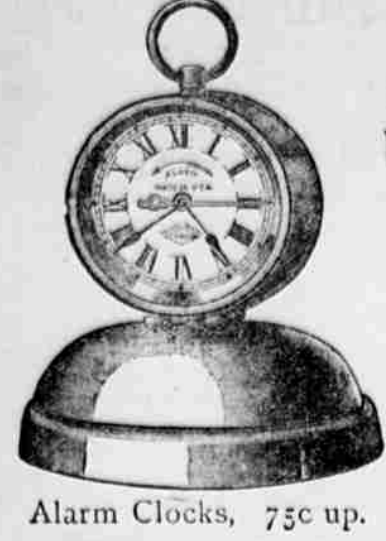


CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR YOUNG AND OLD.

Desiring to close out our retail stock entirely, prices will be no object.

Lots of presents for children—they must be closed out now.



Alarm Clocks, 75c up.



WATCHES
—OF—
Every Description,
OF EVERY MAKE
AND QUALITY.
\$2.50 UP.
EVERY ONE
WARRANTED.

Watches of All Kinds.

PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES.

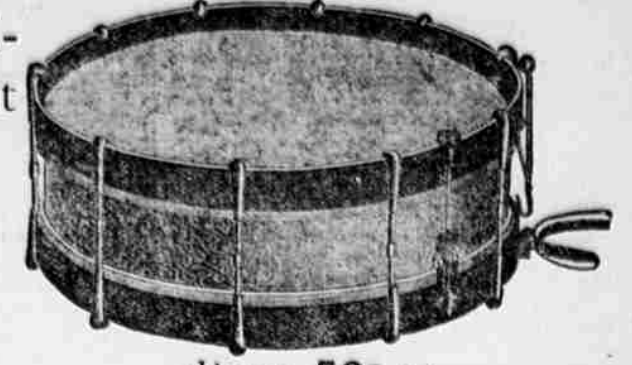


This complete silver
Tea Set

Only \$10.



Sterling Silver Key Rings, 50c Up.



Drums, 50c up.



Violin in great variety from 50c up.



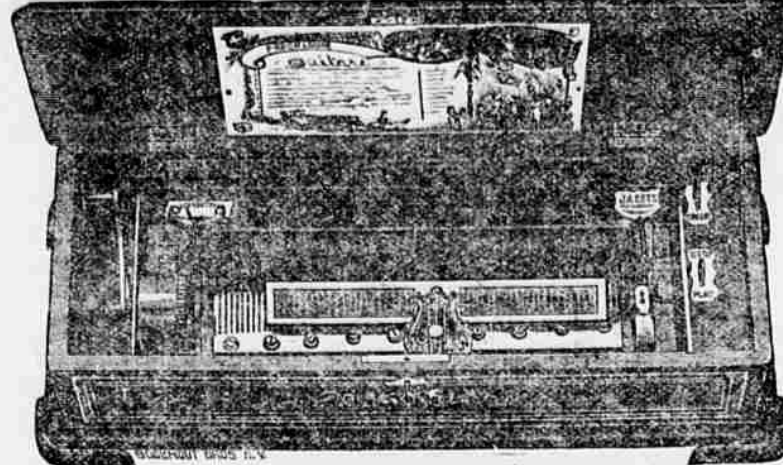
Souvenir Spoons.



Mandolins and Guitars, \$5 up.



Cornets from \$5.00 up. All Kinds of Band Instruments Very Cheap.



Music Boxes, 50c up.]

Child's pianos, 60c up. Child's violins, 50c up. Child's drums, 50c up. Harmonicas, 6c up. Accordion, \$3.50 up. Banjos, \$1.75 up. Music Rolls, 75c up.

Hand Organs, 75c up. Silver Novelties for Ladies and Gentlemen, 50c up. Daggers for Ladies and Gentlemen, 50c up. Hair Brushes and Combs in Silver—all prices.

PIANOS.

A full stock, from the cheapest to the finest Pianos at prices that defy competition.

CALL AND SEE THEM.

OPEN EVENINGS.

Max Meyer & Co. are next door. They are still selling cigars, tobaccos, merschaum and briar pipes, cigar cases and holders, and lots of suitable presents for gentlemen, cheaper than ever.

