

UNCLE SAM'S KEEN DEAL

Details of a Scheme to Save \$20,000,000.

AN IRRIGATION LAKE PROPOSED

United States Government is Building a Dam in New Mexico Near El Paso, Tex., Which Will Pay For Itself and Thwart Large Mexican Claim—How Farmers Will Be Aided.

About ten years ago a Mexican collector called at the office of Uncle Sam and presented a bill for \$20,000,000, says an El Paso (Tex.) correspondent of the St. Louis Republic.

But Uncle Sam could not see how he should be held responsible for this, and though the collector called frequently he could never make Uncle Sam acknowledge that what his people did in Colorado should be grounds for damages to people in Mexico.

The last proposition evidently set Uncle Sam to thinking and finally, out of his Yankee shrewdness, he evolved a scheme which for business and diplomatic finesse is almost unparalleled.

"See here! I absolutely refuse to acknowledge that I owe you \$20,000,000. If I did I would settle it, but I don't. Now, I will make you a proposition, which is fair, and will repair all the damage which you claim my people in Colorado and New Mexico have done to your people.

The bill collector, or, rather, the minister, reported the proposition to the Mexican government, and as the offer was more than generous, it was accepted. The only question was how was it to be done, but Uncle Sam had planned that out.

Sixty miles north of El Paso, in New Mexico, the Rio Grande flows through a deep canyon, sometimes as a mere trickle of water and again as a mighty flood, almost filling the canyon.

Therefore the dam is to be built big enough and strong enough to hold as a reservoir most of the water sent down in flood time, not preventing in the least the usual flow of the river, but to supply enough water to irrigate 180,000 acres of land in New Mexico and Texas, as well as furnish abundance for the 60,000 acres in Mexico.

The expenditure of \$7,200,000 to satisfy a \$20,000,000 claim would strike the average business man as a fairly good stroke of business, but Uncle Sam had planned deeper than that.

The 100,000 acres in New Mexico and Colorado, well irrigated, will bring forth abundant crops, and farmers would lose no time in taking advantage of the opportunity of securing this land when the government was behind the irrigating privilege.

It is evident that if \$4 a year be paid upon each acre for 180,000 acres for ten years the total will be \$7,200,000 and that Uncle Sam will recover all of the money which he expended in making the dam build up many prosperous farms, satisfy Mexico and not lose a cent on the transaction.

It is proposed that this dam shall be completed in five years. Bids have been received at Washington for the preliminary work, costing \$200,000, for the diversion of the river by means of a canal in order that the dam may be built with the least possible delay.

In connection with this deal of Uncle Sam's it should be borne in mind that the flow of water which ordinarily courses down the bed of the Rio Grande will be rather increased than diminished, as the dam will be constructed with gates to allow a steady current, but the lake will hold in reserve much of the flood water, which heretofore swept everything before it and disappeared in a short while, leaving the river in that section of the country but a pitiful brook, exasperatingly inadequate to the farmers' needs.

North Carolina's Grape Crop. An immense grape crop has been harvested at Medoc, N. C., says a correspondent of the Littleton Times-Herald. The writer was informed by Mr. Vincent that the crop would reach 12,000 bushels. The old Barn building has been replaced by a beautiful structure 45 by 145 feet and filled with casks that hold from 1,000 to 20,000 gallons each.

HARRIMAN'S NEW RAILROAD.

Kentucky Darks' View of Illinois Central in Its Early History.

The Illinois Central railroad, which recently passed under the control of Edward H. Harriman, the American railway king, runs through a large district of southern Illinois familiarly called "Egypt" out of deference to its largest town, Cairo, says the New York Times.

"Well, Uncle Sambo," said the railroad builder as he hung up the gourd on the well sweep again, "don't you do any work at all?"

"Me? Yass, sahr. I work six months every winter on a flatboat on dat river yonder."

"What for?"

"No, sahr. Ain't nevah goin' to be 'nough work on your railroad to keep no man busy six months in the year. Can't you see dat river yonder, flowin', flowin'?"

