

# WASHINGTON GOSSIP

## What the Lawmakers Eat in Summertime



WASHINGTON.—Among the thousand things that influenced the making of the tariff bill in congress, there has been overlooked one element that had indirect but important effect on the raising or lowering of schedules. Three times a day this influence got to work on the senators and congressmen perspiring in the mid-summer heat of the capitol. It was their daily diet.

The menus of Washington are a culinary jumble, a gastronomic hash, a geographical mixture of tropical and temperate zone cookery. They must serve the pie eaters of New England, the Frenchified palates of New Yorkers, the beefeaters of the north, the iron-clad stomachs of the west, and the uneasy livers of the south.

The city has not completely acquired the art of hot weather dining that you can find best exemplified in Egypt, India, and the far east where Englishmen and Americans live in exile. It struggles between carnivorous appetites and tropical temperature.

What sort of a tariff decision would you expect from a man who eats beef-steak for breakfast, yet this is what you can find on Washington bills of fare. Then there are 17 different kinds of cereal foods that leave a sawdust nourishment in your stomach,

and a dozen different acid fruits that Carlsbad doctors tell you to avoid. There is nothing in the world that lies heavier on a tired, flaccid, mid-summer stomach than an iced melon the first thing in the morning, yet a majority of the tariffmakers ate them daily. The internal chill their digestive organs get is a rapid cooler for tariff reduction enthusiasm.

The capitol restaurant serves more dairy dishes and pie than at any other time of the year. The average lawmaker eats at noon—a good habit in this country, only he would eat digestible food. But he turns his liver with overdoses of milk, pours down quantities of iced drinks amid layers of pie and devitalizing food. The one salvation is that roast beef—generally cold—still remains the principal blood making, brain sustaining, muscle giving meat dish of the capitol.

But it is the night diners that furnish the most amazing specimens of menus. The bills of fare of the leading hotels follow closely parallel lines. Their principal dishes can be classified as follows:

Twenty-four different kinds of ices. Fifteen cold salads. Fifteen different ways of cooking potatoes. Twenty-nine vegetables, hot and cold. Eight fish cooked in 15 different ways. Thirteen fresh fruits. Eight varieties of cheese. Seventeen hot roasts and entrees, of which eight were chicken and birds.

## Members of Congress Hot After Mileage



As an evidence of the receptive disposition on the part of the members of congress it might be mentioned that the representatives voted themselves each \$125 extra "stationery allowance" soon after the beginning of the extra session. A great many of them do not spend more than \$15 or \$20 a year on their stationery. There are 391 members, four delegates and three commissioners who may draw this comfortable little additional \$125 allowance, making 398 all told. The sum of this item, therefore, is \$21,450. Every employe of the capitol working force was granted an extra month's pay, and as the salaries run all the way from \$6,000 a year, experts, to \$50 a month for messengers, and \$2.50 a day for pages, the sum total is a tidy one. The extra pay of the senate pages amounts to \$4,800 for the extra session. These youngsters, of whom there are 16, are given \$2.50 a day, reckoning 30 days a month.

The urgent deficiency bill carries a number of the items due to the extra session. Among them is one "for miscellaneous items, exclusive of labor, \$25,000." Who gets it is not divulged in the bill. Another line in the bill reads: "To reimburse the official reporters of the proceedings and debates of the senate for expenses incurred during the first session of the Sixty-first congress for clerk hire and other clerical services, \$3,240." The official reporters of debates get \$5,000 a year apiece and extra compensation for additional copies of their transcriptions.

The mere fact that most of the senators and congressmen did not return to their homes between adjournment on March 4 and the beginning of the extra session on March 15 does not lessen their desire to get the mileage. It is so much "velvet," if they can get it, and the majority of the gentlemen who go to Washington to serve their country have the reputation of getting all they can.

The statesmen get 15 cents a mile over the longest possible route to their homes. Some of the New York members get more than \$100 for a trip.

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## Your Picture Taken With Mr. Taft



IF you want your picture taken with President Taft, come to Washington. It's a sure-thing proposition. Whether the biggest man of the nation is at Beverly or Bullymahoo, it's all the same thing. For the nominal price of half a dollar or a bagatelle of that sort you can go thundering down to posterity on a piece of pasteboard clasping hands with the king of America or castly locking arms with His Honorable Greatness. Of course, as far as the president goes, it is absent treatment, pictorially speaking. All you've got to be particular about is to be on hand your own self.

Way down "the Avenue," close to

the capitol, an obscure little photographer's shop floats on its frontal a drapery of white cloth bearing blatantly the black legend: "Come in and have your picture taken with President Taft."

