

## PATCH UP TROUBLE

BREACH OVER LAND QUESTION HEALED BY ENVOYS AND UNDERSTANDING REACHED.

## HUNT ON FOR A PRESIDENT

Mexican Delegates Will Suggest a List of Names from Which a Provisional Head Might Be Selected Whom U. S. Could Favor.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.  
 Niagara Falls.—The actual terms and details of a plan for the pacification of Mexico are now under discussion by the mediation conference, according to an announcement by Justice Lamar. An early agreement is now anticipated.

The turn in the proceedings from a point where it seemed as if the land problem might cause serious embarrassment to an understanding as to the treatment of some of the delicate issues involved came after a conference between the mediators and the American delegates.

In his announcement, Justice Lamar said:

"On a number of details we find ourselves in substantial agreement. Others are still under discussion, but as to them there has been no disagreement."

From the mediators themselves it was learned that some of the vital points had been reached. These are understood to include the manner in which the present regime in Mexico City would give way to a new provisional government.

That Gen. Huerta had given consent to the program thus far outlined here was one of the reports, from reliable sources, upon which some of the optimism displayed was believed to be based.

The Mexican delegates, as well as the Americans, are anxious that the transition in Mexico City shall be smooth and unattended by disturbances.

The plan of pacification so far developed is known to be simple. Its object is the establishment of a new provisional government. As a program for it there will be a declaration of principles on agrarian and other reforms and on the conduct of a fair election.

They are approaching the question of personnel for the new government with a consciousness of the sensibilities of the Mexican people. Desiring to avoid the appearance of having had their provisional president chosen at an international conference, the Mexican delegates have evolved the plan of suggesting to the mediators a list of names from which might be selected a number on whom the United States would look with favor, if from it were chosen an ad interim executive. The actual choice of an individual from the list of eligibles would be sanctioned, it is suggested by the Mexican congress. There is reason to believe, however, that before any list is approved by the American government some tacit endorsement from the constitutionalists must come. It is assumed here that the Washington government would be willing to assume the responsibility of trying to bring the constitutionalists into harmony with a provisional government thus created.

## BRIDE-TO-BE OF LOWER RANK.

Prince Oscar, Fifth Son of Kaiser, is To Wed.

Potsdam, Germany.—The engagement of Prince Oscar, fifth son of the German emperor and empress, to Countess von Bassewitz-Levetzow, maid of honor to the empress, is announced. The prince is 28 years old.

Lively comment was started by the announcement of the engagement owing to the fact that the marriage will be the first morganatic union which has occurred in the Hohenzollern family. COLUMN May 27 C J K ly since 1853. In June that year, Prince Albrecht of Prussia, brother of the Emperor William, and the then king of Prussia, married Countess Rosalie von Hohenau.

## Shots Are Fired At Troops.

Trinidad, Colo.—For the first time since they assumed control in the strike districts in the Colorado coal fields, the United States troops were fired upon, it was learned. The shooting occurred at a miners' camp at Segundo, near Trinidad, where two shots were fired at the federal troops. The shots were fired at a patrol from a hillside overlooking the camp, after a trooper who had dodged a missile thrown at him through a window answered a shot fired at him from the darkness.

Philadelphia.—Final argument in the suit of the federal government to dissolve the United States Steel corporation will be heard in the United States court in this city on October 29, it is announced.

Trenton, N. J.—Raffaele Longo, of Elizabeth, was electrocuted in the deathhouse at the state prison for the murder of Antonio Migliore. Longo went to his death without a murmur. The murder was the result of a quarrel in an Elizabeth saloon.

Paris.—A discovery which, in the opinion of scientists, may lead to the preparation of serums conferring immunity from many of the contagious diseases has been communicated to the academy of the institute, and of the academy of medicine.

Round the World Trip.  
 New York.—Earl Grey, former governor general of Canada, left on the Venterland, completing a round the world trip, which included a visit to California, where he bought interests in some of the largest oil wells for English syndicates.

