

Pope Presents the Royal Spanish Baby With Priceless Layette

ROME, May 1.—The Pope's first thought after accepting the invitation to be the godfather of the expected heir to the Spanish throne was to provide a suitable gift to be sent to the royal child. Acting entirely on his own initiative, Pius X decided to send to Spain the most beautiful layette that could be made by human hands.

This work was given to the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, popularly known as the White Franciscan Sisters, who have also a house in New York City, at 225 East

Forty-fifth street. As it was imperative that the pope's gift should be sent to Madrid before the birth of the royal child, the nuns had to employ not only the members of their community at Rome, but also their most skilled embroiderers in Belgium, Spain and England, who were called to Rome for the occasion.

Twenty of a hundred nuns worked on the layette for two whole months, from early morning to late at night, and in order that no time should be lost these nuns were assisted by a hundred lay sisters whose exclusive occupation was that of threading needles, thus enabling the embroiderers and lacemakers to proceed on their work without interruption.

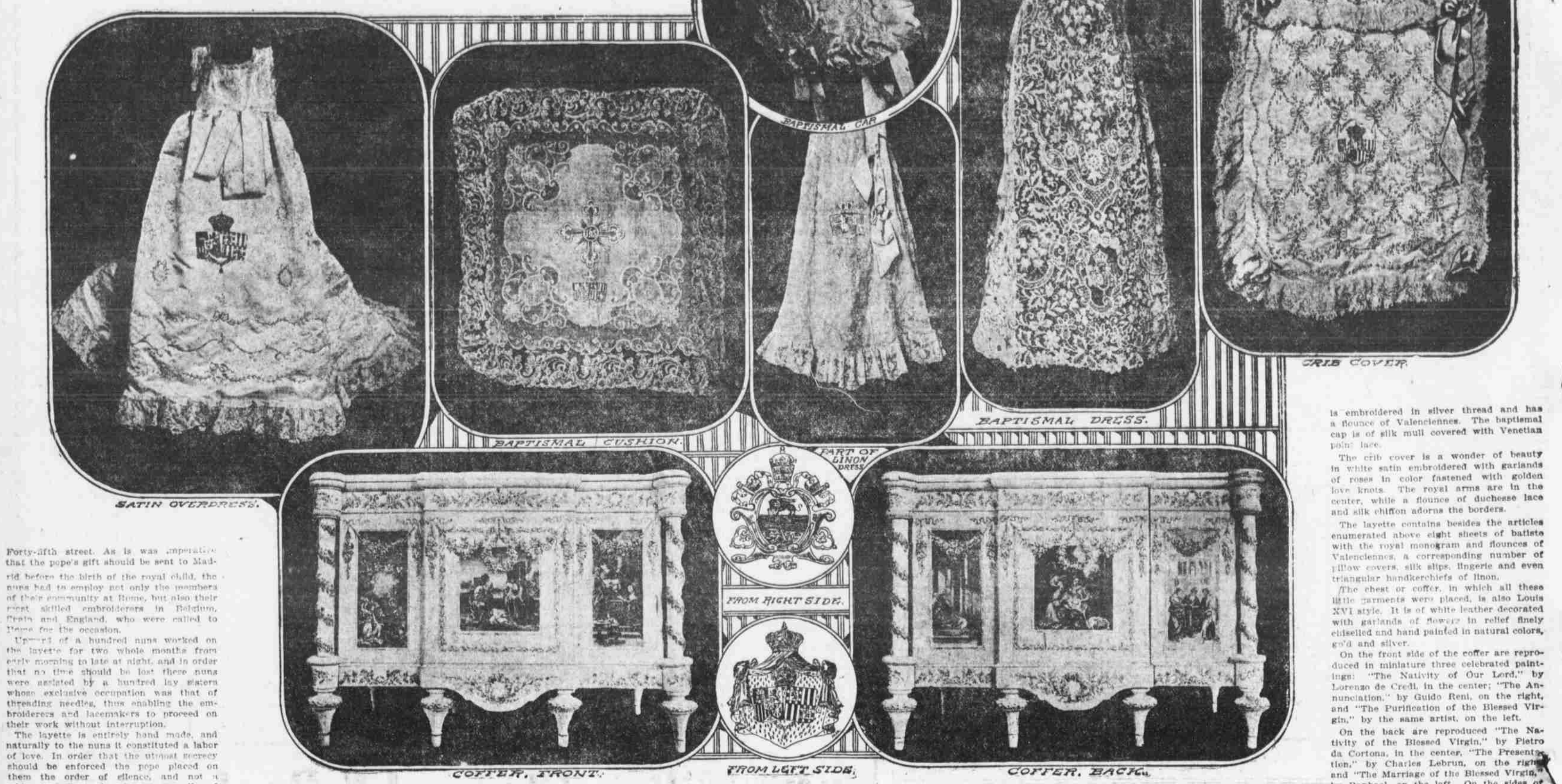
The layette is entirely hand made, and naturally to the nuns it constituted a labor of love. In order that the utmost secrecy should be enforced the pope placed on them the order of silence, and not a whisper of the work going on was allowed to escape outside the convent walls.

