

**EXPLOSION.**

**HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Dec. 24.**—An explosion of gasoline in the cellar of the Turf Exchange yesterday afternoon wrecked the building and injured 30 persons, 15 of them seriously.

The building was occupied as a poolroom and the explosion occurred when there were over a hundred persons in the room listening to the result of a New Orleans race, which was being called. The floor seemed to rise and in an instant a report that shook the entire building rang out. The upper floors fell upon the struggling victims, pinning many of them down.

The police have arrested Ben Murray, who is alleged to be responsible for the catastrophe in carelessly handling the gasoline while filling a tank in the cellar.

**SCIENTISTS FIND SMALL POX GERM**

**CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 25.**—From the investigations that have been made in the laboratory at the Detention hospital, Health Officer Friedrich has satisfied himself that the smallpox germ does not kill.

"In every case that we have investigated," says the health officer, "we have found streptococci—one of the germs that causes blood poisoning. That is the danger germ, we believe. It is the germ that causes most of the deaths of smallpox patients. It causes decay of the flesh and organs

and in nearly all malignant cases results fatally.

Many efforts have been made in this country and abroad, to find the smallpox germ. All of these efforts, however, have been unsuccessful. Vaccination with virus was found to be a preventive in many cases. Formaldehyde was found to be a good disinfectant, but as to whether or not the germ had its origin in animal or vegetable matter, how it appears, and what causes the disease, are questions the medical profession has never been able to answer.

**How the Gamblers in Spokane Spent Merry Christmas Eve.**

It is an attractive, repellent, wonderful sight, Christmas eve in the gambling houses.

In the feverish, restless, excited, joyous and despairing ever changing crowd that risks its fortune on the cast of a die is reflected the comedy and tragedy of life.

In Spokane Christmas and the week preceding invariably proves a bonanza period—for the houses, of course. The foolish fellow who thinks to make a big winning (and there are a lot of them about Christmas time) usually goes broke or gets badly bent before he leaves off for the day.

The Owl last night was crowded to the doors by a nervous, constantly-moving-about throng of cosmopolitans—perhaps every nation under the sun was represented in the eager assemblage. Orientals were there in force.

There was one fellow especially who drew the reporter's attention. He had much the appearance of a minister and wore a black, starched hat, cocked down over the right eye. He

appeared intelligent and evidently well bred.

As he cast his last dollar on the "high card" the look of desperation in his features was pitiful in the extreme. Would he win—and perhaps go home to dear ones with a firm resolution to cut out the pace that inevitably ruins the best for life? Or would he lose and go to his family in a rage or a fit of despondency and commit murder and then do away with his useless self, which is frequently the case?

He lost—of course; and shuffled out of the resort with an uncertain stagger.

Business at the Club was good—for the house—and the usual salutations of "Merry Christmas," etc., were passed by dealers and players with apparently no thought of the day or its meaning. Some exhibited presents from mothers, sisters and sweethearts, who had no inkling of the ways of the west or of the life their loved ones were leading—it is better thus.

The great mass of human beings that loitered about in the Coeur d'Alene

resort caused the reporter to wonder where they all came from and how they managed to pack into such small space. One of the magnets that attracts those of a sportive disposition to this place is a \$200 "keno pot," which is hung up every Christmas and eagerly played for by the herd of humans that jams itself into the keno department. The foul tobacco smoke that emanates from this room almost stifles the uninitiated.

At the O. K. and Combination resorts a small army of men of all ages and nationalities eagerly watched the elusive roulette ivory as it spun about and won or lost their money, as the case might be. Some "bucked the tiger," others "shot craps," played poker, blackjack and divers other games, all forgetful of the fact that it was Christmas eve and their aims and ambitions should be almost anywhere but about such places.

The same throng wanders about all night long from one resort to another in an ever unsatisfied desire to find excitement.

And this is their Christmas.

**PAT CROW LOCATED IN SOUTH AFRICA**

**CHICAGO, Dec. 25.**—Pat Crowe, who caused great excitement by the kidnapping of Eddie Cudahy, has turned up in Johannesburg, South Africa. Pat's brother, Steve, is landlord of the Revere house in Chicago, and is authority for the statement that within the next few weeks Pat may surrender himself to the authorities according to an agreement with Edward Cudahy when the \$25,000 reward was withdrawn recently for his arrest.

Steve Crowe further states that

some time ago a stranger, claiming to be an agent from his brother, approached him in his hotel and, after telling him where Pat was, wanted to borrow \$2. Steve was in a bad humor then and at once dismissed the man.

Subsequent events have led Mr. Crowe to believe that the man was an impostor, but was in reality what he claimed. Pat and Steve have not been on good terms of late years, but Steve now says he will do anything within the bounds of reason he can for his brother.

