

CLEVER FORGER IS LOOSE IN SPOKANE

Have you seen "William Banard"?

Perhaps should you look through your safe you will find one of his autographs. It's a dandy and William is an artist, who is being paid well in easy money for his work. Generally he gets away with about \$25 or \$30 at a shot. He has been operating in Spokane for about 60 days already, one of his victims declares, and still the mysterious manipulator of the golden pen is keeping out of the way of the sleuths.

Real estate men seem to be his favorite prey. "For Rent" ads are his best friends and his clever hand imposing "front" to do the best. The other day—yesterday, to be exact—"Banard" as his autograph addresses him, walked into a prosperous little real estate office on Riverside avenue. He said he wanted to rent a house. The obliging man behind the counter, with an eye to

business, was soon whirling along the streets with the man who was getting ready to sting him, to a neat little cottage conveniently located within walking distance of the business center. They talked of the town and its business people. Banard seemed to know them all, especially those who sell real estate and have houses for rent.

He was pleased with the house, he said, so back to the office the two went to tie up the deal. The rent amounted to \$25 per month. Banard presented a check for \$45 forged with the signature of the Pacific Transfer Co., and in the absence of sufficient change, the recipient gave him his personal check for the difference. Well, that "personal" check has been cashed, but the real estate man is still keeping that "Pay to William Banard" as a souvenir. It is believed that the forger has realized at least \$2000 from the real estate and real estate men by his forgeries.

"WATCHDOG" FAIRLEY HOPES FOR ECONOMY

As a rule all this talk of automobiles and other "new fangled" things in the city's service goes harshly on the ears of Bob Fairley, city comptroller, known otherwise as the "watchdog of the treasury." Bob has an aversion to increased expenditures and high taxes and virtually stands with a big stick in his hand ready to swat any move in the direction of a suit for \$400 authorized by the city charter or ordinances of the city council.

Yet much as Comptroller Fairley would like to see the policy of economy pursued, he is compelled oftentimes to sit helpless and see the cost of conducting the affairs of the city pile up.

Heads of departments go over his

shoulders to the city council and by the means of hard luck stories manage to get funds from the kind-hearted city father, that would stand a slim chance of being secured from the comptroller, were he left to determine the matter.

Comptroller Fairley is hopeful that in 1910 the heads of departments will be enabled to run the affairs of the city at a considerable saving in the total of over \$1,300,000 set aside for 1910. The new appropriations will be available January 1 and it will then be up to each department to see if any saving can be made. Any amount of city funds left at the end of the coming year will mean a reduction in the taxes of 1911.

MINING PROMOTERS IN RECEIVER'S HANDS

The C. E. Mitchell company, one of the biggest mine promoting companies in the northwest, went into the hands of a receiver this morning, Judge J. D. Hinkle appointing C. D. St. Morris, an attorney, to take charge of the property of the company and wind up its affairs.

The appointment of the receiver was the culmination of a suit for \$400 brought by James Milne on a \$500 note issued by the mining company on September 29, 1908. Judgment was rendered for the amount and interest, but it was found impossible to levy upon any of the property of the Mitchell company, even the office furniture being mortgaged.

The C. E. Mitchell company cut a big figure in the promoting game until recently, 14 companies being handled from the spacious and well appointed offices in the Columbia block. Mitchell was investigated by the federal authorities some time ago for defrauding the public through the United States mails, but he cleared himself of the charge. Mitchell has not been identified with the Spokane mining exchange.

E. Homer Grasty, jr., a member of the Mitchell company, is named in the complaint as one of the defendants.

SIXTEEN MORE FIREMEN

An increase of 16 men will be made in the fire department in 1910, as soon as the new apparatus authorized by the city council is purchased and installed.