When a difficulty arose about some detail in the Battenberg coat of arms, which together with that of Spain adorn all the baby's dresses, the niece of the Spanish Ambassador, Marquis Ojeda, who is an inmate of the convent, was commissioned to apply to her uncle for information. Even then not a word was mentioned about the layette, although the ambassador, after

the royal baptismal dress is the gem of all. It is entirely made of gold Valenciennes and Brussels, with the arms of Spain and Battenberg interwoven in front.

The cushion for the baptism is of lustrous luminous covered with the finest drawn work; a founce of Flemish lace adorns the border. In the four corners are embroidered emblems of the catholic and of the Lord's passion, while in the center the royal coat of arms is surmounted by a cross.

The material of all the dresses and lingerie was specially woven by hand in



general beauty of the layette, which, besides being unique and priceless, is most complete. The fact that it is entirely white, without even a hint of pink or blue, enhances the beauty of what is undoubtedly the most perfect work of its kind made in modern times.

Among the many dresses made of this material there are two that deserve special mention. Both are Louis XVI style. One is covered with drawn work with the royal arms and garlands of roses, and it is adorned with Valenciennes lace and white satin bows. The other has a different design of embroidery and a different quality of Valenciennes lace.

The baptismal cloak with cape is richly embroidered in drawn work. It has the royal arms on the right side of the cape, is adorned with old Venetian lace and has a founce of silk chiffon.

An overdress of duchesse satin is embroidered in silk and gold with the two coats of arms in heraldic colors and gold and with a design of the Order of the Golden Fleece round the lower part of the dress. The founce is of duchesse lace and silk chiffon.

Another overdress of the same material

is embroidered in silver thread and has a founce of Valenciennes. The baptismal cap is of silk mull covered with Venetian point lace.

The crib cover is a wonder of beauty in white satin embroidered with garlands of roses in color fastened with golden love knots. The royal arms are in the center, while a founce of duchesse lace and silk chiffon adorns the borders.

The layette contains besides the articles enumerated above eight sheets of batiste with the royal monogram and founces of Valenciennes, a corresponding number of pillow covers, silk slips, linens and even triangular handkerchiefs of linen.

All these little garments were placed, in Louis XVI style. It is of white leather decorated with garlands of flowers in relief finely etched and hand painted in natural colors, gold and silver.

On the front side of the coffer are reproduced in miniature three celebrated paintings: "The Nativity of Our Lord," by Lorenzo de Crede, in the center; "The Annunciation," by Guido Reni, on the right, and "The Purification of the Blessed Virgin," by the same artist, on the left.

On the back are reproduced "The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin," by Pietro da Cortona, in the center; "The Presentation," by Charles Lebrun, on the right, and "The Marriage of the Blessed Virgin," by Raphael, on the left. On the sides of the coffer are painted the papal coat of arms and the royal arms of Spain and Battenberg.

