

# UNCLE SAM PROFESSOR of LITERATURE

UNCLE SAM has gone into a new business. Not satisfied with coining money, raising chickens, acting as messenger boy, doing a real estate business and attending to a thousand and one other jobs which he has selected for himself, he has decided to become a professor of literature in the University of the Common People. To this end he has just instituted one of the most novel schemes ever inaugurated—a course in literature for the benefit of all the people of the United States and its insular possessions.

The bureau of education is at the head of this university of literature, a university where the sole cost of tuition is to evince interest in the lessons, a university which confers certificates of merit in lieu of degrees and guarantees that all students will receive benefits in direct ratio to their application.

Dr. P. P. Claxton, commissioner of education, is the man who is at the head of the literature movement, and from all indications the course will be an exceptionally popular one.

"We are receiving scores of applications every day from persons who desire to share in the benefits of our reading courses," Doctor Claxton told me when I inquired as to the response which the movement was meeting with. "If the applications continue to come in at their present rate—and there is hardly a day that does not show an increase over the day before—we shall be hard put to handle all the correspondence attached to the courses, and congress will have to make additional appropriations for the betterment of the literary taste of the people.

"It was in order to bring about this betterment in the state of the reading public," continued Doctor Claxton, "that the bureau of education decided to institute this series of courses in literature. At present we have ten divisions of the main course mapped out. These are:

- "The great literary Bibles.
- "Masterpieces of the world's literature.

- "A reading course for parents.
- "Miscellaneous reading for boys.
- "Miscellaneous reading for girls.
- "Thirty books of great fiction.
- "Some of the world's heroes.
- "American literature.
- "Biography.
- "History.

"Seven of these courses have been completed, and we are engaged in answering hundreds of queries concerning them. The other three will be finished in a short time, and then the government will be in a position to do a most humane thing—to tell persons of every age what they ought to read if they desire to improve their minds. That, of course, is the primary object of this literary course, and we firmly believe that if only a fraction of the persons who have already evinced interest in this movement apply themselves to the work which we have mapped out, the improvement in the literary taste of the country at large will be marked."

In discussing the first of these courses Doctor Claxton said: "Among all the books of the world a few are so pre-eminent for content and style that they deserve the right to be called the 'great literary Bibles,' the foundation stones upon which rests the entire literature of the world, of whatever language or age.



DR. P. P. CLAXTON, COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

MISS ELLEN C. LOMBARD, SECRETARY OF CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

"These are the 'Iliad' and 'Odyssey' of Homer, the 'Divine Comedy' of Dante, and the great dramas of Shakespeare—'The Merchant of Venice,' 'Macbeth,' 'Hamlet' and 'Othello'—and Goethe's 'Faust'.

"These books should be read by all who would know the world's best literature and life. The bureau of education therefore has chosen them for its first course in reading, and we have been very pleasantly surprised to note that the majority of persons who have evinced interest in this movement have inquired particularly about the 'bibles' and their supplements, the 'literary masterpieces.' We have been of the opinion that the majority of people would find these selections a little heavy for their reading and would prefer the works listed under the fiction heading. But nearly every inquiry which has reached us from adults has specified that the writer desired particularly to familiarize himself with the 'first two courses.'

"To everyone who inquires concerning the course we send a blank, to be filled out and kept as a record in Washington, and a list of the books of the special courses designated. We advise that the reading begin as soon as possible and that, when possible, the books be taken in the order named. But this is not essential to the obtaining of the certificate of merit given by the government in lieu of the usual college or university diploma or degree when the student completes the entire course and submits satisfactory evidence of having read all the books on the first two lists within three years from the time of joining the reading circle.

"The second course is intended as a supplement to the first and includes nine books: Job, Isaiah, Deuteronomy, 'Prometheus Bound' of Aeschylus, Virgil's 'Aeneid,' 'The Nibelungenlied,' Cervantes' 'Don Quixote,' a number of plays by Moliere and Milton's 'Paradise Lost'.

"Completion of these two courses will firmly ground the student in what are usually known as the 'classics' and will enable him the better to appreciate the other and lighter reading to be found in the other lists.

"The reading course for parents, which is under the direct supervision of Miss Ellen C. Lombard, secretary of the home educational division, includes a number of books dealing with problems of everyday life in the home. The volumes on this list include books on practical motherhood, marriage, development of children, care of babies, domestic economy, shelter and clothing, domestic science and a number of pamphlets and bulletins issued by the department of agriculture and dealing with the canning and preserving of fruits and vegetables.