Gold Wave in Europe.  
 Paris.—A severe gold wave spread over southwestern Europe. Several inches of snow fell in parts of southwestern France, while heavy rains are reported from other regions.

# IDEAS for HOME BUILDERS

By WM. A. RADFORD

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1827 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

To any one alive to the developments in the building world, there is nothing more striking than the steady growth of the movement toward better quality in building construction during the past 10 or 15 years. Where formerly home-builders were satisfied with makeshift construction and with cheap though gaudy effects in building, there has come to be a general demand for the best grades of material and the most thorough workmanship united to form substantial structures that will endure.

Take the medium-sized dwelling house, for instance, such as the average family requires. A generation ago, \$2,000 would probably have been the top figure considered proper for its cost. Today no one would think of spending less than twice that amount if he would build with an eye to permanent use or future sale.

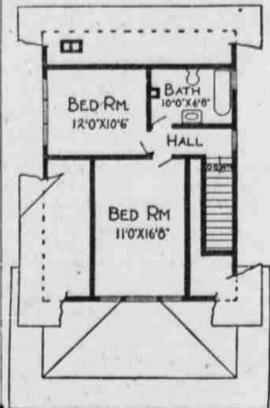
The increased cost of labor and materials has had something to do with this, it is true, but not so much as is sometimes thought. No! It is the added comforts and the higher standard of quality all the way through that have brought this about. Modern plumbing and fixtures, modern lighting systems, modern heating, cemented basements, permanent fire-proof roofing, hardwood floors—all these, which were the luxuries of yesterday but are the necessities of today, mark the advancing standards of building; and the general building public now realize what the carpenters and building contractors have known all along—that quality building is the only kind which pays.

As a natural companion to this idea of quality building, there has developed also an increasing demand for permanency and lasting endurance in building work. The demand for fire-proof construction has become more and more insistent every year, until now houses which may be considered fireproof, at least so far as the outside fire hazard is concerned, are very common.

The building of a home almost always requires saving and sacrifice on the part of all in the family, and it is quite natural that they should want to build as securely as possible so that

that statistics show three-fourths of our enormous fire loss in this country to be due to fire spreading from one building to another. In the numerous tests made in the United States government testing laboratories concrete has been proved to be absolutely fire-resisting; and not only in laboratory, but also in actual work, concrete has demonstrated its fire-roofing qualities in the most convincing manner.

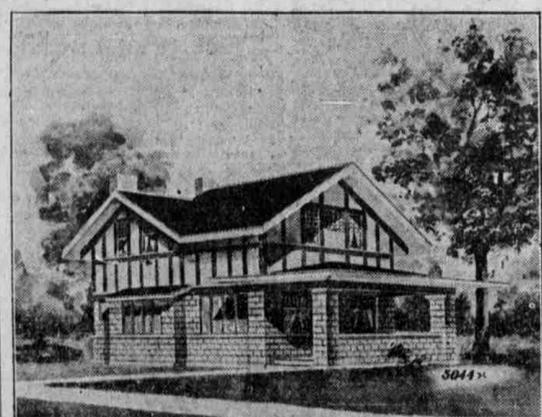
The house illustrated here is 24 feet 8 inches in width and 32 feet 8 inches



in length. It contains three large rooms, alcove, and pantry on the first floor, and two bedrooms and a bath upstairs. The floor plans show the arrangement of these rooms to be both comfortable and convenient. The estimated cost of this house, using good quality oak flooring downstairs and edge-grained yellow pine flooring upstairs, and hardwood trim throughout, is about \$3,000 under favorable conditions of the market for labor and materials.