The appointment of these men will be made by the board of fire commissioners on the recommendation of Fire Chief Myers. George Armstrong, city commissioner, is chairman of the fire board. As a rule there is a long waiting list of extra men from which the regulars are selected when needed.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SUIT CLUB PROMOTER

are members of the clubs desire that their names be withheld from the public, in the hope that they may regain their money without giving the matter further publicity. About 25 ladies belonging to the Cleemnt club gathered at 1411 Mallon avenue last night to discuss the situation. Tonight another meeting will be held at the same place. The ladies request that the following announcement from them be given the greatest amount of publicity:

"Valuable information will be given members of Charlie Cleemnt's suit clubs if they will call at 1411 Mallon avenue at 8 o'clock this evening, or phone Maxwell 1239."

The suit club business has been a prosperous one in Spokane lately. It is said that one of the local promoters has as high as 24 clubs running at this time.

Tomorrow's Press will contain another article regarding the suit club industry.

EXPLOSION; MAN HURT

As a result of an explosion of a can of gasoline in a storeroom at 414 Sprague avenue at about 8:30 last night, L. H. Burkhardt, a master painter, was hurt and the upper glass of the display window of the store was demolished.

The explosive material is supposed to have ignited from the two large driers which were in the room. The room was being redecorated by the painters. After the explosion Burkhardt was taken to the Washington sanitarium, where it was found that his injuries were not serious. From the hospital he was taken to his home. P. H. Kiker, a brother-in-law of Burkhardt, broke open the front door when the blaze started and returned to rescue his relative. Kiker insists that there was no explosion, but from the condition of the building there is every reason to believe that there was an explosion.

THIRD PRIZE WINNING ESSAY

In printing the prize winning contest essays yesterday, a part of the one winning the third prize was omitted. Here it is completed: Something made of nothing, tasting very sweet. A most delicious compound with ingredients complete. It was clearly meant for giving, though its sometimes bought and sold. But like coffee and potatoes, it isn't good when cold. Can be given to man or woman, or the baby on your knee. And it off will banish anger when words have failed to please. Something made of nothing; never just the same. It is known in every country where love has had a name. Not confined to place or persons—can be used in any climate—For this something made of nothing will stand the test of time.

—L. A. R.

Sunday and Daily Press, 10 cents per week.

CLOSER WATCH ON LICENSES

Hereafter the affairs of the license inspector's office will be looked after more closely by the police department and the duties of the office will in all probability be cared for by a member of the police department. Since the creation of the office it has been nominally under the control of the police chief, but the incumbent has been a civilian.

The irregularities discovered in the accounts of former License Inspector Clement has demonstrated the necessity of a closer watch over the office and resulted in a determination to let the police care for the work.

At the present time Marketmaster Happe, who was placed in charge of the work after the removal of Inspector Clement by Acting Mayor Lambert, still continues to serve as license inspector.

STRIKE BROKEN IN BUTTE

(By United Press.) BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 30.—All striking Northern Pacific switchmen today returned to work in the local yards. Their action practically breaks up the strike in this locality, since the Great Northern employees already have resumed their places.

KNOCKS OUT A NON-SUIT

Holding Judge E. H. Sullivan in error in refusing to let the damage case of Maggie Grant against the O. R. & N. go to a jury to decide the question of negligence on the part of the plaintiff, the supreme court has overruled the decision of the local judge and made an order granting a new trial.

The plaintiff was injured at Harrison, Idaho, June 17, 1907, when a switch engine backed a number of cars into a rig in which she was riding.

ANOTHER RUNAWAY MATCH

Another case of a runaway match and parental objection was brought to light yesterday after the marriage license had been issued to Kelly Hogg and his cousin, Ardelia Hogg, both of Deer Park, Wash. The girl's father wrote to County Clerk Atkinson, but it is believed the marriage license was issued before the letter was received.

"LAND OF NOD" CO. WANTS AN INJUNCTION AGAINST THE SPOKANE THEATER COMPANY

Claiming that they will be injured to the amount of \$7500 in Spokane and in other sums which can not be estimated if the Spokane Theater Co. persists in advertising the prices for "The Land of Nod" at \$1 and downward, the Land of Nod Co. has made application for an injunction preventing the theater company from further advertising the show at \$1.

The application came up for a hearing this morning, but a continuance was granted, which gives the theater company another week in which to advertise the price which is so distasteful to the musical comedy company.

