

## UNCLE SAM PAYS FOR ALL

Some of the Luxuries That Are Supplied Free to Members of Congress.

"To begin with, each member of congress receives \$135 a session as a stationery allowance," writes Irvin S. Cobb in *Munsey's*. "He may be a free and lavish correspondent or a small and scanty one; just the same he gets that \$135. And takes it. There is no record of a refusal.

"Every member has the free use of the congressional baths and barber shops under the capitol. He can take a nifty Turkish bath, a Russian bath, a Roman bath, a needle shower, or the plain, old-fashioned Pike county style of bath, lying down in the tub with both faucets going; and it doesn't cost him a cent. As often as he pleases he may have a shave, a haircut, a facial massage, and be manicured all around, as they say in parts of Iowa when shoeing a horse. Every other day he can have the back of his neck shaved, just as if he were going to some large special function back home. Uncle Sam pays for the attendants and provides the whole outfit."

## TOO LONG



Mr. Parvenue—How long did it take you to do that picture?  
The Artist—About four months.  
Mr. Parvenue—Gee! I seen a fellow in a store window down town who painted 'em while you wait.

## NO AIRS FOR HER.

There is an old colored woman in Chattanooga whose nineteen-year-old son recently procured such a lucrative employment that he was for putting on a little more "style" than his mother had hitherto been accustomed to display. The two had gone to a general store to purchase some household supplies. As they were about to leave, the youth said:  
"Mammy, ain't yo' gwine to buy a couple o' plates?"  
"No, chile, I ain't!" was the decisive reply of the old woman. "An' I don't wantter see yo' showin' sech pride. We kin eat outen de skillet a while yet!"

## BLESSING IN DISGUISE.

"The party will recover from this check," said Mayor Craig of Covington, apropos of a temporary setback. "They say the party will be broken. I'd reply that it will be about as much broken as young Lansing's heart."  
"A chorus girl who had refused young Lansing said to a friend:  
"I have broken his heart, I fear."  
"You have. You certainly have," the friend replied. "You've broken it right in half."  
"In half? What do you mean?"  
"I mean that he takes two girls out to supper every night now."

## THE REASON.

"There seems to be very few at this meeting of the Society of Women to Suppress Gambling."  
"I know, but unfortunately, we forgot that this is the day when so many of the members have their regular bridge parties."

## NATURALLY.

"Higgins is certainly stuck on his business."  
"He ought to be, as he manufactures glue."

## SOUND REASONS.

"Pop, what makes little dogs chase their tails?"  
"I suppose it is economy, my son. They want to make both ends meet."

## HIS KIND.

"Did the singer succeed in getting what suited her in an apartment?"  
"Oh, yes. She told me she had a suite thing in A flat."

## FOR THOSE WHO HEAR NOT

Schwartz Advertised Deaf Man's Phonograph and His Callers Astonished the Hall Boy.

The hall boy had fairly split his throat shouting directions to deaf persons who had called to see Mr. Schwartz. Mr. Schwartz lived on the fourth floor rear, right-hand apartment, through the long hall and up the back stairs. It took a good deal of shouting to make people understand that.

"I never saw so many deaf people in my life," said the boy. "What on earth are they all running up to Schwartz's for?"

"Mr. Schwartz has advertised a deaf man's phonograph for sale," said a neighbor. "He is very hard of hearing. The phonograph was made especially for him. It has an unusually loud tone. Nobody but the hard of hearing can live with such entertainment. Mr. Schwartz, to save trouble, has advertised for a deaf purchaser."

## BLACKEST DAY OF LOUVRE

That Was When It Had to Give Up Pictures Napoleon Had Stolen.

The Louvre has known a still blacker day than that on which "La Gioconda" was abstracted. This was September 23, 1815, when formal restitution had to be made of the pictures looted during the conquests of Napoleon.

Commissioners attended from 14 different states. The lion's share was obtained, curiously enough, by the representatives of Cassel, who recovered no fewer than 421 pictures. Austria recovered 323, Spain 284, Holland 210, and Prussia 119.

Altogether 2,065 pictures were removed, together with a number of statues, bas-reliefs, bronzes, wood carvings, cameos and enamels.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

## THE INVALID'S TRAY.

Small quantities only should be placed before the invalid. The serving should be as dainty as possible. A sprig of parsley adds much to the appetizing appearance of any savory dish, and the variety should be as large as the prescribed diet will permit. Never let the patient feel faint for the want of food.

