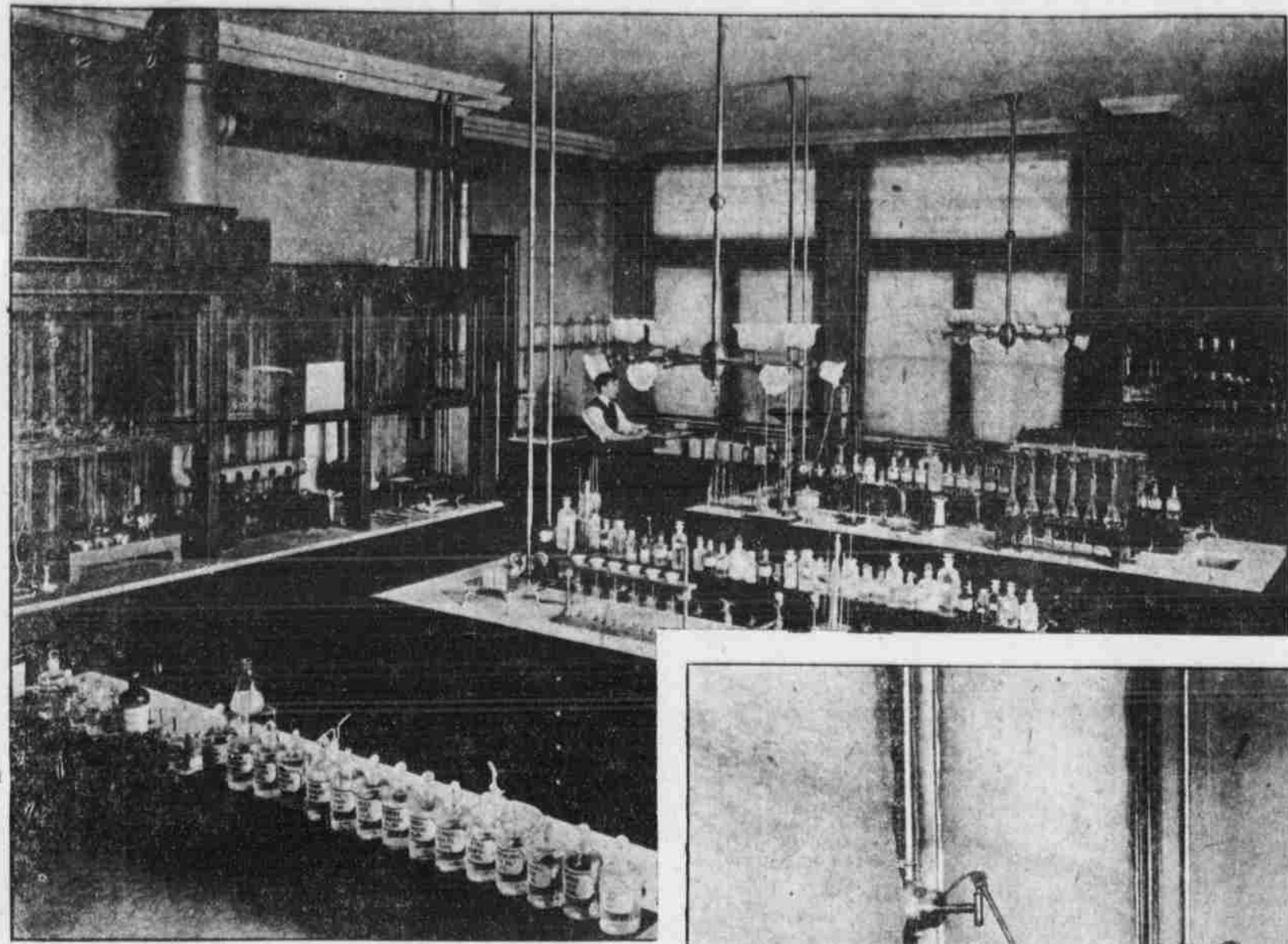


UNCLE SAM'S SOLICITUDE FOR THE WORLD'S BILL OF FARE

Expert Chemists, Equipped With Latest and Most Delicate Apparatus, Continually on the Watch to Prevent Adulteration of the Food Supply Under Direction of the General Government