In the complaint it is alleged that the Land of Nod Co. entered into a contract with the Northwest Theatrical association to play in Spokane from January 2 to January 9, and that it was understood that the usual prices for this show, \$1.50 for parquet seats, prevail.

BOURNE WANTS POWER FOR VOTERS

BY GILSON GARDNER. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—"To hell with the power of election; what the people want is the power of selection."

In these vigorous words Senator Jonathan Bourne of Oregon sums up the principle involved in his latest project for enlarging the people's power in his state. He has arranged for a referendum on a law by which delegates to presidential conventions shall be chosen directly by the people. This law will be submitted to the popular vote next November and will probably be adopted by an overwhelming majority.

"My law is a blow at boss rule in national politics," said Senator Bourne. "The time has come when the national boss has got to go the way of the city boss and the state boss. The people want something more than the right to choose between two candidates. They want the right to choose the candidates. That is the whole purpose of my bill."

Senator Bourne believes he has inserted the entering wedge which will eventually destroy the corporation ruled conventions of all political parties. His plan, he claims, will make impossible the existence of a Hanna or a Frank Hitchcock. It also will make impossible the customary bipartisan conspiracy by which the people are given a choice between a corporation owned democratic candidate and a corporation owned republican candidate.

When his law becomes effective the delegates from Oregon will be men chosen by popular majority of the voters and pledged to vote for some particular candidate favored by the people.

There will be no back door trades, no swapping patronage or other manner of bribes in secret lobbies of the conventions.

The senator's project, which takes the form of an amendment to the Oregon primary law, goes to the people of Oregon by the initiative provision of the present primary law.

GURLEY FLYNN SENDS BID TO BILL SHANNON

The cat is out of the sack. The whole thing might as well be exposed to the light now. In a few words, that dagdasted suspicion about Bill Shannon has been confirmed. That patrolman who is not known for his love for the L. W. W.'s has received a communication from Elizabeth Gurley Flynn Jones, the L. W. W. leader who on one occasion, it is said, called him a "gorilla."

Mr. Shannon openly admits that he received the message from the woman leader. He even showed it to a number of the officers at the police headquarters this morning. It is an invitation to hear Gurley Flynn make a speech at the Apollo hall tonight at 8 o'clock. Business men, ministers, editors, lawyers, teachers and other prominent citizens have been invited to the number of 300, according to the communication received by the police. Her subject tonight will be "The other side of an unsettled question."

It is reported that Judge Mann has also received an invitation.

BUILDING PERMITS
A. W. Massie, story and a half residence, Corbin park; \$2500.
E. Swanson, a one story house, Browne's addition; \$1000.
J. M. Yeaman, Whitehouse Heights addition, one story frame residence; \$1500.

A BARREL OF FUN A BIG SCREAM

Grand Galax of Spectacular Splendor

BETTER THAN A CIRCUS

BIG MASQUERADE

IT IS TO LAUGH

JUST THINK—7 TO 12—ONE SESSION—7 TO 12—JUST THINK

FRIDAY NIGHT NEW YEAR'S EVE

LOOKS LIKE A BIG TIME THAT NIGHT

SKATE THE OLD YEAR OUT SKATE THE NEW YEAR IN

12 Elegant Prizes

It's what you have been looking for. It will be funny to the spectators as well as the skaters. Masks off at 10 p. m. If you miss this you'll be sorry.

PRINCESS RINK

125 SINTO AVENUE
MASKS FOR SALE AT THE RINK

THE BEST EVER DON'T MISS THIS

NECKWEAR CLEANUP

All kinds of pretty neckwear, including jabots, lace collars, Dutch collars, and tailored collars, 25c value... 12½c

BARGAIN LANE.

The Palace

Satisfaction or Your Money Back.

POST STREET AND MAIN AVENUE

BARGAIN LANE.

