

CON MEN USE OMAHA NAMES and we're going to pull off the fight who took him to police headquarters. ROMANTIC SIDE OF ASPHALT woman who is now the Duchess de Morny asphalt, on the day of the marriage the possession of all their plant, working duke de Morny's mistress killed herself.

Hotel Man Fleeced in Boston by Fake Capitalists.

HOW THE GAME WAS WORKED

An Easy Mark with Money Anxious to Make More Relieved of His Roll by a Sporty Proposition.

Occasionally when a gold brick is worked on a western man the raccuous laugh which follows is intended to convey the impression that the newer settled section means of diverting attention from the crop of gudgeous, which flourishes the Atlantic and contiquous territory as luxuriantly as alfalfa in Nebraaka. The latest large specimen of the class is Frederick Holznagen, hotel keeper of Scranton, Pa., who is now in New York squealing for the recovery of \$15,000 of which he was stripped by a raw game played in Boston, the principal lure of the con men being bogus 'capitalists." who assumed the names of Omaha men.

The story as told by the New York World begins with one, Charles Weber, who registered at Holsnagen's hotel, occupied the best rooms in the house, spent money freely, and was soon rubbing elbows with mine host." Landlord Holznagen told Weber of some valuable timber lands in Tennessee upon which he held an option. Weber replied that he had a friend in New York named Lane who was also interested in Tennessee timber properties and who was organizing a syndicate of capitalists to develop them. Weber volunteered to come to New York with Holznagen and introduce him to Lane.

They met Lane at one of the hotels here, and after a business-like talk he consented to introduce the Scranton man to his millionaire backers with a view to promoting their interests jointly.

"Nearly all the men in our syndicate are off on their yachts or traveling abroad for the summer," said Lane, "but two of them, old man Cudahy and son, the millionaire rackers, 10 Omaha, are on their way east in their private car, and should be in Bridgeport, Conn., tomorrow. If you like we'll take a run up there in the morning and lay the matter before them."

Meets His 'Backers."

The following day, in Bridgeport, Lane introduced Holznagen to his weakhy backers. The elder was a stout, dignified, fullbearded man, apparently past 60 years of addressed the elder as "governor." would be in commission again before the day was over.

The westerners seemed favorably impressed with the timber proposition and promised to take it under consideration and make the necessary investigations at once through their southern representatives. Lane arranged another match between the Over the coffee and the cigars the old man same lads with odds at 3 to 1 in our favor. secame confidential.

"The fact is," he said. "that the boy and bankers and put the money in Lane's hands I have come cast here for a little sport. to wager. For some reason the fight was We've brought along with us a clever little nostponed and when I looked for Lane fighter named Sullivan, who has licked later I couldn't find him. I tried one everything of his weight west of the Mis- whole day to locate the house where the appi river, and we're satisfied he can't fight was pulled off but couldn't find it." be best. Mr. Lane has kindly consented to Holsnagen came back to New York and

to see the fun you're welcome to come along.' argued that it would help him to a better aside, on having won the old man's confidence so easily. The latter invited them to make the trip on his private car, but Lane said he would have to go ahead to make final arrangements and Holznager decided to go with Lane. "I wanted to write you in the beginning,"

said Lane when they were alone, "but I was afraid the old man wouldn't like it. We're going to have the fight in the private house of one of the biggest bankers in the Back Bay section, and it would play the deuce if the newspapers or the police got onto it. We've got a fighter named Col-

esess a monopoly of easy marks. This lins that'll put it all over the western lad is the eastern idea. It is cultivated as a without trying. We've been framing up this little game for weeks and it's such a sure thing that I've put up \$10,000 on it. If you've got a few thousand to put up you can't lose, and a stiff bet would make you solid with the old man."

Taking the Bait.

Through a Bridgeport bank Holznagen drew a draft for \$5,000 on his Scranton bankers and turned the cash over to Lane to bet for him. At 10 o'clock that same evening they took a cab in Boston, and after half an hour's drive pulled up before

a mansion in a residence section of the town. The front of the house was dark, but when they mounted the steps and pressed the electric button the door was opened by a footman in livery and they were ushered into a large rear room off the main hall. It was fitted up as a library, but the furniture was all pushed back to the sides of the room, leaving an open space in the center for the fighters.

