

# COEUR D'ALENE EVENING PRESS

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## HIGH COST OF SEWER SYSTEM

### Comparisons Show It to Be Twice That of Other Cities

If any one, within the present sewer system, doubts that he is paying enough for the sewer system laid in the adjacent alley next his abutting property, let him carefully read over the costs in a few of the other towns and cities in the state and in Washington. It will be remembered that \$80,000 bonds were voted to install about 42,000 feet of sewer. Every citizen within the sewer district owning property therein, is assessed his proportion of the \$80,000, although it is said all of it will not be needed and the balance will be refunded. With 42,000 feet to construct and \$80,000 required, means nearly two dollars per running foot for the constructing of the entire system. The city clerk of Idaho Falls informs us that \$1 per running foot will cover the expense in his city.

In Boise the assessment for sewers are levied upon the square foot area of all abutting property. This has varied from 6 to 8 mills per square foot. In other words a lot 50 by 110 costs from \$33 to \$44. "This," states the city clerk of Boise, "includes the cost of the entire system; of engineering expenses, manholes, flush tanks, main sewer, etc., as well as the actual cost of the pipe adjacent to each property owner."

Is it probable any property owner within the present sewer district will be asked to pay only \$33 for his 50 by 110 foot lot? Any one who ever resided at Idaho Falls or Boise knows digging in Coeur d'Alene is a comparative snap, not a rock encountered in the entire system and the dirt the most easily removed in the world. It can all be spaded.

Let us come a little nearer home. Colfax, Washington, has a sewer system. Much of the town sets on rocks. Considerable blasting is encountered in installing a system there. The soil is much more difficult to remove than in Coeur d'Alene and our city is as level as a floor compared with Colfax. Still the city clerk informs us that when the system was installed in 1896, it cost \$22.50 per 50 foot lot. In 1904, a new district was added which cost \$25 per 50 foot lot.

A citizen residing in Colfax, is assessed on his 50 foot lot at the rate of 50 cents a running foot or \$25 a lot. He has rocks, Palouse hills, and hard soil to pay for. In Coeur d'Alene on the same sized lot he is assessed from \$75 to \$100 or three to four times as much without rocks or a Palouse hill or hard soil.

We learned that Caldwell, Idaho, has installed or rather is installing a sewer system. We are informed by the city clerk of that place that the system is about 11,000 feet long—not as large a contract as Coeur d'Alene and every thing being equal should cost more. The cost of this entire system, including the main pipes, man holes, covers, flushing inlets, excavation, fitting, and pipe laying was \$9719.93—considerably less than \$1 a running foot. In Coeur d'Alene it is nearly \$2 a running foot. The clerk informs us that the work was done by spading, that sand was constantly encountered and throughout nearly the whole work the water had to be pumped from the trenches. The soil in Caldwell resembles that in Coeur d'Alene insofar as there is much sand encountered but in our city pumps were not kept running night and day by the contractor in order to permit the men to work at all. In Caldwell the citizens pay less than one half as much per lot as in Coeur d'Alene. In Caldwell at this rate a 42,000 foot sewer system would cost \$35,000 but in Coeur d'Alene it costs \$80,000.

Coming direct to the property assessment per running foot in front of the lots and we have a cost of \$3 per running foot as against \$1 and less in other cities in Washington and Idaho.

These facts were ascertained by the Press from the officials of the

towns and cities mentioned and show that Coeur d'Alene is paying an outrageously high price for its sewer system.

### KING OSCAR IS DEAD

Beloved Ruler of Sweden Passes Away.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 8.—Oscar II, king of Sweden, died at 9:10 o'clock this morning. The death of the venerable monarch occurred in the royal apartments of the palace, where, surrounded by the members of the family, including the aged queen Sophia, and the crown prince, Oscar Gustave and high ministers of state, the inevitable end had been awaited, while outside the palace great crowds stood with bowed heads and tearful eyes long after the announcement came of



OSCAR AND SOPHIE.

the death of their well-loved sovereign. The whole country is bowed with grief, for King Oscar was something more than a ruler of the people, and had endeared himself to them as an intimate and personal friend. When the flag was dipped to half mast there was a moan of anguish from the assembled multitude, and many of them cried, "Our dear old king is dead."

