The Meschacebe

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Have a Farm, on Uncle Sam. At the last session of congress Uncle Sam made it possible for a landless man to possess a block of land a mile square. For years it has been comparatively easy for one pe son to homestead 160 acres of land, but by this new law a man may get possession of 6: acres practically free. He has only to pay an entry fee of \$14. The new measure is known as the Kinkaid law, and under its provisions a tract of 8,844,757 acres of Nebraska land was thrown open to settlement. It is a poor man's measure, says the Chicago Tribune, for under it no person who owns more than 160 acres of land anywhere may avail himself of the offer. It was intended to benefit largely the pioneers who have home ed 160 acres, and who desire to add land contiguous to their homesteads.

atead tract i the age of 21; every married man under the age of 21; every widow, every minor orphan child of a deceased soldier, or any person who is the head of a family by the adoption of a minor child, and who is a citizen of the United States, may homestead 640 acres of this land for the same fee charged by the government for 160 acres in other fates. A man with three sons and two enmarried daughters, all past the age of years, may take up six sections, or 3 5.0 acres, of this land in a compact pody, making a large cattle ranch, that will cost only the required residence of five years. The owner must guarantee. however, that the improvements for the term of five years shall ave age \$1.25 an acre. If the owner wants his patent in a hurry he may get it at the end of 14 months' residence on the land by paying down \$1.25 an acre. It is not considered that these lands are suitable for farming, but they are worth five dollars an acre for grazing purposes. It is claimed that a man who understands his business may care for 100 head of cattle the year around on a section of this land. The tract is in western Nebraska, crossed by three railway systems, one on the north, one in the center, and one on the south. Most of it is between the Platte river and the South Dakota line. Such towns as O'Neil, Ainsworth, Valentine and Chadron are on the north; Broken Bow, Ancott. Seneca, Hyannis, Ells

In the United States we are prone to talk too much. We do not sufficiently appreciate the value and beauty of silence, declares a Chicago Journal writer During the after business hours, at the lunch and dinner table we talk on and on without ceasing, as though there was nothing worth thinking about. We invented the first talking machine, and no American is considered properly equipped unless he can talk at all times and upon all subjects. Information must be imparted and ideas exchanged; it is essential to mental companionship and develops our faculties of expression. But there is no necessity for the endless and sterue: talk in which so many of us incure. There is a great force and value to silence. It enables us to think. 1: forms and expresses character. The great men of the world were relatively silent men; they talked only when they had something to say, and the greatest of them said but very little. We should study the beauty of rather than our talking power.

To Get Men to Church.

Discussing a statement that co per cent. of the men of the country do not attend church the Washington Post thinks that whatever the per cent., the attendance of men is notably smaller than that of women, and, seeknot attend church the Washington smaller than that of women, and, seekpreachers is that they do not atte power If their sermons are virile and attractive, if they deal with the daily problems of life, if they help men in meeting and conquering the tempta-tions which constantly beset even the most moral, they will find plenty of mascultue auditors. It is, unfortunately, true that more women than men at tend chur h. A little self-examination on the part of the ministers may result in a larger proportion of attendance of the masculine sex."

Gov. Hoch of Ponsas is giving the state a "John" administration. That is the first name of the bank commissioner, hen stock commissioner, state ancountant, state grain inspector, secretary of the board of control, regent of the agricultural collège, state agent at Washington, member of the Hutchin son referenatory board, one member of the grain commission, asswant state grain inspector, State archi: inf the covernor's private se The Johns of history have up and en good

HIGH - CLASS FINANCIERING.

How a Government Bureau Chief Obtained the Salary for an Extra Clerk.

The tables adopted by the government on July 1, 1904, for determining the salaries of its various employes are fearfully and wonderfully made, is the view of many clerks who received pro motion in the latter part of the month of February, says the Washington Star. For instead of receiving more pay on the last day of the month, they actually received less than if they had not been promoted at all. The anomaly is accounted for in this way:

A \$1,600 clerk serving for the full month of February would receive one-twelfth of \$1,600, or \$133.33; but if promoted on February 28 to \$1,800, would then receive twenty-seven-thirtieths of \$133.33 (\$120) and one-thirtieth of \$150 (\$5), or a total of \$125 for the entire month. He would thus lose \$8.33 by being promoted.