There were four men in the room be sides the two westerners, and after Holznagen had been introduced all around two young men in fighting costume, wearing two-ounce gloves, were admitted. One of the strangers was selected as stakeholder and several bets were put up in his hands by the side of which Holznagen's \$5,000 seemed rather small. The old westerner and his son stood to win or lose \$120,000 when time was called.

In the first three rounds Collins ha the better of it. He came up fresh and smiling for the fourth round and sailed in hammer and tongs. The round had been in progress about thirty seconds when the western lad landed a right swing in the Boston boy's ribs which doubled him up like a knife and left him writhing in apparent agony on the floor. There

was a count of ten seconds and Sullivan was declared the winner.

"I never saw a man feel so badly over anything," said Holsnagen in relating the age, while the younger was a well-set-up affair, "as Lane did over losing that fight. chap of medium height, who continually He seemed sorrier on my account than on The his own. We took young Collins away meeting took place in a hotel near the rail- with us in a cab. He explained that the way station, and while the Tennessee tim- blow that knocked him out was delivered her proposition was being discussed over by chance, and that he was caught an excelient luncheon, it developed that the napping, because he was overconfident and private car in which the Cudahys traveled | believed he had his man whipped. He had been sent to the shops for repairs, but | said he could have put him out in the second round, only he wanted to give the 'swell guys,' as he called them, a run for their money.

Bets \$10,000 More.

"There was a lot of talk all around the next day and the outcome of it was that

make a match for us with a Boston lad put the matter in the hands of his attorney. U. S. National bank building

From the rogues' gallery he picked out th Holznagen jumped at the chance. He picture of old James Morgan, allas "Deafy" Morris, as the man who had played the acquaintance. Lane congratulated him, part of the elder Cudahy, and Frederick Gondoiff as the man who had posed as the millionaire's son. BENDER STORY DISCREDITED Those Who Worked on the Case Deny Chicago Man's Revelation. Every one in Parsons, Kan., who was living near the Benders at the time of discovery of their murders deny that the Benders were lynched, and only one man here remembers George Downer, who confessed to having been a member of the vigilantes who lynched the Benders. Ex-Senator George W. Gabriel, a physician of this city, who knew the Benders well, says that he remembers a man of the name of George K. Downer, but that he took no active part in the search for the Benders. L. J. Beagle, now a capitalist of this city,

was then deputy sheriff of Neosho county. and was in command of the posse that accompanied Colonel York in the search for his brother, Dr. York. Mr. Beagle says that the Benders were never lynched. He says that there was a large reward offered for the Benders, dead or alive, and that the man or men who killed the Benders would not only have taken the reward. but, with the excitiment that was rife at that time, would have been made heroes of.

"Jim" Newberry, then marshal of Ft Scott; C. J. Peckham of Independence and "Jim" Beers of Independence were employed to trace the Benders, and Leroy Dick was left in charge of the search at the farm. Newberry kept in communication with Dick and reported that, when the Benders left their farm, they went to Thayer in a wagon.

There they purchased four tickets for Humboldt, and were seen there with the hair trunk and the stump-tailed dog, the latter being left there. They offered a twenty-dollar bill for the tickets, but were told that the station agent could not furnish the change, and later they produced the change and got the four tickets for Humboldt. At Humboldt Dick says the party separated, John Bender and his sis-

Texas through Parsons for Dennison, Tex., to which point on the Red river the Katy was then completed. There they stayed two weeks and two days and then

that they went to Mexico. The old man and old woman went to Lawrence, Kan., on the Santa Fe and there two Benders disappeared and have never since been seen or heard of. The team and wagon in which the four Benders went from their farm to Thaver was found a week after the Benders left it there. The team was hitched to the rear of the wagon and had eaten a large part of the wagon box. The horses were nearly starved to death when found. There were

several bullet holes in the wagon box and killed in a fight with vigilantes, and this was believed until it was proved that they drew another draft for \$10,000 on my had left Thayer for Humboldt. The lake near which the team and wagon were found was dragged, but nothing was found .-- Kansas City Star.