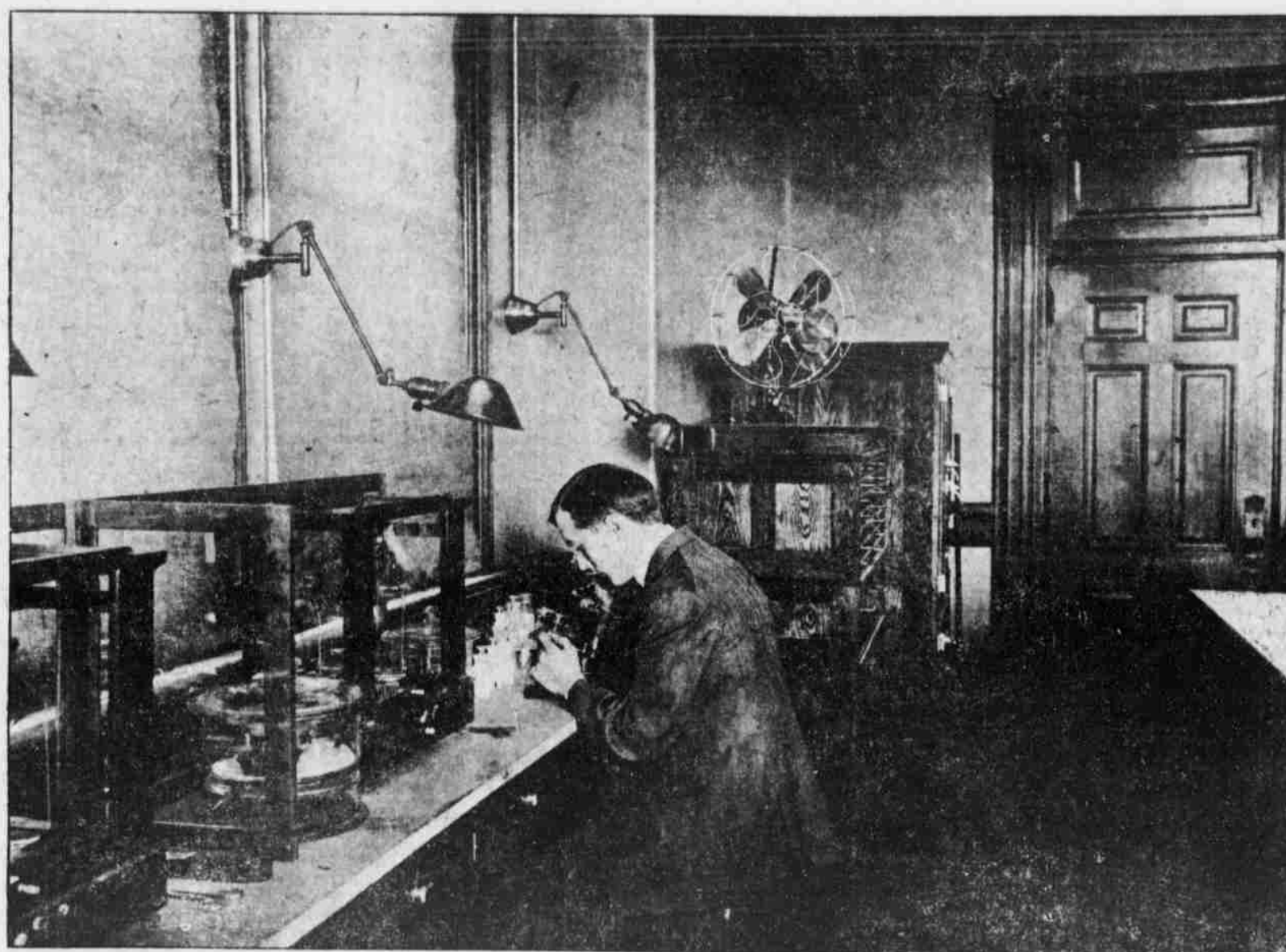
LABORATORY TABLES AT OMAHA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PURE FOOD SERVICE.

