

WEATHER Probably fair tonight and Saturday. Max. temp., 22; min., 16.
WHEN YOU MOVE don't forget to give the carrier your new address or telephone The Press, Main 376. The Press will be delivered to you no matter where you go.

ONE CENT IN CITY. ON TRAINS, FIVE CENTS.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1909

EIGHTH YEAR, No. 40

30 CENTS PER MONTH

GARFIELD, Foe of Coal Land Thieves, Points Out Duty of Taft and Congress to Conservation
SUPREME COURT CONDEMNS "THE THIRD DEGREE"

ACTIONS BY PUGH CENSURED

ANOTHER TRIAL GRANTED MAN BECAUSE OF INHUMAN "THIRD DEGREE" METHOD PRACTICED BY SPOKANE OFFICIALS.

DECISION MAKES A PRECEDENT

Those familiar with the "sweating" operations and "third degree" tactics of the prosecuting attorney's office and the Spokane police department will appreciate the timely rebuke by the supreme court of the state of Washington, which has granted E. T. Montgomery, Elk, in this county, another trial in a felony case, because the prosecuting witness was sweated by the state's attorney.

As a matter of fact, there have been but one or two murder trials in the superior court in the last 18 months, or since Prosecutor Fred C. Pugh went into office, in which the defendant was not sought to be convicted on his own testimony. Oftentimes the state has had so clear a case that a "sweating" of the defendant would not have been necessary, yet as a matter of habit, the prisoner was sweated just the same, and his admissions used against him on the stand in spite of the fact that the state already had sufficient evidence to convict.

The most notable conviction in a murder trial secured in the past year was in the case of Paul Clein, who steadfastly refused to admit his guilt. The examination of Clein was conducted in a hostile manner by William C. Donovan, who had charge of the case. Failing by this process of questioning to secure an admission of the crime the officers then went to work to convict Clein on actual evidence and succeeded, in the most notable murder trial held in the superior court in years.

Prosecutor Pugh's chief allies in the infamous "third degree" are the police department of Spokane and the sheriff's office. At police headquarters a real "sweating box," heated by steam, is provided, in which the prisoners are given a chance to boil out if they are too troublesome. No crook or turn of the infamous "third degree" is overlooked when a victim falls into the joint hands of the prosecutor and the police department.

"DOD GASTED" SUSPICION REGARDING BILL SHANNON

Deep, dark, dank and "dod gasted" suspicion centers about Bill Shannon, the "guerrilla" cop of L. W. W. routing fame, because of the escape of a man of his own name from the city rock pile, over which he and Jake Warner, also an arm of the municipal law, reign supreme. John Shannon, a member of the L. W. W., too, if you please, is the favorite.

He may be some near or distant kin to the popular cop, but Bill Shannon's teeth, as he thinks of how his namesake shot out among the rocks and cut down the ravine. There's no use figuring on a heavier ball and chain for that certain "anarchist" now, for John Shannon is gone—he's flew the coop—and maybe poor Bill's heart isn't just about "busted" in twain.

JUST A FEW OF CARICATURES OF CURIOUS CHARACTERS IN THE DAILY NEWS



BIG INCREASES SCORED A GREAT GAIN IN WATER RECEIPTS

First 11 Months Water Rents Increased \$50,217.80.

Table with 3 columns: Month, 1909, 1908. Rows for January through November, showing water rents and receipts.

The present month will add to this increase, as the ratio of gain is maintained. Last Monday's receipts alone run to \$7,222.25.

TORONTO, Dec. 24.—A Canadian Pacific railroad train from the northwest, with eight persons on board, bound east for Christmas, is reported wrecked west of Sunbury, Ontario.

COOK'S FIRST NEWS OF HIS "DISCOVERY"

Here is the original New York newspaper special dispatch telling of the alleged discovery of the north pole by Dr. Cook, which later news from Copenhagen has rendered a farce:

Brussels, Sept. 1.—The government observatory here received tonight the following dispatch, dated Lerwick, in the Shetland Islands, from Dr. Frederick Cook, the Brooklyn explorer: "Reached north pole April 21, 1908. Discovered land far north. Return to Copenhagen by steamer Hans Egede."

CHRISTMAS DAY IN SPOKANE CHURCHES

As the clock tonight strikes the hour of 12, the great organ at Our Lady of the Lourdes church will peal forth the notes of the glad Christmas hymn, "Adeste Fideles," while the words of the song will swell out from a large chorus, reinforced by able local singers selected for the occasion.

WHAT IS A KISS? Here's a Chance to Win a Prize If You Really Know.

The Spokane Press offers for the best definition of what a kiss is, the following prizes: First prize, \$10 in gold. Second prize, an entire box to the performance of "A Soul Kiss," at the Auditorium, December 29.

Nearly as many definitions of a kiss as kisses are distributed in Spokane in a week of Sundays (as the saying goes) were received by the kiss contest editor in this morning's mail. He had not recovered from managing the Santa Claus puzzle contest, and he'll have to store up a lot of steam and energy from the Christmas dinner to take care of the flood of kiss letters.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATED BY CUPID

MANY YULETIDE WEDDINGS, BUT CUPID NOT SO ACTIVE AS LAST YEAR—TODAY'S FIGURES.

Sixteen marriage licenses issued yesterday and indications for many more today is the record for "Cupid" Butler's office for the great matrimonial season. At that, Cupid is dissatisfied with affairs, for last year witnessed the issuance of 18 licenses on December 23, while 17 happy couples were given the matrimonial passports on the same day in 1907.

IN EXCLUSIVE ARTICLE TO THE SPOKANE PRESS

Shall Richard Achilles Ballinger, Taft's secretary of the interior, be given a further coat of whitewash in view of new revelations of his connection with a grab of public coal land by private interests? Shall vested rights of the people give way to the plundering tactics of corporations in the spoliation of our natural resources? The whole country is thinking about these grave problems today, especially the great west.

The people INSIST that what has been gained shall not be lost. Our vital resources shall be conserved and used for the benefit of all the people. The danger is that the public interest may be forgotten. Conservation of our national resources provides for the future of our nation.

CHRISTMAS TREE AND CURIOSITY RESULT IN TEN DEATHS BY FIRE

NEW CASTLE, Pa., Dec. 24.—Nine persons lost their lives early today in a fire destroying the home of Guttena Dembero at Hillsdale, nine miles from this city. The dead are: Dembero, his wife, five children and two men boarders.

The desire of the Dembero children to see a Christmas tree that had been prepared for them in the "front room" of their little home is believed to have been responsible for the fire.

WM. LEUHR ATTACKED BY ARMED MEN

Beaten into insensibility by a heavy rain of blows from a bludgeon in the hands of a powerful thug, William Leuhr, proprietor of the Western saloon at 606 Second avenue, was piled into a helpless heap in the rear room, while his cash register was robbed of \$60, about 1:30 o'clock this morning.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse; The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there; The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar plums danced through their heads; And mamma in her kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap, When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, To see what was troubling our good old St. Nicholas. The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow, Gave a luster of midday to objects below;