> Street car advertising. Omaha Hotel Supply Co moved from 314 Bo. 13th to rooms 31

to him as the Cudahys were impostors. Stuff With Which Streets Are Paved received attention from the Duke de Morny.

Rich in History.

FORTUNES MADE AND UNMADE

Some Americans Enriched, Others Impoverished---The Basis of an International Compli-

eation.

Precious few people, walking on the yielding surface of asphalt pavements in midsummer, know that the material under foot has a history as rich in romance and wealth as the gold mines of the west, surpassing the latter in being the cause of international complications. A writer in the New York Times, relating "The Lurid and Romantic Melodrama of Asphalt," tells a moving story of fabulous wealth gained by some Americans and the mpoverishment of millionaires who were caught in the mess in Venezuela. The writer says, in part:

The romance of asphalt is as wild a chapter tells how a penniless American biscuit salesman obtained a grant as arge as the state of New York and including some of the richest land in the world at that. In another chapter asphalt payes the way for a South American beauty to walk into Paris as the bearer of an ancient title and a queen of society Revolutions that cost 12,000 lives have

place in the melodrama, and the latest chapter shows a country as large as Germany, France, Italy, the Notherlands. Belgium, Switzerland and Ireland possessed of limitless resources, a mining country, a forest country, a cattle country, an agricultural country-lying undeveloped because of the complicating of

the same romance. And in an earthquake-proof house down there in the tropics sits today a middleaged, black-bearded man with a dash of Indian blood, backed by a population of ess than 3,000,000 scals (even if all were well disposed toward him) andI holding at bay men with grievances from this country, England, France, Italy, Holland and ter Kalo taking the Missouri, Kansas & certainly is a hornet's nest down in Veneguela.

Castro's Responsibility.

Castro is the man who today has to stand disappeared, the general impression being he did not begin it. Even if he were all his most bitter enemies claim, no one man

could in nine years have twisted and knotled things as they are twisted and knotted bought tickets for St. Louis, where they now in Venezueia. The romance began back stayed two weeks with a sister of old man in President Guzman Blanco's day. Since Bender. Two weeks later, while the sister that time the complications have been so of Bender was absent from the house, the many that it would seem as if another Nibelung's Ring had been made of asphalt and cast into the world to bring trouble to anyone who came near it.

It all started in 1882, when an under-sized man by the name of Hamilton arrived in firm. He was no financier and history does not even record that he was a particularly good biscuit seller, but he knew an adventure when he saw it and liked the taste of the suspicion that the Benders had been started an endless chain of queer events. Guzman Blanco was president of the republic then. He was an industrious presi-

lovely. Both these young women were familiar with the French capital, both had and both regarded with a not unfavorable eye the prospect of queening it in Parisian

Enter Hamilton on the scene. In the intervals of seiling biscuits he made the acquaintance of Blanco's niece and de- his case are tangled up, too, but his career voted himself to her. Next he had the is well known and interesting. Carner happy idea of exploiting the natural was a good business man and the comwealth of Venezuels, marrying the young lady, and playing a great part in South America for the rest of his natural life. Hermudez. He was interested in his job And he seemed truly in a fair way to fulfill his ambition. He petitioned for a In fact, he is accused of being so much concession of the rights of all the natural

society.

products of the state of Bermudez, and to keep it. volunteered to find capital to exploit his grant, allowing a liberal percentage of the profits to drift into the pocket of President Blanco. Blanco was not ill disposed to this idea, but he hesitated. Hamilton had not much ready cash at his disposal, and Blanco did not have the highest opinion of his ability to procure it. This is where the woman first appears in the play. Senorita Blanco possessed much of her father's executive ability and she did not propose to have any wo-

man come between her and the duke of melodrama as could be conceived. One her choice. She conceived the idea of marraying her cousin and Hamilton, first making Hamilton rich and eligible. Now Blanco's one weakness was his daugnter. She could persuade him to do anything; and she persuaded him to give Hamilton the concession. Everything went through as planned. Very shortly Hamilton man ried the niece and received from the uncle as a wedding gift the desired grant. From that moment the United States was interested in the Bermudez asphalt

> After the wedding it was "up to " Hamlton to produce the American financier who was to develop the country. Coming That strange lake had again sent out up to New York, he interested several its miasma of wretchedness and despair. people, notably W. H. Thomas, and the New York & Bermudez Company was first report of Carner, the receiver of his

through various changes, the New York tons of asphalt had been sold for \$493,000. & Bermudez company into the hands of the General Asphalt company, the great concern which claims so serious a griev- charged to "expenses and improvements." ance against Castro today.

