



Our men's vici kid tan shoes at \$2.50 is a snap, as other dealers ask \$3.50 for one not as good, see us, for bargains in shoes.

**Krausse Bros.**

275 Commercial st.

## Stylish Bicycles....

That are strong and good,

Imperial ..... \$50.00  
Highest Grade,

"Pacific" ..... \$35.00  
A Splendid Wheel

We have others that will interest you.

**BUREN & HAMILTON**

298 and 300 Commercial st.

## Count On This!

Prices shall be at least as low here as anywhere else in town. How much over they may be depends. Holding up here and there a bargain article is one thing, keeping an entire stock of clothing of the highest level of quality and assortment, and the lower level of prices is another.

## Men's Business Suits.

\$5, \$6, \$7.50, \$8, \$10, \$12.50, \$15.

We bought the suits in large quantities. We positively offer them for 25 per cent less money than other dealers. This fact simply makes competition an impossibility, you never saw such good suits for so little money. Come in and we will show them to you.

## G. W. JOHNSON & CO.



**A Problem for Builders** is not only the actual figuring of the size of things, it is also where and how to get the

**Best value for the Least money.**

We have the most complete and varied assortment of Builders' Material, Tools, etc. for the least money, quality considered.

**GRAY BROS.**

## Christmas Is Over!

But we are going to commence the New Year again with offering you low prices for groceries.

Salem Special, patronize home industry only	90
Aumsville Flour	95
New Pickles, per qt.	10
Arbuckle and Lion Coffee, per pk.	15
Best Mocha and Java Coffee, per lb.	35
Good Mocha and Java coffee per lb.	30
10 lbs Lard	85
5 lbs Lard	45
Chocolate, per lb.	25
10 lbs. B. Wheat	35
10 lbs Corn Meal	25
Try our Cream Oats for mush.	

**HARRIETT & LAWRENCE**

Old P. O. Corner

## The Maine Enquiry.

The World Anxious for a Decision.

Each Day Brings Fresh Evidence of Spanish Treachery.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—A week's negotiations closed today by the triumphant purchase by the navy department, in London, of two fine cruisers built and building, at Elsewair for the Brazilian government. Possibly the officials took more pleasure in closing the business in this matter because of the knowledge that Spanish agents had been striving to secure these very ships, and that to Spain, it is said, they would be of much greater value in case of trouble than to the United States.

The next question is how to get the ships home and that has not yet been settled, according to the secretary of the navy. The United States flag will be over the new ships within a week, probably, and just as soon as the crew can be put aboard the Amazonian she will start for the United States. The other vessel will follow at the earliest possible moment. The terms of the sale are secret. One of the ships is complete in every respect, has her coal supply and ammunition on board and steam can be raised at any time. There will be no trouble bringing this ship across an adequate force from the local yards can be secured for the service. It is said coal and ammunition on board passed with the sale to the United States. The ammunition is not of the kind in use by the American navy, so that the supply of ammunition is a necessary adjunct to new ships.

The other ship has been launched, but it will take some time to make her ready for sea.

A dangerous deficiency in the engineering branch of the navy department has been brought to light, strikingly in the fact, that it is scarcely possible to secure a staff of engineer officers to bring back to the United States any of the ships purchased abroad.

Sailed From Lisbon.

LONDON, March 15.—A special from Cadiz announces that the Spanish squadron has sailed from that port. It is understood the warships are going to Porto Rico, where they will await the orders of Captain-General Blanco. Enthusiastic crowds gathered there to bid farewell to the Spanish war vessels. The departure of the United States warships Helena and Bancroft from Lisbon may possibly be connected with the seemingly simultaneous departure of the Spanish squadron from Cadiz, which is situated on the southwestern coast of Spain. Rumors have it that the Bancroft and Helena may follow the Spanish ships across the Atlantic.

NEW YORK, March 15.—A Tribune dispatch from Havana says: Captain Sampson and his associates, by prolonging the Maine investigation for weeks might find much further cumulative evidence of an external explosion. The comparatively narrow space in which the divers are now working continues to furnish proofs of an explosion from without, but this leading fact was established two weeks ago. The clearing away of the debris added little to the knowledge first obtained.

