

NUGGETS OF BOULDER COLOR

By Elton Garrett

BIGGEST SPIDERS

Yes, Mother Goose would be well to spend more time on the Hoover dam project getting yarns for the new editions of her kid-books.

For instance, she might well weave a narrative for the tots about the biggest spiders in the world.

They're right here in Southern Nevada—near Boulder City—on the Hoover dam project—where all Boulder City folks who are fortunate enough may see them.

It's a spot about five miles from Boulder City that these spiders have their lair and they're found only in one spot. They do not live out of doors, and they've selected a most peculiar shack in which to make their nest.

No webs, or any of that foolishness for these spiders; they are the laziest spiders in the world; yet they do not even know their own strength. They can hold a surprising amount of weight, for a spider—several million times as much as the average spider.

Now when these spiders grow,

5/19/33
their legs grow longer, but, very strangely, they can ungrow again. In fact, they have two leg lengths, and can work at either length.

For these spiders DO work, and they are most obedient, doing EXACTLY the bidding of their masters.

These spiders have a reach of 25 feet, from the tip of one leg to the tip of the opposite leg of the six. When they have a certain special type of work to do, they can reach 30 feet from tip to tip!

The "shack" selected by these spiders for their home is about the biggest shack on the Hoover dam project—the huge Babacock and Wilcox steel frame building down at Bechtel siding—a building big enough to contain several baseball games at one time.

And the spiders are the kind that always find places inside of big pipes. Their chief function, in fact, will be to get inside the big 25-foot and 30-foot steel pipes which are being made there, and to hold the steel plate or plates of which the pipe is being made in place while welding takes

place.

Shaped like a wagon wheel without any rim, the spiders are of steel, and weigh several tons each. The six legs are powerful. They have extensions at the ends, making it possible to fit inside the big 30-foot-diameter pipe sections that will be built later, as well as the 25 foot pipe.

These spiders have not yet commenced their heavy work down in the 'B and W.' plant, but soon will be engaged in the business of helping build penstock pipe—within a month perhaps.

— BUY AT HOME —

MULE DEFEATED COUGAR

MISSOULA, Mont., May 9. (UP)—A fighting mule that really can lick his weight in wildcats is stationed at a ranger post in Lewis and Clark forest. Ranger J. C. DeGibat, in charge of the post reported the mule successfully beat off a giant cougar when the animal attacked it.