### Gustave Becomes King.

The succession to the throne of Sweden now passes to Oscar Gustave Adolphe, duke of Verland, the oldest son of the late king. At a meeting of the council of state this afternoon the new king took the oath of allegiance under the title of Gustave V, and adopted the motto, "With the People of the Fatherland." The princess then took the oath of allegiance, and the new monarch accepted the homage of the state officials.



JUDGE PETER S. GROSSCUP. Chicago jurist of the federal bench who as a director of the Charleston and Mattoon Interurban railway was recently indicted in connection with the fatal wreck on that road last summer.

### BUREAU OF MINES

Great Industries Should Have Recognition.

The recommendations of President Roosevelt in his message to Congress in favor of the creation of a Bureau of Mines under the control and direction of the Secretary of the Interior, will meet with hearty response throughout all this western country, and very likely will be favorably received throughout the country at large, as it certainly ought to be. Those who oppose it will be the windy sharpers, and the complacent, self-sufficient absorbers of money in New York City who do not care anything about American industry, except as they can exploit it to their own advantage. A Bureau of Mines properly conducted would give the American people a great and trustworthy view of the whole mining situation at all times, and would have surveys, records, and geographical investigations on file that would prove valuable to the public at all times.

The Bureau of Mines would naturally and speedily grow far beyond the limits outlined by President Roosevelt in his message. His idea is that this bureau should "include statistics, make investigations in all matters pertaining to mines, and particularly to the accidents and dangers of the industry." That surely would be one important function of the bureau, but far and away beyond this it should have knowledge at hand with regard to mine deposits of the country and details of all operated mines. It should have special experts investigate mineral deposits, proving their extent and quality, and indicating by the scientific explorations and surveys of mineral deposits, including metals of all kinds, carbonaceous deposits, hydrocarbons, oils, the situation of mineral bearing strata, and everything now mined of value or that could be mined of value to the people at large or to the country. And we should expect to see this bureau grow into a Department with a Secretary at the head of it, precisely as the Department of Agriculture grew from a small beginning of a division in the Interior Department, then a Bureau, and finally a separate Department, with a Secretary at the head a member of the Presidential Cabinet.

The limited function outlined for a bureau by the president would certainly be useful, but naturally there would grow from it a wonderful increase of opportunities and usefulness. The geological survey of the country would naturally be found under the control of this Department of Mines when it is created, and that is a matter of the very highest importance to the whole country. The work of the geological experts is especially valuable in the mining industry; and a thorough survey of the whole country would be of immense benefit to all. The idea will no doubt develop from the Bureau of Mines into the Department of Mines far more rapidly than any other Bureau has so developed in the history of the country; because, when the Bureau of Mines is opened it will be so thronged with business, with the addition of matter that is so appropriate to the work of such Bureau, that it will speedily be found that it is the mere beginning of a great work to be done. But the fact that it is a beginning is the main point, and so we welcome the President's suggestion and are sure that it will be supported loyally throughout the mining regions of the country, and should be by everybody. And there is no reason why it should not take actual form at the present session of Congress.—Salt Lake Tribune.

## HOPKINS FOUND GUILTY

The charge against Sam Hopkins who was charged with forgery before Judge A. V. Chamberlin was changed to disturbing the peace. He was fined \$100 and costs. It is claimed he was drunk when he endeavored to pass the \$57 check in the saloon of Sullivan & McPhee. It is held he was "working a bluff" when he was trying to pass the check and fully intended to return it should he receive the money upon his arrival in the Coeur d'Alene's at his brother's home.