The possibilities of the thing are best illustrated by a recent occurrence in one of the government bureaus, where the clerks are paid from a lump appro-priation. The official in charge found

That official, upon investigation. found that the state of the appropriation would not warrant such an expenditure, and so advised his subordinate. Th latter, however, was not discouraged, and set about to find a way to get around the obstacle. He did it in this way:

On the first day of February he appointed Buster Brown at a salary of \$600. He waited until near the end of the month before he set the machinery in operation to raise the \$50 required to pay Buster his salary, and this is the way it was done.

He selected from the roster of clerks in his office one clerk in each grade to be promoted to the next higher grade on the last day of the month, the prome tions to be for only one day. Thus, Willie Wiggins, a \$1,600 clerk, was promoted to \$1,800, and he forfeited \$8.33 for the privilege. John Jones was advanced from \$1,400 to \$1,600 and it cost him \$7.23. Reggie Reynolds was elevated to \$1,400 from \$1,200, and he had to stand his landlady off to the tune of \$6.11 on his board bill. Birdie Blackeyes was popular in the bureau and she went up from \$1,000 to \$1,200 but Birdie's pin money was shy just \$5 the next month as a consequence. Chollie Chugwate lost \$4.72 by going from \$900 to \$1,000 and Carrie Nation forfeited collatera to the amount of \$4.50 when she found that she had accepted an advance from \$840 to \$900. Billy Bright discovere that his jump from \$780 to \$840 had de-

This made nine promotions in the bureau, but still the amount saved was only \$47.39, or \$2.61 less than the amoun required to pay Buster his salary of \$50 How was that \$2.61 to be raised?

pleted his bank account to the amount of

\$4.17 and Hank Hankinson found that

Nothing easier. Buster himself was promoted to \$660, and thereby received only \$46.83, or \$3.17 less than he would have received had he remained in the \$600 class for that one day, and the official in charge of the bureau had 56 cents left over for "necessary incidental

Ten promotions were made and the services of an additional clerk for one month were gained and the government came out 56 cents ahead of the game by means of the salary tables authorized by congress for use of the government departments.

OLDEST TREASURY CLERK

Passing of a Department Employ Who Had Served Since 1563.

William F. Dean, a 93-year-old clerk, who was employed in the treasury department, died a few days ago at the home of his stepdaughter, Mrs. Ar-nold S. Yantis, in Auburn, N. Y. Ac-companied by his wife, Mr. Dean had he heavy knows, he walked from his tome, 1518 Kingman piace, to Four centh street, where he took the cars Mr. Dean has been married twice, and leaves a number of children.

Ex-Congressman "Billy" Bynum, of Indiana, and Compitolier of the Transury Tracewell meet regularly two or three times a week and play billiards in a Washington room. Like school-boys playing marbles "for keeps," these big fellows wrangle over the game. Bynum is getting a little hard of hearing and haces he does not do so very much and heace he does not do so very much talking but Tracewell argues point like a lawyer in court, and his point like a lawyer in court, and his voice is not as mild as a summer zephyn, either. He has been told that he "plays an eloquent game of billiards." At times both will become sulky and quarrel furiously, but when the chee are replaced in the rack they become the best of friends again, only to break out once more when next they meet at the billiard table.

a senator of the United States, and one of the 19 who voted against the conviction of Andrew Johnson in the impeachment proceedings. He served in the war as an officer in a Kansas evalry regiment. Of late years Mr. Ross has lived in poverty, working as best he could at the printer's trade in New Mexico.

PLEASED WITH HIS LOT.

Complete Contentment of a Farmer Caller at the Agricultural Department.

