

TALES FROM BIG CITIES

"Uncle Joe" Cannon; Fair Exchange; No Robbery

DANVILLE, ILL.—Folks in this neck of woods are having a good laugh at the expense of "Uncle Joe" Cannon. It isn't often anyone gets the laugh on Uncle Joe. He cut his eye teeth some years ago—he was born in 1836, and you can figure for yourself about when that stage in his development was completed. Incidentally, the fact that he was born of Quaker parents in North Carolina did not appreciably retard the operation. Illinoisans say that he gave positive proof of the success of the operation in 1853, when he began to practice law in Douglas county. Anyway, he was smart enough, they say, to open an office in Tuscola—where he was the only lawyer. Tuscola is also the place where he opened his first bank. Anyway, Uncle Joe came home when congress quit to enjoy the shade of his own vine and fig tree and other delights of spring in the Sucker state—which wasn't named after him. All of a sudden it occurred to him that he'd pay old Tuscola a little visit. So he grabbed the first valise that came handy, picked it in a hurry and hustled off to catch the first train.

Of course nobody knows all that Uncle Joe puts in a traveling bag when he packs it himself in a hurry. But it may be safely assumed that he begins by putting in a liberal supply of those long, black cigars which are part of his smile that won't come off. It is also quite likely that he finishes packing by putting in some more long black cigars in case of emergency. Of course, somewhere in between he sticks in a stick of chewing tobacco. Well, Uncle Joe, being able to find the way around by himself, got to Tuscola all right. And when he opened his valise to get his nightie he found a postal map. And there were no long, black cigars—just a postal guide.

Evidently Uncle Joe and a postal clerk had exchanged bags.

Old Mrs. Two Toes Goes to Join Old Two Toes

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLO.—Old Mrs. Two Toes has been captured at last, and Albert McIntyre of the United States biological survey, who got Old Two Toes two years ago, is the lucky trapper. It was at least 12 years ago that the stockmen in the region at the headwaters of the Laramie river began offering rewards for the scalps of Two Toes and his mate. The killing of cattle worth \$3,000 in a single winter was no unusual thing for these two wolves. The most experienced trappers were brought into the region in special efforts to capture the pair, but the wolves were so cunning and wary that for many years they proved a special trap and even special wolf suits were all in vain. McIntyre went into the region in 1915. It took him two years to get Old Two Toes—and the capture was an adventure in itself.

At the capture of Old Two Toes went out through wolfdom that the old queen of the Laramie headwaters was without a mate. There was a big dog wolf over in the Castle region, near the confluence of the Eagle and Grand rivers, noted for his rapacity and cunning. He got the word and at once started for the headwaters of the Laramie. He has peculiar markings and his progress across Middle and North parks was traced with absolute certainty. He mated with the widowed queen. For two years litters of young wolves have been brought forth high up on Bull mountain in the lodgepole pines and down timber. The crafty old queen hid them so well that the government trappers could get only a few of the young wolves. Her teeth were badly worn from age, but her new consort was a good provider and her cunning was as great as ever.

With the scalps of Old Two Toes and Old Mrs. Two Toes hanging from his belt, McIntyre says the Laramie headwaters will soon be cleared of wolves.

Wanted: Anybody Who Knows How to Milk a Whale

SAN FRANCISCO.—How would you milk a whale? The answer to this question is eagerly awaited by at least two large companies on the Pacific coast, which have recently revived the whaling industry. Sport and industry combined have brought whaling back with a bang. Whale meat—10,000 to 12,000 pounds net per whale—is making its appearance on many a western dinner table. And now comes the strangest proposition of all—whale farming.

"If we could figure out how to run a whale farm," declares Eduardo Del-sarto of Santa Barbara, "we could supply milk, meat and other costly products to people all over the United States. The sea cow beats the land cow ten to one. Won't somebody please tell us how to handle the job?" Del-sarto sets forth the fact that a mother whale, at a single milking, will yield 3,000 pounds of the richest milk—a quantity that makes the world record of Tilly Alzartra and her Holstein descendants look like a mere thimbleful. The only trouble is—to get it.

Del-sarto has taken his proposition up with the United States department of agriculture. He proposes "farms" in the many islands off the California coast whose coasts could be fenced off into "barnyards."