"The boys' course includes a few of the more exciting books upon the lists of American literature and the world's fiction, and in addition such books as 'Hans Brinker,' 'The Jungle Book,' 'Westward Ho!' biographies of Lincoln, Lee and Franklin, Cleveland Moffett's 'Careers of Dangers and Daring' and Bulfinch's 'Age of Chivalry.' The careful perusal of these books will, we feel, pay large dividends not only upon the moral character of the boy himself but upon the future welfare of the country at large.

"The girls' course includes only one or two of the books recommended for boys, but it parallels the other course in that it advocates the reading of a selected few of the world's masterpieces of fiction and the more juvenile of the American authors' works. 'Alice in Wonderland,' 'Little Women,' 'The Mill on the Floss,' 'Evangeline,' Helen Keller's story of her life and the four books dealing with house furnishing, the preparation of food and the physical side of girlhood and womanhood are among the other books recommended."

## THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

Oct. 18, 1914.

Severe fighting near Nieuport and in Alsace.  
Germans repulsed by Belgians at River Yser and by French at St. Die.  
Germans evacuated Courtrai. Austrians repulsed at River San.  
Serbians routed Austrians on the Save and the Drina.  
Anti-German riots in London.  
President Poincaré's country house destroyed by Germans.

Oct. 19, 1914.

Allies, aided by British warships, repulsed German advance between Nieuport and Dixmude.  
Germans attacked allied line from Ostend to Lille.  
Fierce fighting near Warsaw and Przemysl.  
Serbians captured Sarajevo forts.  
British battleship Triumph damaged at Tsingtau.  
Japanese cruiser Takachiho sunk by German submarine in Kiaochow bay.  
Austrian submarine sunk by French cruiser in Adriatic.  
Fifty thousand Belgian refugees returned from Holland.  
Irish nationalists in London took pledge to avenge Belgium.  
Italian fleet mobilized.

Oct. 20, 1914.

Germans gained near Lille.  
Battles along banks of the Yser, on the Arras-Roye line and on the Meuse.  
Allies reported recapture of Bruges.  
Przemysl forts badly damaged.  
Austrians advanced in Stryj and Stica valleys.  
Serbians won at Prekiet.  
British submarine E-3 sunk.  
Japanese fleet took islands of Marianne group.  
Two German ships sunk at Jalluit.

Oct. 21, 1914.

British monitors bombarded German right wing on Belgian coast.  
Allies repulsed German attacks at Nieuport, Dixmude and La Bassee.  
Heavy fighting on the Yser.  
Russians defeated German-Austrians in northern Poland and halted Austrians at the San.  
Serbians repulsed Austrian attacks in Bosnia.  
Cattaro again bombarded.  
German cruiser Emden sank five British steamships in Indian Ocean.  
All unnaturalized German and Austrian residents in England of military age ordered put in detention camps.

Oct. 22, 1914.

French retook Altirkich.  
General Helmuth von Moltke, chief of German general staff, retired on account of health.  
Russians defeated Germans near Warsaw.  
Russians captured many Austrians and some guns in Galicia.  
French and British warships bombarded German positions on Belgian coast.  
British cruiser Carmania damaged.  
American relief committee cabled \$50,000 to Belgians.

Oct. 23, 1914.

German right wing, re-enforced, gained ground at La Bassee.  
Heavy fighting between the Ghent-Bruges line and Roulers.  
Russians won battle along the Vistula and pursued the Austrians in Poland.  
Germans moved fortified positions to River Warthe.  
Austrians recaptured Czernowitz and announced capture of forts near Sambor.  
German aviators dropped bombs on Warsaw.  
Woman spies executed in Germany.

They Always Do.  
Does anyone think your son has a future? "Yes; the life insurance companies."—Life.

The Desired Consummation.  
"I'm troubled with a sense of fullness after eating," said the dyspeptic.  
"Good heavens!" exclaimed the healthy gourmand. "Isn't that what you eat for?"

The Main Thing.  
"Seems strange to me how many various sorts of inquiries the newspapers have about coins."  
"Why so?"  
"In my circle all a man wants to know about a coin is if it's good."

Too Much Sunshine.  
"Your boy Josh says he is the sunshine of the household."  
"Yep," replied Farmer Corntossel. "But there's such a thing as too much sunshine. Josh's perpetual cuttin' up around the place gets to be about as cheerful as a drought."

A Domestic Tragedy.  
"There goes the woman who caused a great breaking up in my home."  
"Who is she?"  
"The cook we've just fired for smashing our best dinner set."