The trick is turned, of course, by the simple method of improving the customer's figure beside the stock plates of President Taft with outstretched hand, as if in greeting, or in a friendly arm-and-arm pose. The illusion, however, is very good, and the perpetrator has been making money ever since the inauguration, when postcard fakers filled the street with similar enticements. The capitol or White House looms convincingly in the background, and in the foreground there you are in the presidential grip and under the radiance of the presidential smile. Of course, your friends in Wayback believe they have ocular demonstration that you are the whole show when you come to Washington.

## Busy Boosters of the Latin Republics



THERE is none of the imputed Latin indisposition to work in those who conduct the International Bureau of American Republics here.

The bureau, which, by the way, is putting up a spick and span new building, acts as a sort of press agent for the Latin-American countries. A perusal of one of its monthly bulletins is a liberal education in what the "Other Americans" are doing and in the resources of their countries.

The July number was the annual

review number. John Barrett is director of the bureau and Francisco J. Yanes is secretary. These two are busy as bees, keeping the countries in which they are interested in the public eye. The July issue covers the activities of the 20 Latin-American Republics of the International union for the year 1908.

"The spirit of internationalism in its broadest application was the prevailing characteristic of relations between the various countries of America during 1908," the bulletin says. "The year was marked by numerous gatherings of the representative elements of national life, both in Latin America and the United States, and on all occasions indications of a unanimity of sentiment and community of interest were notably displayed."

## Recent Styles



- 1.—Model for a gown of white chiffon cloth. It has an eccentric and attractive arrangement of heavy flax lace touched with gold and silver bullion around the shoulders and on the skirt. The hat is a Gainsborough of white lace trimmed with agrettes of raspberry pink. The scarf is in the same color.
- 2.—Gown of pale lavender batiste with long narrow skirt. Oblong panel back and front made of net with vermicelli design of heavy floss over its surface. This is outlined with twisted soutache between two straight bands of black velvet ribbon. Under arm pieces are of net with trimming of black velvet ribbon. Shallow yoke and high stock of white net. Hat of black with Henry VIII. crown of lavender velvet. Hat pins of amethysts set in filigree silver.
- 3.—Hat of black chip trimmed with two large plumes and stiff pleated bow of jade green.
- 4.—Frock of dull pink linen with embroidered lingerie collar and cuffs. It is trimmed with linen covered buttons and the sash is of black satin. Hat of rough straw trimmed with large wired bow of black satin.
- 5.—Child's frock of white batiste with bertha of lace and rosette of pale blue satin ribbon. Lingerie hat of eyelet embroidery with scarf and bow of pale blue satin.

## IN SOFT QUALITY OF LINEN FOR AN ALL-BLACK COSTUME

Model That Would Make Up Well in Any Light Color, Preferably Pale Green. Always Well to Have One for Genuine Service, and Here is a Splendid Model.

Linen is made in such delightfully soft qualities this summer, that they adapt themselves well to fine tucks such as are made at the top of this skirt. The number of colors suited to a summer dress are many, but

There is quite a return to the once-popular fashion of having a black frock for genuine service. Every woman, even with an elaborate wardrobe, knows there are some hours when everything seems to be in need of cleaning or mending.



For just such occasions she has a smart one-piece frock of black hanging in the closet. It is made of fine silk voile, for there has been found no better fabric for this purpose. It fits the figure, has an added belt of patent leather run through slides of watered silk, and is fastened down the back with hooks and eyes.

The skirt clears the ground by two inches and has a hem of black watered silk. The sleeves are elbow or three-quarter length. Each woman is in a go-as-you-please race concerning sleeves, and knows she is in the fashion as long as she keeps them small.

The top of this frock is laid in small folds from shoulder to belt, has a round yoke of black chiffon cloth covered with silk soutache braiding in Egyptian design and a shallow upper yoke of that heavy Venetian lace that wears so well.

This lace is repeated in a narrow pear-shaped armhole that runs half-way to the waist, and the black sleeves have a wide band of it around the middle.

With a black, purple of grass-green hat and patent leather shoes, any woman is smartly frocked.

for coolness in appearance, nothing is better than pale green, of which this dress is made.

The front panel is in piece embroidery; it may either be laid over linen or left transparent. The bodice is unlined, and is cut off at waist and sewn to a band to which also the skirt is attached.

Tucks are made on the shoulders, and a panel of embroidery is carried down front. The sleeves are composed of bands of embroidery, and fine tucks.

Hat of white spotted muslin with frill of muslin falling from the brim, roses and leaves form the trimming.