MAX MEYER & BRO. CO. Corner Farnam and Eleventh, Our Old Stand.

The Oldest and Most Reliable Jewelry and Music House in Omaha. Established 1866.

MERRY WAR AT THE MADISON

Interesting Theme for Gossip at a Popular Boarding House.

PATRONS WONDERING WHERE THEY ARE AT

All Matters Complicated by a Legal Contest of Which an Injunction is the Latest Phase—Other District Court News.

Like a pall, great dark clouds of trouble are hovering over "The Madison," the fashionable boarding house at Twenty-first and California streets, this cold, bright Sabbath morning, and the guests who gather about the table are kept busy wondering where they are, as they know not what moment they may be called upon to go out and face a heartless world in the search for a place to lay their heads and pick their molars.

The hotel is in the same old place, but there is a lawsuit attachment that has complicated matters in several particulars, so much so that no one will venture an opinion as to who is the authorized head of the house. Besides the regulation bill of fare there is an injunction, a suit for damages and any number of liens filed by the creditors of the owners of the house.

How It All Happened.

Early in 1892 E. A. Leavenworth conceived the idea of building a fashionable boarding house, though he was without money to do anything of the kind, but having some credit, he worked among the brick and lumber men, making the best kind of promises, all of which, for the time being, were accepted instead of cash. Next the mechanics were seen, and they, like the material men, took promises to pay. Having made this kind of deal, Leavenworth commenced the erection of the structure and succeeded in a most admirable manner, getting the building under roof and nearly completed before any of the parties thought of asking for money in liquidation of the debts.

Soon after this Mr. Leavenworth started out in search of a tenant and ere long he found Helen A. and Samuel A. Lewis, mother and son, both of whom were well up in the art of housekeeping. With them a deal was consummated, and they moved in, inviting boarders to come and tarry in their beds and around their board. At that time the hotel was not entirely completed, and according to the terms of the contract the payment of rent was not to begin until the last nail was driven.

Then Leavenworth became involved in a financial way and decided the property to Charles L. Gyger, a down town bookkeeper, who at once demanded rent from the Lewises. They refused to pay until such time as the hotel was completed, according to contract, and then the litigation commenced. The lien holders jumped in and wanted their money, claiming that while the deed appeared absolute upon its face, it was only a mortgage in fact, and that he had no right until he had instituted and completed foreclosure proceedings.

Bills Stopped All Around.

The Lewises did not become alarmed until a few days ago, when they claim that they discovered that Gyger was conspiring with the holders of the liens to get them out. The next thing that happened was the receiving of notices. First they came from Gyger and were to the effect that no money was to be paid to the holders of the liens. After this the lien people wrote that money should not be paid to Gyger. Mrs. Lewis and her son could have stood this well enough if their boarders had been left alone, but they were not, for a few days ago such notices commenced to be sent to them. The boarders wanted to settle their bills, but on account of not knowing to whom to pay the money, they kept in their pockets and continued to eat at the Lewis table, free of cost.

Mrs. Lewis and her son soon discovered that they could not stand the expense of running a hotel upon this plan and yesterday they went before Judge Ambrose,

WAS A PRETTY PICTURE.

Hundreds admire the Frank Wilcox Company. Originally and artistic taste combined constitute a magnet around which public interest always clusters. This applies to the display of holiday goods and the dressing of show windows as well as other things in life. That is why so many people pause in front of 1515-17 Douglas street, last evening and viewed the large windows of the Frank Wilcox company with exclamations of delight.

They came, they saw, they were enraptured. There was nothing in the display that savored of Christmas week bookkeepers. The frost-covered whisks of Santa Claus were not visible. No sleigh bells or chimney tops greeted the eye and the perennial panorama of the fireplace and a string of empty stockings flapping listlessly against the mantelpiece was missing. Instead of these relics of ancient history were two pretty pictures from the album of nature.

The large window east of the main entrance was a sea—a unique imitation of a Polar cockpit. A vessel jammed amid glaciers was pictured, in the background while an "old inhabitant" of the Arctic region in the shape of an adult bear reclined on a ton of ice and calmly surveyed an array of shoes and slippers which seemed to be hung for sale.