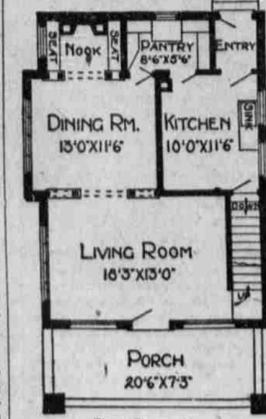
A Difficulty.  
 Harry Thurston Peck, the unfortunate litterateur who killed himself in Stamford, was once talking to a young man at Columbia about the art of writing biography.

"When you write a biography," he said, "you must keep yourself in the background. Foster's biography of Dickens is ruined by the continual presence of Foster blowing his own



all their labor and savings may not be wiped out in flame.

The development of Portland cement concrete during recent years has done more to help along this fireproofing campaign than any other single factor. At the prevailing prices of the material entering into concrete construction—viz., Portland cement, sand, and gravel—substantial fireproof houses



are being put up at a cost only about 10 or 15 per cent greater than for ordinary frame buildings of this same design and size.

The accompanying design shows a very attractive, well-built house, planned on thoroughly modern lines, and constructed in such a way as to be as nearly fire-resisting as any house could well be. Concrete blocks are used for the foundation and first story, while the second story is of cement plaster on metal lath. The roof is of dark green slate. It can easily be seen that a house of these materials would be in no danger from adjacent buildings if they should be on fire. It is interesting to note in this connection,

horn. This defect is the most frequent one in biographies.

"Righter isn't satisfied with the book he's now at work on," a jester once said to me.

"How can that be?" said I. "Righter is so conceited that—"

"But at present," the jester interrupted, "Righter is doing a life of Napoleon, and he finds it rather difficult to make himself out as more important than his hero."

## Rifle With Binocular Sights.

A new rifle, which the sportsman rests against his forehead instead of against his shoulder, is described, with illustrations, in Popular Mechanics magazine. Two telescopes form the sighting device, by means of which accurate shooting is possible at distances impossible with the usual type of gun. The inventor, an Ohio sportsman, is experimenting, used a gun having a range of about fifteen hundred yards and a penetration of three-eighths of an inch of boiler steel. A binocular telescope of peculiar design is combined with the gun, and makes it unnecessary to squint the eye in sighting. A padded plate, shaped to the forehead, is so arranged that the recoil of the shot is entirely taken up by flat springs.

## Thoughts Higher Up.

John Thompson was a good husband, but he possessed a weakness for constantly teasing his wife about dress. One day he found her sitting by the window. "Watching the styles, Emmy?" he asked. "Now, John, give me credit for having thoughts higher than dresses now and then," she answered. "Then, you must be thinking of a new hat," he retorted.—Lippincott's Magazine.

## On the Trail.

"Do you see that man going along with his head in the air, sniffing with his nose?"  
 "Yes; I know him."  
 "I suppose he believes in taking in the good, pure ozone?"  
 "No; he's hunting for a motor garage, I believe!"—Kansas City Star.

# A MODERN ALADDIN

By Robert H. Moulton



HOMAS B. WELLS of New York and Spring Lake, New Jersey, claims no kinship with the mystic Aladdin, who, we are assured, could by the simple process of rubbing a magic lamp summon the genii and cause them to execute any commands their master might give them. But Mr. Wells seems to be about the nearest approach to that wonderful young gentleman of which we have any record, for he produces results almost as marvelous and his methods are similar. About the only difference is that, instead of a magic lamp, he uses the modern electric switch, while the mystic electric current takes the place of the genii.

Mr. Wells has recently brought into being the first private electric house. According to his own story he was forced into doing it. While a wealthy old man, Mr. Wells objected very strenuously when the bills, which came in from the electric lighting company, showed that he was being charged 18 cents per K. W. hour. Protests availing nothing, Mr. Wells determined to become his own electrician. Here are some of the things he has succeeded in doing: Making ice for \$9.006 per pound; lighting and heating his bungalow; doing the cooking, washing and ironing and mixing drinks; running an electric fountain for table decoration; an apparatus for drying hair, massaging face or heating curling irons, and a vacuum cleaner; mechanically mixing bread; beating eggs, chopping meat, slicing potatoes; freezing ice cream; boiling coffee; making toast; sharpening knives; buffing silver; operating a sewing machine; electrocuting mice—and he's still working on new things.

