

# 289 MINERS ARE KILLED IN ENGLISH DISASTER

HOME EDITION---ONE CENT

ONE MONTH FOR 25 CENTS

## WEATHER

Tonight fair, colder; Thursday fair. Maximum temperature, 30; minimum, 27.

# The Spokane Press

You can have The Press delivered right at your door early every afternoon for 25 cents per month. Phone Main Main 376.

ONE CENT IN CITY. ON TRAINS, FIVE CENTS.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1910.

NINTH YEAR, No. 59

25 CENTS A MONTH

# PRAATT MUST EXPLAIN TO CITY COUNCIL

## FLAMES BURN UP VICTIMS

(By United Press Leased Wire)

**MANCHESTER, Eng., Dec. 21.**—Two hundred and eighty-nine out of 300 miners working in the Little Hulton company's mine near Leigh, are believed to have been killed in an explosion and fire that has turned the workings into a veritable blast furnace.

Eleven of those below the surface of the earth when the disaster occurred have been rescued. The others were trapped in the mine. Rescuers have brought out the bodies of 20 charred and mangled men. Since these bodies were found close to the mouth of the main entrance, it is believed all the other miners must have perished.

**SHEETS OF FLAME.** The flames apparently spread to all parts of the mine, and the heat thrown out from the main entrance was so intense that those who rushed to the rescue when the explosion occurred were forced to fall back. They fell back just as a burst of flames shot from the shaft. Although every effort was made to smother the fire, little could be done and it was many minutes before the rescuers could again approach the main shaft. After a time the flames ceased pouring out of its mouth and the rescuers attempted to enter the shaft, only to find that the inner workings were burning fiercely and that the fitful heat and the fumes of deadly gases prevented any rescue work. The explosion jammed the cages in the shafts and interfered with the ventilation apparatus.

**WOMEN FRIGHT.** With the first news of the accident friends and relatives of the men employed in the mine rushed to the scene. When the flames poured from the main shaft many women fainted and were carried away. Hundreds of men and women crowded around the pit mouth. When the fire had receded far enough to permit of an attempt, a small rescue party entered the shafts. Not far from the entrance the bodies of 20 men were discovered.

## ? DO YOU KNOW ?

That the Cliff House is the oldest hotel in Spokane—that is, of the hotels in the original buildings in which they were started?

That the first mining property in the Loon Lake mining district was discovered by two small boys who were out hunting grouse? They brought back samples of the surface rock, and the search for the vein resulted in the discovery of the Kemp Komar mine.

That practically all of the plaster on Spokane buildings comes from the states of Oregon, Montana, Utah or Wyoming and that much of the best cement is shipped in from Alberta, Canada, which boasts some of the finest mines and kilns on the continent?

That for its size, Spokane has more hotels and rooming houses than any other city in the north-west, and that in spite of this fact they are always occupied and new ones are being built constantly to supply the ever-increasing demand?

**TWO HENS WORTH \$22,000.**

**PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21.**—Two of the finest hens in the country, in charge of two attendants, are on exhibition at Philadelphia. They are owned in Factoryville, Pa. The mother hen, Lady Washington, a raven black Orpington, is valued at \$12,000, and her daughter at \$10,000. Their eggs are worth \$25 each.

## SAYS GAS DEPOSIT IS ILLEGAL

Councilman John Gray took a fall out of the gas company last night on the floor of the city council, when he charged that its plan of collecting a deposit of \$5 on meters was in violation of the franchise of the company, and that through this means the company was enabled to at all times hold from \$250,000 to \$300,000 of its consumer's money in its hands. He asked for an opinion of the corporation counsel as to the legality of this charge.

## PRAATT IS RESPONSIBLE

An investigation into the record of Fifth ward trunk sewer No. 9, the assessment roll for which was approved by the city council last night, shows that the contract has the approval and bears the signature of Mayor Pratt, although it is \$6000 higher than the estimate. Further, it shows that the sewer is awarded on the basis of \$2.75 per day for laborers, in spite of the fact that it was figured against the property at \$3 per day. The contract containing the \$2.75 per day clause had the approval of Mayor Pratt, as his signature is underneath.