James Wilson, of Iowa, farmer by instinct, politician by profession, and secretary of agriculture by appoint ment, has always believed that scattered throughout the United States there are thousands and hundreds of thousands of men who are farmers, first, last and all the time, by grace of inclination; who love the simple lives they lead, and who would not exchange the freedom of the fields for the bondage of the cities, no matter what the worldly inducements might be. But even the secretary could never have hoped to meet such an enthusiastic farmer as a visitor to the department the other day proved to be, reports the Star, and the sad thing about the whole affair is that the secretary was at the cabinet meeting when the visitor arrived at the agricultural department, and that he has merely the word of his subordinates for the act ual presence in his office of this fleet ing vision of a contented farmer.
For nine years the secretary has

department department. been talked of and referred to and quoted, but a genuine, full-grown specimen, warranted of the home brand, and in possession of all his faculties, has never been seen within the walls of the temple of agriculture

The visitor of the other day didn't attract much attention at first. He was big and angular, and he walked with the gait of those who follow the plow and who tramp daily over freshturned furrows. Moreover, his face was tanned by the sun almost to the tint of mahogany, and his hands were big and rough and scarred.

"I stepped in here," he said to a clerk in the secretary's office, "to see if I couldn't get some more bulletins. They're mighty interesting reading and, what's more, they're plumb truth-

"You want bulletins on subjects connected with the farm?" the clerk inquired.

You're mighty right," replied the visitor. "Farming and stock raising. That's what I'm interested in. I was brought up on a farm and if I have my way, I'm going to die on one. There ain't nothing like it."

"It is a pity more people don't think that way," the clerk remarked, with a smile. "It seems to me I hear of discontented farmers right along, but never of a contented one.

"Well, take a good look at me. son, the big man replied, good naturedly, "for I'm a farmer without a kick Trouble is with these people who do all the growling, they ain't cut out

time his crops go back on him do you

suppose he sits up and growls? Do

you suppose he blames it on Provi-

dence or on the weather, or anything like that? Not a bit of it. He just

cratches his head and begins to think

about things, and, ten chances to one

he'll find out before he's through that

"Some people think farming is such hard work," remarked the clerk, to keep the big man talking.

"Hard work!" the visitor cried. "Not a bit of it. Why, it's just fun and play, that's what it is. In the spring,

when there's ground to plow and seed

to sow, it's just fine. Never did smell anything nicer than fresh-turned earth

As for following the plow, it's simply

a stroll. You can look around, if it's

a fine day, and just naturally take all

the beauties of nature to yourself, and

if it's gray and damp, why you can just wonder what kind of a day it's

going to be to-morrow. And harrow-

ing and sowing, why that ain't hard

ued the contented farmer, after a

interesting to watch them grow and

so well, it's fine to sort of take them

by the hand and lead them till they can walk by themselves. And then

feel good, too, and if they ain't, then

of a profession for me, if you can sail it that, and that's farming. Tell the secretary I was in, and that I some from out his way."

The contented farmer left his name and address, and if he reads all the bulleting that are sent him in the near future if is a prefix said but that his

future it is a pretty safe bet that his land will not be cultivated up to the mark. Meanwhile Secretary Wilson

is happy in the thought that the long-sought ideal of the temple of agri-culture halls from Iowa.

One of the many private pension bills which passed the house recently

provided for increasing the pension of Edmund G. Ross from \$12 to \$30

a month. No one recognized the name, and the bill went through with the

mass of others, but the man was once

a senator of the United States, and

And when you come

urge them on.

"And as for the rest of it." contin-

it was his own fault, some way

other.

FLOORS RUG-COVERED.

Stained Hard Pine May Be Put On Over Old Floor and No Soap for Oiled Surfaces.

The hygienic advantages of floors covered with removable rugs instead of dust-collecting carpets are so well known and realized that the tendency now is to have bare floors and rugs for the sake of comfort and convenience as well as to follow the trend of fashion. Good hard wood floors are blessings that certainly are anything but disguised, for they always look well, form a pleasing contrast to any kind of rugs, and above all they are easy to keep clean. In case, however, one has an old floor of soft wood that is hard to treat satisfactorily and the laying of a hard wood floor is not possible or practical, a floor of hard pine put down on top of the old noor may be made to look almost as well as one of expensive hard wood. For this pine floor a stain, one of those especially prepared, should be used, a light or medium color being preferable to a dark one, and it should be remembered that several thin coats will wear much better than one thick on After the stain is put on the floor with the coats will be oiled or matched with group to retain the natapplied cold. Great care should be taken to have the floor perfectly.

taken to have the floor perfectly clean for any spot not removed before the oil is put on is there to stay and cannot be washed off afterward. After the oil is thoroughly dry a coat of varnish may be applied, or a better result obtained by using a wax preparation to be found at any drug store, rubbing It in well with a flannel cloth and then polishing.

