

Every Niece and Nephew of Uncle Sam

should be deeply interested in what he has said about soda crackers, because they are the one food with which all of them are familiar.

Uncle Sam has given out figures showing that soda crackers are richer in nutriment and body-building elements, properly proportioned, than any food made from flour.

This is saying much for common soda crackers, and much more for **Uneeda Biscuit**, because they are soda crackers of the best quality. They are baked better—more scientifically. They are packed better—more cleanly. The damp, dust and odor proof package retains all the goodness and nutriment of the wheat, all the freshness of the best baking, all the purity of the cleanest bakeries.

Your Uncle Sam has shown what food he thinks best for his people. His people have shown that they think **Uneeda Biscuit** the best of that food, nearly 400,000,000 packages having already been consumed.

Uneeda Biscuit

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

5¢

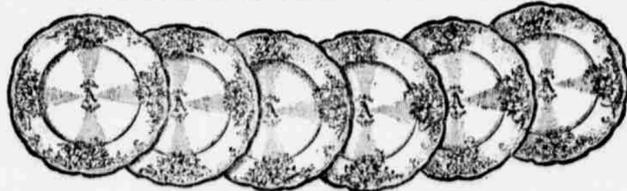


This Beautiful Set of Dishes FREE with

DEFIANCE TEA and COFFEE

No money whatever required—you get the set absolutely free for giving your opinion of the finest tea and coffee in the world to a few friends and neighbors. Full particulars of the plan in each package. It was our intention to withdraw this offer October 1st. but so many people have said they did not realize the great chance we are offering until they saw it in the home of some friend, we have therefore decided to extend it. This will give everyone a chance to get a set. Many ladies are securing sets to present to friends at Christmas. Remember, this is not a premium with Defiance Tea and Coffee. It is a present to users of these beverages for making new friends. Ask the grocer.

LETTS-SPENCER GROCER CO. - ST. JOSEPH, MO.



AMEND LAND LAWS

PRESIDENT URGES MUCH-NEEDED LEGISLATION.

Laws at Present on Statute Books in Many Instances Open the Door to Fraud and Congress is Asked to Give Them Overhauling.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The message of the president dealing with public land questions was read in congress. In part it is as follows:

The developments of the past year emphasize with increasing force the need of vigorous and immediate action to recast the public land laws and adapt them to the actual situation. The timber and stone act has demonstrated conclusively that its effect is to turn over the public timber lands to great corporations. It has done enormous harm, it is no longer needed and it should be repealed.

The desert land act results so frequently in fraud and so comparatively

seldom in making homes on the land that it demands radical amendment. That provision which permits assignment before patent should be repealed and the entryman should be required to live for not less than two years at home on the land before patent issues. Otherwise the desert land law will continue to assist speculators and other large holders to get control of land and water on the public domain by indefensible means.

The commutation clause of the homestead act serves, in a majority of cases, to defeat the purpose of the homestead act itself, which is to facilitate settlement and create homes. In theory the commutation clause should assist the honest settler, and doubtless in some cases it does. Far more often it supplies the means by which speculators and loan and mortgage companies secure possession of the land. Actual—not constructive—living at home on the land for three years should be required before commutation, unless it should appear wiser to repeal the commutation clause altogether.

Laws Responsible for Frauds.

I am gravely concerned at the extremely unsatisfactory condition of the public land laws and at the prevalence of fraud under their present provisions. For much of this fraud the present laws are chiefly responsible. There is but one way by which the fraudulent acquisition of these lands can be definitely stopped, and therefore I have directed the secretary of the interior to allow no patent to be issued to public lands under any law until by an examination on the ground actual compliance with that law has been found to exist. For this purpose an increase of special agents in the general land office is urgently required; unless it is given, bona fide would-be settlers will be put to grave inconvenience, or else the fraud will in large part go on. The present coal law, limiting the individual entry to 160 acres, puts a premium on fraud by making it impossible to develop certain types of coal fields and yet comply with the law. It is a scandal to maintain laws which sound well, but which make fraud the key without

which great natural resources must remain closed. The law should give individuals and corporations under proper government regulation and control the right to work bodies of coal land large enough for profitable development. My own belief is that there should be provision for leasing coal, oil and gas rights under proper restrictions. If the additional force of special agents and mining experts I recommend is provided and well used, the result will be not only to stop the land frauds, but to prevent delays in patenting land claims and to conserve the indispensable fuel resources of the nation.