Small Chance.  
"Do you ever expect to be married?"  
"Well, that depends. If I can find a girl with a million or two who doesn't want to be married for herself alone."

SAVED MINISTER'S LIFE.  
Rev. W. H. Warner, Frederick, Md., writes: "My trouble was Sciatica. My back was affected and took the form of Lumbago. I also had Neuralgia, cramps in my muscles pressure or sharp pain on the top of my head and nervous dizzy spells. I had other symptoms showing that my kidneys were at fault, so I took Dodd's Kidney Pills. They were the means of saving my life."

Waited for Orders.  
A drill foreman in Culebra cut sent a negro to the top of the mast on one of his drills to straighten out a rope which had slipped off the sheave. Just after the man went up the general foreman came along and talked about the job for half an hour. In the meantime the man on top of the drill was forgotten and after the general foreman left he was discovered still roosting on top of the mast. The foreman called to him:  
"Aren't you through up there yet?"  
"Oh, yes, sir, boss."

Getting Even.  
"There's a church near," said the country farmer to his paying guest; "not that I ever puts my nose in it."  
"Anything the matter with the vicar?"  
"Well, it's this way. I sold the old vicar milk and eggs and butter and cheese, and seeing as he patronized me I patronized 'im. But this new chap keeps 'is own cow and 'ens. 'If that's your game, I thought, 'we'll 'ave 'ome-grown religion, too.'"—Tit-Bits.

Some One Responsible.  
An angry man entered the water office of an eastern city the other day and fiercely announced to the clerk:  
"Str, you can send up and take your old gas meter out of my house."  
"This is not the gas office."  
"It isn't?"  
"No, sir; this is the water office."  
"Oh, it is! Well, then, send a man up to my house at once and turn the water off! I'm not going to walk a mile and a half for nothing!"

A Giveaway.  
"You seem to have a deep-rooted aversion to wrist watches."  
"You bet I have. Just suppose they should become so fashionable that we had to wear 'em. Every time a fellow pawned his watch the whole town would know it."

Lawyer's Little Joke.  
Little Lemuel—Say, paw, what is a stratagem?  
Paw—The diamond, my son, is one kind of a strata-gem.

Fitting Reception.  
"How do your women audiences take to your candy-making lectures?"  
"Oh, they just eat 'em up."

Their Use.  
"What are diplomatic posts for?"  
"They seem at present to be chiefly for international hitches."

Couldn't Blame It.  
The hotel was not a very good one and the traveling men knew it. Nevertheless they were obliged to go there when they came late at night to the little town. In the middle of the night one of them was dimly conscious that something was wrong. Suddenly he realized that the trouble came from a leaking gas jet.  
"Wake up, Bill!" he shouted, shaking his friend violently. "The gas is escaping!"  
"Well," growled Bill, "can you blame it?"—Ladies' Home Journal.

The Reason.  
"There is a great deal of snap about that marching."  
"No wonder; it's a crack corps."

The only blusterer from which a brave man will take a blow is the wind.

The War Spirit.  
A fat "colored mammy" of the "old school" was hauled into court for throwing her washing board at her neighbor's husband, a "Georgia Cracker" of the "poor white trash" variety.  
"Did you strike this man with a washboard?" Judge Broyles asked.  
"I spec' I did, yo honah."  
"Is the washboard the provocation?"  
"We wuz discussin wah, jedge."  
"Well—go on."  
"We wuz talkin' bout dem Germans, an' John's Bulls and dem Frenchmens, and he done said I was nutral, yo honah. I ain't gwine ter let no low-down white trash call me dat."

A Shining Mark.  
Hazel—Is he as stupid as he looks?  
Aimee—Oh, dear, no. He is the only heir of a millionaire uncle.

## The Kind You Have Always Bought.

THIS is the caution applied to the public announcement of Castoria that has been manufactured under the supervision of Chas. H. Fletcher for over 80 years—the genuine Castoria. We respectfully call the attention of fathers and mothers when purchasing Castoria to see that the wrapper bears his signature in black. When the wrapper is removed the same signature appears on both sides of the bottle in red. Parents who have used Castoria for their little ones in the past years need no warning against counterfeits and imitations, but our present duty is to call the attention of the younger generation to the great danger of introducing into their families spurious medicines. It is to be regretted that there are people who are now engaged in the nefarious business of putting up and selling all sorts of substitutes, or what should more properly be termed counterfeits, for medicinal preparations not only for adults, but worse yet, for children's medicines. It therefore devolves on the mother to scrutinize closely what she gives her child. Adults can do that for themselves, but the child has to rely on the mother's watchfulness. Genuine Castoria always bears the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

## WHY HE PASSED UNNOTICED

Fairy Had Discovered Sure Way of Making Himself Invisible—Anyone Can Try It.