"Yes, What of it?"

"Well, sahr, de Lord he made dat river to float things down on, and der ain't no use buildin' a railroad to enter into competition with de Almighty."

HIS MILLIONS FOR THE POOR

Alvarado Says Libraries and Universities Do Not Feed the Hungry.

Pedro Alvarado, owner of the Palmito mine at Parral, Chihuahua, Mexico, whose wealth is estimated at more than \$150,000,000, announces that he will distribute \$10,000,000 or more to the poor of Mexico within a short time.

This young man, who six years ago was a poor miner, offered to pay the government debt of Mexico some time ago, but the offer was declined, says a Galveston (Tex.) special dispatch to the New York World. He is going to see President Diaz and renew the offer.

He says he got his vast wealth from the earth which is a part of Mexico, and he proposes that his poor countrymen shall share his good fortune. His plan is not to give cash, but to provide homes and land for the poor and equip them so they can earn their living at trades or on plantations. He promises to make 10,000 Mexicans independent, to educate as many poor children and to give away a few millions every year. Already for several years he has been a liberal giver to the poor and has built churches and schoolhouses.

"To erect monuments, establish libraries and endow great universities is to but help the rich and their children," he thinks, "but it neither feeds the body, clothes the naked nor saves the souls of the deserving poor. I propose to give away much of my wealth before I die, for none of it I can take with me, and only a fool would hoard wealth while half the world starves."

MUTUAL SPANKING BEE.

Girls and Boys Spanked in Turn at Football Celebration.

The wildest, noisiest celebration of a football game ever seen in Chicago shook the downtown hotels the other day, says a Chicago dispatch.

Twenty Minnesota rooters took possession of the Great Northern lobby, dining rooms and corridors. They marched upstairs and down, singing and shouting. Encountering another party of boys and girls from Minnesota, the leader shouted:

"Let's initiate the girls!" adding, "Girls, it has been decided that each of you be spanked."

Then he seized a stately blond, carefully but firmly placed her across his knee and gave her a rousing spanking. A second and a third met a similar fate. By this time each boy had a girl across his knees, and amid laughter, shrieks and screams, while the hotel guests looked on, the "first degree" was given.

Then the girls attacked the boys and in many instances administered a hearty return for the initiation they had themselves received.

The Pace of Admiralty.

It is reported that Japan will see the Dreadnought and go Great Britain 8,000 tons better, laying down a battleship of 23,000 tons service displacement. Of course the mistress of the seas will not ignore the challenge, and we must prepare to hear of a British battleship of 26,000 tons, says the Boston Transcript. The Japanese, being a proud and progressive people, will not sit still and may be counted on to push the building mark on their side up to 29,000 tons. By that time our own big ship enthusiasts will wake up, and the taxpayers will be invited to contribute the cash for a floating fortress of 32,000 tons. So does the race for naval supremacy go, the mind of the competing world being at present fixed upon displacement as if there was no other factor to be taken into account.

National Apple Day.

At the Jamestown exposition, to be held next year, there will be a special day set aside to be known as apple day, says the American Fruit and Nut Journal. The national fruit will have a big showing made in its behalf, commensurate with its deserts as the most popular fruit known. The department of congresses and special events has set aside Tuesday, Oct. 15, as national apple day.

WOMAN AND FASHION

Neat and stylish.

Dainty simplicity is expressed in this pretty little negligee, developed in cream colored figured challis. The mode is characterized by rare neatness and good style and has that trim appearance preferred by many for a garment of this kind.



A Dainty Negligee.

ment of this kind. Deep plaits are stitched to yoke depth in the front and extend to the waist, a belt of the same material holding the fullness in place around the waist. The elbow sleeves are finished by turned back cuffs.

Modish Veils.

The extra long veils are not being worn much this season, for the demand is for veils that are a yard and a half or two yards in length and from eighteen to twenty inches wide.

