bargains  
**HOLIDAY PRICES**  
 Brand New Pianos

- |                        |       |       |
|------------------------|-------|-------|
| Knabe                  | ..... | \$450 |
| Weber                  | ..... | 400   |
| Haddorf                | ..... | 350   |
| Decker & Son           | ..... | 375   |
| Hallett & Davis        | ..... | 325   |
| Kimball                | ..... | 288   |
| Brinkerhoff            | ..... | 275   |
| Whitney                | ..... | 275   |
| Hinze                  | ..... | 235   |
| A beautiful Baby Grand | ..... | 500   |
- Slightly used instruments.  
 One second-hand, very fine Bechstein Grand Piano, good as new, original price, \$1,100..... 250  
 One slightly used \$400 Kimball piano..... 250  
 One slightly used Hinze piano..... 185  
 One slightly used Smith & Barnes piano..... 185  
 One second-hand Packard organ..... 15  
 One second-hand Crown organ..... 25  
 One second-hand Mason & Hamlin organ..... 35  
 One second-hand Chicago Cottage organ..... 40  
 One second-hand Sterling (six octaves)..... 45  
 One nearly new Kimball organ..... 55  
 Brand new Organs, very best grade, \$65 and upward.

Easy Payments  
**ORTON BROS.**  
 219 N. Main Street



**Pullman Dining and Library Car Route**  
 TO  
**SALT LAKE DENVER, KANSAS CITY OMAHA, CHICAGO ST. LOUIS**  
 and All Eastern Points  
 Short Line to  
 Colorado, Arizona and Mexico  
 San Francisco, Los Angeles (Ocean or Rail.)  
 And all Pacific Coast Points.

ARRIVE.	DEPART.
No. 9..... 6:40 p. m.	No. 8..... 4:45 p. m.
No. 7..... 2:45 a. m.	No. 10..... 2:05 a. m.

**Ticket Office, 105 N. Main Street Butte, Montana.**  
**H. O. WILSON, General Agent**