Mr. Wells' first move was to install in his bungalow, which is really a costly summer villa, a ten-horsepower gas engine with the necessary equipment for manufacturing current. Immediately the cost of lighting his house was reduced from 18 cents to one cent per K. W. hour. This engine, of the four-cycle, water-cooled gasoline type, is directly connected to a five K. W. generator, supplying direct current at 115 volts. This set, with gasoline at 15 cents per gallon, produces current on a fuel cost of about three and one-half cents per K. W. hour.

While extremely well pleased with the solar plexus job he had handed the electric light company in lighting his own house, Mr. Wells was not satisfied. The abundance of current set him to thinking and later to experimenting and inventing with the idea of making it work not only after sunset, but all through the day. What he accomplished in a few months has already been chronicled. His house today is undoubtedly the most perfectly appointed and smoothly working electric dwelling in the world, a fact which is due in large measure to two comparatively recent inventions—the Edison storage battery and an automatic controller which regulates voltage.

Along with the gas engine there are located in the rear of the Wells bungalow 100 storage batteries. By running the engine only seven hours enough current is stored up in these batteries to supply the house for a week. By an ingenious device, the engine, which is self-starting, is automatically shut off as soon as the batteries are charged. The automatic controller keeps the voltage the same whether one light or fifty are turned on at the same time. The battery requires no attention, with the exception of an occasional addition of distilled water, for which purpose an automatic filler is provided. Moreover, it can be left standing indefinitely in either charged or uncharged condition, in either a hot or a freezing climate, without the slightest injury. This last is a very desirable feature where the plant is to be used only in summer.

One of the most interesting parts of this "electric house" is the kitchen. This contains an electric range and an electric power table; the latter is operated by a quarter-horsepower motor, and is mounted on castors so that it may be moved to any part of the kitchen and attached to a wall socket. It is a great time and labor-saver and very sanitary, as food prepared on it does not come in contact with the hands. The various attachments for grinding coffee, slicing vegetables, freezing ice cream, heating eggs, chopping meats, mixing breads, etc., can be put in position in a few seconds.

The electrical washing and ironing machine, which is operated by a sixteenth-horsepower motor, has cut the combined work of washing and ironing by hand from three and a half to four days to one to one and a quarter days for the entire job. The dampest laces may be washed absolutely clean without fear of injury, and the machine handles the heaviest blankets and thoroughly cleans them. The electric ice-making plant enables Mr. Wells to make 60 pounds of ice daily and maintain his ice box with a refrigeration capacity of 250 pounds besides, for the modest sum of 15 cents.

The equipment of the dining-room is equally perfect, with its array of electric percolators, toasters and chafing dishes. Two real novelties

here are an electric drink mixer, and a tiny electric fountain in the center of the dining-room table, the water playing over subdued colored lights, producing a unique and very beautiful effect.

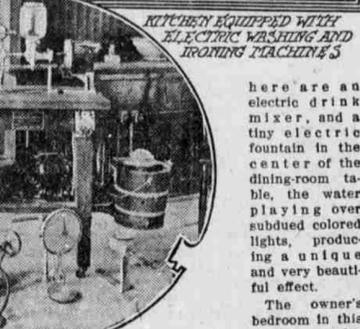
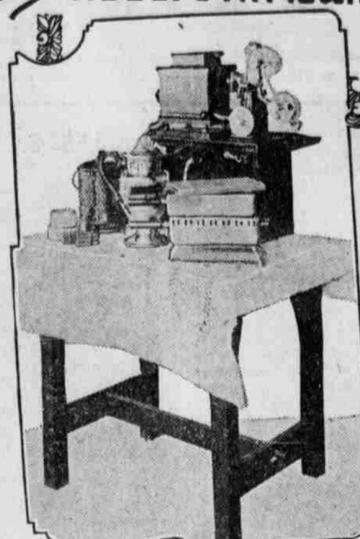
The owner's bedroom in this electric wonder house contains everything that the comfort-loving could desire. In the dressing-room are an electric heater for the curling iron, an electric hair dryer, which supplies both hot and cold air, and every necessary appliance for massage treatment worked by the same means. Even electric pads take the place of the old-fashioned hot water bags.

