

Fire and Smoke Sale!

W. B. SPEAR & CO. North Topeka.

We will continue this sale for three days longer - -
Saturday, Monday and Tuesday.

Greater bargains than ever will be offered. We are determined to sell any stock on hand that shows the least indication of being damaged at a price that will move every dollars worth of merchandise by Tuesday night.

- 75c, 90c, and \$1.00 Silks—yard..... **49c**
- 50c and 65c Satins—yard..... **32c**
- 90c and \$1.00 Dress Goods—yard..... **45c**
- 35c and 39c Dress Goods—yard..... **19c**
- 15c and 18c Dress Goods..... **10c**
- 10c and 12c 36-in. Cretonne—yard..... **5c**
- 10c and 12c 32-in. Fine Percales—yard..... **5c**
- \$1.45 Ladies' Fleece Lined Wrappers..... **98c**
- \$1.69 " " " "..... **\$1.09**
- \$1.95 " " " "..... **\$1.39**
- \$1.98 Boys' Knee Pant Suits..... **98c**
- \$2.95 Boys' Knee Pant Suits..... **\$1.39**
- \$1.69 Ladies' Wool Waists..... **69c**
- \$1.00 Men's Duck Coats, blanket lined.... **69c**
- 50c Tam O'Shanters, red, gray and navy... **25c**
- \$1.50 Men's Hats..... **75c**
- 50c Men's Caps..... **39c**
- 75c Men's Caps..... **45c**
- 90c Men's Caps..... **59c**
- 50c Men's Heavy Overalls..... **39c**
- 50c Men's Blue Denim Jumpers..... **39c**
- 50c Men's Work Shirts..... **39c**

Don't get the idea our stock was badly damaged. A great many of the above items was damaged so slightly that it is not noticeable. The liberal adjustment of our fire insurance makes it possible to make the astonishing Low Prices.

W. B. SPEAR & CO. 834 North Kansas Avenue.



Where Buyers Go to Kill the Christmas Stockings

The Handsomest Line of House Coats
The Handsomest Line of House Coats
\$3.50 to \$12.50

We have so many in all the new styles, that if you will but take the time to look we are sure we can please you—A great special we are selling right now a Grey Oxford House Coat Overcoat made up in first class style for \$5.00

Large line of Boys' Shirts, Waists, Neckwear, Mufflers, Sweaters, Gloves, etc.
Boys' Reefers Coats, Ages 3 to 6 years, \$1.

NEW LINE OF MEN'S GOLF GLOVES.

Extraordinary Inducements in Holiday Bargains

The largest stock, the best assortment, the lowest prices—a visit is convincing—medium and the finest, all at Low prices for the Holidays. We have too much Clothing, House Coats, Bath Robes, Night Robes, Neckwear, Mufflers, Gloves, Hats, Caps, etc., etc., that must be sold. A call will convince you.

- Saturday Morning, 9 to 10 a. m.**
10 per cent discount on all Mufflers--Oxford or Square
- Saturday, 2 to 3 p. m.**
10 per cent discount on all Lounging and Bath Robes.
- Saturday, 4 to 5 p. m.**
10 per cent discount on all House Coats.