"I Been Steppin' Aroun' Some. I'll Say I Have"

CHICAGO.—Working as a porter in the People's Savings and Loan bank at Sidney, O., comes trisome to Albert Henderson, colored, so one day when he saw the safe open he helped himself to \$7,200. A seven weeks' search ended at 2 o'clock one Sunday morning when a squad of detectives arrested Henderson at 3208 La Salle street.

In the meantime Henderson had enjoyed all the luxuries which his heart craved, including a house at 5131 South Wabash avenue, which he purchased for \$5,000. His automobile is at Milwaukee, where he motored a few days ago and was "pinched" for gambling. He says an attorney attached the car for bondsman and legal fees. The detectives all testify to his esthetic taste. A massive brass bed with a canopy was in the La Salle street flat, also mahogany furniture, including a grand piano. An easy chair, in which Henderson took his after-dinner siesta, cost the trifle of \$75.

"I jes' wanted to see how it felt to be a millionaire," said Henderson. "The safe door was open an' I knew there was a lot of 'jack' in a satchel. I jes' reached my hand in an' took the satchel an' walked away with it. Believe me, boss, I been steppin' aroun' some since I left Sidney. I shuah have tasted of the joys of this life. I'll say I have."

Good-by, Old Scissors Grinder, With Familiar Bell

NEW YORK.—Do you remember the old scissors grinder with his grindstone set on two wheels who used to walk along the sidewalks ringing a bell to call attention to his presence? Well, he has gone the way of all things primitive in this age of progress, or if he hasn't entirely disappeared he will pretty soon.

He is seldom encountered now, his place having been taken by an up-to-date mechanic and helper whose workshop, on four wheels, is driven by a gas engine.

Yes, sir, somebody saw the great possibilities in the knife and scissors grinding business and is making a fortune out of it. The work is now done mostly by a big company which has a dozen or more automobiles that look something like circus wagons and are fitted up with every modern convenience for sharpening tools. These wagons may be seen any week day, in all sections of the city, drawn up at the curb, with their gasoline engines chugging away, turning the machinery with which the tools are sharpened.

Up-to-date business methods are observed in place of the haphazard, pay-as-you-go kind. Contracts are made with big hotels, butcher shops, restauran-tiers, tailors and other places where sharp implements are used. Scissors sharpening is now only a small part of the business. Knives, shears and saws are the implements chiefly handled by the big automobile grinders and the little grindstone man with his bell has been driven far into the suburbs in order to eke out a living.

Allegiance to Spring Styles



No wonder the French are fond of beige. Time demonstrates that we never grow tired of this refined and beautiful color, which ranks with white in these two particulars. Besides this, it goes well with all other colors, as white does. The spring is welcomed by many a pretty suit in beige-colored wool and many rich and handsome ones in beige-colored trico-lette and other silk weaves. The one-piece dresses reveal this color a favorite with their designers, often in combination with other colored fabrics or brightened by rich embroideries.

A suit of beige tricot shown in the picture is a fine example of harmonizing color and design. Here there is the same "class" in the design as in the cloth. It is made with a plain skirt, and very neat machine stitching is an important detail in its finishing. The skirt is steep length and just wide enough for comfortable walking. The neat effect of machine stitching is emphasized by placing it on narrow panels, rounded at the ends, that are applied around the coat. It appears again on the front of the coat, where a wide panel is cut to form pockets at the sides, and again on the narrow belt of the tricot. The small, round buttons are covered with the cloth.

The second suit is of gray wool ve-lours, with a rose-colored vestee of combed wool, which is a smart detail that lends its character. Besides its vestee, this suit takes advantage of the vogue for small buttons set in a row, to proclaim its allegiance to the decrees of fashion. It is perfectly tailored and has practical pockets to recommend it to the tailor-made girl. Its wearer is correct in the matter of shoes to wear with it, selecting low-heeled oxfords, and a brilliant rough straw hat crowns the costume perfectly.

Silk Thread for Children's Wear.
Always sew children's wear with a No. 1 quality silk thread—the best to be had. In the long run it will prove the best paying investment in your children's clothes that you have ever lit upon. Silk thread is stronger than cotton; it does not roughen in the laundering nor is it so brittle and inclined to break off or snap in the seam. In gingham, percales and other fabrics of children's wearing apparel the silk sinks deep into the mesh of the goods and holds far better with a thread of similar quality and texture as the apparel. Numerous mothers have vouched for the value of this practice.