WIDESPREAD and accentuated interest in pure food legislation has brought about in the United States, not only the enactment of many new laws, but has also caused the revamping and rejuvenation of earlier laws that had been allowed to fall into disrepute and had become practically dead statutes. In 1905 only twenty-five states and territories were doing anything like effective work along the line of fight for pure foods, drugs, medicines and liquors. At present forty states and territories in the United States are up and working systematically and with well defined rules. Besides, public sentiment has been so far aroused that Hawaii, the Philippine islands and Porto Rico have more or less extensive and fairly strict laws relating to the purity and wholesomeness of food. The forty does not include states or territories that have passed pure food laws but have made no appropriation for enforcement machinery. Of these there are eleven, with three territories in the number, which come under the operation of the federal law. Of the eight states that are lagging, three have laws responsive to public sentiment, but failed to make appropriations.

In the states where enforcement is attempted in anything like a thorough manner, as in Nebraska, for instance, appropriations are being gradually increased, with more inspectors and better field work. Dyes, chemicals and preservatives in food are especially taboed, but the new laws are broad enough to prohibit misbranding of packages as well as the use of deleterious or poisonous ingredients, and they reach out after drugs, liquors and paints as well as food stuffs. National and state co-operation in this very important work is today effective throughout the country, practically.

Your Uncle Samuel, having determined that his family and kin-folk ought to have good food, get the worth of their money in quality and quantity, and be as carefully protected as possible from dangerous concoctions, goes about the carrying out of his determination with vim and vigor. To this end he has established at different points twenty-one chemical laboratories, and Omaha has one of these. It is under the charge of Mr. S. H. Ross, located on the fourth floor of the federal building, and is probably the most complete of any outside the very large laboratories at New York, Philadelphia and Boston. The laboratory room here is admirably suited to its purpose, and in a space of 24x36 there has been arranged a diversity of apparatus calculated to quickly and certainly expose the ingredients of food stuffs and of liquids. New York has the largest laboratory, Chicago stands second, but among the smaller laboratories in size and force equals the Omaha outfit is about as complete as can be found anywhere. Compactly placed and lighted with the ideal light, from the north, the laboratory equipment consists of three main tables, extraction table, polariscope table, hood, muffle furnace, trituration table, sample table, centrifuge table, apparatus case, drain racks, balance table, microscope cabinet and refrigerator. The furniture is quarter-sawn oak, with brass trimmings throughout. The laboratory tables have brass tops, with sink and water connections at each end, and numerous connections for gas, air blast and suction and electrical connections for heat and power purposes. Convenient drawers and closets take up the space beneath the tables. Take the hood shown in the illustration, for example, it is provided with a twelve-inch tile connection through the roof, for proper ventilation and to take off poisonous and corrosive fumes, while in the hood itself are located various steam connections, steam tables, steam baths, etc.

The bureau of chemistry, of which the Omaha inspection laboratory is a part, is charged with the preparation of the data on which the execution of the food and drug act is based. This includes



MAKING MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF FLOUR.

the very important matter of collecting samples, in the open market, and examination of the same. It may be well here to note that this act forbids the manufacture and sale of adulterated or misbranded foods and drugs in the District of Columbia and the territories, their importation into the United States or exportation therefrom, and their sale in interstate commerce. The various state laws passed in recent years have been drawn with the idea of being supplementary to and fitting in with this national law. H. W. Wiley, the noted Dr. Wiley around whom storms and compliments have been circling and clashing for several years, is the top-notch of the food officials, as they are officially designated, of the bureau of chemistry. Dr. Wiley and all of his field and laboratory assistants work under the food and drug act of June 30, 1906.

The Treasury department, through the bureau of internal revenue, is also interested in the work of the laboratories, as to wines, whiskies, liqueurs, etc.

Here in Omaha, as at the other twenty stations, the work is practically the same as the analytical work on foods performed at the central bureau, all looking to a close enforcement of the law. If necessary, the central bureau makes check analyses on any doubtful samples referred to it by the branch laboratories and renders the final decision. In the work on drugs, medicines, etc., the central drug laboratory does the same thing. The chief of the Omaha laboratory, and of all the others, reports directly to the head of the bureau, charged by the secretary of agriculture with administration details.

For two months the Omaha branch laboratory has been working on samples picked up by inspectors and sent in. Should the branch laboratory closest to the inspector be too busy to give him quick action he sends the sample to some other laboratory. Here an average of from eighty to a hundred samples a month have been

tested. These comprise saccharine products, such as honey, syrups, molasses, candy, maple staples; also breakfast foods, cheese, flavoring extracts, vinegar, spices, olive and salad oils; milk and cream, fresh or condensed; wheat rye, buckwheat, graham and potato flours. Chicago sends into the market a great deal of potato flour, which is used largely as a substitute for cornstarch.