Oiled or stained floors can be kept in good condition by wiping them off once a week with a soft cloth wrang out in warm water, into which a little borax has been dissolved. It is not necessary to use soap, as the boran cleanses thoroughly and without any injurious effects.

In this connection it is well to state as a gentle reminder or possibly as a valuable piece of information that plazza floors should be oiled at least once a year, the springtime being preferable. Nothing preserves wood that is exposed to wind and weather as well as a good application of oil, and three coats should be applied, allowing each coat to dry thoroughly before the next one is put on.—Brooklyn Eagle.

CARING FOR THE THROAT

Deep Breathing with Dashing of Cold Water and Use of Antiseptic Tooth Wash.

The throat is subjected to so many forms of irritation that the proper care of it is essential to comfort, and

ger that even a trivial catarrh may extend to the larvnx or ear and impair the voice or hearing. Children become afflicted with ca-

tarrh chiefly as a result of adenoids or enlargement of the tonsils, or they may fail to recover fully from an at tack of measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough or diphtheria. Adults often bring it upon themselves through improper food and drink or bad habits influence of excessive tobacco smoking in the production of cancer is fully recognized, but not sufficiently heeded. All forms of irritation may be aggravated by conditions incident to certain occupations, as well as by unfavorable climatic influences.

In the absence of abnormal conditions, a great deal can be done for their prevention by daily cold bathing of the neck, gargling with cold water, proper care of the teeth, exercise deep breathing with the mouth closed and the avoidance of unnecessary muffling in winter. Voice culture is the stimulating influence of the movements and vibrations. Singing, readpause, "that's just play, too. All the ing aloud and oratorical practice crops have to be worked up, and it's should be encouraged on this account.

During protracted illness, especially when there is fever, antiseptic across some of them that ain't doing tions should be used for gargling or with an atomizer when gargling can not be practiced. They are a

Make a rich pie crust, roll out thin and cut into round cakes with a cookle cutter, line a pan with the thin cakes, then take a thimble and cut out three small pieces from the remaining layers. Lay these on the others, and bake in a quick oven. When done lift the top piece off, and cover the lower layers with jelly, then place the other piece on ton in tart then place the other piece on top in tart form, and press carefully together. The jelly will rise through the thimble hole, in the top piece, and looks very pretty.

To Clean Decanters and Water-Bottle Cut some soft brown paper into little squares, soap them well, roll up into little balls, and put into the de canter with a few little pieces of soda; half fill with warm water, shake thoroughly for a few minutes, empty out the paper and soapy water, rinse in clean water, when they will be found clean and bright.

French Dressing.

One tablespoonful of vinegar to three of oil, half teaspoonful of salt, quarter teaspoonful of pepper. Mix the oil, pep-per and salt together, stir the vinegar in

ULCERS FOR THIRTY YEARS.

Painful Eruptions from Knees to Feet Seemed Incurable Until He Used Cuticura.

Another of those remarkable cures by Cutieura, after doctors and all else had failed, is testified to by Mr. M. C. Moss, of Gainesville, Texas, in the following letter: "For over thirty years I suffered from painful ulcers and an eruption from my knees to feet, and could find neither doctors nor medicine to help me, until I used Cutieura Soap, Ointment and Pills, which cured me in six months. They helped me the very first time I used them, and I am glad to write this so that others suffering as I did may be saved from misery."

We never could understand why the girl who puts up lettuce leaf sandwiches for the spicnic gets married sconer than the one who prepares the satisfying ones of ham and mustard.—Chicago Tribune.

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There is hardly enough flattery in the ressed in the petition on man, who has

Piso's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'Brien, 322 Third Ave., N., Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1900.

Some men are born to fame and some achieve it by raising a hig crop of iridescent whiskers.—N. Y. Times.



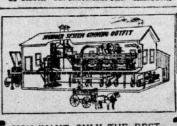
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