The lid is of white velvet, with a leather border round the edge, on which is inscribed in letters of gold and silver the verse of Psalm lxxxi: "Deus justitiam tuam regis da et iustitiam tuam alto regi" (God give your judgment to a king and your justice to a king's son).

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How Young Housewives Benefit by Experience

Thoughts for Young Wives.

WHEN age seasoned with knowledge and experience speaks to youth it behoves the latter to weigh well the advice tendered and thereby possibly spare oneself the heartaches of disappointment or shattered idols. Particularly to the point is a chapter on matrimony from the feminine point of view, forming a feature of a notable social study by Mrs. Charles Harcourt of Philadelphia, printed in book form. In the chapter under consideration Mrs. Harcourt aims to teach the young girl good form in choosing a husband, coupled with a warning against the common pitfalls of matrimony. In part she says:

Despite the pretty romances of novelties and the flattering fables of youthful lovers, love at first sight is of very rare occurrence, and the growth of a grade superior to the stage where it reigns superior to reason, prudence and calculation is sufficiently slow as a rule to allow a girl, who has been forewarned, to avoid certain common pitfalls. It seldom happens that impulse gives her heart unreservedly to a man without having had ample opportunity in the early period of the process to prevent or check the course of her affections. It is a pity that human clay is so soon revealed in our hypothesized ideal. Hardly has the conventional honeymoon merged into the routine of regular life than the laquer with which we overlaid it begins to peel in spots, discovering the commonplace but natural substance beneath.

In this crisis the young woman who has had the teaching of a sensible mother and the friendship of healthy men accepts her disappointment with the philosophy born of forewarning, or experience?

The oversensitive soul, whose mind has been peopled solely with ideal characters,

takes the blow hardly and may never fully recover from the shock.

Common sense is the only refuge of the young wife in the days of disillusionment. In the first place, no man is much better than his fellows, nor, indeed, greatly different from the general run of them. It is our fault, not his, that we have placed him on a pedestal of impossible superiority. It is our misfortune that we fail to accept his inevitable descent gracefully.

The situation is not without its humorous compensation, for while we are bewailing the absence of qualities with which we arbitrarily invested him, the perverse creature discovers charming characteristics of which we never suspected him. Marriage is necessarily a give-and-take relationship, but beware of attempting to measure the respective equities in it. Rather strive to make your husband your debtor, for such is the surest way of making him your creditor.

In a properly constituted domestic partnership the accounts should be so delightfully involved as to establish a condition of perpetual bankruptcy on both sides.

The Lady of the White House.

Life at the White House takes on an active look at an hour when all fashionable womanhood is still wrapped in slumber. This is particularly true of the present season, when social obligations are not so exacting and the loveliness of the spring mornings tempts one abroad. Mrs. Roosevelt is a lover of nature to a marked degree, relates the Washington Post, and she delights in what the Italians so poetically call "the hours immaculate," and early pedestrians may catch a glimpse of her sitting among the flowers on the terrace or inspecting the latest blooms on her own Dutch garden under the south veranda. There are two breakfasts at the White House. The first, at 7:30, is for the

children, and is now attended only by Achille and Quentin. Miss Ethel, who is taller than her mother and dignified with the weight of sixteen years, has been promoted to the second breakfast, with her parents. This second breakfast is a movable one, and may occur at 8 and then at 9, according to the will of the president and what engagements have occurred him the evening before. It is rarely after 9, even in the busiest season, for time is precious to the Roosevelts, and their day is mapped out, so that a few bright moments disarrange the schedule. On bright, sunny mornings in the autumn and the early summer the president and Mrs. Roosevelt partake of the first part of the day in a pretty little Japanese corner of the south veranda. Here some of the famous strawberry shortcake and corn beef hash breakfasts have been spread.