Mr. Wells' success does not mean that the next man, who objects to the exorbitant prices charged by most electric companies for "juice," can follow the same plan independently, for the cost of installing an individual plant is high. Mr. Wells, however, has figured out a rather interesting solution of the isolated plant, which he calls the "block system," intended to cover equipment for a block of ten residences, supplying each with 75 16-candlepower lamps, 100 pounds of pure ice per day, and power to run small motors, such as are used on sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, silver polishers, etc. The total cost of equipment

## NEW MANNER OF WAR SPYING

Less Romance and Less Cruel Risk Involved in the Use of Airships.

Aviators attached to the United States fleet have been flying over the field for 20 miles inward from Vera Cruz and report what they find. They have been able to observe very closely the location and strength of the federal troops, the situation and nature of fortifications, the condition of rail-



roads and bridges—in short, all the things it is necessary for an invading force to know about the nature and resources of the defending force. And this information has been secured without great risk, it is likely. The flight of the aeroplane may not even have been noticed in some cases. This is the new century form which war spying takes. No one penetrating the enemy's lines in disguise, no risking certain death to find out by stealth what the commanding general must know. The work of a spy in former times may have had romance in any case, glory, if it was successful, but it was always attended by cruel risk.

Not that spying by aeroplane would be without risk, in case of actual war. An aeroplane might not be an easy thing for sharpshooters to hit, but some way will be found to keep the aviator interested. Perhaps they will send up other aeroplanes to make duels in the air. Perhaps they will get field guns that will disable an aeroplane and kill the aviator. But

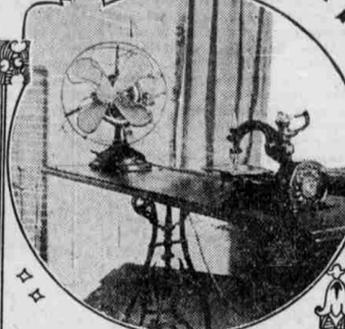
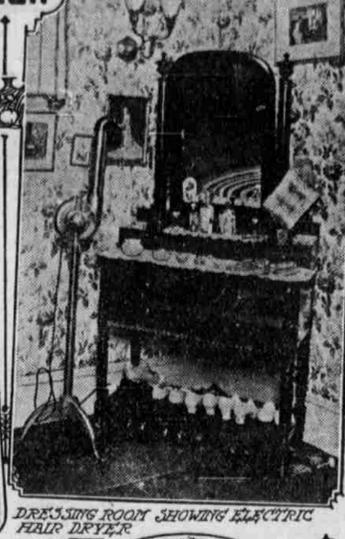
until something worse than is now known is discovered, the aviator will have more than a fighting chance and considerable advantage. At the worst it is better to trust to the chance of the free air rather than to be caught like a rat in a trap.

Not So Well Trained.  
 Yeast—Does your dog growl when you go home late at night?  
 Crimmonbeak—Oh, no; I've got him pretty well trained, but my wife growls, all right!

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for such a plant, Mr. Wells has figured, would be \$4,130, or \$413 per house, and the fuel cost \$270 per year, or \$27 per house. The cost of current would amount to only \$0.911 per K. W. hour, as against 18 cents charged by most electric light companies.