Once upon a time there was a good little girl.  
And this good little girl asked her mother if she could go and play in the woods, and her mother said yes.  
So she went to play in the woods. And she was walking along, and what do you think she met? A fairy! And she was awfully surprised to meet a fairy, so she said to the fairy:  
"Where do you come from?"  
And the fairy said:  
"This is where I live."  
And the little girl said:  
"I never heard about any fairies living in these woods."  
And the fairy said:  
"No, because nobody ever saw me here before. But you are a good little girl, so I let you see me."  
And the good little girl said:  
"How do you manage to be seen by nobody, even though they walk right past you every day?"  
"I lend them money,"—London Answers.

Case of Must.  
"You're not smoking as much as you used to. Did your doctor order you to stop?"  
"No, I'm a martyr to fashion."  
"What's fashion got to do with smoking?"  
"If you saw my wife's dressmaker and milliner bills you wouldn't ask such a foolish question."

Reminded.  
"When the autumnal frosts touch the foliage with tints of red and yellow against the gray sky, doesn't that inspire you to thought?"  
"It certainly does. The reds and yellows make me think of the job ahead of me tending the furnace, and the grays make me think of the dust when I sift the ashes."

Those Dear Girls.  
Hazel—Harold tells me all he knows.  
Aimee—Indeed! Isn't the silence dreadfully oppressive at times?

## Don't Persecute Your Bowels

Cut out cathartics and purgatives. They are brutal, harsh, unnecessary. Try

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
Purely vegetable. Act gently on the liver, eliminate bile, and soothe the delicate membrane of the bowel. Cures Biliousness, Constipation, Bloating, Sick Headache and indigestion, as millions know. SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature

Has His Own Cage Now.  
"Squabbling and fighting—there's another very frequent cause of divorce," said Prof. L. Watts Ingersoll in an address before the Cleveland Antidivorce league.  
"A man had been haled before a Cleveland magistrate for nonsupport or some such fault.  
"But let me see," the justice said, "aren't you the man who was married in a cage of wild, man-eating tigers and leopards?"  
"Yes, your honor, I'm the man," was the reply.  
"Exciting, wasn't it?" said the justice.  
"Well, your honor," said the man, "it seemed so then. It wouldn't now!"

Lost and Found.  
"My husband lost his temper yesterday."  
"Well, from the way my husband acted this morning I think it's very likely he found it. I wish you'd send over and get it. We don't need it."  
"Do you know that girls often think more of a dog than they do of a man before they are married?"  
"Yes, and I've noticed that they often do afterward."

Hard to Damage.  
"Alpine scenery is very grand."  
"Very durable, too. I imagine it will pull through the war all right."—Kansas City Journal.

## BOOKS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNMENT

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| <p>The Great Literary Bibles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"The Iliad" and "Odyssey"</li> <li>"The Divine Comedy"</li> <li>"The Merchant of Venice"</li> <li>"Macbeth"</li> <li>"Hamlet"</li> <li>"Othello"</li> <li>"Faust" (Goethe)</li> </ul> <p>Masterpieces of Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Anna Karenina"</li> <li>"With Fire and Sword"</li> <li>"The Three Musketeers"</li> <li>"Pere Goriot"</li> <li>"Clarissa Harlowe"</li> <li>"David Copperfield"</li> <li>"Guy Mannerling"</li> <li>"Henry Esmond"</li> <li>"Ivanhoe"</li> <li>"Lorna Doone"</li> <li>"The Ordeal of Richard Feverel"</li> <li>"Pride and Prejudice"</li> <li>"Robinson Crusoe"</li> <li>"Tale of Two Cities"</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Cloister and Hearth"</li> <li>"Vanity Fair"</li> <li>"Vicar of Wakefield"</li> <li>"Romola"</li> <li>"The Luck of Roaring Camp"</li> <li>"The Last of the Mohicans"</li> <li>"The Scarlet Letter"</li> <li>"The Pilot"</li> <li>"Treasure Island"</li> </ul> <p>American Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table"</li> <li>"Two Years Before the Mast"</li> <li>Emerson's Essays</li> <li>Poe's "Gold Bug"</li> <li>Henry James' "The American"</li> <li>O. Henry's "Four Million"</li> <li>"Ben-Hur"</li> <li>"Tom Sawyer"</li> <li>"Huckleberry Finn"</li> <li>"The Man Without a Country"</li> <li>"The Marble Faun"</li> <li>"Reign of Law"</li> </ul> |
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## TAKEN FROM EXCHANGES

Damage to American crops by insects yearly amounts to \$580,000,000. Standard clocks in the Paris observatory are kept 90 feet underground, where the variation in temperature has been less than one degree for several years.