Of samples tested and reported on probably 10 per cent are found defective, adulterated, contrary to law. If any given sample is found O. K. the man from whom it was taken is not notified of that fact specifically, because such reports used to be immediately put forth more or less fulsomely as advertisements. The government is not in the advertising business in that way. Under the present custom a merchant or manufacturer who is in the clear can have the simple satisfaction of feeling that "no news is good news," and he must keep on his guard.

Granting, for example, that a certain sample of food stuff bought in the open market is found not to measure up to the requirements of the law, the procedure is in this order: A notice is sent to the dealer, or dealers, from whom samples were obtained, appointing a date of hearing. At that time a defense is offered, and the dealer may prove, among other defenses, a guaranty; that is, that the goods were guaranteed to him by the wholesaler or manufacturer, and any other pertinent facts. Failing a good defense, if the law has been clearly violated, the matter is referred through the solicitor of the department to the proper United States district attorney for prosecution. After the conclusion of the hearing thus given the dealer or manufacturer may raise the question of accuracy of analysis, when all samples involved are re-examined in another

laboratory than that in which the original examination was made. This will be done before prosecution is begun, for the government reckons to give every person whose goods are questioned a fair day in court.

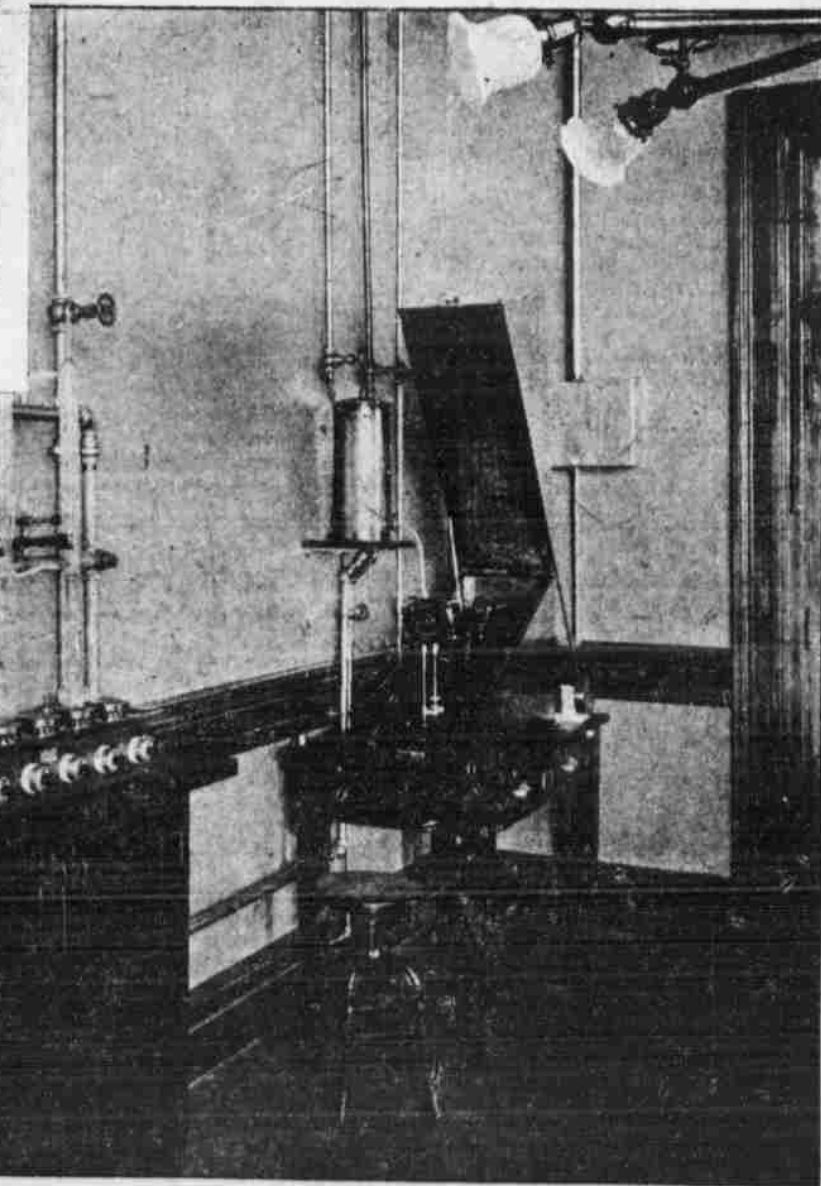
In the case of imported goods, samples are taken and tests made at the port of entry, and when such goods enter the channels of interstate commerce they are pretty sure to be what the labels purport. Every invoice of food products coming into this country is accompanied by a declaration made before a United States consul concerning the character of the shipment, and each package must be correctly labeled or branded with the nature of the contents and place of production. Anything forbidden to be put in food products or sold in the country from which shipments come may not be placed in food for export to this country. On the goods imported both the Treasury and State departments get into the game with the department of food inspection, the State department by securing the declaration mentioned, and the Treasury department by collaborating in the execution of the law by securing samples of suspected invoices.

