

TIME FOR A CLEAN-UP DAY

Look at that back yard of yours and that alley at the rear end of your place. See those old smelly tin cans, with fragments of food stuffs; those old rags and the scraps of desiccated meat and other things that "looks like something that the cat brought in"? Now, really, do you think you are dwelling in a clean and healthful place and its surroundings, for which you are responsible, would pass the inspection of a real scrupulous sanitary cop?

It is high time that many places in Spokane were being subjected to a thorough cleaning as a preventative of malignant disease. Back yards and front yards, area ways and alleys, vacant lots and under houses, in various sections of the city—both residential and business districts—are cluttered up with collections of rubbish and partially decayed matter that is a constant danger sign to the public health.

Do not forget so early the dreadful death toll collected by disease bred by the neglect of property owners and renters in this "City Beautiful" last year. One child after another was carried off to an early grave by the grim reaper who lurked with the deadly germs in the old rubbish piles out back of the houses, in the fence corners and everywhere. Older persons, right in the prime of life, went to the life beyond in the same dreadful epidemic of disease, and thousands of dollars were paid out as a pecuniary feature of the city's great price of its neglect.

At the present time there are but about 25 cases of scarlet fever in Spokane. Scarcely a case of smallpox is reported and other contagious diseases that robbed mothers of their cherished babies and filled cemetery lots over on the hill last year are unaccountably scarce. Now is the time to act. Now is the time, since it has not been done before, to clean up and rid the city of the cause of these diseases, and there will be no great need for fear of a repetition of the scarlet fever epidemic.

KANSAS CITY WOMEN WILL BANQUET OVERWORKED HORSES CHRISTMAS DAY

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 23.—Hay, oats, corn and other delicacies to tickle the palates of horses are being collected today by the Humane society, working in conjunction with Mrs. E. D. Hornbrook and Mrs. Emma W. Robinson, who are planning to give a Christmas feast to the neglected cobs and broken down thoroughbreds of the city in the big auditorium Christmas day.

The invitations, which were mailed today, read:

"Christmas dinner for the workhorses, given by the Humane society. Call at Convention hall Christmas day between 9 a. m. and 6 p. m."

"It will not be an equine quality event," Mrs. Hornbrook said, "but it will be on invitations, anyway. That is to prevent sponges from coming in a team at the expense. The money will be raised by subscriptions. We are asking the wholesale houses to donate enough feed for several hundred teams."

CITY IS BADLY BILKED

Committee Finds Bad Conditions at Sprague Ave.

The special committee of the city council that has been investigating the collapse of the Sprague avenue fill have come upon information that tends to prove the generally accepted theory that the city has been badly bilked in the filling of the fill plans after they were approved by the city council. The committee consists of Councilmen Mohr, Shaefer and Cartwright.

Part of this record is the original plan of the fill, showing heavy piling and concrete layers on top, with the approval of J. C. Ralston, city engineer, written on the plan. Mr. Ralston has recently denied that the original plan contained any piling or concrete base.

Another item of importance is the discovery of the contract made by the Warehouse Realty Co. with Heutter & Zirnig, subcontractors on the fill, which provided for the installation of the piling and concrete.

This piling and concrete, which contractors who figured on the work estimated to be worth \$10,000, was knocked out of the plan for a rebate to the city of only \$1500.

Another phase of the case that the committee has come across is the filling of a portion of the fill with earth, thereby doing away with the rock wall, which saved the contractors quite a large sum.

Some of the city officials have been trying to get the committee to "hush" the fill situation, with a plea that it meant the loss of a lawsuit for the city. But the councilmen are stirred up and before the case is dropped the entire facts about the juggling performed by some one in connection with the Sprague avenue fill will be laid bare.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT HELPED FAMILY

The Christmas spirit has assisted Fred Ellefsen and his poverty stricken family at 21220 Pacific avenue still more, and now they are sure of a fair living until after Christmas, when Mr. Ellefsen will be put to work. Ellefsen, who is a carpenter, has been ill for nearly two years, and a part of the time was not expected to live, as the result of having his foot crushed while climbing between two cars on the railroad track.

He and his family were destitute last week and could get no more groceries. The famous market contributed liberally to theirarder and about \$11 in cash was given them by charitable persons who read of their condition in The Press.

MATRIMONIAL REEFS AND GRIEFS

With freedom within her grasp, Kate Rodenhaven changed her mind this morning and decided that she would give her husband, J. E. Rodenhaven, another chance.

When the case was called by Judge J. D. Hinkle motion was made to dismiss the case, and release the restraining order on the Fidelity National bank.

Desertion and failure to provide are alleged by Nellie Williams in a complaint for divorce against Frank Williams, a locomotive engineer, filed this morning.

Fallur to provide was the grounds upon which Nettie W. Cook secured a divorce from Norman Cooke this morning. The wife was given the custody of their 3-year-old daughter, Gladys. Eddie Aubrey was given her freedom from Harvey Aubrey by Judge Hinkle this morning. She alleged that Aubrey beat her in

such a cruel manner that it was impossible to live with him.