Alas, poor Hamilton! One little paraone or two South American states. It graph will dispose of him and his connection with the romance. The New York & Bermudez company sent him back to Vene- much attention to him at the beginning.

ments and riotous living of one kind and York and opened a boarding house.

fate awaiting her. Blanco's rainy day, so took a very practical financial form, and long anticipated, came one morning in the he said that the Americans interested in shape of a bomb. True, the bomb was the asphalt trust (barring Barber and Car-Caracas to sell biscuits for an American badly made and did not explode, but it con- ner) were fillbusters. He said so to the veyed a hint to Blanco, and that night he state department, and Senator Cullom said and his daughter left the country. Their he should be "spanked." But he hasn't leavetaking was brief and not very sad been spanked yet. The tale (perhaps little exaggerated) runs blood was found on the wagon. This led to it. So, circumstances favoring, Hamilton that some \$20,000,000 in gold had preceded for asphalt digging on the ground that them. and Bianco's statue is pulled down and it out the terms of the concession. is well that he is not there, or it would go "revolutionary suit" was an after-thought, dent, too; nobody deries that. The only exception that can be taken to his method of work was that instead of looking after his country his energies were confined wholly to getting hold of large sums of gold and shipping them out of the country for paris and a dewry of \$4,000,000 of asphalty. hard with him. In New York, when the but an embarrassingly clever one. The

ilton showed that he was better fitted for amusing himself in Caracas than for developing the asphalt region of Bermudez, his place. A very able man, this newcomer lican owners.

in the asphalt melodrama. The rights of pany appreciated the way he went to work and dug asphalt out of that queer lake as no one ever accused Hamilton of being.

Castro Versus the Company.

There has been a tremendous fight be ween the General Asphalt company and Castro, a fight big enough to bring this nation to the verge of war. Carner worked first in the interest of the company that had sent him to Venezuela, and now the company's rights have been concelled by Castro, but Carner is still digging asphalt. Only he is working for the other man. Carner. the General Asphalt company's representative in Venezuela, was named by Castro as receiver for the company when its concessions were annulled. Other men connected with the melodrama are found, prosperous or penniless, all over the globe, but the only one who has never stirred from ene zuela, who has managed always to be dig-

ging asphalt at a profit, is Mr. Carner. His example was followed to a certain extent by A. L. Barber, who was chairman of the board of directors of the Asphalt Company of America and the National Asphalt company when they failed in 1901. There was a capital of \$58,000,000 involved, and the companies paid 20 per cent. Again did ruin and desolation follow the asphalt. Fortunes were lost, familles used to luxury were brought to want. It may be interesting to note that the but only \$8,000 was turned in to the Venezuela treasury. The remaining \$485,000 is In this last phase of the asphalt romance

Castro plays the leading part. Some people say that Castro is an accident. If he is, he is a pretty serious one. Nobody paid

Castro's slogan is "South America for the were a good many people who thought he

the niece. The daughter had so such sad Castro says that this appreciation of Matos

He has cancelled the concessions made Back in Caracas there are riots the Bermudez company had failed to carry Th

and selling the product cheaper than the But now we come to another romantic asphalt can be sold by companies which personality, Ambrose Carner. When Ham- have to consider interest on the money invested in their plant, their railroad, etc. All these things were ready made for the new company, and the asphalt is still today the company sent Ambrose Carner to take a gold mine-for all but the former Amer-

Charges Against Castro.