Do not consult the invalid about meals if it can be avoided; an unexpected dish will sometimes create a relish for food. Beef tea and soups should always be free from grease. Warm food is more easily digested than cold. Everything should be the freshest procurable, particularly fish, milk and eggs. Barley water is a nourishing diluent for milk when the latter is not easily digested.

## TERRIBLE DREAM.

Her face is drawn, her eyes are haggard and shrunken, and her expression is that of a woman on the verge of nervous prostration.

"What in the world is wrong?" asks the astonished friend. "I never saw anyone look so terribly."  
"It is all because of an awful nightmare I had last night," explains the sufferer. "It simply shattered my nerves, and although I know it was merely a dream, still I cannot rid myself of its effects. I dreamed I was called upon unexpectedly to plan a dinner for Dr. Wiley, Dr. Woods Hutchinson and Upton Sinclair."

## NOT WHAT IT SEEMED.

In the county of Somerset, England, there is a village called Hatch. The clergymen in an adjoining parish was named Duck. One Sunday morning the congregation at the latter place being assembled, the curate did not appear. The clerk rose and said:  
"I hereby give notice that there will be no service today, as Mr. Duck has gone to Hatch."

## SUPERIOR.

Tourist—You must get some business here, advertising "All the Comforts of Home for One Dollar."  
Rural Landlord—We did until the fellow opposite opened up with "None of the Discomforts of Home for Two Dollars."—*Puck*.

## QUITE SURE OF IT.

First Small Boy—We've got a spanking team on our place. Have you got a spanking team, too?  
Second Ditto—Yes, but ma does it most.

## PREFER BICYCLES TO AUTOS

Danish People Have Bought Sixty Thousand of the Former in a Single Year.

Bicycle riding has ceased to be a fad in most parts of America, and it has been noted that many of the former bicycle manufacturers have turned their attention to the making of automobiles. Even the English ardor for bicycle parties has become dampened of late, and the bicycle is now used only when a convenient means of transportation for the individual is required.

It is interesting to hear that some sixty thousand bicycles have been sold in Denmark in a single year. In fact, the Danes have never ceased in a regular demand for the bicycle. English and American wheels were formerly the most popular makes, but German products have conquered the market the past decade, and to Germany, at the present, is given Denmark's sizable order.—*National Magazine*.

## CHINA'S CRAZE FOR CULTURE

Celestial Empire Has 500 Students Abroad and Many New Colleges at Home.

Colleges have sprung up like mushrooms after a rain in all the provincial capitals. Ten years ago there were probably less than 300 students in modern government institutions in Pekin; today there are over 17,000.

College professors from America, Japan and Europe have been brought in by the hundred; there are 16 American teachers on the steamer by which we are traveling, all to be placed in one institution in Pekin, the buildings for which are not yet completed.

Chinese students have gone to the four corners of the earth in search of modern education; there are over 3,000 in Japan, nearly 1,000 in Europe and about the same number in America.—*Pacific Monthly*.

## GROWTH OF DOMINION CITIES.

The statement that Vancouver has now 115,000 population will serve to show the tremendous growth of the west. Twenty years ago the *Citizen* published the census figures showing that Vancouver had a population of 13,000 and commented on the fact that in the ten years from 1881 to 1891 it had grown from nothing to 13,000. In the middle west the figures are equally eloquent. In Saskatchewan the city of Moose Jaw in 1901 had some 1,300 population. Today it totals nearly 20,000. Saskatoon's population in 1901 was less than 500. Today it boasts nearly 18,000. Lembridge grew from 2,500 in 1906 to 14,000 in 1911.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

## PLANTS IN THE HOME.

If every housewife only knew the cheering effect of plants in the house there would be few if any homes in the world without them. Besides their making the home attractive and summerlike they help purify the air to a far greater extent than one would suppose; in fact, if each room in the house were to have a couple of pots of Boston fern the supply of oxygen diffused by them would be sufficient to sustain life for a time. The rubber plant is not to be overlooked as a houseplant for besides its use it is little care.

## VALUE OF SINGLE-MINDEDNESS.

"A double-minded man," it is true all the world over, "is unstable in all his ways," like a wave upon the streamlet, tossed hither and thither with every eddy of its tide. The recognition of a determinate purpose in life, and a sturdy adherence to it through all disadvantages, are indispensable conditions of success. The outside world understands this matter well. Hence, in the great life race, the vacillating are outrun by the steady, although the former may be fleet of foot, as Assahel upon the mountains of Israel.—*Puncheon*.