- ### Overcoats.
- Men's Black, All Wool Irish Frieze Ulsters; \$12 values, for..... **\$7.50**
 - Men's Fine Blue Kersey and Melton Overcoats; \$12 values, for..... **\$5.00**
 - Men's Yoke Overcoats, in the latest fabrics..... **\$10.00**
 - Men's Fine Grey Clay Overcoats..... **\$10.00**
 - If you want an Overcoat equal to any tailor made, you can save about one half the price if you will take a look through our Fine Overcoats. Prices from \$15 to \$30.
- ### Men's Suits.
- Wool Cheviot Suits, value \$5.00; to close..... **\$2.00**
 - 20 styles in Black, Blue, Brown, plaid, all new styles, \$7 value, for..... **\$4.50**
 - Highest in the late pattern, with stiff front, \$9 value, for..... **\$7.00**
 - All 315 Striped and Fancy Worsteds, heavy weight, \$10.00
 - Blue Unfinished Worsted and Melton Suits, in doublebreasted; sold everywhere for \$15; to close..... **\$10.50**
 - Handsome All-Wool Clay Worsteds or Black Thibet, in sacks and cutaway..... **\$10.00**
 - Handsome Blue Suits in Unfinished Worsted, Tibbets, Chevils, Clays, with hair cloth front, \$10.00
 - Blue and Grey Vicunas, with button holes; a real \$20 value, for..... **\$15.00**
 - All our \$20, \$25 and \$22 Suits for..... **\$20.00**
 - Don't buy a Suit until you have seen ours.
- ### Overcoats.
- Boys' Wool Irish Frieze Ulsters..... **\$2.50**
 - Boys' Fine Ulsters, \$7 and \$6 value, for..... **\$4.00**
 - Men's Gray Oxford Overcoats; \$5 value, for..... **\$5.00**
 - Men's Drab and Mixed Overcoats, odds and ends, \$10 values, for..... **\$5.00**
 - Men's Heavy Irish Frieze Ulsters; \$7.50 value..... **\$5.00**
- ### Furnishings.
- Child Union Underwear..... **25c**
 - Boys' Fleece Lined Union Suits..... **50c**
 - Boys' Heavy Fleece Underwear..... **25c**
 - Boys' Wool Underwear..... **50c**
 - Men's Heavy Fleece Underwear..... **37c**
 - Boys' Black White striped Shirts..... **19c**
 - Men's Black White striped Shirts..... **21c**
 - Men's heavy Chambray Shirts—infined back and front..... **45c**
 - Men's Blue Flannel Shirts..... **90c**
 - Men's Knit Jackets..... **\$1.00 to \$3.50**
 - Men's Duck Coats—rubber lined..... **\$1.20**
 - Boys' Long Corduroy Pants..... **\$1.50**
 - Boys' Blue Flannel Shirts..... **75c**
 - Men's 7c Fancy Shirts..... **50c**
 - Men's Embroidered Night Shirts..... **45c**
 - Men's Hem-stitched Bordered Handkerchiefs..... **5c**
 - Boys' Black Cat Hose..... **10c**
 - Boys' good Fancy Shirts..... **50c**
- ### Furnishings.
- Boys' Fleece Lined Sleep Garments..... **50c**
 - Men's Embroidered Night Shirts..... **50c**
 - Men's Silk-lined Initial Handkerchiefs—3 for..... **25c**
 - Fine Linen Initial Handkerchiefs—6 for..... **\$1.00**
 - Men's White Laundered Shirts..... **50c**
 - Men's and Boys' Fancy Colored Shirts..... **25c**
 - 4-ply Linen Collars—3 for..... **50c**
 - Boys' Shirt Waists with or without Collars, Detached Bands..... **45c**
 - Boys' Heavy Sweaters..... **45c**
 - Boys' Good Winter Caps..... **25c**
 - Men's Cordigan and Stockinet Jackets..... **\$1.00 to \$5.00**
 - Black or Blue Imported Kersey Overcoats with Skinner Satin Lining and Sleeve Lining..... **\$15.00**
 - The largest and best line of Gentlemen's colored and fancy Shirts in the city..... **50c to \$2.00**
 - Boys' Irish Frieze Ulsters..... **\$2.50**



Black All-Wool Irish Frieze Ulsters, that are worth full \$10, for \$7.50



But we have a good many varieties, some as low as \$5.00, and a good Plush Lined Frieze Ulster for \$14.00—it will keep you warm in any kind of weather.



Boys' Handsome Overcoats in the Yoke, Raglan, Swaggar Clipper. Prices \$2.50 to \$18.00 This week



Men's \$3.00 Stiff Hats for \$1.50.

Greenwald's 2000 Men's Neckwear **25c** **Greenwald's**

625-627 KAN. AVE.

NORTH TOPEKA.

Leave items for this column with Kimball Printing Co., 912 North Kansas Ave. Pictures framed at James'.

George Groshong was in from Kilmer yesterday.

Game boards, \$1.15 up at James'.

Mrs. Clara Bolz of Meriden is visiting her sister, Mrs. Burley.

You should see that sun rise every evening in our north window.

COSTLEY & POST.

Mr. Luther Stewart of Arizona is visiting his cousin, C. D. Myers.

Picture books, Bibles, miscellaneous books. James'.

Miss Grace Detlor of Grantville was in town yesterday shopping.

Three more days to buy Xmas goods cheap at **COSTLEY & POST.**

Mrs. Ed. Stadel and daughter of Hoyt were North side visitors yesterday.