**PAY 5 CENTS, NO MORE.**

By United Press Leased Wire. **SEATTLE, Dec. 21.**—Patrons of the Seattle, Renton & Southern line will be able to ride for 5 cents hereafter anywhere within the city limits, provided they buy commutation tickets in lots of \$10. This was decided yesterday by Judge Gilliam after listening to arguments all day on the injunction proceedings instituted by the company to restrain the passengers from refusing to leave the cars up on nonpayment of a second nickel at Orchard beach and a third nickel at Taylor's mill. The restraining order is not dissolved.

## NEW ILLINOIS CENTRAL PRESIDENT.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 21.**—Charles K. Markham of Pittsburgh was today elected president of the Illinois Central railroad as the successor of James T. Hanrahan.

## MRS. KERSH FOUND GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER

**PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 21.**—Mrs. Carrie Kersch, found guilty of manslaughter for complicity in the murder of Wm. Johnson, a Washington farmer at the New Grand Central hotel June 20, will be sentenced January 5 by Judge Morrow. The verdict was returned by the jury last night at 6 o'clock after the juryman had been out over 72 hours. During the deliberations over 100 ballots were taken. It was learned today that the obduracy of one juror saved Mrs. Kersch from conviction of murder.

## FEW CHANGES IN CITY HALL PLANS

With but few changes, the original city hall plans of Architect Zittel were approved by the council last night. The only changes made were to cut down the size of the police drill hall and the woman's ward of the jail in order to allow more room for the water department and park commission; and the addition of a front entrance for the benefit of the police court.

## MORE CONTRACTS WITH-OUT BIDS.

In addition to the deals on the isolation hospital, it now develops that the board of public works, with the approval of Mayor Pratt, has awarded contracts for water pipe in excess of \$100,000 without advertising for bids. The contracts went to the Holly-Mason company, agents here for the concern that manufactures kalemene water pipes.

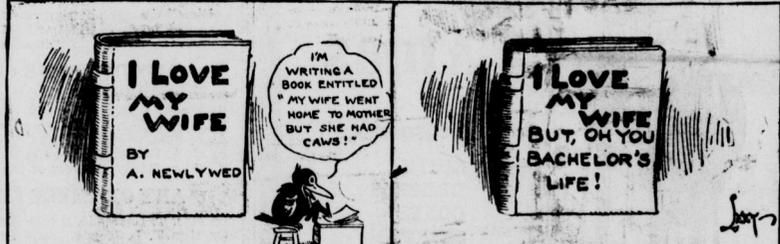
## EVERYBODY WRITING MUSH THESE DAYS.



Miss Arabella Prim at work on her new volume entitled, "A Million Kisses." Johnny Office Boy grinding out his new book, "Why I Never Married."



The Countess de Bunk, American heiress, writing her new book, "How to Keep a Husband's Love." Hen Peck, Esquire, pounding out his latest book, "The Bump of Domestic Bliss."



First edition of a Newly Wed's work. Four years later, second edition revised. EVA TANGUAY IS AT WORK ON A BOOK ENTITLED "A HUNDRED LOVES."

## FINE TO BE "GOOD FELLOWS," HELPING 300 CHILDREN

### BY A GOOD FELLOW.

Well, well, fellows, maybe you think I'm not the busy, busy geek just about now. It's one awful job to have to get all these Good Fellows in touch with the children for whom they are going to provide a Christmas.

There are so many children who need Santa's help this year, and so many, many Good Fellows who are willing to help them; but it's a labor of love that I am doing, and I only wish that there were twice as many—and there are over 200 already.

If you haven't gotten your letter telling you to play Santa Claus, don't fret. Just keep your eye on the mailman tomorrow morning and he'll surely bring it to you, for the last of those letters are going into the mail tonight. And now let me tell you what we are going to accomplish: We are going to make more than 200 kids happy. I've told you that before, but I tell you now that I have very vivid hopes of bringing the number up to 300 within the next two days.