Oleomargarin, renovated butter, adulterated butter, filled cheese, mixed flour, these are all subject to sample taking and proper test. Oils also come in for watching, and in the case of oils as quick action can be had, perhaps, as in anything that comes to the hands of the chemists.

No specific assignment of territory is made for the forty inspectors working in the field under direct orders from the chief inspector at Washington, and who picks up samples everywhere and anywhere. Samples have been received in the Omaha laboratory from Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The principal products examined and the adulterants found may be listed as follows:

- Milk**—Skimmed, watered or preserved; and condensed skim milk purporting to be real condensed milk.
 - Cheese**—Filled or made from partially skimmed milk.
 - Flour**—Mixture of cheaper flours, such as corn, rye or wheat mixed in with buckwheat.
 - Preserves**—Substitution of glucose for sugar without declaration; use of artificial coloring matter and imitation of flavors to simulate natural products.
 - Maple Products**—Substitution of cane sugar or syrup and caramel in place of genuine maple.
 - Honey**—Very common.
 - Pepper and Spices**—Here is where folks eat ground olive stones, cocoyaut shells, pepper shells, ground bark and wood, getting a good gritty toothful very often; foreign.
- Besides the mechanical apparatus, the Omaha pure food bureau has a small library of practical books of reference. The whole investment here is about \$7,000.
- Chief Ross and his assistants are graduate chemists, who, like all officials in this service, are appointed from an eligible list established upon examination by the United States civil service commission.

Besides Omaha, the following cities have laboratories under the direction of Dr. Wiley's bureau: Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, Detroit, Galveston, Kansas City, Nashville, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Portland, St. Louis, St. Paul, San Francisco, Savannah and Honolulu.



EXTRACTION TABLE AND POLARISCOPE.

CERTAIN people who have fondly imagined that on his retirement from the presidency Theodore Roosevelt would drop into the abyss of oblivion and cease to be an object of interest are not likely to realize on their hopes for some time to come. Public interest in the ex-president does not diminish as the days pass.

Since the announcement was made that Mr. Roosevelt would leave Hoboken, on the Jersey side of the New York harbor, March 23, officials of the steamship line have been besieged with applications for reservations on the steamship from those who want to be on the same vessel with the ex-president. Already most of the cabin accommodations have been taken and Mr. Roosevelt will have a lively and interested company as fellow travelers on the liner on which he is to sail.

So curious are those who have asked for cabin room and so interested are they in the ex-president that even the table seats have been spoken for far in advance with the object of sitting near Mr. Roosevelt and his company of African travelers. As a matter of fact, reports the Brooklyn Eagle, it is expected that the former president and his companions on the trip to Africa will take most of their meals in their suite, where they can talk over plans for the inland trip in Africa without disturbance.

Preparations for the African Hunting Trip of Ex-President Roosevelt

The utmost precautions are being taken against the shipment of cranks and others on board the liner who might annoy the former president on the voyage or possibly mean him harm. While Mr. Roosevelt is no longer under the care of the United States secret service, it is generally believed that there were many private detectives hovering about today scanning the faces of those who are booking on the same steamer with Mr. Roosevelt, and it is generally believed that many private detectives will be fellow passengers on the steamship—a sort of private bodyguard for Mr. Roosevelt.