Louise Shean commenced suit for divorce against Henry W. Shean this morning, failure to provide being the grounds upon which the action is based. The couple were married in Wisconsin in February of 1914, and Shean deserted his wife in 1905.

ONLY 'SYSTEM' WORTH MENTIONING

A gentleman had entered the office of the city controller to talk "system," and the controller had listened to the argument for some minutes.

"Let me tell you something about system," began the practical controller, in explanation of his views, "there is but one system to be reckoned with in the management of a public office, and that is to get the taxpayers as near a dollar's worth of return for every dollar laid out."

"You can talk system until you are black in the face, but it takes honest effort and industry to get results. System does not produce this, but it is a great help when all other things are working out well."

DEATHS.

The funeral services of Albert McDougal, who died Tuesday at Medical Lake, were held at 1 o'clock this afternoon from the Hillyard Methodist church. Interment at Peone Prairie cemetery.

The body of W. M. Starratt, the Hillyard freight conductor who was run over by his train Tuesday night, will be shipped to Victoria, B. C., for burial. He leaves a wife and three children.

The funeral services of James H. Berridge, aged 10 months, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Berridge, drowned Tuesday night in a tub of water, were held at 10 o'clock this morning from the Hillyard chapel of the New England Undertaking Co. Interment in Masonic cemetery.

The funeral services of Frank H. Gage, who died yesterday at 348 Herbert street, Hillyard, will be held from the New England Undertaking parlors in Hillyard at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

TOOK IT PERSONALLY

"I can tell by looking into your face just who will be assigned leading roles in my new play," said the enthusiastic playwright.

"I suppose, sir, you mean that you can see the cast in my eyes?" sarcastically observed the squinting theatrical manager.

PUTTING HIM STRAIGHT

"Haven't I married you before?" asked the justice of the peace, looking intently at the prospective bride.

"Sure; don't you remember?" said the care-free female. "You married me before and divorced me after."

LOVE NEEDN'T BE BLIND

A bridegroom of 21 in Connecticut was arrested for perjury in swearing that his 70 year old bride was 35. Which literally was a fool's thing to do on the face of it.—Quincy, Ill. Herald.

And which seems to prove that it is pretty hard to get by nowadays with any old wrinkles.

Deputy Sheriff J. T. Logan left last night for The Dalles, Ore., to bring back E. H. Overman, editor of the Shaniko Star, to answer to the charge of issuing checks on a bank where he had no deposit. Overman was arrested at Shaniko and taken to The Dalles, to await the arrival of the local officer.

A PHRASE EXPLAINED.



MAKING ENDS MEET



Queen and princess—royalty—but never mind! They belong to that great human, world family—the beautiful family of "mother and baby." God bless them! This picture of Queen Wilhelmina of Holland and her wee daughter, Juliana, was made from a photograph taken recently at her palace in Amsterdam. The photograph was greatly admired by her subjects, and every patriotic Dutch family secured a copy to adorn their homes.

HOW THE MILK SITUATION LINES UP NOW

There are 169 different farmers and dairy men engaged in the business of providing Spokane's milk supply, yet the distribution of the supply is in the hands of practically four dairies, which control the price not only to the consumer but the price paid the producer. The margin between the two is over 100 per cent for the middleman. He gets a bigger price for distributing the milk than the man who feeds and milks the cow gets for producing the milk in the first instance.

There is a certain standard which is used in testing the condition of milk cows and the manner in which the buildings are maintained in which the cows are kept and the milk handled. An examination of the score cards at the city milk inspector's office will show that the bulk of the high priced milk used in Spokane is produced from cows and gathered in barns and buildings that do not average 50 per cent of the standard test set for the production of pure milk. The man who milks and sells it at wholesale prices is hammered down in price until he cannot afford to make the needed beneficial changes that will improve the quality of his output, although the score cards show that at different inspections he has been asked to make certain improvements.

The people are told that there is no milk trust in Spokane and that prices raise and lower (which is not often) of their own accord. Yet the four large creamery concerns of Spokane are generally referred to as the "Big Four," and whenever the "Big Four" say that milk or butter is to advance it goes up. The retailer will tell you that it is the "Big Four" that fixes the price and not the little corner grocery.

"JUST KIDS"



"My boy, do you know where Mrs. Wilkins lives? She is a lady without children."

"I dunno her, ma'am; but of she's a lady without children she don't live nowhere around here."

WHERE DID ED SMITH GO TO?

Profound Mystery Surrounds His Disappearance.

Profound mystery surrounds the disappearance of Ed Smith, age 49 years, from his home at 512 McClellan street, since December 13. His description was given to the police last night by his relatives, and officers are searching for some trace of him today. So far they have been unable to learn where he went after leaving his home.

The fact that Smith is not a drinking man increases the mystery of his case, and by some it is feared that he has fallen a victim of foul play, though so far the officials have found no indication of such. When last seen, Smith wore a dark coat and light brown soft hat. He is described as being about five feet, seven inches tall, medium build, medium complexion, black hair, gray eyes and wore a light colored mustache.