A man came in yesterday and left a two-bushel sack of apples. They will be divided up into a number of parcels and will be sent out with the toys and nuts and candies and other good things which will go out from the Good Fellows who preferred to have me look after the children for them, they not having time to do it themselves. Another man left me 10 orders of \$1 each on one of the biggest stores in town. Every one of these orders will make a kiddie happy.

And still another man came in and told me that if there were not too many children who had written in asking for shoes he would see that they were all provided for. I have a number of children on my list who need shoes, but not too many for this man, so all the kiddies who wanted shoes from Santa will get them. Then there was a man who offered three big dolls, with sleeping eyes. One of these will go to the little paralyzed girl whose pathetic little letter attracted so much attention when published in The Press the other day. There is another paralyzed girl

who will get one of the other dolls, and the third one will go where it will be loved and cared for. Several people wrote in telling about their children and mentioned that there was liable to be no Christmas dinner—enough money has been turned in to make certain that there will. And now I want to tell you about some of the letters from the children. These are all interesting.

## IT'S THE LITTLE HOME OWNER WHO NEEDS PROTECTION

The small home owners of the city, who are compelled to fight for their rights at all times, regardless of what the form of government is or of who is in office, appreciate the stand of The Press for justice for them. It was thus in the fight for water in Cannondale, and it is the same now in the contest against the unjust and unfair sewer assessment on the north hill.

Last night Frank Atkinson, chairman of the meeting in Lidgerwood, said that The Press was the only newspaper in the city that would print the announcements of the meetings against the sewer. In battling for justice on the sewer assessment The Press is pursuing the policy that it has always taken in such matters—of fighting for the individual home owner against any oppression or injustice by city officials. The big property owner as a rule is able to take care of himself.

## WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THIS OLD WORLD?

He's only one of the "down and out." He isn't working. Huh, must be a hobo. Well, that's what he is. He says so himself, in a letter he has written to The Press. He says that he has gone hungry for days. That he hasn't worked. That he has begged. Oh, goodness, call the police! But wait a minute! Read his letter, and see if you don't think that maybe the fellow who wrote it might be a human being after all. Here's what he has to say: "Editor Press: Having heard that you have assisted other poor unfortunate people in getting jobs I thought I would drop you a line. I am a young man 30 years of age and broke. Have went hungry for days. But heard through some other boys that they were giving handouts at the Sacred Heart hospital (Sisters of Charity), also at Gonzaga college. I have been going there, one meal at each place a day. "But it seems hard to have to do this, as they feed on the average of 80 to 90 a day. How long can they keep it up? "Shall we have to stamp and freeze amid Christianity and civilization? "There is no jobs to be gotten, unless you pay the employment agent. But when a fellow has not even got the price for that; what then? L. L. J." "P. S. God bless you for the good work you are doing." "Don't you think, fellows, that the man who, when in the condition of this poor fellow, can find the heart to bless those who try to help, is almost human after all? Seems as though he must be."

## LATE NEWS BULLETINS

(BY UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.)

**COMPLAINS AGAINST SEATTLE TIMES.** SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 21.—Alleging defamation of character, Wm. McLain Lindsay, one of the witnesses who gave testimony against the police administration in the recent investigations conducted by the city council, has filed a suit demanding \$10,000 damages against the Times Printing company, Alden J. Blethen, president.

**LEWISTON MAN NOMINATED.** WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—President Taft today nominated Benjamin Barber as receiver of public moneys at Lewiston, Idaho.

**MURDERED THREE PEOPLE.** RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 21.—Nathan Montague, a negro, suspected of murdering three persons at Durham, arrived here in custody of a sheriff's posse, which eluded a half dozen mobs bent on lynching him en route. Montague, it is charged, entered the home of Leyton Sanders, a farmer, near Durham, slew Sanders and his brandchild, 2 years old; attacked Mina Sanders, his daughter, and then cut her throat.