Vagaries In Blouse Styles



Combed wools and angora yarns are playing conspicuous parts in the spring styles. They appear everywhere, the combed wool in accessories of suits and coats as vestees, collars, cuffs, and the yarns in embroideries on dresses and millinery and in other forms. As nothing escapes the industrious eyes of the designers of waists the vogue for wool embroideries soon brought grist to their mills, for they appropriated the idea and have used it on blouses, adding one more to the many interesting vagaries that make the blouses of the season attractive. One would not expect wool yarn to travel hand in hand with georgette crepe, but it does, and successfully, as is witnessed by the blouse shown in the picture.

This model is of dark plum-colored crepe, ornamented with scattered spirals of beige-colored embroidery. Its front is extended into a little apron rounded at the bottom. Fancy stitching finishes the hems and outlines the round neck, and these are of silk like the pendant silk ornaments, which tie the ends that are sewed to the front of the blouse. The tie ends are unexpected, but altogether charming as a finishing touch. The

sleeves have a close-fitting cuff fastened to a flowing upper sleeve. The other waist is of taupe-colored crepe, with front and sleeves embroidered with silk of the same color. It is another one of the several models that have extensions below the waistline, and it contrives a very original management of this feature of the styles by having two long tabs at each side gathered into silk tassels. Besides achieving this something new, the blouse has another merit in a very wide, soft girdle of the georgette, and it takes advantage of the opportunity to use a small sailor collar on the round neck. Many round-necked blouses are finished with frills.

Hats for the Kiddies.
Chambray hats for the kiddies have again appeared this season, and these show stitched brims and large, puffy crowns of the fabric, with wide black velvet bands and streamers, and sometimes trimmed with little gingham flowers.

To Enliven the Spring Costume.
The first thing is an imported beaded bag made like the handkerchief bags your small niece used to send you at Christmas. The background is of blue beads, in a shade brighter than navy, and the flowers and foliage are worked out in natural colors. The under part of the bag is navy silk, from which dangles a tassel of beads. The bag draws up through a ring of beads by a bead handle. The next bag is a descendant of the cany-bag, which has had its day of popularity. It is black, of pin seal, and is fitted with coin purse and mirror top. The last bag is another imported one of beads. It is of blue with red and white motifs. The open top may be drawn tight through the rings.

One-Piece Frocks.
There are to be many one-piece street frocks of cloth and wool and tricolette worn during the early spring, to be replaced later by silk Jersey and lighter weight clothes.

GREAT EVENT FOR MOSLEMS

Gala Day When the "Procession of the Holy Carpet" Leaves Cairo for City of Mecca.

Always picturesque, Cairo is never more fascinating than during the "Procession of the Holy Carpet." In the bazaars we watch the barefooted workmen embroidering, holding the cloth in their toes, which appear to be prehensile, or watch them go to the nearest mosque to bathe five times a day. As many times a day also from the minarets of mosques the muezzins are reminding the natives of the approaching festival, and that "God is great, there is no God but God, and Mohammed is his prophet. Come to Prayers!"

Howling devils are dancing in the mosque near the Square of Sitten Hasan, while devout Moslems are engaged in eventful prayer on their housetops. Water carriers are on the way to the yellow Nile for water, or are bearing wine in their goatskins the same as in Biblical times, while aged men in the mosques are appareled exactly as in Abraham's day.

The streets are filled with soldiers, while thousands of civilians attend the ceremonial held in the sacred prophetic enclosure in the great square near the canal. The enclosure is a pyramidal wooden structure covered with embroidered stuffs emblazoned with gold embroidery and quotations from the Koran. Here the people receive the blessings of the prophet, together with special dispensations and sacred talismans.

The khedive and his dignitaries are all present to formally start the caravan and its military escort toward Mecca, in far-off Arabia. The people press forward to touch the sacred inclosure, kissing it with fervor. Women let down their shawls and face veils from the windows, as the procession at last starts. Following it are the pilgrims who will accompany the carpet to the sanctuary in the mosque at Mecca, and who will return later with the same caravan to Cairo, bearing the carpet of the previous year.

Marriage in Bulgaria.

Since Bulgaria's unconditional surrender to the allies the men of her armies have been straggling homeward and many weddings are being celebrated in consequence.

Bulgarian methods of entertaining before the wedding do not differ materially from those of other nations except that the bride instead of having her trousseau carefully put away in the "hope chest," from which she only takes it for the privileged few, hangs it up on cords which are stretched across the main room of the house. Here it is viewed on the Friday before the wedding by all the matrons of the town, while the bride and the maidens dance before the door and remain there until the matrons have given their full criticism of each garment, and if they disapprove of them the girls must help the bride make them over until "suitable."