Members of the Chicago Craftsmen Chapter of Operative Masons are Masons in two senses of the word. They are bricklayers and stonemasons and are members of the Masonic order.

About 900 colors are known to dyers, of which only about 100 are made in the United States.

The latest figures compiled show this country to be equal in steel products to both Germany and the United Kingdom.

"In His Steps," the booklet by Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, has sold more than 20,000,000 copies. An error in the copyright has kept the author from making more than a trifle out of it.

Tulips came from the Levant; they grow wild in European Turkey. Lady Holland brought them to England in 1804.

## Sulphur Mining in Texas.

Near Freeport, Tex., sulphur is produced from beds approximately 1,000 feet below the surface. The sulphur is melted in place and can then be raised to the surface by means of an air lift. Superheated water at a temperature of 336 degrees Fahrenheit, and under high pressure is forced into the sulphur-bearing formation. The water penetrates the deposit and melts the sulphur (whose melting point is 239 degrees Fahrenheit), which then flows to a pipe from which it issues at the surface and runs into bins. These bins are constructed of boards which are raised as the mass increases, the bins finally reaching a height of thirty to thirty-five feet. The sulphur promptly congeals on exposure and after a few hours assumes the true sulphur yellow.

Testimony From One Who Knows.  
Dorothy Dix says girls ought to know what their beaux make. Don't they? Unless times have changed the girls get three-fourths of it during the courtship and make a clean sweep after the wedding.—Houston Post.

Hick Colgan, the famous wolf catcher, who lives near Atchison, Kan., has captured a total of 729 wolves. He receives a bounty of five dollars for gray wolves and one dollar for coyotes. Since the first of the year he has captured 39.

A Cairo correspondent writes to the Manchester Guardian that, owing to the falling of the Nile, Egypt will have to import nearly all her rice this year. The Nile has not been as low for nearly 100 years, and the facilities for water storage have been insufficient.

Jarra trees in the Australian forests grow to a height of 120 feet, karri trees to 200 feet.

The famous timeball at Greenwich is to be replaced by a new aluminum ball, and its mechanism overhauled and reconstructed. An electrical current from the clock was first used to drop it at one o'clock each day in 1852.

Out of 57,000,000 animals inspected in the last year 533,000 were found to be infected with tuberculosis, and hog cholera and cattle tick have cost the producers of this country anywhere from \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000 in a single year.

# Surgeon General Rupert Blue of the U. S. Public Health Service Says:

"I WANT TO WARN YOU AGAINST THE CRAZE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE FOR WHITE FLOUR. THE WHITEST FLOUR IS NOT THE BEST; IT IS NOT THE PUREST; IT IS ONLY THE DEAREST, AND WHEN YOU BUY IT YOU BUY LOOKS AND NOT NOURISHMENT. IN ORDER TO MAKE IT WHITE, SOME OF THE MOST NOURISHING AND ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF THE NATURAL WHEAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN AWAY."

These "nourishing and essential components" are the priceless mineral phosphates of the grain, known as the "tissue salts," indispensable for perfect health of body, brain and nerves.

Everywhere food scientists and physicians are sounding a like note of warning, for a host of ills is following the pernicious practice of casting out these elements in the milling process, and that, simply to make the flour look white and pretty. Neurasthenia, anemia, Bright's disease, constipation, rickets, and a lowered resistance against disease in general, are some of these ills.

More and more thinking people are waking up to this evil. There's a way out.

# Grape-Nuts

FOOD  
made of whole wheat and barley, retains all the nutriment of the grains and those "essential components"—the mineral elements. This splendid food was devised years ago to supply this very lack in ordinary food and fortify the system against the onslaughts of disease. It does it wonderfully well.

Grape-Nuts comes ready to eat, convenient, economical and nourishing, and has become a household word in thousands of homes for its sterling food values and delicious flavor.

## "There's a Reason" for Grape-Nuts

—sold by Grocers everywhere.