ORDERED SALE OF GOODS OF SPOKANE POTTERY CO.

An order was made by Judge J. D. Hinkle this morning for the sale at public auction of the property of the Spokane Pottery Co., at the offices of the corporation at Clayton, Wash., on January 15.

Receiver J. J. White made application for the sale, representing that there is a daily expense of \$6

for watchmen, it is difficult to obtain insurance and that he machinery depreciates in value each day it lies idle. The assets of the company are \$50,381.69, while the liabilities are \$73,160.44.

CHRISTMAS DANCE

Save work and worry by taking your friends to the Oakes Cafe for an excellent turkey dinner, served from noon till 8 p. m.

FULL DRESS SUIT Size 38, made for \$85.00; will sell for \$40.00. SUITS, INC. 128 Howard St.

Parisian Dye Works Has no branch offices nor agents. Office 605 First Ave. Phone 2137. L. A. Lehmann

FLOOD OF SANTA CLAUS PUZZLE ANSWERS.

The afternoon mail brought such a bundle of answers to the Santa Claus puzzle that it is impossible to print a third of the names of those who filled out the stocking with the toys. But all the names possible will be printed tomorrow, and all those who solved the puzzle correctly may get a little Christmas gift by coming to The Press office between 4 and 6 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

WE'LL GO BACK TO WORK WHEN WE GO BACK WITH DEMANDS CONSIDERED—SAY STRIKING SWITCHMEN

"We'll go back to work when we can go back like men with our demands properly considered, and not before." This was the curt reply made by the switchmen in their headquarters here today when asked when they intended to return to work. Another dispatch from the east today had it that the strike of the switchmen's union has been settled, but the report is discredited by the members of the union.

Railroad officials, who have endeavored to maintain an independent attitude, despite the loss of business they have suffered since the strike began, declare that the strike is over so far as they are concerned, but that none of the members of the switchmen's union have returned to ask for work.

\$100,000 DAMAGE SUIT

Within a few days a \$100,000 damage suit will be instituted against the Colfax Baptist church and board of trustees as individuals for defamation of character. Rev. H. G. Buss, central figure in the recent turmoil among the Baptists of that town, having retained Plummer & Latimer in his fight against his former congregation.

FULL DRESS SUIT

Size 38, made for \$85.00; will sell for \$40.00.

SUITS, INC. 128 Howard St.

Real Estate Advertising

In The Spokane Press gains the attention of a wide circle of investors, homeseekers and people with money who constantly seek investments.

Business property, large and small, residences, hotels and lodging houses—buyers and sellers of all classes of property, are always to be reached through The Press.

Every evening the people of Spokane consult the columns of The Press for real estate offerings.

If you want to make a quick and satisfactory sale of property, use Press Real Estate columns.

Prize Steers

—AT THE—

Fulton Market

Four prize steers fed at the Experiment Station, Washington State College, Pullman, Wash., which were looked upon and admired by thousands of people both at the A.-Y.-P. exposition and at the Spokane Interstate fair this fall, where they were prize winners, are now dressed and on display at our market. The average weight of the four on foot was 1660 pounds each. We purchased these fine beeves at the fancy price of 8 cents per pound, knowing that in doing so we were securing, as is our custom at all times, the very best in the market, and, as is our custom at Christmas time, a Very Special Treat for our customers. We want you to see these fine premium winners before they are cut up.

Mitchem Bros. & Co. Inc.

907-909 Sprague Ave., Spokane.

Princess Rink Xmas Eve

Santa Clause will be there in all his glory. Pretty presents.

Learn to Roller Skate.

Place your friends' presents on the tree.

Princess Rink

Admission, 10c. Skates, 25c.

Big Neckwear Sale

The Day Before Christmas

We know there are a lot of belated Christmas shoppers who in spite of their good resolutions to shop early have still put it off till the last minute. To make it easy for them to get appropriate gifts tomorrow, the last day at their disposal, we are going to have a rousing sale on neckwear.

35c Ties Will Be Sold at 25c EACH

More than 100 dozen ties are in this lot, and they are of extra good quality reversible all silk material. They come in the latest and most beautiful patterns. Our regular price for these ties is 35c. Tomorrow the last day before Christmas you may take your choice for 25c.

They will be neatly packed in holly boxes if you desire.

50c Neckwear on Sale Tomorrow

—AT—

35c 3 FOR \$1.00

75c Neckwear on Sale at 50c

Nothing will make a more appropriate gift and nothing will please a man, either young or old, more than a nice assortment of new neckwear, and we have made it easy for you by holding this sale just before Christmas. Be sure to come tomorrow, and come early.

Just a few suggestions of things that would please him. Smoking jackets, fine hose, collars, a fine umbrella, suit or raincoat, a box of fine linen handkerchiefs. We have them all and many more at prices that will save you money. Look in our show windows for helpful suggestions.

Ball Clothing Co.

124 Howard Street

Pantages Theater Building