

THE FIRE FIEND VISITS US AGAIN

This Time the Hanson Pool Hall
and Larson's Restaurant
Go Up in Smoke.

Binford residents were again disturbed from their early morning slumbers last Saturday, when fire was discovered in the upper back rooms of the Hanson pool hall. The origin of the fire is unknown.

One of the back rooms was used by Mr. Hanson as sleeping apartments, and it was in this room that the fire is supposed to have started. Martin Nelson and Anton Falla were sleeping in the room and sometime before 5:00 o'clock they awoke to find the room full of smoke. Mr. Nelson gave the alarm. Mr. Falla escaped thru the window leaving his clothes behind. He had a \$20 bill in his vest, besides other papers.

Though the fire boys and others worked valiently with the chemical and buckets, the building was dry and burned like tinder, spreading rapidly. Their efforts were then turned to saving adjoining buildings and fixtures. The intense heat soon set fire to the Carrol building, occupied by O. S. Larson, as a restaurant. Practically all of the fixtures in this building were saved. Mr. Larson had considerable clothing stored in the attic, which he was unable to get out. All the fixtures in the Hanson annex, which was occupied by Andrew Dahlin & Co. as a land office were removed, and some fixtures were removed from the pool hall.

A GREWSOME DISCOVERY

The Skeleton of a Man Was Discovered North of Binford Last Saturday ---Identity Unknown.

The skeleton of a man was found by a party of McVilleville hunters last Saturday on the Siver Quam tree claim, north of Binford, in Nelson county.

The party were going to tie up their horses in the trees alongside the road when the grewsome discovery was made. They immediately notified the authorities at Lakota, and the coroner and other officials came out to investigate the matter and remove the remains to the county seat.

According to the story received here the man had evidently hung himself—as a pair of overalls had been torn up and made a rope of. Just how long he had hung there is a matter of conjecture. The rope was broken, part of which was fastened to a tree and the other part with the loop was fastened to the

head. The head was completely severed from the rest of the body. Not a particle of flesh was to be found on the bones—indicating that he had been there for a considerable time.

The man wore a grey suit of clothes, grey hat and tan working shoes. His hair is of a dark brown. He was no doubt a stranger as no one in these parts has disappeared.

A peculiar thing is that the discovery had not been made sooner as it was found only a couple of rods from the main highway. One of Mr. Quam's boys had been plowing between the road and the trees, within a few feet of the man. He had smelled the decaying body but had not thought of investigating.

No clue as to his identity had been found up to the time of receiving this story.

It looked for a time as if the West hotel was doomed, too, and but for the tin siding on the Carroll building, all the work we could have done would have counted for naught. Had that burned there is no telling what else would have gone.

The Hanson building is a total loss—the insurance having expired only a few days before. The Carroll building was insured for \$800, besides his fixtures. The plate glass window in the

First National bank was cracked from the heat, as was three windows in the Hub restaurant.

Anyhow, two things were in our favor—that there was no strong wind and that the ground was covered with a heavy blanket of snow.

SHOOTING AFFAIR AT HANNAFORD