PRETTY LACES, 5c

1250 yards of plait Val. laces from 3 to 6 inches wide and prettiest of designs; 10c and 15c values; sale price, yard..... 5c

The Cleanup Sale

Ends With the Old Year

The store is liberally filled with offerings for the last day of the year. The spirit of value giving that has prevailed throughout the past twelve months will enable you to purchase all sorts of reasonable merchandise and New Year remembrances at lower prices than you would anticipate elsewhere. Very few of the special offerings are given with this store announcement. All ready-to-wear garments, all hats, are reduced as never before, gloves, hosiery and underwear, pictures, art goods, crockery and housefurnishings are all included.

The store will be closed all day Saturday, the first of the New Year.

One Piece Serge Dresses \$10

Closing out one lot of tailored one-piece serge dresses, worth \$15.00 and \$17.50. Many are braided and all are stylish and new. Only about 20 in the lot. Friday, each..... \$10.00

New Waists for \$1.50

We have just received another lot of pretty new white waists. These have the late puff sleeves and are beautifully embroidered. Bought to sell for \$20.00. Special tomorrow, each..... \$1.50

Make the Welkin Ring on New Year's Eve

Here Are Noise Makers for You

Get your horns and noise makers here for New Year eve celebration. Loud blast horns, whistling horns and swinging can noise makers. On sale in the toy department on fourth floor.

E. Z. blow horns..... 5c
Whistling horns..... 5c
Loud blast large horns..... 15c
Swinging noise makers at..... 10c and 5c

FOURTH FLOOR.

Sale of 36-Yard Bolts of Braid and Lace

Patterns Free

Closing out a large lot of silk and Princess lace, also Battenberg braid by the bolt, and an extra inducement with each bolt purchased giving you absolutely free a beautiful pattern. Each bolt contains 36 yards.

SILK AND PRINCESS LACE worth \$3.00 to \$4.50 a bolt. Tomorrow... 50c
BATTENBERG BRAID, worth \$4.50. Tomorrow, a bolt..... 45c

THIRD FLOOR.

Stocking and Underwear Specials

CHILDREN'S KNIT WAISTS, taped and supporter attachments. Specially priced for Friday, each..... 12 1-2c
WOMEN'S VESTS AND PANTS, fleece lined, in cream only. Special, garment..... 50c
BOYS' AND GIRLS' fleece lined union suits, in cream and gray. Special, a suit..... 50c
CHILDREN'S PANTS, fast black and fleece lined; all sizes. Special..... 35c
WOMEN'S COTTON HOSE in fast black and three thread foot. Wayne knit 35c hose. Tomorrow, a pair..... 25c

FIRST FLOOR.

Three Lots of Women's Shoes

WOMEN'S GUNMETAL SHOES in blucher style; Cuban heels and medium soles; these \$3.00 shoes; \$2.35 clean-up sale price, pair..... \$2.35
PATENT LEATHER SHOES for women; have Cuban heels, medium soles and blucher effect; clean-up sale price, pair..... \$2.50
WOMEN'S VICI KID SHOES in blucher style; patent tips and Cuban heels; these stylish \$3.00 shoes; a pair..... \$2.40

SECOND FLOOR.

Cashmerette Gloves 19c

One hundred dozen pairs of ladies' fleece lined cashmerette gloves on sale tomorrow; are two-button style and come in black only; worth 35c; clean-up sale price, pair..... 19c
GOLF GLOVES for boys and girls; come in plain and mixed colors; are perfectly knit and absolutely seamless; 75c and 65c values; clean-up sale price, pair..... 50c

FIRST FLOOR.

Picture Framing a Full Fourth Less

This means the highest grade work that skilled hands can accomplish, the most artistic mouldings, and besides one-fourth of the regular low price is taken off.

THIRD FLOOR.

Cute Little Baby Bonnets at Half Price

For Friday only our entire stock of cute little bonnets for babies is reduced in price to half. Felt, barecloth and silk bonnets, neatly finished and trimmed.

SECOND FLOOR.

Art Craft and Finished Pyro Pieces at Half

Beautiful hand painted art craft wood in useful sets and separate pieces. Also all our finished pieces of pyrography tomorrow at half price.

THIRD FLOOR.