**ANOTHER RECORD SHATTERED.** PARIS, Dec. 21.—By flying 322 miles without alighting, LeGagneux, a French aviator, today broke the world's record for long distance sustained flights. His time for the flight was 5 hours 59 minutes. Unless his record is beaten by January 1, next, LeGagneux will win the \$4000 Michelin cup. LeGagneux used a Bleriot monoplane.

**SENATOR ALDRICH IN HOSPITAL.** NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Senator Nelson W. Aldrich was taken to Roosevelt hospital today to undergo an operation on his hand, and although it was given out that the senator was not in a serious condition, an ambulance was used to convey him to the hospital. The ailment is described as a stiffening of the tendons in his left hand, resulting from an accident that befell Aldrich a few months ago.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS WORTH \$25,000 BURNED UP IN WRECK

(By United Press Leased Wire) **CHICAGO, Dec. 21.**—Christmas gifts valued at \$250,000 were destroyed today in a wreck on the Pennsylvania railroad, when a passenger train and a westbound freight collided in the yards on the west side. When the trains met the boiler of the passenger engine exploded, setting fire to a car of registered mail. After the fire had been extinguished a police guard was thrown about the debris, while laborers shoveled the ashes of the car into cans. Systematic sifting of the ashes began and diamonds and jewelry were recovered. The engineer of the passenger locomotive was probably fatally scalded.

After the fire had been extinguished a police guard was thrown about the debris, while laborers shoveled the ashes of the car into cans. Systematic sifting of the ashes began and diamonds and jewelry were recovered. The engineer of the passenger locomotive was probably fatally scalded.

## ORPHANS TO SEE BIG SHOW

Spokane's orphans are going to see the show. What show? Why the big newsboys' show in Elks' Temple tomorrow evening, to be sure.

And what's the occasion? Why, it's the annual show for raise funds for the newsboys' Christmas dinner. But it was the orphans we started talking about. The children of all the orphanages of the city have been invited to be the guests of the newsboys at the big show, for the newsies have great big hearts, and they all know how the kids like a show, especially such a show as the boys are going to have.

And, just you better believe that's going to be some swell show. There will be the noted Briggs quartet. They can sing so you can almost tell what they are singing—and that's going some in these days of grand "operas." And the Edmonson twins. They're little, but they are clever and never fail to bring down the house when they bring down the boxing gloves. Reimer's orchestra will furnish the music.

Then there will be James Potter, the newsboy cornetist. Chimnie is some tootist on a cornet, and if you don't believe it, just ask any of the boys.

Jimmy Binard, the impersonator, will also be there. He will show you how Billy Van does things, but he won't tell Billy. Hammon and Forrester are the people who will take part as representatives of the Washington theater. They are fun makers and they deal strictly at wholesale. No retail fun for them. It comes in chunks.

From the Pantages and the Or-

## NEW RECORD IN THE AIR

(By United Press Leased Wire) **CHALONS, France, Dec. 21.**—A new world's record for a non-stop passenger-carrying aeroplane flight was made here today, when Lieutenant Cammerman of the French army aviation corps, accompanied by Captain Hugon, flew 145 miles without alighting. The flight was made at the order of the minister of war, and is an official record. The start was made from Chalons, and the aviators flew to Montigny-Sur-Aube, 72 1/2 miles away, the turning point. Counting deviations from the course, the aeroplane really covered more than 145 miles. The time for the flight was four hours and three minutes.

## ORPHANS TO SEE BIG SHOW

Spokane's orphans are going to see the show. What show? Why the big newsboys' show in Elks' Temple tomorrow evening, to be sure.

And what's the occasion? Why, it's the annual show for raise funds for the newsboys' Christmas dinner. But it was the orphans we started talking about. The children of all the orphanages of the city have been invited to be the guests of the newsboys at the big show, for the newsies have great big hearts, and they all know how the kids like a show, especially such a show as the boys are going to have.

And, just you better believe that's going to be some swell show. There will be the noted Briggs quartet. They can sing so you can almost tell what they are singing—and that's going some in these days of grand "operas." And the Edmonson twins. They're little, but they are clever and never fail to bring down the house when they bring down the boxing gloves. Reimer's orchestra will furnish the music.