Government Control of Grazing.

The control of grazing in the national forests is an assured success. The condition of the ranges is improving rapidly, water is being developed, range controversies are settled, opposition to the grazing fee is practically at an end, and stockmen are earnestly supporting the forest service.

The situation on the open government range is strikingly different. Its carrying capacity has probably been reduced one-half by over-grazing, and is still falling. Range controversies in many places are active and bitter, and life and property are often in danger. The interests both of the live stock industry and of the government are needlessly impaired. The present situation is indefensible from any point of view, and it should be ended.

I recommend that a bill be enacted which will provide for government control of the public range through the department of agriculture, which alone is equipped for that work. Such a bill should insure to each locality rules for grazing specially adapted to its needs and should authorize the collection of a reasonable grazing fee. Above all, the rights of the settler and home-maker should be guaranteed.

Much of the public land can only be used to advantage for grazing when fenced. Much fencing has been done for that reason and also to prevent other stock owners from using land to which they have an equal right under the law. Reasonable fencing which promotes the use of the range and yet interferes neither with settlement nor with other range rights would be thoroughly desirable if it were legal, yet the law forbids it, and the law must and will be enforced. I will see to it that the illegal fences are removed unless congress, at the present session, takes steps to legalize proper fencing by government control of the ranges.

Gold Discovery in Australia.

Melbourne, Dec. 19.—Several big gold nuggets were discovered recently near Tarnagulla, and two were found, weighing respectively 967 and 373 ounces, the largest seen in Australia in forty years.

Paterson Opera House Burns.

Paterson, N. J., Dec. 19.—Fire that originated in the Butler opera house destroyed that building as well as the two adjoining structures, causing a loss of about \$250,000.

Death Halts Land Trial.

Omaha, Dec. 15.—Because of the death of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Comstock's infant at the Millard hotel, Judge Munger announced that the land trial in the federal court would be postponed until Monday morning. But for the interruption the prosecution, with only two or three witnesses, would have rested its case.

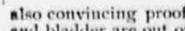
Farmer Linstadt Dangerously Hurt.

Tilden, Neb., Dec. 19.—The team of Carl Linstadt, a prominent farmer southeast of Tilden, arrived at his home without buggy or driver. His sons found the buggy in a wrecked condition in a neighbor's pasture and a distance from the buggy their father, who was terribly injured about the head. His recovery is very doubtful.

Thousands Have Kidney Trouble and Never Suspect it.

How To Find Out.

Fill a bottle or common glass with your water and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys; if it stains your linen it is evidence of kidney trouble; too frequent desire to pass it or pain in the back is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.



What To Do.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in curing rheumatism, pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passage. It corrects inability to hold water and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to go often during the day, and to get up many times during the night. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists in fifty-cent and one-dollar sizes.

You may have a sample bottle and a book that tells all about it, both sent free by mail. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. When writing mention this paper and don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y.

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Fresh Bread, Pies, Cakes, Candy and Cigars.

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W. S. BENSE, Proprietor.

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When you are hungry and want something nice in the meat line, drop into my market. We have the nicest kind of

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and meats, fish, and game in season. We think, and almost know, that we can please you. Give us a trial.

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Successors to

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SAY, MISTER!

Do you know that it will pay YOU, as well as US, to buy your Building Material and Coal at our yards? Not only that our prices AVERAGE lower, or at least as low, as those of our competitors, but BECAUSE we take especial care of and protect all can be classed as REGULAR CUSTOMERS.

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