In the west window was a realistic mountain scene. A long range, surmounted by snow-kissed peaks, was visible in the distance. At the base of the mountains was a typical ranch. On an adjacent cliff an eagle with blood stained talons was standing over a helpless child captive.

The windows, which attracted such general attention last evening, were dressed by Edward S. Thompson and O. V. Durling, young men of original ideas and excellent taste, who have been in the employ of the Frank Wilcox company for some time.

Fall and a Broken Leg.

While walking on Tenth street near Capitol avenue last night John Anderson, colored, had the misfortune to slip and fall, suffering a fractured leg. The patrol wagon took the injured man to his home at Nineteenth and Harvey streets. He is employed at the city library.

TWELVE THOUSAND SHORT

Showing Made by the Books of Ex-County Treasurer Snyder.

ATTRIBUTED TO BAD BOOKKEEPING

Steps Will Be Taken to Collect the Balance—Other Matters Brought Before the County Commissioners Yesterday Afternoon.

County Clerk Sackett and Auditor Tate reported to the county commissioners yesterday that they had spent some time in checking up the accounts of ex-County Treasurer Adam Snyder, from January 9, 1890, until January 6, 1892, and had found that the following amounts were accounted for:

General fund	5,062.80
Bond sinking fund	3,000.00
Hospital building fund	1,579.45
Refund money fund	427.78
Special school fund	263.91
Appropriation fund	125.04
Total	\$12,468.98

The report showed the school bond fund overpaid in the sum of \$251, which amount should be credited to Snyder. The finding was also to the effect that there were building fund notes aggregating \$1,757.78 which were not in the hands of the present treasurer and that there was no record to show where they had gone, though there was evidence to show that they had disappeared since the sale of the poor farm lots.

In their report the two officials stated that Mr. Snyder had been able to account for \$5,000 of the money, but the remainder neither he nor they could find. They did not attribute the shortage to the dishonesty of the ex-treasurer, but thought that it was due to carelessness in bookkeeping, errors and blunders in caring for the records of the office.

Mr. Stenberg offered a resolution providing for referring the report to the chairman of the board and the county attorney, and instructing them to take steps to collect the balance.

Elasser and His Assistants.

Peter E. Elasser, the register of deeds, notified the board that he had named (1) F. Elasser as his deputy and Messrs. Webber, Reed and Mahoney as clerks in the office. He asked that the salaries of the clerks be fixed at \$60 per month each, and that they be made deputies. He also gave the board to understand that he would run the office with the assistance of eight clerks. The whole matter was laid on the table to be considered at the next meeting of the board.

The application to cancel the personal tax on the lumber yard of John A. Wakefield, which burned some months ago, was denied the board holding that there was no authority for striking the tax from the books of the county.

A. W. Clark of Rescue hall asked that the county furnish that institution four tons of coal per month during the winter months, to be distributed to the poor of the county. The request was referred to the committee on charity.

Dr. Weaver asked to be appointed county physician, but as the members of the board considered it a little early to make appointments, the application went to the files.

Statement of Balances. A statement from the county treasurer showed the following cash balances on hand: Bridge fund, \$5,329.48; bond sinking fund, \$32,512.98; insane judgment, \$2,178.57; hospital judgment, \$5,924.57; soldiers' relief fund, \$121.67. The same statement showed the county general fund overdrawn in the sum of \$29,994, and the road fund in the same condition to the extent of \$615.92.

INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE BOND OF THE COUNTY TREASURER.

Heretofore the bond has been in the sum of \$250,000, but owing to the fact that the amount of money the hands of that official is frequently much more than the face of the bond, it was deemed advisable, as a precautionary measure, to increase the security. The amount of the new bond was fixed at \$700,000, and in that sum the treasurer will be compelled to qualify at the beginning of the new year.

CERAMIC CLUB RECEPTION.

A beautiful display made in rooms handsomely decorated. Despite the storm a great many people availed themselves of an opportunity to attend the first reception of the Nebraska Ceramic club held Friday evening in the large room of the New York life building.