Mrs. George Peabody of Horton is the guest of Mrs. Cal. Matthews of 1010 Jackson street.

For this week only, \$2.00 oval Pianos for \$1.69 dozen. Aldridge's studio, 1015 North Kansas avenue.

Poultain pens \$1.00 and up. James'.

Eugene lodge No. 79 I. O. O. F. will confer the initiation and third degree at their meeting this evening.

1902 calendars and diaries. James'.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Smith of Central avenue, accompanied by Mrs. Smith's sister, Miss Frances Elm, went to Lawrence today where they will be the guests of relatives during the holidays.

Only a few days left before Christmas. For a fine assortment of gifts at low prices see

NEW ERA DEPT. STORE.

Golden Rule lodge No. 90 A. F. and A. M. conferred the third degree upon Maynard Dibble last evening at their meeting in Masonic hall, after which a banquet was enjoyed.

Get your Xmas hat at Mrs. Courtney's, 603 South 917 North.

Last call—All \$8.00 overcoats for \$3.75, \$2.00 and \$1.00 coats for \$1.00. Bargains in new and second hand bicycles. Closing out. E. SPEAR & CO.

1902 models, at Lacey's, 842 North Kansas avenue.

Ladies' trimmed and untrimmed hats at half price. One lot trimmed hats at 25c each. **COSTLEY & POST.**

Only three days longer to get the bargains in dry goods at the Fire and Smoke Sale. **W. B. SPEAR & CO.**

Attend the Fire and Smoke Sale. Every dollar's worth of goods that shows any damage whatever will be cleared out at some price.

W. B. SPEAR & CO.,
834 North Kansas Ave.

TODAY'S MARKET REPORT.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—WHEAT—Grain started today with a tendency of recovery of price in wheat several bull factors gave a firm early tone and may open 1/2c higher at 117 1/2c. Higher cable, small shipments to Liverpool were the principal factors. Receipts were still light for the three weeks ending today. Railroad tie-ups and the southwest reported that the fields there were unprotected by winter wheat. The southwest was damaged by the extreme cold. Trade was not so active as the opening with a good demand all along the line by New York houses. May responded slowly but held up to 7 1/2c. Local receipts were 37 cars—none of contract grade; Minneapolis and Duluth reported 35 cars, making a total for the three weeks ending today of 198 cars. Argentine shipments this week against 94 cars last week and 61 cars a year ago. Argentine shipments this week against 94 cars last week and 61 cars a year ago. Argentine shipments this week against 94 cars last week and 61 cars a year ago.

CORN—Corn opened firm but nervous and trade was very light. Shorts were uneasy and orders were hard to execute. May responded slowly but held up to 5 3/4c. Local receipts were 37 cars—none of contract grade; Minneapolis and Duluth reported 35 cars, making a total for the three weeks ending today of 198 cars. Argentine shipments this week against 94 cars last week and 61 cars a year ago.

OATS—Oats opened firm but nervous and trade was very light. Shorts were uneasy and orders were hard to execute. May responded slowly but held up to 3 1/2c. Local receipts were 37 cars—none of contract grade; Minneapolis and Duluth reported 35 cars, making a total for the three weeks ending today of 198 cars. Argentine shipments this week against 94 cars last week and 61 cars a year ago.

PROVISIONS—Provisions opened lower on easier local receipts and the strength in other grains. Trade was small and almost all was for immediate delivery.

WHEAT—Cash: No. 2 red, 116 3/4c; No. 2 hard winter, 117 1/2c; No. 3 hard winter, 74 7/8c; No. 3 northern spring, 74 7/8c; No. 2 northern spring, 76 3/4c; No. 3 northern spring, 76 3/4c.

CORN—No. 2, 64 1/2c.

OATS—No. 2, 46 3/8c; No. 3, 45 1/2c.

FLAX—No. 1, 11 3/8c; No. 2, 11 1/8c.

RYE—Dec., 69 1/2c; May, 67c.

BARLEY—No. 1, 11 1/2c; No. 2, 11 1/8c.

TIMOTHY—March, 16 60 1/2c.

Chicago Livestock Market
Chicago, Dec. 20.—CATTLE—Receipts, 4,000 head. Market dull. Good to prime steers, \$9.00-10.00; poor to medium, \$5.50-9.00; stockers and feeders, \$2.00-4.50; calves, \$3.50-6.00; heifers, \$1.50-3.50; canners, \$1.00-2.00. Texas fed steers, \$4.50-6.00; Texas fed heifers, \$4.00-5.50.