First in the consideration of the steamship company on March 23 will be the police arrangements in Hoboken, to guard against overcrowding at the pier and the steamer just before sailing, for it is expected that there will be an unprecedented crowd present on board before the time arrives for Mr. Roosevelt to bid adieu to America for over a year. Every departing liner is crowded with visitors on sailing day, but it is expected that all records will be broken on March 23, when the Roosevelt steamer leaves Hoboken for the Mediterranean. From Naples to Mombassa Mr. Roosevelt and his party will go on the German East African

steamship Admiral. On this steamer also many have reserved space, intending to follow the ex-president as far as the African port and then continue their own journeys elsewhere.

Mr. Roosevelt and his party will have plenty of active company until Mombassa is reached. After that his fellow voyagers on the liner from New York and from Genoa will leave him to his fate and to the mercies of the jungle beasts and natives in the interior of the Darkest Continent.

When ex-President Roosevelt and his party enter the African jungle they will take with them an outfit which will illustrate the high degree of ingenuity which has been employed in providing for the modern hunter's comfort. With the exception of his firearms, practically all of the personal outfit of Mr. Roosevelt has been purchased in England, and is now on its way to Mombassa, British East Africa, addressed to "President Roosevelt." The selection of the equipment was entrusted to several English friends, including R. J. Cunningham, an English naturalist, who is to accompany Mr. Roosevelt, and Fred Courtney Selous, England's pioneer in big game hunting. London Answers describes some of the articles which have

been chosen for the personal comfort of the ex-president while traversing the wilds of Eastern Africa.

Some of the things which his string of native bearers will carry into the interior for his use are a special tent with combination bath tub and washstand attachment, lightweight bedding, folding furniture, compact cooking utensils and many minor articles, such as a combined folding spade and pick for cutting ditches around the tent when it rains; folding metal boot trees, hair clippers and safety razors, for use in a country where no imaginable fee can procure a barber; a portable scale, for obtaining evidence for folding tales; a pump filter, for separating the soil from the water where the only liquid refreshment obtainable looks like mud; a mincing machine, an alarm clock and a walking stick which may be turned into a stool for the comfort of the hunter when he is fatigued and wishes to wait for the game to find him.

The tent will accommodate two persons. It is twelve feet by ten feet and seven feet six inches high in the middle and is lined inside with turkey red twill, which gives it a cozy atmosphere. In the lining are many pockets for stowing such articles as there is

no danger of losing through their attractiveness in the eyes of the natives. The tent is double-ridged, so that a second canvas may be spread over the first. This affords greater protection from the elements. In the heat of the day it serves to keep the interior cooler. On either side of the inner tent, beneath the eaves of the outer covering, is space for some of the "boys," as the native bearers are called, and some of the baggage. The tent is provided with a veranda in front, and a folding canvas water cooler, which might be mistaken for a drum, will hang outside the tent when it is set up. There are also canvas buckets for transporting the water from the spring to the cooler. The folding beds are fitted with rods for the mosquito curtains, for insects will probably be more numerous in Africa than office-seekers at the White House. The bed can quickly be taken apart and neatly packed in a bag which looks something like that used for golf clubs, the whole package weighing only twenty-two pounds. The bed clothing will include two "Jaeger" sheets and two camel-hair blankets for use in the high altitudes, where it is frequently cold at night. The mattress and pillow are of horse hair covered with canvas, the former folding

up like a window blind. The remainder of the tent furniture includes a folding table weighing about four pounds, a canvas-hanging wardrobe, a folding mirror, a dressing case and a green canvas-ground sheet. To the tent poles are attached leather straps fitted with brass hooks for guns, coats and other articles. Wind-proof "hurricane" lamps, mechanical oil lamps requiring no chimney, a collapsible candle lamp and one or two reading lamps will provide Mr. Roosevelt with opportunities for enjoying himself when on more exciting sport than reading offers.

Two persons on a three months' big game-hunting expedition would want between fifty and sixty native bearers to carry their outfit and provisions. The "boys" are directly under the command of a headman, who acts as guide. Many of the natives are clever cooks, and, with their own ovens placed in a hole in the ground, they will speedily bake bread or roast small game or joints.

But for other foods and methods of cooking the hunter takes with him what is called the "cook's box," in the makeup of which great ingenuity is displayed. The box is only about two feet six inches long, and fifteen inches wide, and is divided into (Continued on Page Three.)