The belief that the Maine was blown up by a torpedo is held by experts who have watched the progress of the inquiry. This brings the naval court to the most difficult part of its task. Under Admiral Sicard's instructions the board is to report what persons, not connected with the navy, are responsible for the loss of the Maine. With what is conclusive evidence to the minds of the members that the loss was due to foul play, they are still without conclusive proof

of the identity of the conspirators. That the explosion was not the work of a single fanatic is well established. Beyond this the board may not be able to go, because the co-operation of the Spanish government cannot be had so long as Spain holds to the theory of accident.

Since Captain Peral, the president of the Spanish board, gave out his interview that is accepted as the Spanish official view, no help can be expected from the authorities in discovering the conspirators, while they are claiming that there could have been no conspiracy, because the Maine explosion was due to a mysterious accident.

An analysis of Captain Peral's theory need not be given here. It is enough that if his scheme of raising the hull by means of the floating dock were feasible, months would pass before the final report could be made. The mud at the bottom has not prevented the American divers from making an examination of portions of the wreck which the board thought necessary.

The perfidious labors of the Spanish divers have prevented them from finding unexploded ammunition in parts of the ship which an internal explosion could have hardly left intact. They have also discovered that the turret was blown from port to starboard along with other incidental evidences of an external explosion. Nevertheless no admission of the possibility of foul play will come from the Spanish board. The matter as now presented is that the American court, while probably not feeling justified in attributing suspicion as to the parties to the conspiracy, has sifted the evidence which its members are ready to submit to the world in support of the claim that the Maine was destroyed by foul play. When that evidence shall be made public can be judged better in Washington than Havana.

Result of the Inquiry.

ST. PAUL, March 14.—The Globe's Washington Special says:

The president and his cabinet know officially the result of the Maine inquiry. They are prepared to act. They have canvassed the course of events so far as they can force them and have formulated a policy to meet the emergency. Along its lines the administration expects to move unless it is swept off its feet by a wave of popular dissatisfaction. The Globe's special correspondent is able to present the forecast of events as viewed by the president and his cabinet. It can be outlined thus:

One—The court of inquiry will report that the explosion was external.

Two—The president will immediately, through Minister Woodford demand from Spain an indemnity of \$10,000,000.

Three—Spain is expected to reply expressing her willingness to pay if she is responsible, but maintaining that her own investigation shows that the explosion was internal and purely accidental. She will therefore suggest reference to an international board of arbitration.

Four—In such an event the administration would be disposed to comply with the suggestion unless there is an emeute in Havana of an irresistible demand for war sweeps through congress.

Five—If congress acquiesces in the suggestion, the attempt will be made to adjourn the body and leave the whole matter in the president's hands.

Six—It is expected that a large majority of congressmen will claim that such a matter of honor cannot be arbitrated. It is further expected that the leaders of both houses, including Senator Davis, of Minnesota, will favor arbitration.

St. Patrick—Shamrocks at The White Corner tomorrow—free.

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take Laxative Bromo Quinine tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. 10-14 6m

St. Patrick—Shamrocks at The White Corner tomorrow—free.

## TO CO-OPERATE.

They Will Jointly Resist the Encroachments of Russia.

NEW YORK, March 15.—A dispatch to the Herald from Tokio says:

The Herald correspondent learns on unquestionable authority that Japan is a party to the negotiations now going on between England and Russia at St. Petersburg, and that while no alliance exists between England and Japan, they have a definite understanding and are acting in harmony. A high diplomatic official said:

"You may say positively that Japan will back up England against Russia, and if England maintains a firm attitude, all immediate danger of war is passed, unless Russia is resolved to fight at once. In view of England's great superiority at sea and her possession of all the available coal in the Eastern ports, Russia will probably take a conciliatory tone for the present."

The Herald correspondent visited Marquis Ito today, and asked him whether the Japanese government would sell the cruisers Chitose and Sakagi to America. The marquis hesitated a moment, and replied:

"I will make inquiries of my naval colleagues, but I think I may say that Japan prefers to get possession of all the ships building for her as soon as possible. Orders have already been made to bring the ships to Japan, and the builders have been requested to hasten their completion."