Instead of rice, corn as an emblem of plenty, is showered over the bride and groom, who are escorted to their home with many ceremonies and they are virtually imprisoned within its doors.

New Uses of Raw Products.

The Weltmark directs attention to new uses of some raw products. In Holland a useful gum or paste is being made from garlic. The bulbs are pressed and the juice or fluid matter so obtained is thickened by inspissation. A good substitute for cork is obtained from certain fungi, which are dried and ground, mixed with cement and consolidated by pressure. In Norway a process has been patented to enable carbide to be used for driving motors. In Denmark a company has been floated to make briquettes from heather. These have a higher heat value than peat. Experiments are being made to use chalk marl, especially that which comes from the Limburg mines, as a manure.

Typhoon Hurt Coconut Trees.

The Christmas typhoon which swept over the southern Philippine islands did considerable damage to the coconut plantations. Trees, especially those along the seashore, and places most open to the wind, were either blown down or weakened to such a degree that unless the affected groves are cleaned up and taken care of, the trees still standing are doomed, but for another reason, says the bureau of agriculture. The fallen trunks will become breeding places of all manner of beetles, borers and other coconut destroying pests and diseases. The weakened trees, unable to fight these odds, will sooner or later succumb and thus the farmers will suffer more losses.

Got Him at Last.

He was a large, dapple-gray, sensible-looking horse. It was his task to pull a baker's wagon from house to house in a district on the North side, as the driver dodged in and out of the houses with his basket of bread and cakes.

"Fritz," called out the driver as he ran down the porch steps, intending that as a notice to his faithful friend to move on down the street. The horse did not move.

"Charlie," spoke up the driver again, and the old dapple-gray stepped off promptly.—Indianapolis News.

Uncle Eben.

"Owin' to de way smarter men dan I is has got mixed up in arguments," said Uncle Eben, "whenever anybody 'splains de league o' nations to me, I jes' says 'yessir' an' goes on 'bout my business."

Maybe.

"You can catch anything if you have the right kind of bait," remarked the facetious fellow. "For instance, a man can take a little angle worm and catch a fish and the same man can take a little dinky street car and catch a train."

Meaning of Style.

Style is that indefinite something which enables one of the younger and prettier neighbor wags to wear her boudoir cap in a way to set off every line of her figure.—Ohio State Journal.

WASHINGTON SIDELIGHTS

Three Flying Circuses to Aid the Victory Loan

WASHINGTON.—Three flying circuses of American, French and British flyers in American and captured German Fokker planes will tour the United States in connection with the Victory Liberty loan campaign, giving aerial sham battles and acrobatics over 50 leading American cities.



Fourteen captured German Fokker planes have been landed at Newport News and shipped to Washington. The best types of American planes developed during the war will be demonstrated. Each squadron will be carried in a special train of 11 cars, traveling at night.

Six of the best British flyers developed during the war will participate. Eight French flyers, one of whom phers of the signal corps will accompany each squadron. Photographers of each of the American cities visited; the planes will be dropped from the airplanes by parachute and hurried reproductions made for the benefit of the residents of all cities visited. Parades will precede the flights.

The general program to be followed in each city visited will be as follows: Two American scout planes will rise to drop Victory loan literature over the city. Four "German" planes will then attack these two American planes in the air. Four American planes will then drive off the "German" planes, and the flyers will give demonstrations of aerial acrobatics.

Washington Memorial to Bishop Francis Asbury

IN THE last hours of the Sixty-fifth congress Representative Charles H. Sloan of Nebraska made an address in favor of senate joint resolution authorizing the erection on public ground in Washington, D. C., of a memorial to Francis Asbury. No appropriation is asked; the funds have been raised by subscription. Congress is asked to give a site. Who was Francis Asbury? Doubtless the average American citizen does not know. Mr. Sloan said among other things:

"He was born in the parish of Handsworth, England, August 20, 1745. Early called to active militant church service, he became, in 1771, the elder Wesley's 'proconsul' for America. He was a patriot, standing with the people whom he hoped to serve in their struggle for an independent nationality, while every one of his coworkers sent from England by Wesley went back to the mother country."