In the lace hat veils fine net mesh with a ring dot with either narrow or wide borders or those of Chantilly lace are effective, though some prefer the fine mesh with tiny chenille dots and a border of lace woven into the net. Then, too, round velvet dots are used for veils finished with lace borders. Most of these borders are floral, and copies of roses, lilies of the valley and conventionalized flowers, and all have scalloped edges.

Stiff Collars Are Smart.

It is now the fashion to wear with any style of shirt waist a stiff turned down collar of hand embroidered linen. Even with the finest lingerie and colobed waists stiff collars are now frequently seen, for at present all collars must be just as high as the neck will allow, and it has been found practically impossible to keep a soft lingerie collar band in place. Then, too, the silk ribbon bow is always of a becoming color and takes away from the possible simplicity of the waist. With a severe tailor jacket the bow in front is most attractive, as it fills in the flat shaped opening.

For the Small Girl.

For girls between the ages of six and ten there is no style of school dress more attractive than these one piece costumes. If they are made from serviceable materials, such as heavy linens, serges, cashmeres or noretvias, they will give entire satisfaction. With two dresses of this kind a child can be well dressed the winter through. They should be worn alternately, and while the one is in use the other can be cleaned and repaired, if repairs are necessary. Dresses that are worn in this way last much longer and always have a fresh look.

ONE PIECE SCHOOL DRESS.

It would be well to have a change in color, and then one does not tire of the style. A dark blue and one of the new shades of brown would be a good choice, or brown and a pretty shade of dark red. However, with the embroidered white linen collar coming between the dress and the face, it will permit a choice of colors which otherwise might have to be eliminated.



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Short Coats Again.

The reign of the short coat may practically be said to have only just begun, and it has been received with such favor on all sides that there is every indication that it will be very popular throughout the season. In some cases the coat fits closely at the waist, the basque extending about two inches below but a number of the new models are cut with short waisted effect at the back, the basque itself barely reaching to the hips.

Humor and Philosophy

By DUNCAN M. SMITH

FERT PARAGRAPHS.

A cheerful view of life is mightily promoted by a good digestion and something to digest.

Most men propose because they somehow feel that it is expected of them.

There are figures and figures, as any woman can explain in a jiffy.



When a nagging wife drives her husband to drink, he is usually a nag that is very willing to be driven.

Here is the difference: Though pleasure is often work, work is just work.

Some imaginations are so strong that the possessors have to wear ballast in their shoes to keep imagination from soaring off the earth with them.

Superstition comes in to help bolster up the structure when common sense gives out.

It is easy enough to originate a good idea, but the trouble comes in when you try to get thick headed people to indorse it.

It costs two sets of nerves and all the money that a man and woman can find to raise a family.

Reform seems to be needed every where except in our own intimate vicinity.

A true patriot is a man who represses his genius and doesn't try to save his country.

Playing With Fire. If you feel that an injustice has been done you, brother, dear, do not jump into a lawsuit.

Though you have a case that's clear, though you may not for the trouble be in any way to blame, just remember you are biting at the other fellow's game.

Though the lawyer may be anxious to induce you to begin, telling you in his opinion it's a case that you will win, think about it good and plenty ere you hand him out a fee; the expenses may be greater than the full amount would be.

Lawsuits and the funny business where the constable is strong are constructed for the lawyers—that's the way they get along. Solemnly they may assure you they will get your money back, but you'll not when it is over. You are holding but the sack.

When you fall out with a neighbor (whose account or weight is short) it is well to count one hundred ere you drag him into court. Better hand him out a twenty, if you're bound some cash to spend. Than to sink it in a lawsuit. 'Twill be cheaper in the end.

Obvious. "How can you swear so?" said she. He glared at her. "It isn't how can I. It is how in the can I help swearing?"

Rough on the Blind. There is a movement on foot to prevent the blind from marrying the blind. If the blind lead the blind to the altar there is said to be reason to fear that they will be leading blind children about in a few years.

It is said that love is blind, though the neighbors are not. That is the reason it so carefully pulls down the blind. However, it is not this kind of blindness that the legislators are asked to deal with.