After a pause, the marquis continued slowly and impressively:

"The news of the last few days indicates a critical state of affairs elsewhere than on the western continent, and we consider it only prudent to continue our provisions for the national defense. I hope the people of the United States will not take offense at Japan's unwillingness to part with these cruisers. I have always appreciated their kindly feelings for Japan. The United States is a nation above all others where public sentiment absolutely controls the national policy, and for that reason I wish to have the people there understand that Japan retains the ships not from a lack of willingness to oblige the United States, but because she needs them herself."

"In case of war between the United States and Spain, your excellency," the correspondent asked, "will Japan allow the warships of both belligerents to take coal at Japanese ports, or refuse it both?"

"What opens a long vista of possibilities," he replied. "Some authorities contend that coal and even provision should be contraband of war, as both are necessary to maintain hostilities at sea. Whenever war is declared between two or more powers, Japan, if neutral, will bear in mind in deciding the coal question the manner in which her decision will effect all the belligerents and her own interests."

The Herald correspondent learns that Japan has received a cable offer from England for all the warships building for her in England private yards, consisting of three 15,000-ton battle-ships and three first-class armored cruisers of about 10,000 ton each. The offer has been refused.

## Will Rescue Andree.

NEW YORK, March 15.—According to advice from Paris, the largest and best equipped balloon ever constructed is being made ready for a journey to the north pole and the rescue of Andree. It will be in charge of the famous French aeronauts, Louis Godard and Edouard Surcouf.

The most original feature of this balloon will be a system of 10 small reservoir balloons. It will be larger than that used by Andree and will be called La Erance. It will be capable of remaining 60 days in the air. The party will consist of seven persons, these will be made up of the chiefs of the expeditions, three aeronauts, one meteorologist, one explorer and one physician. Louis Godard will be chief. Edouard Surcouf is first aeronaut and M. Godard second aeronaut. M. Godard has the following to say:

"I believe Andree lives, and may be in need of help. That he has not been heard from for six months does not dishearten me, and the example set by the worthy son of the intrepid Vikings should spur us to action. His provisions in the balloon probably became exhausted, and if we can avert it, the crime of allowing this heroic man to endure the torturing hell of a lingering death by slow starvation must not occur."

"The balloon I mean to use for this expedition will be stronger and bigger than Andree's. We will go to Spitzbergen by sea; then we shall religiously investigate every foothold in the firm hope of finding our Scandinavian

brother, in our search we mean to pay particular attention to the coast of Greenland and to Franz Josef Land."

## For Sale

SAN FRANCISCO, March 15.—The Examiner says that a remarkable incident has developed in the case of Albert Hoff, the aged Russian who is on trial for the murder of Mrs. Mary Clute. Two attorneys of this city, D. W. McIntosh and Edgar B. Raymond, are trying to sell an alleged confession of the man who is on trial. The lawyers insist that they are acting as agents for Hoff. They declare that the prisoner will take nothing less than \$2000 for his self-accusation.

The confession, it is reported, was made to McIntosh, who is now defending Hoff in court. It is characterized as an unqualified, oligraphic confession of not more than 300 words of the murderer of Mrs. Clute.

Hoff denies with all the vehemence he can command that he has ever made a confession or ever intends to do so.

## Clackamas Anti-Brownell.

OREGON CITY, March 15.—There was an exciting contest over the school election yesterday. The candidates were E. E. Charman, a prominent business man and heavy taxpayer, and F. F. Griffin, a young lawyer and non-taxpayer. Out of 330 votes polled Mr. Charman received a majority of 90. Mr. S. M. McCown was re-elected clerk by a majority of 246 over G. W. Spoke. It is a victory for the better element of the city, and from a political standpoint is decidedly anti-Brownell.

The Silver Democrats, Silver Republicans and Populists will all hold their county conventions next Saturday. It is probable that the Democrats and Silver Republicans will not make any nominations, although they may endorse a man or two to be nominated by the Populists.