## PERHAPS.

"Do you think any of the indicted election officials are really running away?"  
"Oh, no, some of them in their desire to save the courts work may be a little overzealous."

## APPROPRIATE EXPRESSION.

"Did your bibulous friend shed tears when he found he couldn't get a drink?"  
"No; merely gave a dry sob."

## HOW TO DESTROY RATS

Method of Killing the Pests Adopted by Dutch Agricultural Bureau in Java.

A consular report gives the following method of destroying rats adopted by M. de Kruff of the agricultural bureau of the Dutch Indies at Buitenzark, Java. All visible rat holes were first stopped with earth to ascertain which holes were inhabited, for the inhabited holes were found reopened on the following day. Half a teaspoonful of carbon bisulphide was poured in each of these holes, and after a delay of a few seconds to allow the liquid to evaporate the mixture of vapor and air was ignited. The result was a small explosion, which filled the hole with poisonous gases and killed all the rats almost instantly. A pound of bisulphide is sufficient for more than 200 rat holes; 131 dead rats were found in 43 holes which were opened after the operation. It is further stated that satisfactory results in exterminating porcupines have been obtained by this method.

## ACME OF EGOTISM



Arthur—What a narrow-minded person Bruce is!  
Howard—Yes; he's one of those fellows who think the whole world is warm when they get their winter flannels on.

## EXERCISES FOR CHILDREN.

Exercise is absolutely necessary for children. Without it, it is impossible to keep the little ones' muscles and organs in a sound and healthy condition. Outdoor games are really the best form of exercise, as the children's interest is held while their muscles are being used, but brisk walks are good, too. But let them also do a few simple calisthenics to strengthen the chest, as games do not provide for this. Simply stretching the arms out in front, and then slowly moving them from front to back and back again, and then above the head and down to the side a few times is quite enough. Teach them to breathe deeply at the same time.

## WALL COLORS AND LIGHT.

In painting or papering the walls of a room the question often arises what color reflects the most and what the least light? Recent experiments in Germany gave the following results: Dark blue reflects 6 1/2 per cent. of the light falling upon it; dark green about 10 per cent.; pale red a little more than 16 per cent.; dark yellow, 20 per cent.; pale blue, 30 per cent.; pale yellow, 40 per cent.; pale green, 46 1/2 per cent.; pale orange, nearly 55 per cent.; pale white, 70 per cent. Glossiness and varnish increase the amount of light reflected.

## WOMEN INTERVIEW SULTAN.

For the first time in Turkish history a deputation of women has had an audience with the sultan. The sultan received the deputation and promised that he would do what he could to improve the lot of Ottoman women. The deputation wore western European costumes and all were heavily veiled.

## UNDER FIRE.

"What makes you so sure that man will be firm and courageous where the bullets are flying thick?" asked one officer.  
"He has a record," replied the other. "He used to be a guide for hunting parties in the Maine woods."

## BUSINESS VIEW

"Young man, the philosopher says to look into your heart and write."  
"Yes, but if one's heart were weak, that might cause one's books to have a bad circulation."

## HIS INITIALS IN THE DIRT

Little Scheme of the Late Marshall Field to Stimulate Stock Boy's Energies.

A story is told of the late Marshall Field's ability to restimulate the energies of listless subordinates. A stock boy in Field's store, who is now a trusted manager, had been in the habit of slighting his duties, which were principally the regular dusting of the stock in his section. One day Mr. Field in passing through this section of the store chanced to note the dusty condition of the lids of a number of hat boxes. He paused, bent down and wrote his initials in the dust on several boxes and then walked away. The stock boy from a remote corner happened to notice the master executive hovering around the stock shelves. Soon afterward the lad's eyes fell upon several potential looking M. F.'s on dust-ridden lids. As he stared he metaphorically heard the "voice" of the house admonishing him and he mentally absorbed its meaning and significance. It is needless to say that he exercised the feather duster more assiduously after that.—*Business*.

## SMOKER'S BOTTLE A NOVELTY

It Is Divided into Several Sections and Holds Cigars and Other Articles.

What is called a smoker's bottle is made in the form of a champagne bottle of brass, nickel plated. It is divided horizontally around its large section so that the whole upper part of the bottle can be lifted clear from the lower part. The lower part of this bottle is used as a receptacle for cigars, holding about ten.

About half way up the neck of the bottle there is another horizontal division, permitting the lifting off of the cork end of the neck, and within the upper section of the neck, just under the cork end, there is a holder for matches. The top part of the neck of the bottle and the stopper, fashioned like all the rest of the bottle in metal, are wrapped in gold foil.