**INDIANS SLAIN.**

**VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 25.**—Reports from Dawson state that the Peely Indians attacked a party of Little Salmon Indians who were on their way out to sell furs, and wiped out the party. It is also rumored that a storekeeper was shot and the store looted.

**CUT THROAT.**

**SALT LAKE, Utah, Dec. 25.**—The boy, Clyde Felt, aged 15, who confessed the crime of cutting the throat of an old man named Samuel Collins, has been released. He claimed the deed was done at the old man's request.

**"STRAIGHT" HOUSE.**

Gust Pearson of the Stockholm says he will make more money by running his house without liquor than before. His license cost him in the neighborhood of \$1200 a year and his liquor and beer bills amounted, it is said, to about \$250 a month.

The theater, it is said, will run as before. If the patrons of the place insist on having liquor the only way for them to get it is to have it sent in from one of the neighboring saloons.

**WANTS RECOUNT.**

**REPUBLIC, Wash., Dec. 23.**—E. S. Larsen, the defeated candidate for mayor, has asked for a recount, claiming that three votes cast for him were illegally thrown out. His opponent, J. W. Palmer, was elected by two votes.

**NAVAL SCHOOL.**

**LONDON, Dec. 25.**—A movement is on foot in naval circles for an advanced scheme of naval education, including the adoption of a single system of training for all three branches of the service, executives, engineers and marines.

**MINING.**

The Payne mine in the Slocan region is everything humming in its vicinity.

The Greenwood's furnace in the Boundary, shut down for a week's repairs, was blown in again last week.

The Granby smelter has treated since it first began operations the enormous total of 580,000 tons, nearly all of this being from mines at Phoenix, B. C.

The 190-foot level of the Old Ironsides mine of the Granby properties will be reached through a tunnel now being worked from an open cut below the ore bunkers.

The Lucky Jim in the Slocan resumed operations last week after a two years' idleness. Alex Goldsmith and W. Jeffries of Slocan, B. C., have leased the property.

With last week's shipments the gain in tonnage from the Rossland district, including the Le Roi, over last year is more than 50,000 tons, or a 25 per cent increase.

The Northwestern Development company in the Laramie division expects to have its stamp mill ready to work by January 1. Its aerial tramway to the Goldinch has been completed.

Stephen Mangold and Daniel McEachern have transferred their interests in the Morning Star group to a New York syndicate composed of E. L. Simpson, Jefferson Hogan and T. A. Ball. The consideration was \$25,000.

The second furnace of the Sunset smelter, the machinery of which is being made by the Union Iron works of this city, will be blown in about January 1. The water jackets, air blast and piping has all been delivered promptly.

E. F. Graves has just received advice from the Lucky Charlie mine which state that a big force of men is at work on the property. Considerable ore bodies, all holding the values averaging with the recent strike, have been uncovered on the new lead, and development will be forwarded rapidly.

**REAL ESTATE.**

Thomas Leavell yesterday sold to John Anderson the residence at No. 221 Perry st., the consideration being \$1800. It is Mr. Anderson's intention to make the place his home. The deal was consummated through Herkelrath & Smillie.

Herkelrath & Smillie have purchased a fruit ranch of 40 acres, with house and other improvements, from John Anderson. The consideration was \$1600. It is the intention of the new owners to keep the property intact. The land lies 11 miles east of the city, not far from the projected route of the Spokane & Coeur d'Alene Electric railway.

The William Howard Land & Lumber company of Coeur d'Alene City, soon to be connected by electric railway with Spokane, has purchased from the state of Idaho through land commissioners 28,000 acres of timber. The price paid was \$127,365, which does not include the land. The Howard company consists mainly of Philadelphia capitalists with F. A. Blackwell manager.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.**—The cable ship Silverton has reeled off 1894 knots of cable on its way to Hawaii. It is expected to arrive at Honolulu Friday.

**Don't Forget the Hardware Man When Shopping for Christmas**

Look over this list

Flexible Filer Sleds  
Union Hardware Skates  
Striking Bags, Foot Balls  
Boxing Gloves  
Rifles, Jack Knives  
Safety Razors—Star and Gem  
Andirons and Fire Sets  
Chafing Dishes  
Five O'clock Tea Kettles  
Carving Sets  
"Rogers" Silver Ware

**Holley, Mason, Marks & Co.****FINE PIANOS AT LOW PRICES ON EASY TERMS****Special Sales for Holidays and End of year.****LOWEST PRICES—Cash or Easy Terms.**

Some good bargains in slightly damaged and second hand pianos and organs.

Tuning and repairing a specialty. Work guaranteed.

**File**

605 and 607 Sprague Ave.  
G. A. Heidinger, Mgr.