Mrs. Estabrook was assisted by Mrs. Russell Harrison and Mrs. Kirkcaldall, while grouped about the rooms, welcoming and showing the dainty china, were Mrs. H. S. Ford, Mrs. Bandy, Mrs. Merrill, Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Downing of Kearney and Mrs. Palmer of Minden. Tea and chocolate were served by young lady friends of the receiving party, and altogether it was a very pretty affair. The porcelain was of every variety and use imaginable. The decorations were conceded to be unusually fine and to far surpass the exhibit sent to the World's fair.

Fully 200 pieces were shown that had not been previously exhibited. Many sales were made Friday and yesterday and duplicate orders taken. The rooms will be open to visitors on Monday, both day and evening, for those who have been unable to see the really very fine collection of ceramics done by Nebraska women.

TARIFF ON TOBACCO.

Congressman Lewis Sperry confident that it won't be changed.

Hartford, Dec. 16.—Last year \$5,000,000 was received for their product by tobacco growers in the Connecticut valley. The proposed reduction of the tariff on imported tobacco from 2¢ to 1¢, or even 1.5¢ as it is now talked of, would mean ruin to three-quarters of the tobacco producers. This section is greatly excited over the tobacco schedule in the proposed Wilson bill. Growers have not, however, been idle. They have made a vigorous protest against any change of policy to their congressmen, Lewis Sperry. A letter has been received from him, in which he says: "I seriously doubt whether the Wilson bill," as at present reported, will pass the house, and I am in hopes of getting the tobacco tax restored as originally contained in the McKinley bill."

Cotton Men and the Tariff.

Boston, Dec. 16.—Many prominent manufacturers of cotton yarn have held a meeting to take action looking to some modification of the Wilson tariff bill, insofar as it affects the manufacturers of cotton yarns, and have formed a permanent organization to push the work.

Suits by the Edison Company.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16.—Suits have been filed by the United States circuit court here by the Edison Electric Light company of New York and the Edison Electric Light company of Philadelphia against the Manufacturers club of Philadelphia, the Colonade hotel and the Spreckels Sugar Refining company of cotton yarn have held a meeting and using insignificant lights, which have been adjudged in decisions in various United States to infringe upon the patents of the Edison company, and also compel an accounting for the purchase and use of infringing lamps in past years.

A Christmas Present Worth Giving.

"WHY NOT?" Lucia B. Griffin's latest book, 25c. GAYLOR, OLLINGER, containing Miss Griffin's most recent novels, only 50c. Will be sent postpaid on receipt of stamps or postal note. Address: MRS. DAVID E. LAW, P. O. Box 911, Albia, Iowa.

FRAHM TURNS DEFAULTER

German Savings Bank Bookkeeper Gets Away with Two Thousand Dollars.

SPENT THE MONEY IN RIOTOUS LIVING

Made Abstractions from the Cash Tray at the Noon Hour—Friends May Make Up Losses—A Stir in German Circles.

Up to noon last Thursday Christ Frahm was a trusted employe of the German Savings bank in the capacity of bookkeeper, but he is such no more, for the bank alleges that he abused the trust reposed in him and appropriated various sums of money that did not belong to him. His summary dismissal on that afternoon and subsequent taking in charge by two detectives employed by the Casualty Bonding company has caused a stir in German circles.

Frahm was a member and treasurer of one of the most influential German associations, the turnverein, as well as financial secretary of the German society.

Bank and Societies Not Losers. Financially neither the bank, which is the strongest German financial institution in this city, nor the societies spoken of will be losers, as none of the money belonging to the latter has been touched and the former is amply protected by the above named company, which furnished Frahm's bond.

From small sums Frahm fell into the habit of taking larger ones until during one month \$800 was abstracted, so that his total defalcation is in the neighborhood of \$2,000 and perhaps more. The exact amount cannot be given because experts are now engaged in the task of tracing the sun, while the defaulter is closely guarded and confined in a room at the Drexel hotel, to which admittance is refused. It is expected, however, that the culprit's uncle and brother will come to his rescue and reimburse the bonding company to the amount of its entire loss and all costs. Efforts in this direction were made yesterday, and it is possible that they will succeed, in which event Frahm will perhaps escape legal prosecution.

The defaulting bookkeeper is a married man and was formerly engaged in bank work at the First National. The sums of money which he embezzled from time to time are said to have been spent in riotous living and not one cent of it is now in Frahm's possession.