### Pleasant Surprise.

A very pleasant surprise was most successfully executed at the home of Judge and Mrs. Albert Blixt in honor of Miss Jennie Gunderson, a sister of

### ANTHRACITE COAL

Big Discovery of Fine Quality in Washington.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec.—Discoveries made near Glacier, Wash., northwest of Spokane, and verified by A. G. Bennett of Wilkesbarre, Pa., formerly superintendent of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western coal mines, promise to place Washington second to Pennsylvania as a producer of anthracite coal. Mr. Bennett has made a thorough inspection of the deposit and analyses of the product and says it equals the Wilkesbarre coal, while a conservative estimate places the amounts of coal above the water level at 6,000,000 tons. The vein is eight feet thick and extends a considerable distance into Whatcom county. The deposit, which was discovered by Arthur Alexander of Minneapolis, while hunting bear, will be developed by the Washington Anthracite Coal company, recently organized in this state with a capital of \$3,000,000. Gen. Thomas H. Cavanaugh of Prosser, Wash., who is at the head of the enterprise announces that it is expected to begin shipments to various points in Washington and adjoining states within a year.

### ROBBED A RESIDENCE

Home of Joe Stark Burglarized and \$35 Taken.

Joe Stark, residing at 1622 Second street, met with a loss last evening while away from home. Some one entered his house and took \$35 in cash from a drawer. It is thought nothing more was molested. There is no clue as to how an entrance was effected but it is probable that the intruder had a pass key. Mr. Stark kept his money at home for safe keeping, considering it safer than a bank but he will probably not do so again.

### Royal Neighbors Elect.

The Royal Neighbors of America, the auxiliary organization to the modern Woodmen of America, held an interesting session Friday afternoon at which officers were elected for the ensuing year. They are Ida Wells, oracle; Anna Laundt, vice oracle; Bobbie Hamilton, chancellor; Carry Borson, recorder; Hattie McEuen, receiver; Grace Clark, marshal; Mrs. Smith, inner sentinel; Mrs. B. F. Morse, outer sentinel; Johannah Buscher, manager; Past oracle, Mary Burgess; physicians, Max Dorland and J. C. Dwyer.

It was determined to hold a joint installation with the Modern Woodmen on January, 1908, when one of the most pleasant events of the year is planned to occur. This will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Woodmen order.

The Royal Neighbors are growing very rapidly, many new members being added each meeting. The Modern Woodmen is the largest local lodge.

### Essay Contest.

Misses Lorena Patterson and Emma Sands won first and second prizes respectively in the essay contest of the public school, the prizes being offered by Marley Fisher.

The essays were written on the Past, Present and Future of Coeur d'Alene. The prizes given were a beautiful gold ring costing \$5 and another gift valued at \$2.25. The compositions were excellent throughout. The judges were Profs. H. H. Barton, Demorest and Attorney S. L. Lewis.

Such incentives are always productive of much good, especially in inducing the pupils to write well.

## DRUGGISTS FOLLOW LOW CUSTOM

### Say They Have No Intention of Violating Law

The Coeur d'Alene druggists when interviewed concerning the case of Mrs. J. M. Anderson vs. Hugh Whitaker charging him with selling liquor without a license made an interesting statement. Mr. Whitaker said:

"The boy came in and got the stuff and I certainly gave it to him on a written order and thought I was acting in good faith and using discretion in furnishing it for medicinal purposes."

Mr. Wilkins, of the Coeur d'Alene drug store said: "It has always been customary to fill orders for liquors for medicinal purposes. In cases where minors are sent to the store by the parents, we have always required written orders signed by the parents. We have repeatedly refused to fill orders when written orders were not furnished or when we were satisfied that a legitimate use was not to be made of the liquor."

One of the proprietors of the Lakeside Pharmacy stated: "The Lakeside Pharmacy uses its discretion in filling all orders presented by minors for liquors believing we have a right to fill all such orders for medicinal use."

Albert Porter, of Porter & Son said: "It is customary to fill all orders for liquors for medicinal purposes. These orders must be signed by responsible persons."

The order upon which Mr. Whitaker claims he sold the brandy reads as follows: "Please let the boy have 50 cents of Pisco's cough syrup; 50 cents of syrup of figs and a 50 cent bottle of brandy."