Data furnished by Mr. Wells, covering cost of installation, operation and maintenance of a 15 K. W. generating set operated on producer gas, for a block of ten houses. Prices given are list for new apparatus of approved type. Coal figured at \$4 per net ton for No. 1 buckwheat, delivered at plant. Figures do not include attendant, but plant requires the attention of one man for but one hour a day:

COST OF EQUIPMENT.	
Engine, 28 H. P. on producer gas.....	\$1,500.00
Dynamo, D. C. 140 amp. 110 volts.....	310.00
Gas producer, 25 H. P.....	625.00
Ice plant, installed.....	1,200.00
Installation, engine, dynamo and producer	500.00
Investment per house.....	\$4,135.00
FUEL COST.	
(Thirteen-hour Run Per Day.)	
Sixty tons No. 1 buckwheat coal (per year).....	\$240.00
Sixty gallons oil.....	30.00
Yearly fuel cost.....	\$270.00
ADDITIONAL EXPENSE.	
Interest on original investment (year).....	\$206.75
Depreciation, at five per cent per year.....	171.00
Repairs, per year.....	100.00
Fuel, per year.....	270.00
Total cost per year to operate plant.....	\$747.75
Cost per house per year.....	74.75
Cost per house per month.....	6.23
Actual monthly cash payment per house.....	3.09
Cost of current per K. W. hour.....	.911

## HATRED OF THE GRINGO

Americans should not forget, in considering the present unhappy complications in Mexico, that throughout all the Latin republics south of the Rio Grande there is an abiding hatred of them, the Kansas City Journal observes. This animosity is not always openly expressed, especially when Americans possess visible means of resentment. But it always exists. The character of the Mexican is complex and strange. He is an admixture of odd races and he is influenced by many active characteristics. Proportions vary greatly as the scale descends from the pure Castilian to the troglodyte Indian, and there is every conceivable combination of mental and physical elements in the Mexican makeup. But there is one unchanging and uniform quality common to all, and that is distrust, fear and dislike of Americans.

If one were to seek a leaven that might bring homogeneity of interest and purpose to a majority of all those of Latin blood, he could find nothing more potent than firing the powder of hatred toward Americans. And this is the thing which we must take very seriously into account at this time. Insurrection is a chronic condition among Mexicans. That is their somewhat strenuous method of "playing politics." They do not take their intranational differences nearly as seriously as we suppose. Their political battles are fought with rifles. It is true, but their sentiments are highly volatile and are subject to quick change. If, therefore, we in America witness the somewhat pleasing spectacle of our own people laying aside at a moment's notice their political differences and all getting behind our president in a common cause, we must consider that to a very great extent the Mexicans will take the same kind of action.

Already reports come from various points in rebel territory that the Mexicans are ready to stop fighting among themselves and welcome an opportunity to turn their guns on the "gringos." This is natural and logical. Their disposition to fight must have some outlet. Under ordinary circumstances they are content to fight each other, but they will throw themselves into conflict with a national enemy with surprising zest. They have no real grievances against each other. They fight among themselves for power, for money, for spoils and for the pure enjoyment of the spectacular battle incident. Turn this disposition against a foreign foe hated for generations and the Mexican people will be a serious antagonist to cope with.

And, finally, it should be kept in mind that the dense ignorance of the Mexican masses has distorted their ideas of geography and history. Probably not one in a hundred of them believes that the United States could whip Mexico. They are common braggers. They have no conception of this country's vast resources, its amazing development and its military and naval power. Their fear of us is not based so much on our military prowess as upon that mysterious respect which the ignorant mind has for commercial and industrial supremacy. All over Mexico Americans have been pushing railroads into mountain fastnesses, opening gigantic mines, constructing great warehouses and conducting marvelous business enterprises. These things constitute a permanent affront to Mexican pride. So let us not assume that castigating Huerta would not mean war with a united Mexico, for in all probability the whole country would have to be combated in a stubborn and costly struggle.