Blindness that comes from love is neither serious nor permanent, for marriage is a great eye opener. After the knot has been tied the lovers can see lots of little things that escaped their observation before marriage. But in the case of men and women who are actually blind marriage does not effect a cure.

Wasted Effort. "What are you doing, my dear?" "Do let me alone. I'm trying to think."

"Dear me, why will you insist on such hopeless efforts?"

Quite an Idea. "Why do you find young Flathead so amusing?" "He has an idea."

"Indeed, what is it?" "That he can think."

Talked Plain Enough. "Do you understand women?" "Sure, except when they sing. No one could understand them then."

NEW SHORT STORIES

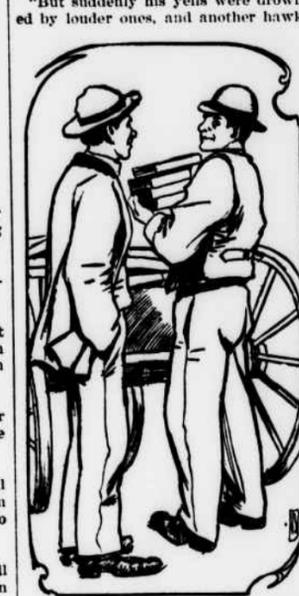
Secret Combinations.

T. Burr Thrift, president of the National Amateur Press association, talked at the annual convention in Philadelphia about the trust evil, says an exchange.

"Trusts, combinations," said Mr. Thrift, "have many striking advantages, particularly if they keep their operations secret. This fact was impressed on me in my boyhood by an incident that I saw in the streets of Cleveland.

"As I was idling in the streets one afternoon a hawk's cries assailed my ear. The man had a truck filled with paper and envelopes, and in a loud voice he yelled:

"Here you are! Box of paper an' twenty-five envelopes on'y a dime!" "But suddenly his yells were drowned by louder ones, and another hawk



HE PILED A LOT OF STOCK ON THE EMPTY TRUCK.

er, crowding the first out of the way, jostling him rudely, shouted as he pushed along a bigger truck:

"Five cents—only a nickel—box of paper an' twenty-five envelopes! On'y one nickel!"

"The trucks came near colliding. The two men glared at each other. The spirit of competition and rivalry ran high, and the people, drawn by the shouts, hurried from their houses.

"And, finding that the two kinds of paper were identical, the people bought up the cheaper sort hungrily. I was amazed to see the business that the nickel man did. As for the dime man, poor fellow, he shouted on lustily, but it seemed that the louder he shouted the more of his rival's stock the people bought.

"Finally the sales ceased. Everybody had bought enough paper to last a year. The dime man departed first, and the nickel man left a few minutes later. I followed to see a repetition of the rival sales in the next street.

"The dime man, to my amazement, was waiting around the corner, and as he piled a lot of stock on the other's nearly empty truck I heard him say, with a chuckle:

"It works fine, Bill, don't it?"

A Woman's Question.

The late Senator Hoar of Massachusetts was sitting with his wife on the porch of his house in Worcester when two express wagons drove up and the men unloaded five enormous boxes on the sidewalk.

"What on earth is that, Mr. Hoar?" asked Mrs. Hoar.

The senator went out and peered at the boxes. Then he answered proudly: "My dear, these boxes contain the staircase from an ancestral home of the Hoar family in England. I bought it when I was in England."

"Indeed?" replied Mrs. Hoar, not a whit impressed. "And what do you intend to do with it, may I ask?"

The senator was fabbergasted. At last he said, with great dignity, "Mrs. Hoar, that is merely a woman's question."—Saturday Post.

The Joker Joked.

Ex-Delegate Rodey of New Mexico tells this story in Washington: In a southwestern town two friends arranged a plan to "take in tenderfoot."

One would boast before strangers, flourish his revolver and say: "See that man down the street smokin' a cigar? I'll shoot that cigar in two!"

Crack! Back would come the yell, "Hyar, Bill, you stop spollin' my cigars!" The stranger was usually duly impressed. But one day a tenderfoot demurred. "I'll bet \$10 you can't hit a barn door at 100 yards!"