### "L. M. ANDERSON."

It was this transaction that caused the complaint to be filed against Mr. Whitaker.

Prosecuting Attorney Potts was asked to give his view of the matter and made the following statement:

"It is a violation of law for a druggist to sell intoxicating liquors of any kind without a state license, except upon the written prescription of a regular practicing physician of this state, who certifies that in his opinion the health of the party to whom the liquor is to be sold requires, or would be promoted by the use of the particular kind of liquor prescribed, or he may sell wines for sacramental purposes only, or alcohol for mechanical and scientific purposes. A druggist cannot sell liquors or wines to be drunk, or permit the same to be drunk in, upon or about the premises where sold under any circumstances. If the druggists are under the impression that they have a right to sell liquor upon a written order, other than the prescription of a practicing physician, they are mistaken."

"The fact that a druggist or any other person has a Government license does not dispense with the

necessity of their complying with the laws of the state. It simply means that he has met the requirements of the federal statutes, and he must in addition to this, comply with all the laws of the state."

### CITY IN BRIEF

Rev. Alex Litherland expected his wife to arrive home within the next few days from his homestead in the Clearwater country.

The Methodist ladies netted about \$75 at their supper and sale Saturday. This reflects much credit upon the industry and efforts of the ladies of that organization.

Thomas Du Sherman, who was charged with disorderly conduct was fined \$5 and costs by Judge Alex Main this morning. It is claimed he tried to break into a home while in a drunken condition. He was lodged in jail until he sobered up.

William Bagley and Frank Coleman will give a big wrestling match at the Princess roller rink tomorrow evening. Coleman hails from Pullman, Washington, and has a reputation of always wrestling on the square. He has been in Coeur d'Alene before. He defeated Sam Sampson, Billy Sampson, and Pat Devany. Bagley comes from Canada, and he is well recommended. He has defeated such men as McMillian, Hallet, Soria and Hughes. He tips the scales at 190 pounds and has the reputation of being one of the best in the country. There is a side bet of \$50. The winner will receive the net gate receipts.

### Handling City Milk.

Germany is interested in the question of the proper treatment of milk for city consumption, and at a recent congress of scientists and physicians a paper on the subject was read by Professor Hempel, a distinguished man of science. No new law is laid down by the professor for the production of pure milk. He scouts the theory that heating helps to safeguard purity. Given healthy animals and clean stables, the milk is safer food without the use of heat.

Not one of the seven rules which Professor Hempel recommends for government requirements is necessary for the careful dairist, and as for the other kind the rules would probably be ignored or slighted. In brief, the rules call for healthy cows, open air feeding, good fodder, clean milking, clean udders, cooling of milk promptly after milking and a low temperature while in transit. For the tenement population of large cities, where consumption is delayed until the milk becomes stale, it has been recommended that the milk be frozen and kept in that state until melted for use. Frozen specimens have been found to retain all their original properties at the end of a month. But the milk was absolutely pure and fresh when frozen.

### Key's Homestead.

The family homestead of Francis Scott Key, author of "The Star Spangled Banner," is threatened with destruction, and it is suggested that it might be preserved as a memorial by appealing to patriotic sentiment. Every one who takes an interest in Key and his memorable work knows that the national hymn was not written in the little house which has long stood neglected on the dilapidated fringe of Washington. Nothing picturesque, nothing worthy and reverential could be produced on the site where the homestead stands.

If the facts of history warrant the preservation of the Key house it might be taken down and set up elsewhere as a relic of sacred memories. It should not be left in its present condition, but restored to look as it did in 1814, inside and out. No better place for that purpose could be found than the grounds around Fort McHenry, Baltimore, where the flag "dinely seen" from the ship on which Key was a prisoner was floating when it inspired the poem. We naturally associate Fort McHenry and Baltimore with the poem, and the Key homestead would perpetuate the story there better than on its present site.



J. BRANDT WALKER. Wall street bear operator who is said to have made \$5,000,000 in stock speculation in the past six months.