"The seashore and the great river banks had the important settlements of America. Many of them would have furnished a suitable home for a bishop, but this he did not desire nor would he have it. He believed that the outpost of American civilization should be the outposts of Methodism. He would be a commander to lead a charge rather than to order an advance made. So from 1784, when he was ordained a bishop, till 1816, when he passed to his reward, no road was too long to travel, no river too turbulent to cross, no storm too fearful to venture, no savage that he would not face, no civilized man or mob he would not confront.

"At the Saratoga general conference in May, 1916, on the commemoration of the centennial of Bishop Asbury's death, Judge Henry Wade Rogers in a masterly address, said:

"Asbury preached about 16,500 sermons; traveled about 270,000 miles, most of it on horseback, some of it on foot; presided in 224 annual conferences, and ordained more than 4,000 preachers. In addition, he was writing more than 1,000 letters a year."

Will December 31 Be the National Wedding Day?

YOUNG men contemplating matrimony will do well to bear in mind the latest interpretation of the law. The man who was married at any time during 1918, a commissioner has ruled, is entitled to tax exemption for a wife for a full year. Thus, he whose ceremony took place at 11 p. m., December 31, 1918, wins all of his \$2,000 exemption—less, of course, the wedding expenses. On the other hand, he who married at 1 a. m., January 1, 1919 (and likely enough there were some such), might just as well have been married way back in 1917.

In Denver an enterprising reporter took a look at the 1918 marriage record and found that 13 couples were married on December 31. Denver has a population of 260,000. This is to say that December 31 there was one marriage to 20,000 people. If there were marriages December 31 all over the country in the same proportion among our 110,000,000 people, the total was 5,500. As each marriage carried with it an exemption of \$2,000, the aggregate exemption was \$11,000,000. In short, the account stands thus: Tax exemptions, \$11,000,000, without the expense of wives for a year and with only wedding expenses to be considered.

Will this bring about a radical change in the popular wedding season? Will December hereafter be the season of brides and June be thrown into the discard? Will December 31 be the one great marrying day of the whole year? Will it come to be the big national holiday of the year, bigger than Christmas, the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving day? Will it be combined with New Year's day in a double holiday?

United States Has \$574,000,000 for Good Roads

WITH full state co-operation, according to the terms of the federal aid road act, the United States will have a total of at least \$574,000,000 for co-operative road building during the next three years. The federal part of this fund is assured by an extra appropriation of \$209,000,000 in the post-office appropriation bill passed by congress.

Officials of the bureau of roads, United States department of agriculture, which administers the provisions of the federal aid road act and co-operates with the state governments in the expenditure of the money, point out that this amount of funds is the largest ever appropriated for similar purposes and for a similar period by any government in the history of the world. In connection with the great federal aid program it is also noted that expenditures for highway work in the United States this year are likely to amount to \$500,000,000 or more. On reports received from state highway departments the bureau of public roads estimates the 1919 expenditures for roads and bridges at \$385,000,000, or \$116,000,000 more than the average expenditures for 1916 and 1917.

The new act will raise the government limit of contribution from not to exceed \$10,000 a mile to not to exceed \$20,000 a mile, taking account of higher present costs of labor and materials.

An American Hero Gets Platinum for Uncle Sam

NOT all the American patriots at the front get decorations for duty performed. The story of how the United States obtained its supply of platinum during the war, and how a business man, Charles L. Preston of Massachusetts, went through hardships that led to his death in order that munition makers might not lack for a sufficient amount of metal, is thus told by William C. Redfield, secretary of commerce:

"Platinum is one of the few things not produced in this country, and it is absolutely necessary during certain processes in the manufacture of explosives. Russia produces platinum and we had to obtain it there. The price went up until it was \$95 to \$105 an ounce. During the latter days of the czar's reign and during the early days when Kerensky was in power we sent commissioners to Russia and they gathered platinum worth about \$3,000,000.

"But we found soon we needed more, and the situation was rapidly becoming worse in Russia. Mr. Preston was in Vladivostok waiting for orders, and the revolution was in full swing. We cabled him that we needed 30,000 ounces. Mr. Preston was serving without pay, but he crossed Siberia and suffered up platinum wherever he could. He went through Russia and suffered greatly, as he could not get enough to eat. Finally he got together 23,000 ounces and reached Japan with it. He had it brought to the United States. Four hours after he reached home he fell dead at the feet of his wife as a result of the hardships he had undergone."