## GREENLAND IS GREEN.

When you were a boy you used to sing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains"—well, the country is simply a vast nest of green mountains, covered with snow, ice and glaciers. These are known as live and dead glaciers; the dead glaciers are a mass of snow and ice, which has accumulated between gorges for a million years or more, and have become so condensed that you could not penetrate the mass except by a steel drill. The live glaciers are those that break off and fall into the waters and become floating masses of ice, often inflicting damage to ships. Where the sun can strike a spot the trees, which are of a dense growth but small, wear the most beautiful green.

## MORE TO COME.

Recently in Seattle in a cigar stand appeared the sign, "We give \$15.00 for 1909 Lincoln pennies." No less a person was attracted by this than Judge Watson. He walked up to the counter and laying down a penny triumphantly asked for \$15.00. The clerk took the penny, examined it closely, asked if it were genuine, and after several minutes sighed and said he guessed it was good.  
"Certainly it is," answered the judge. "Where is my \$15.00?"  
"Where," said the clerk, "are the other 1908?"—*Life*.

## REASSURING.

Town Visitor—That's the village doctor, isn't it?  
Townman—Yep.  
Town Visitor—Is he a good doctor?  
Townman—Oh, he's all right—if you've got a strong constitution.—*Puck*.

## THE LAZY WOMAN.

"Went to bed at eight o'clock last night."  
"Why so early?"  
"My shoe came untied and I thought I'd save the trouble of tying it again."

## UNDOUBTEDLY.

"Don't you think it is foolish to make so much ado about unsanitary oculcation?"  
"Well, you must admit that viewed in any light, oculcation is a pressing matter."

## WHY PRAIRIE IS TREELESS

Iowa Expert Finds This Is Due Not to Soil or Topography, but to Climate.

Prof. B. Shimek of the State University of Iowa has been studying this question in Iowa, where the treeless prairie originally covered more than seven-eighths of the total area of the state. He finds that the absence of trees is not due primarily to the soil or the topography, nor to such causes as prairie fires, the former abundance of the bison, etc., but is an effect of climate. Moreover, it is not due to a deficient rainfall so much as to an excessive rate of evaporation. "The prairie areas are uniformly so situated that they are fully exposed to the factors which cause rapid evaporation, namely, the sun and the wind. During much of the year they may present conditions quite favorable to plant growth, but there are seasons and there are portions of the year, especially in midsummer, when evaporation and consequent desiccation become so extreme that only those plants which are especially adapted to dry regions can survive."—*Scientific American*.

## NOTHING TO EAT



The Tramp—Doctor, I have difficulty in swallowing.  
The Doctor—Due to the throat?  
The Tramp—No, it's due to not having anything to swallow.

## SPOTTED.

"We Americans—those of us, that is, who don't buy our clothes in London—are recognized abroad by our coats' broad shoulders and baggy trousers' width and by the little humps on the toe-caps of our boots." The speaker, Richard Harding Davis, was lunching at the Bellevue-Stratford in Philadelphia. With a laugh he resumed:  
"Two American young men, as they strolled among the tall, thin Englishmen and Englishwomen in Piccadilly one morning, perceived that every one recognized their nationality."  
"I wonder," said the first, "how they know we're Americans?"  
"The other, more sophisticated, answered:  
"By the United States of our clothes, of course."

## THE BROKEN HEART.

"The party will recover from this check," said Mayor Craig of Covington, apropos of a temporary setback. "They say the party will be broken. I'd reply that it will be about as much broken as young Lansing's heart."  
"A chorus girl who had refused young Lansing said to a friend:  
"I have broken his heart, I fear."  
"You have. You certainly have," the friend replied. "You've broken it right in half."  
"In half? What do you mean?"  
"I mean that he takes two girls out to supper every night now."

## TO STUDY SPONGES.

Outside the harbor of Sfax, Tunisia, in the shallow water of the clear Mediterranean, is situated a biological laboratory for the study of sponges. It is one of the most unique in the world, and affords opportunity for observing the development of the sponge from tiny larva, so small that it can only be studied under a microscope, until five years later, it has developed into a perfect sponge.

## UNGALLANT TRUISMS.

Miss Oldgirl—I wonder why that baby always yells whenever it sees me.  
Crusty Old Bachelor—Because, madam, babies have the privilege denied to other unfortunate beings, of expressing their feelings as they please.