On bright mornings between seasons Mrs. Roosevelt is apt to accompany her daughter, Miss Ethel, on her ride to the Cathedral school. They use a high yellow cart, with two pretty brown ponies. Miss Ethel generally manipulates the reins, and a solemn looking "tiger," in the dashing presidential livery, sits up behind. The chumminess between the president's wife and her only daughter is delightful to behold. They chat and laugh as they drive along, like two girls bound for the matinee. Miss Ethel is built on more ample lines than her mother, but she resembles her strongly, the same coloring of eyes and hair and the same trick of smiling only with the eyes rather than the lips. Her dignity and self-possession is wonderful for a girl of 18, but then she has been in the lime light almost six years, and can bear the scrutiny of the multitude with the calmness of a theatrical star. Leaving her daughter at the Cathedral school, which is a good three miles from Washington, in the pretty suburb of Woodley, Mrs. Roosevelt returns to her home, if the day is to be unusually busy. More frequently she goes for a friend, and then for some shopping. In the winter she invariably takes a long morning walk, but in the spring, like most of mortals, she prefers to ride.

Miss Isabel Hagner, the private secretary of Mrs. Roosevelt, arrives at the White House at 8 o'clock. She is prone to make engagements with all who want to consult her on business or pleasure at \$10 or \$20, a proceeding which fills social climbers with intense indignation. Usually Mrs. Roosevelt spends two or three hours with Miss Hagner, and when she cannot spare so much time, she leaves copious notes about her wishes.

No mistress of the White House, not even the indefatigable Mrs. McKinley, with her knit slippers, has made such a record for gift giving. Many presents intended for relatives and dear friends are made by Mrs. Roosevelt in odd moments, and with each gift goes what is most likely the most highly appreciated part, a little note, always written by herself. One of Mrs. Roosevelt's friends says that her day is as accurately planned as a nun's.

and they are supposed to be the most methodical of femininity. Part of every morning, unless the weather is beyond endurance, Mrs. Roosevelt goes shopping or visiting. She is fond of walking, but she never walks aimlessly. With her boys she has visited every public building in Washington where there is something of unusual interest. They have all pored over the treasures of the Smithsonian and the National museum until there is nothing more to astonish. These visits have been made early Saturday mornings or on national holidays, when school duties do not claim the boys. No mother in the land is stricter than Mrs. Roosevelt about her children's punctual attendance at school, and to be late is a misdemeanor of the high order. Mrs. Roosevelt, in fair weather, takes an outing in the parks and country lanes, clad in very smart afternoon toilet, mostly black or white or pale gray, and this especially when she has guests. Miss Emily Carow, the only sister of Mrs. Roosevelt, was here last spring. The two women could be seen almost daily in Rock Creek park. Miss Carow is fond of sketching and frequently the carriage would rest in some romantic spot, and while her sister was busy with her pencil Mrs. Roosevelt would read or chat with some passing friend. As an equestrienne her fame has gone abroad. She is one of the most fearless and graceful riders in a city where fine riding is considered a social qualification. She wears a black riding habit, moderately short, with cutaway jacket and white vest and collar. Her hat is a derby, with a black chiffon veil, taking away the masculine effect, and tan leggings and gloves.

During the season Mrs. Roosevelt receives every Friday afternoon from 3 to 5. All the smart world, the official world and those who may not claim a place in either category, but who receive cards to the private entertainments, are expected to call at least twice during the official season. Usually the mistress of the White House entertains with only the aid of Mrs. Leck in the drawing room and Miss Hagner at the tea table. Tea, frappe and light refreshments are served and sometimes there is music.

Leaves from Fashion's Notebook.

The tea gown has progressed wonderfully until its styles are so varied that it is difficult to keep track of the latest trend at round-and-round trimming, but in nearly all cases the lines are in and down from three inches from tip to tip down to tiny ones not more than half an inch across.

Those who like novelty and have the money to spend can have trunks for their parasols, their golf sticks, their hats, their boots and shoes and their books. The last variety is an English affair, enamel covered, and provides places for a couple of dozen books and magazines.

Kimono tendencies are observable all through the season. The one which connects kimono sleeves in many of the negligees, while the little room coats are fitted out with wide sleeves that fall below the waist line. Not a few of these are gorgeously decorated in the style of the Orient.