Then there will be James Potter, the newsboy cornetist. Chimnie is some tootist on a cornet, and if you don't believe it, just ask any of the boys.

Jimmy Binard, the impersonator, will also be there. He will show you how Billy Van does things, but he won't tell Billy. Hammon and Forrester are the people who will take part as representatives of the Washington theater. They are fun makers and they deal strictly at wholesale. No retail fun for them. It comes in chunks.

From the Pantages and the Or-

## NEW RECORD IN THE AIR

(By United Press Leased Wire) **CHALONS, France, Dec. 21.**—A new world's record for a non-stop passenger-carrying aeroplane flight was made here today, when Lieutenant Cammerman of the French army aviation corps, accompanied by Captain Hugon, flew 145 miles without alighting. The flight was made at the order of the minister of war, and is an official record. The start was made from Chalons, and the aviators flew to Montigny-Sur-Aube, 72 1/2 miles away, the turning point. Counting deviations from the course, the aeroplane really covered more than 145 miles. The time for the flight was four hours and three minutes.

## MAYOR IS IN BAD STATE NOW

Responsible for Armstrong's Peculiar Actions—Must Explain Friday.

Just as anticipated, the effort to make political capital in certain quarters by sacrificing George W. Armstrong, president of the board of public works, with the hope of blackening some members of the city council, has resulted in a roorback for the parties concerned. It means today that the responsibility for any shortcomings of Armstrong, who is a subordinate, must be borne by the power that created him—Mayor Nelson S. Pratt. The purpose of bringing out the Armstrong isolation hospital scandal at this time was to discredit the city council and to make votes for the new charter. While it may serve this purpose to some extent it has raised a storm that the forces which set the ball in motion cannot stop.

**PRAATT MUST EXPLAIN.** The city council last night unanimously ordered that Mayor Pratt, the executive head of the city government, tell the city council why it was that his subordinate, Armstrong, as appointee of the mayor, was permitted to award the isolation hospital contracts without advertising for bids. The mayor has been ordered to report on the same at an adjourned meeting Friday night at which time his honor must saw wood or the fur will fly. The mayor's friends were kind enough to set the thing in motion; now the council asks that the mayor be there at the finish.

Councilman Lambert did not insist on the adoption of his emergency resolution last night. Instead, he said that he had introduced it at the request of Armstrong; that his confidence had been imposed upon, but that he blamed the mayor more than Armstrong for permitting this situation to arise. Today Councilman Belshaw, who is free from all alliances in the city council, said that Lambert had squared himself in his eyes and he was convinced that there was no blame to be attached to him in connection with the resolution. Belshaw sees the necessity for the executive head of the city coming out from under the cloud.

## SMALL FIRE

Fire, breaking out in the basement of the building at 510 Monroe street this morning, damaged the stock of the Palace Cleaning company and of F. J. Guttman tailor, to the probable extent of some \$500, as well as smoking out the West End cafe, owned by Weaver & Boyd next door. Shortly after 11 o'clock, smoke was seen issuing from the basement windows and through the cracks of the first floor, and before the department could arrive much of the damage had been done. The fire broke out in the heating plant in the basement as a result of an over-heated furnace, it is thought.

## CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

Lewis Larson, aged 19, a student at the college this morning by Officer Hunt on a charge of forgery. He is alleged to have tried to pass two forged checks on Sosa Bros., one for \$1.75 and the other for \$2.25.

## BIG CHRISTMAS SHOW BY THEATRICAL MECHANICS

The big Christmas show to be given by the Theatrical Mechanics' association at the Auditorium tomorrow afternoon promises to be the biggest affair of its kind ever attempted in the city. There will be between 16 and 20 acts on the program, including the best attractions from the Orpheum, Pantages and Washington theaters, and the third act from "The Three of Us," at the Spokane, making one of the longest and strongest programs ever given in the city. A feature of the parade, which will be given tomorrow at noon, will be the big band, which will include every union musician in the city, thus comprising the largest band which has ever played here. The parade will start at noon, and at 1 p. m. the performance will begin, and will run until nearly 5 o'clock.