Will Talk About Hawaii. The last meeting of the year of the Sun-down club will be held at the Commercial club rooms next Thursday evening. "The Hawaiian Question" will be discussed by Dr. George L. Miller and John L. Webster. Officers will be elected at this meeting.

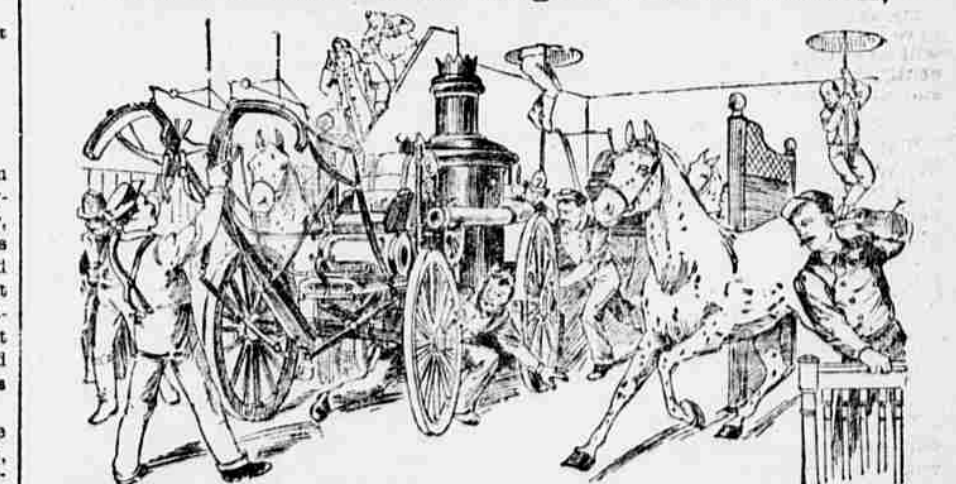
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AMUSEMENTS.

15TH STREET THEATRE POPULAR PRICES.

4 NIGHTS COMMENCING MATINEE TODAY. JOSEPH ARTHURS' Magnificent Production.



THE : STILL : ALARM.

Presented by an exceptional strong cast headed by the sterling young actor MR. WM. HARKINS. DON'T MISS SEEING The Engine House Scene—The Lightning Hitch—The Sacred Trained Fire Horses. MATINEE WEDNESDAY.

15th STREET THEATER POPULAR PRICES EXTRA.

3 NIGHTS AND SATURDAY MATINEE. COMMENCING THURSDAY, DEC. 21, LOTTIE COLLINS

in her New Musical Sketch, "A NAUGHTY SUBSTITUTE," and her Latest London Success, "Marguerite," in conjunction with Europe's "400" Vaudeville.

THE NEW BOSTON HOWARD ATHENAEUM COMPANY.

Including the great SCHAFER of the renowned SCHAFER FAMILY, who created such a sensation at the Auditorium, World's Fair, Chicago, in the great Spectacle, "America."

BOYD'S TO-NIGHT LAST TIME. This (SUNDAY) Evening, Dec. 17

By EDWIN MILTON ROYLE. "Friends is the most interesting play in a genre which has been presented at our theater in a long time, and Mr. Royle has gathered together a company that does more good acting than most of the New York comedians of the past two or three years.—San Francisco Chronicle, Dec. 16, 1902. PRICES: First floor, 50c, 75c and \$1.00; balcony, 50c and 75c; gallery, 25c. 540 Good Seats at 50c Each. BOX OFFICE OPEN ALL DAY SUNDAY.

BOYD'S RHEA

Will present the following favorite plays: Tuesday evening, "THE PRINCE OF DENMARK"; Wednesday matinee, "THE PRINCE OF DENMARK"; Wednesday evening, "THE PRINCE OF DENMARK"; supported by a powerful dramatic company, including MR. W. S. HART.

BOYD'S THEATER. MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 18, Apollo Club Concert

MISS EFFIE STEWART, (Prima Donna Soprano). MR. WILLIAM FORANE, (Tenor). 100—Apollo Club Chorus Voices—100. FULL ORCHESTRA. Reserved seats \$1.00, at Chase & Eddy's Saturday and Monday.

20—Europe's Great Artists—20