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ESTABLISHED 1855.

DAUGHTERS OF GAIN

By ETTA W. PIERCE

CHAPTER III

"What!" cried Fleetwood, dumfounded. "Yes, sir," repeated Hoxie, "I were one of 'em! Bad luck often forces a man into strange company. I needn't go into particulars; but I'm a sort of Jack of all trades. I've fought Indians, I've drubbed cattle through the sage brush, I've worked in a mine, once I kept a billiard saloon at Pueblo, and at another time I had a gambling place at Leadville—twas at Leadville that I first met Dave.

"'Lucky,' he hissed, 'in the place to which I am going to send you, my friend, you will be obliged to keep your discovery to yourself.' "And then he gave the signal, and the next instant, I was swinging in the air, and every man leaped into his saddle, and like the wind the whole gang went clattering back toward the gulch, and left me to the crows and buzzards.

Miscellaneous Reading.

YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER.

Snow and Ice Prevailed in June, July and August in 1816. The year 1816 was known throughout the United States and Europe as the coldest ever experienced by any person then living. There are persons in northern New York who have been in the habit of keeping diaries for fifty years, and it is from the pages of one of these diaries that the following information regarding this year without a summer has been taken:

ROOSEVELT TO THE EDITORS.

Conserve Our Natural Resources—

Adopt Inheritance Tax. In addressing the members of the National Editorial Association last Monday, President Roosevelt devoted himself almost wholly to the discussion of two questions—the reshaping of our system of taxation so as to make it bear most heavily on those capable of supporting the strain, and the utilization of the natural resources of the nation in the way that will be of most benefit to the nation as a whole. He gave more attention to the latter question than to the former.

Be Open-Eyed and Impartial.

"It is essential that the man in public life and the man who writes in the public press shall both of them, if they are really good servants of the people, be prompt to assail wrong-doing and wickedness. Be sure that you assail wrong-doing and wickedness under two conditions to be fulfilled, because if unfulfilled, harm and not good will result. In the first place, be sure of your facts and avoid everything like hysteria or exaggeration; for to assail a decent man for something of which he is innocent is to give aid and comfort to every scoundrel while indulgence in hysterical exaggeration serves to weaken, not strengthen, the statement of truth."

An Inheritance Tax.

Taking up the matter of taxation, Mr. Roosevelt stated that most great, civilized countries have an income tax and an inheritance tax, and declared that, in his judgment, both should be part of our system of Federal taxation. As to the first he spoke briefly and diffidently, in view of the decision of the supreme court declaring unconstitutional one such scheme of taxation, and because of its difficulties in the way of administration. As to the latter he declared that it would serve the purpose of having the swollen fortunes of the country bear in proportion to their size a constantly increasing burden of taxation.

Mexican Government Wants to Exterminate a Weed That Causes.

The effects of smoking the marijuana weed are so harmful that an effort is to be made under direction of the government to exterminate the plant throughout Mexico, writes a New York Sun correspondent from Mexico City.

WAR ON MARIHUANA.

The war department issued orders some time ago prohibiting soldiers from smoking the herb. The law against growing or selling it has been extended to apply to all classes.

As It Is in France.

"In France, under the progressive system, so much of an inheritance exceeds ten millions of dollars pays over 20 per cent to the state if it passes to a distant relative, and 5 per cent if it passes to a direct heir. In Germany very small inheritances are exempt, but the tax is so sharply progressive that an inheritance not in agricultural or forest lands, which exceeds two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, if it goes to distant relatives, is taxed at the rate of about 25 per cent."

Commendable Feature.

"The French law has one feature which is to be heartily commended. The progressive principle is so applied that each higher rate is imposed only on the excess above the amount subject to the next lower rate. This plan is peculiarly adapted to the working out of the theory of using the inheritance tax for the purpose of limiting the size of inheritances, since the progressive increase in the rates, according to this mode, may be carried to its logical conclusion in a maximum rate of nearly 100 per cent for the amount in excess of a specified sum, without being confiscatory as to the rest of the inheritance; for each increase in rate would apply only to the amount above a certain maximum. I do not believe that any advantage comes either to the country as a whole or to the individuals inheriting the money by permitting the transmission in their entirety of such enormous fortunes as have been accumulated in America. The tax could be made to bear more heavily upon persons residing out of the country than upon those residing within it. Such a heavy progressive tax is, of course, in no shape or way a tax on thrift or industry, for thrift and industry have ceased to possess any measurable importance when I speak long before the tax of which I am now seriously affected them. Such a tax would be one that would preserve a measurable equality of opportunity for the people of the generation growing to manhood. As Lincoln pointed out, there are some respects in which men are obviously not equal; but there is no reason why they should not be an equality of opportunity, and this is only one of their many uses, and that a planned and orderly development is impossible except by taking into account all the services they are capable of rendering. It was upon this ground that the inland waterways commission was recently appointed. Their duty is to propose a comprehensive plan for the improvement and utilization of the same great waterways which are the main arteries of the country. Their duty is also to bring together the points of view of all users of streams,