

## UNCLE SAM BUILDS

Homes for Great Departments at Washington to Be Erected Shortly.

## ARCHITECTS TO COMPETE

Washington, Oct. 21.—A massive aquarium for the fisheries bureau, a magnificent state dining room and a comprehensive law library system are among the striking features of a trio of great department buildings to cost an aggregate of \$7,750,000, soon to be erected in Washington under three architectural competitions.

The competitions are for the selection of architects of the buildings for the departments of state, justice and commerce and labor, costing respectively under the authorizations limiting the expenditures \$2,200,000, \$1,900,000 and \$3,650,000.

The buildings will be erected just south of the treasury building. The competitions which will close December 30, next, and will be passed upon by an expert committee of award, will be participated in by architects in New York, Washington, Buffalo, San Francisco, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, St. Louis, Detroit, Omaha, Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio.

The state department building is to have a ground area of 72,000 square feet. It will have 325 rooms, including a state dining room, two reception rooms and an international conference room, this feature alone taking up 6,000 square feet of floor space.

The department of justice building with a ground area of 57,000 square feet, will contain 225 rooms. A feature will be the law library, which with the adjacent reading room, will have a combined floor space of 7,500 square feet and main stock room on a mezzanine floor, with 12,000 linear feet of book shelves. The commerce and labor building with 90,000 square feet of ground area, the largest structure of all, will have 450 rooms, including an aquarium occupying 28,000 feet of floor space and 75,000 square feet for the census bureau. The state and justice buildings will be three stories and basement, and the commerce and labor five stories and basement.

## YOUR UNCLE SAM IS POWER BEHIND THE THRONE NOW

(Continued From Page One.)

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## Crowd Into Country.

Just as rapidly as possible Nicaragua is being made a good place in which to abide. American capitalists and investors are crowding into the country with rapidity. Now that the days of the revolution are ended—the machine made an implement of agriculture instead of war—the future of the little republic looks bright. Mines are being developed, forests cleared, lagoons drained and homes built. Men from the north and middle western states are causing the bustle. There are St. Louisians, Kansas Cityans, Chicagoans and men from numerous smaller cities who are interested financially in agriculture and mining work. Many are already realizing on their investments.

Along the Rio Grande river there is a wide stretch of territory covered with bamboo, some of which is planted in bananas. Shipments of bananas were taken out of that section for the first time this week by the Pan-American Co., a Kansas City and St. Louis concern. There are half a dozen small companies beginning operations and within six months fully 200,000 or 300,000 acres of bananas will have been planted along that river, which seems to be the best for the culture of this particular fruit of any in the republic. The bananas about 3,000 stems—shipped this week were the finest taken into the port of New Orleans.

Mining throughout the country, while being pushed, is not bringing the money returns of fruit. Many men however, have struck it rich in the mining region. A Canadian by the name of McGinnis, a carpenter by trade, located in the north part of the republic and founded the Lone Star Mine. Today he is several times over a millionaire. Joe LaPero, a French Canadian, discovered the Bonanza mine from which millions in gold have been taken. The Topas

Mining Co. is another paying venture. The chief difficulty with the mining is the matter of transportation.

## Big Banana Business.

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They have tried rubber down here, and made a failure; cocoanut plantations bring forth fruit slowly; pineapples grow large, as do grape fruit and oranges, but they ripen so quickly and the import duty is so heavy that exportation under present conditions is hardly considered. Rice does fairly well while coffee on the west coast reaches a high grade of perfection. The coffee, diplomatic and other officials assert, is the finest in the world.

The chief trouble on the east coast is finding a hillside level enough to stand on and cultivate the product.

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## How Natives Are Paid.

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The foreman who can get the good will of the Indian is the valuable man. The superintendent of a coffee plantation has been trying to get 300 men to work for the last two years. At one time he had 130—and he is a man the natives like too.

The manager of a big banana plantation is having the same trouble. A month or two is frequently spent getting half a hundred men together. Indians stay close to their villages and the hope of the planter is the building of these conglomerations of huts. Give the workers a bamboo covered shed in which to live, build them a church of the same material and secure for them a preacher, even though their morals seem lax, and the natives will probably spend their when they feel so inclined. Now and then they wander away and get outside of all the bad whisky they can buy, but they return in time to again take up the machete. Good treatment appears to be the only secret, if there be any secret of getting labor in Nicaragua.

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