**New Year's Gift.**

Can you find a more fitting New Year gift for wife or child than one of our

**Savings Pass-Books?**

You doubtless contemplate having a savings account sometime. It must have a beginning. What more fitting time than the new year? It need not be a large sum to secure a book here.

**The Spokane and Eastern Trust Co.**  
(Incorporated.)  
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

**Palouse Land Co.**

We have the best bargains and surest returns in Palouse lands that have been offered. Two miles north of Diamond, 160 to 640 acres, heavy black loam, well watered, easy terms, \$25 per acre.

**D. T. HAM, President**  
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**L. K. MONFORT**

322 FERNWELL BLK.  
Tel. Red 1786. Res. Tel. White 222.  
\$200—Fine corner and inside lot, Union Park; abstract furnished.  
\$300—A block of five lots, all large lots, adjoining Corbin Park on water main. Will sell the whole block or divide to suit you and give very easy terms.  
\$1000—Good five-room house, corner and inside lot on graded street, at good terms.

I have some nice lots in Forest Park addition in block joining Monroe st. Fine location for a home. Come and see them.

**HEISER'S DANCING ACADEMY.**  
Pupils receive private and class instructions. Tel. Red 2341, Armory, Madison st.

**Government Bonds**

are a safe investment, but there are many other good ones, and one of them is an investment in

**GOOD LUMBER**

for a home for your family. This is a good time to build, before the spring rush begins. We have plenty of stock and will be glad to figure with you.

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Two new modern cottages ..... \$1800  
Three new modern cottages ..... 1550  
One new large modern house ..... 3000  
One new 8-room modern house ..... 2250  
One new 8-room modern house ..... 2500  
Easy payments.

**A. S. Crowder & Co.**

25-26 Jamieson Bldg.  
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**Gardner & Gardner,**

**Real Estate and Insurance,**  
8 MARBLE BANK BUILDING.  
Tel. Red 4421.

**You!**

can buy a new seven-room modern cottage on the North Side near Howard st. for \$1800. Only one-half cash.

**J. MONROE HEATON,**

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**Xmas Candies**

TONS OF IT.

**2 Pounds**

FOR

**25c.**

**Spokane's Greatest Grocery**

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R. L. Dalke, Secretary.

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Four-room house in Stafford's addition, nice lawn and trees, two acres of ground, city water, good chicken ranch; price, \$1200.  
160 acres, 20 miles from city, good land, some cultivated, house, barn and orchard; price, \$1000, or trade for lot and some cash.

Four lots in half-mile circle, surrounded by three streets, in splendid location for business proposition; bound to enhance in value; price, \$2500; terms.

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**20 LEVEL LOTS**

**NEAR CAR LINES, \$125 TO \$175 EACH.**

**C. F. CLOUGH & CO.**

309 Empire State Bldg.  
Phone Main 304.

2½ to 10 acre tracts of good garden and fruit land, near car line; part cash, balance time.

4 acres, on Sprague st. car line; a bargain.

12 lots, 50x135, on Sprague ave., \$30 each; part cash.

450 acres, join city, for \$7.50.

120 acres in southern Oregon, \$5 per acre.

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We write all kinds of insurance, collect and take general charge of property, buy and sell real estate. Give us a trial and am sure you will be satisfied.

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**NOTICE**

Owing to the extraordinary demand for

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we cannot fill any more trial orders. After....

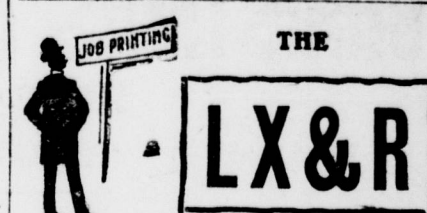
**Wednesday, Dec. 10**

the price will be

**\$7.00 per ton.**

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S. L. ALEXANDER, Manager.

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Full \$5.00 Set

Silver filling ..... 50c  
Teeth extracted absolutely without pain ..... 50c  
Seamless gold crown, 22k ..... \$5  
All work guaranteed from 15 to 20 years. Lady always in attendance. Lowest prices; best work. Satisfaction guaranteed or no pay.  
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SPOKANE, WASH.  
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5-room modern cottage, excellent location; price ..... \$1800  
6-room modern house, near the Bryant school; price ..... 2000  
5-room modern house, on Boone ave.; price ..... 2000  
8-room modern house, in Browne's addition; price ..... 4000

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**DID YOU KNOW**  
that there are more demands made on this school for stenographers than it can supply?  
Over 600 students last year. We expect more this year.

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**HOLIDAY NOVELTIES**

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**\$1,250**

buys six-room house, on Fifth ave., one block from car line, desirable location; terms, \$200 cash; balance monthly.

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