HOGS—Receipts today, 30,000 head; estimated tomorrow, 17,000 head; left over, 12,412 head. Market low to medium. Mixed and butchers, \$6.00-6.50; good to choice heavy, \$5.00-5.50; rough heavy, \$3.50-4.50; light, \$3.00-3.50; western, \$3.00-3.50; western, \$3.00-3.50; western, \$3.00-3.50.

SHEEP—Receipts, 3,000 head. Market steady. Good to choice wethers, \$3.75-4.50; fair to choice mixed, \$2.50-3.50; rough heavy, \$2.00-2.50; light, \$1.50-2.00; western, \$2.00-2.50; western, \$2.00-2.50; western, \$2.00-2.50.

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To Our Patrons and the Public

Our Store was threatened by fire this morning, and our entire front destroyed. We've made settlement with insurance companies, and are now ready for business.

- \$6.00 Shoes, \$6.00.
- \$4.00 Shoes, \$4.00.
- \$5.00 Shoes, \$5.00.
- \$3.50 Shoes, \$3.50.

All kinds of Christmas Slippers, 60c to \$2.00

106 East Sixth
106 EAST 6TH ST. Topeka, Kan.
MATTHEW'S AND DREHSEL

THE PARSONS MYSTERY.

No Clue Yet to the Murder of Col. Bull and Wife.

Parsons, Kan., Dec. 20.—Excitement over the finding last night of the bodies of Colonel John E. Bull and his wife, Carrie Bull, at their home here continuing, but with no apparent hope of a solution of the mystery. Owing to the decomposed condition of the bodies physicians have been unable to make a satisfactory examination and their opinions differ widely as to the cause of death. A theory advanced is that death was caused by asphyxiation from natural gas with which the house was lighted and heated, but this does not seem to be carried out. Another theory that has gained some credence is that the couple had quarreled over a real estate deal and that Bull had murdered his wife and then committed suicide. Colonel Bull sold their home a month ago and it is said Mrs. Bull refused to sign the deeds at first, only finally doing so after much protest. Bull was dressed when found and his wife had not yet removed all of her clothing. The coroner's inquest is being held today. A. W. Bull, of Piqua, O., a brother of the dead man and wife, is en route to Parsons to take charge of Colonel Bull's affairs and to solve the mystery if possible.

Grand masque ball at Auditorium by Capital lodge No. 3, A. O. U. W., Tuesday evening, December 24. Four prizes for best costumes.

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN DIET.

At the Battle Creek Sanitarium Food Laboratory researches in dietetics have been conducted for over a quarter of a century by skilled physicians and chemists, including very extensive experiments made on animals and human beings. One of the most interesting discoveries is the importance of detouring the starch of foods as a means of preventing and curing indigestion, especially acidity, gastric pain, constipation, brain fag, rickets in children, weak muscles in adults. As a result of thousands of experiments a "Milk Honey," which is thoroughly acid-trinized and actually prevents and cures these maladies. This sweet, toothsome food may be eaten moist or dry. Know the genuine by a picture of the Battle Creek Sanitarium on the package.

Parlor Organs

If you wish to hear the very latest real improvement in TONE QUALITY in any Reed Organ call now and examine the

Peerless Organ

It has separate stops which produce the PIPE TONE effect, and the usual stops for ordinary reed tone effect. It is in large, handsome, substantial Oak case, and the price is \$60 on monthly payments.

E. B. GUILD MUSIC CO.

BUY THE GENUINE SYRUP OF FIGS

MANUFACTURED BY CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. BE SURE OF THE NAME.

THE PARSONS MYSTERY.

No Clue Yet to the Murder of Col. Bull and Wife.

PIANOS

A. J. King Piano Co., 623 Quincy Street. Open evenings until after CHRISTMAS.

DEATHS AND FUNERALS.

Mrs. Olivia Hebb, died at Dodge City this morning at the age of 74 years. She was the mother of William Hebb of 716 Lane street. The remains will arrive in Topeka on Santa Fe train No. 1 early Saturday morning. The funeral will be held from the residence of her son at 10 o'clock Saturday morning. The interment will be at Topeka cemetery. Everybody reads the State Journal.

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