Bill and the stranger went around the corner. A shot was heard. Then Bill returned, looking green.

"That tarnation greenhorn," he growled, "set that barn door up edgewise!"—Detroit News.

An Unhealthy Business.

Miss Olga Nethersole at a reception given in Philadelphia in her honor told a quaint little story about actresses.

"There was a country girl," she began, "who laid down her knitting, with a sigh, one night and said:

"Ah, mother, how I'd like to be one of those great actresses or singers on the stage!"

"Would you? said the mother uneasily. 'I don't know. It's an unhealthy business, isn't it?"

"Why? Is it?" asked the daughter. "It must be," said the mother. 'Don't you always see their names in the papers telling how they've been taking tonics and patent medicines and so on?"

Notice of Contest.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE.

GREAT FALLS, MONT., Nov. 24, 1906. A sufficient contest affidavit having been filed in this office by Florence Morrow, contestant, against homestead entry No. 1375, made January 23, 1904, for the E 1/2 SW 1/4 section 12, E 1/2 SW 1/4 section 13, township 23 north, range 7 east, by Harry P. Geibach, contestee, in which it is alleged that said contestee has wholly abandoned said tract, that he has changed his residence therefrom for more than six months since making said entry; that said tract has not been settled upon and cultivated by said contestee as required by law and that said contestee has departed from the state of Montana and his whereabouts cannot be ascertained, said parties are hereby notified to appear, respond and offer evidence touching said allegation at 10 o'clock a. m. on January 3, 1907, before Chas. H. Boyle, U. S. Commissioner, at Fort Benton, Montana, and that final hearing will be held at 10 o'clock a. m. on January 10, 1907, before the register and receiver at the United States land office in Great Falls, Montana.

The said contestant having in a proper affidavit, filed Nov. 27, 1906, set forth facts which show that after due diligence personal service of this notice can not be made, it is hereby ordered and directed that such notice be given by due and proper publication.

J. M. BURLINGAME, Register.

COAL

Burn GALT, LUMP and NUT

In Stoves and Ranges.

NELSON LUMP and EGG

For Furnaces and Steam.

CHAS. CREPEAU, Local Agent

Leave orders at Center Meat Market

GEO. D. PATTERSON & SON.

BUYERS and SELLERS of LIVE STOCK.

FORT BENTON, Mont.

Or ST. PAUL PARK, MINN.

THE ENTERPRISE

RESTAURANT.

LEE GEE & BRO., Proprietors.

Front Street - Fort Benton

CLAUS PETERS,

Licensed Embalmer and Undertaker.

Bond Street. : : Fort Benton

J. B. LONG & CO.,

Opposite Park Hotel, Great Falls, Mont

Our specialty is buying sheep on orders for our customers. If you have any for sale for delivery in the spring, or after shearing, write us giving description and price.

We make no charges.

HIRAM F. SMITH.

Cattle branded on right ribs.

Horses same brand on right shoulder.

Vent for cattle and horses, same brand on right hip.

P. O. address—Whitlash, Mont

Note—Address is given wrong in brand book a H. T. Smith, Highwood.

GEORGE L. OVERFIELD.

Cattle brand as shown on cut; also R-O on left hip only; R-O and R-C on the right ribs.

Increased brand on left ribs or thigh from fall of 1904.

Ear mark, open in left and split in right.

Vent 1 on the left shoulder. Horses branded R on left shoulder. Range, Shoshone and Arrow creek. P. O. address, Fort Benton.

MILNER CATTLE CO.

M. E. MILNER, Pres. and Manager, Fort Benton, Montana.

Main brands as shown in the accompanying cuts.

Also own all cattle bearing the single "square" brand, and all rebranded cattle bearing only cross P.

Also own brand on right hip called "square 2."

Horse brand on left thigh.

Range from: Bear Paw mountains eastward to Fort Peck between the Milk and Missouri rivers. Also south of the Missouri river, between Arrow creek and Bel creek, Shoshone range.