## MR. KINCAID'S POSITION.

[Portland Oregonian, March 14:] While it is known that Harrison B. Kincaid, secretary of state, would like to receive a second nomination, and be re-elected to the office he now fills, it is by no means certain that he will allow his name to be presented before the Republican state convention. Mr. Kincaid makes no secret of the fact that he is in favor of free silver, and in discussing the matter of his being renominated he is entirely frank. He says:

"I am as good a Republican as when I was elected four years ago. I am not a candidate for re-election, if in becoming so I have to go about heralding the fact and importing me to support me. As secretary of state I have sought to do my full duty, and I am not ashamed of the record I have made as such. I should be pleased to have the precedent existing during the past 32 years, of re-electing the secretary of state, continued. I will not do it; I will not agree to anything of the kind. Should I be asked who I voted for in the presidential campaign, I would tell them it was none of their business."

The Royal is the highest grade baking powder known. Actual tests show it goes one-third further than any other brand.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

THAT STAG SOCIAL.

Valley Lodge No. 18 Royally Entertain.

Every one who attended Valley Lodge No. 18, last evening, to enjoy the pleasure of their social, was more than pleased, and it exemplified the true brotherly love among men to see those of all stations rub against one another. The "stag social" is a new feature in Salem, and the brethren seemed to enjoy themselves immensely, almost as if they had never been alone with each other before.

An extensive program was carried out. Many members from Protection No. 2 were present to help make merry and participate in the "hot time" that was in store for all.

W. T. Rigdon gave a short but interesting opening address, which was listened to with much interest. A short recitation by Jack West caused much merriment after which Grand Master S. A. McFadden addressed the company on the good of the order, which was well received, and he clearly showed that the A. O. U. W. had passed that critical period, which the fraternal orders of the world have always feared. He showed that the secret of it all was the classified assessment plan.

There were some very fine speeches from visiting members, and Albany and the Santiam were represented.

In all this "Stag Social" was a highly enjoyable affair.

At the proper hour a splendid lunch was served with coffee, after which all partook of the pipe of peace and between the red hot toasts the air was blue. At a late hour all departed home not regretting having attended Valley Lodge's "Stag Social."

ON CRUTCHES.—By reason of a severe sprain to the left knee, Miss Charlotte Hellenbrand, stenographer for the local street railway company, is obliged to appear on crutches.

500 Shamrocks—expected at The White Corner tomorrow free.

A MULTITUDE OF FAULTS—Are found by almost everybody against nearly every-thing but we have never seen the person who found fault with one of our 15 cent meals having partaken of one. They are record-breakers.—George Bros.

YOUR ESTIMATION—Of a good cigar is quite valuable to the sale of that brand. Try "Our Champion" A. Huckestein's leading 5 cent cigar and you will smoke none other, Dr. Miles' Nerve Plaster 25c. at all druggists.

## New and Attractive Features

Turquoise Dotted Veiling—The newest veiling out in white and black grounds, 25c and 35c. New Belts—Some striking new novelties shown in this line. Qualities 10c to 75c; we show a fine kid belt, leather covered buckle for 15c.

## DRESS GOODS! Special Lines, Special Prices

\$1.00 Qualities, 89c.  
\$1.25 Qualities, \$1.05.  
\$1.50 Qualities, \$1.20.

Ribbons ; ; ; New Gordon hats ; ; ;

Newest Plaids, Newest Stripes, 10c to 75c.

Warranted and recommended by us, the best hat in Salem. . . . \$3.00

Moire sashes ; ; ;

Fringed, three yards in length, the latest. . . \$2.75.

H. S. & M. Clothing ; ; ;

Trimmings ; ; ;

Newest designs, Newest colorings, Newest collection, 5c to 55c.

Every suit guaranteed a big new line just opened. Suits, crack-a-jacks at \$5, \$8.50, \$10.

Cerise and Cornflower waists ; ; ;

The very swell novelties, just received.

Pants sale ; ; ;

Slaughter going on in this line, Big reductions.

## JOSEPH MEYERS & SONS.

278-280 Commercial st., corner Court st

TELEPHONE NO. 1

## DON'T

Be deceived by the selling out at cost schemes all over the city, but go to

## THE FAIR STORE

and supply your wants in everything, at the lowest market prices. Everything bought and sold for spot cash enables us to sell very low. Remember we carry most anything you need. The Fair has the best goods for the least money.

O. P. DABNEY, Proprietor.

274 Commercial st., Salem.