President Castro is a most remarkable man or he never could stave off trouble as he does. He has profited by all the faults and follies of the many who have been concerned in the asphalt melodrama. He is immensely shrewd, and he wants to keep the exploitation of the natural wealth of his conutry in the hands of nainterested that he is willing to do anything tives. His methods may suggest occasionally the ancient days of the Spanish Main, but that only serves to make him the more picturesque in this humdruns

HOHOHOHOHO

1.4eist

\$1.50, at,

Yard wide white taffetas, worth

27-inch heavy white Jap Silk, worth \$1.00, at

worth \$1.00, at 49c Imported white Messaline, 24

inches wide, worth \$1.35, at, yard 69c

Black Dress Goods at 69e

46-inch black chiffon weight

suit or separate skirt

at, yard

panamas for a cool traveling

just about half price, 69c

35c Bath Caps, Mon- **19c Bubber Goods and Bundries** One of our large stock rooms must be vacated at once. As a re-sult some extraordinary bargains will be found in our drug depart-ment

OFICEIOFICEIOFIC

age. The worst charge brought against him is that of the United States and Venezuela company, who have the Critchfield plant. When Judge Calhoun was sent down to investigate the tangle he gave them a very clean bill of health, and went so far as to speak highly of the manner in which they had fulfilled the terms of their agreement with the government, but Castro, contrary to the terms of the concession, imposed a duty on their asphalt as soon as he went into the business of that unhappy Lake of Bermudez. The Critchfield claim is considered one of the strongest of the five pending against Venezuela.

But Castro is not exciting himself. He s having his own way so far, and the has lots of people who think him a sec ond Bolivar. He sits in his palace drink. ing incredible quantities of brandy and paying no attention whatever to what Americans think about him.

Meanwhile, with little capital and a small population, the great resources in Venezuela remain undeveloped. "Closed by order of President Castro" is the sign that appears on the headquarters of many a foreign enterprise in Venezuela. And closed by order of Uncle Sam 1 sthe United States legation at Caracas. These two signs will stay there until the whole question has been gone into and straightened out by some genius. Meanwhils, Castro and his friends are making money and the American claimants in this cruntry are wondering what is going to sappen next.

> Street car advertising, Omaha Hotel Supply Co.

moved from 314 So. 13th to rooms 31 to 21 U. S. National bank building.

Our Own Minstrels.

Bones-Mistah Walkah, kin yo' tell me de iff'unce 'tween a base ball wot's hit to ne o' de Cubs' outfieldahs an' a runaway diff'unce one o' de slopin' on a Kansas rivah steam. ouple oat?

boat? Interlocutor-No, William; that is too hard for me. What is the difference be-tween a base ball that's hit to one of the Cubs' outfleiders and a runaway couple eloping on a Kansas river steamboat? Bones-De one am caught on de fly an' de uddah am a flight on de Kaw. Interlocutor-Ladies and gentiemen, the gifted tenor. Big. I. Monna Toote, will now sing that most touching of sentimental bas lads. 'Give Up Foker, My Darling; I Cal-Support the Family with Bridge Whist!''-'

'hicago Tribune.

Disgraceful Conduct

of liver and bowels, in refusing to act, # quickly remedied with Dr. King's New Life Pills, 25c, Beaton Drug Co.

Not Equipped.

"You ought to try to take live more phil-ophically," said the man who means well. "I haven't the raw materials for philoso-ty," answered Farmer Cornicasel.

Dr. Ross, Dentist, 415 Barker Block. in

zuela to represent them there. Hamilton Then he started a revolution nine year had money and if he did not know much ago and made himself president. And if the responsibility of the whole thing, but about asphalt he knew a great deal about the asphalt workers had troubles before, how to get rid of ready cash in a short they faded into insignificance when Castro time. What with the yachts and entertain- took hold. another, Hamilton did not last long. He South Americans." He never looked with spent his money, he lost his job, and he a favorable eye upon the stranger within was reduced to penury. He wandered over his gates. He was pretty hard on the the tropics borrowing such small sums asphalters, and when Matos. Blanco's as he could and his wife came to New brother-in-law, started a revolution, there So much for the romance of Hamilton and would be preferable to Castro as president.

and shipping them out of the country for Paris and a dowry of \$4,000,000 of asphalt them and their property. They do not his own private use in event of a rainy day. money paid over to the duke. Incidentally, deny the episode of the money. Bianco had a daughter, the very beautiful and just to show how trouble pursued the The upshot of it is that Castro is

lake and troubles begun. The American Financier. formed. Many years later, after passing former company, sets forth that 102,000