One of the latest freaks of fashion in the way of ornamentation is the wearing of a cluster of enamel butterflies upon the dress street costume. These butterflies vary in size from three inches from tip to tip down to tiny ones not more than half an inch across.

A bewitchingly pretty net negligee is in

the summer outfit of a Newport bride of June. The material is cotton net of the washable variety and the style is the empire, with long flaring lines from the middle of the shoulders. The front is shirred in at the belt line so as to give plenty of fulness.

Many of the smartest of the bathing suits are made without the wide draping white collar. The neck is finished with a pointed front and there is a Windsor tie knotted and drawn through a gold buckle or ring. Other necks are finished double breasted and piped with a contrasting color, and some of these are very smart indeed.

The style of room robe that is open all the way down the front appeals to many women as being easier to slip off and on. But this is not for handsome figures, so it is about as broad as it is long. The empire gowns, for the most part, button down the back and the princess room robes are cut rather loose and in such a manner that they button right on the back of the neck down to the tip of the long train.

Speaking of skirts, the newest models have founces deeper than ever. In fact, the skirt proper is a little more than a deep yoke with a circular founce attached. This is supposed to give an extremely smart appearance around the hips and the skirt line in back from waist to tip of the train, which is so much desired and so really graceful. The petticoat is made with a great deal of fulness at the back and outwards to fit the yoke.

start at Blidah, in Algeria, and terminate at one of the bays of the Niger in Bornu or Hausaland. The distance in this case would be less than 1,700 miles and the road would parallel the Biskra line until it reached the center of the desert.

I do not mean to say that any of these roads will soon be completed. They are all dependent on water, cheap fuel and other conditions. The Biskra and the Colomb Bechar roads have already been built far down into the sands, but their extensions are as yet uncertain. The French surveyors have gone carefully over the two routes and they have furnished not only surveys, but working plans and the probable cost of operation.

It is estimated that it will require about \$20,000 per kilometer, or six-tenths of a

mile, to construct any of these roads through the desert and that the earnings will be about \$2,000 per kilometer. The running expenses of one train a day would be a little over a thousand dollars per kilometer, and on these estimates the roads might pay. The cost of the fuel, however, is such that the running expenses are probably greatly underestimated, and the same is true of the cost of building the roads. The average cost per mile of railroad construction in Europe is almost \$100,000 and the average cost per mile for the rest of the world is almost \$60,000. It is difficult to see how a trunk line through the Desert of Sahara could be constructed at a less cost than the average rate for the rest of the world.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Woman's Nature

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Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Page Three.)

section go to the ports of west Africa by steamer and are taken by railroad and rivers to the headquarters of the Niger.

Route to Timbuktu.

Indeed, one can now go from the United States by steam vessels to Senegal, and thence by trains and steamer to Timbuktu. That city is 1,000 miles from the Niger, and is the terminus of the caravan routes from Tripoli, Morocco and Algeria. It lies 1,200 miles almost directly south of Colomb Bechar, the end of the Western Algeria railroad into the Sahara, and the French have surveyed a route to it. If this is completed it will give the vast Niger system direct railroad connection with the Mediterranean.

The Niger is navigable during a large part of its course, it is as long as the Mississippi proper and its basin is one-third the size of the whole United States. The French are building several other roads. In addition to the one which connects Senegal with Timbuktu to reach that river. One of these is through French Guinea, another goes through Dahomey and a third goes inland from the Ivory coast. Altogether they will unite the Atlantic with the Niger and if the Colomb Bechar desert road is extended Timbuktu may become the Chicago of the Sudan.

Roads to Kuka and Kano.

Another railroad center will be at Kuka. That city lies on Lake Chad, perhaps a thousand miles farther eastward. Surveys have been made to extend the Biskra road to that point, but so far less than 20 miles have been built and almost two thousand remain to be constructed. This road would go through a number of oases and would largely follow the lines of the present caravan routes.

Another Transsahara road is planned to

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