

Gasoline Explodes.

Last Sunday morning about 12:30 as Frank Hall, assistant pharmacist at the drugstore was about to retire, he smelled gas or something coming up from the cellar. He lit a match and went down to investigate, result; explosion, Frank was severely burned about the face and hands, the concrete wall was blown out of true about an inch, the rear door was hurled about 50 feet into the back yard, the door from cellar room into the prescription room was sent flying against the prescription case, with such force that it upset and broke a large number of bottles of costly medicine, the window glasses in top of the front of the store on both sides of the door were blown out and the long curtains pushed out thru the holes. Frank very quickly ran out into the street and called fire. The Times reporter and photographer Belgium got out the chemical cart and with the help of a few others ran it down to the rear of the store; when upon investigation it was found that a couple of buckets of water could stop all chance of fire, and the chemical was not used. Dr. Truscott was called and attended to the injuries on the wounded man, who was sent on Monday to his home at Fargo, his brother Fred Hall coming up from Valley City and taking him home.

Mr. Lockett, the manager of the store was visiting at Wimbledon at the time of the explosion, and came home as quickly as possible after hearing of the accident.

We understand that a slight leak in the lighting plant had been noticed but it was not thought to be dangerous in any respect.

This makes two gasoline lighting outfits that have exploded in Bismarck in the past two years and we think that they are a failure as regards the safety devices and apparatus that the smooth tongued salesman tells about and think that our representatives at Bismarck should take this matter up at its next session and put the lid on gasoline lighting plants in North Dakota.