Materials required for the dress: 6 1/2 yards 42 inches wide, 1 1/2 yards embroidery 18 inches wide.

**Petticoats for Babies.**  
Tiny little sleeves with tiny little arms, but the latter always slipping out of the former, make the petticoat a great nuisance to the mother, and for this reason the princess, which simply slips over the head and buttons at the shoulders, is preferred by many. The only opening in the garment is at the shoulders, where a little button and buttonhole are all that is needed to keep the narrow straps together. The new baby's petticoat affords no elusive arabesque for the struggling arms, which are almost bound to go the wrong way.

**Veil Adjustment.**  
To arrange a veil easily and smoothly fold it in the middle and gather for about an inch and a half to each side with a stout thread. Gather ends into small knots and sew securely. Fasten ends at back of hat with veil pin or pin on nape of neck with a barrette.



## ODD ANIMATED FALSE FACE.

Flexible Bag Filled with Air Produces Extremely Funny Expression on Countenance.

Novel animated false face is the recent invention of a Pittsburg man. As shown in the illustration below the mask has openings in the positions of the features. In each opening is a flexible and extensible bag, formed to simulate that feature. Also with the mask is a rubber pipe, by which air can be blown into the bags, forcing



Eyes, Nose and Mouth Move.

the features in this way to protrude through the holes in the mask.

The effect thus produced by the wearer of the mask is said to be extremely funny. He can at will force the tongue and nose to stick out and the other features to contract or relax, the rubber hose through which air is supplied connecting with his mouth. In addition, he can manipulate the pupils of his eyes. The latter are attached to a string, which is operated by the hand of the wearer. A slight pull on the string causes the eyes to move in all directions, adding considerably to the ludicrous effect produced.

## GAME OF LASSO IS AMUSING.

Any Number of Boys Can Participate—Piece of Rope and Stout Pole All That is Needed.

When you boys again play "Cowboy and Indian," don't forget to try this lasso game, in which there's a lot of sport:

Have each member make a lasso out of a rope like clothesline. Set a stout pole of good length firmly in



The Lasso Game.

the ground. Then, at some distance from the pole, arrange the company of players in a line.

The leader should start off on a run for the post, and, passing it at a distance a little less than the length of his lasso, make a cast with the noose. Following him in rapid succession, the other players should make their throws. When the line reforms on the far side of the post, those players who have encircled the pole with their lassoes take a place in the line ahead of those players who have failed.

Again and again the line dashes for the pole and the players try to lasso it. The player who leads the line at the end of a certain number of throws, at a time agreed upon by the rest of the company, wins the game.

If it should be desired, the members may do their lassoing while running in a circle around the post.

## Parisian Cat Exchange.

Paris has a cat exchange, a "bourse aux chats." This establishment is situated in a big chamber at the rear of a wine shop. Here are legions of cats of all sizes and color, which are to be seen jumping and heard "miaulient."

It is said that the customers are by no means tender-hearted old ladies, but for the most part furriers, glove-makers and cooks. A good sleek "mutton" realizes 2 1/2 to 20 cents. The skin has a number of usages, and the flesh, according to the story, finds its way into the stewpans of certain restaurants possessing more enterprise than scruple.

## Adverb Game.

One person must go out of the room while the others choose an adverb, such as pleasantly, crossly, slowly or haughtily. When he returns he asks the company questions in turn, which they must answer in the manner of the adverb they have chosen. For instance, if they have chosen "sweetly" for their adverb they must put an extraordinary amount of sweetness into their replies, but if they have chosen "snappily" they must answer in an equally disagreeable manner, or in a spiritless way. The object is for the person who asks the questions to guess from the answer what adverb has been chosen.

## FATTY WENT FISHING.



Fatty Perkins went to fish  
In the river, deep;  
But the fish refused to bite  
Till Fatty went to sleep.

But as soon as Fatty awoke  
A wise fish came and took  
Of the nice long angleworm  
Which baited Fatty's hook.

And at a nap did swallow it,  
Then calmly swam away,  
And there without a baited hook  
Did Fatty fish all day.

## TWISTERS FOR ALL TONGUES.

Sentences Arranged That Will Prove Difficult in Repeating Quickly and Correctly.

See if your friends can say these correctly and quickly three times:  
A glowing gleam growing green.  
The bleak breeze blighted the bright broom blossoms.  
Two toads, totally tired, tried to trot to Tedbury.

Strict, strong Stephen Stringer swiftly snared six sickly silky snakes. Susan shined shoes and socks; socks and shoes shined Susan. She ceased shining shoes and socks, for shoes and socks shook Susan.

A haddock, a haddock, a black-spotted haddock; a black spot on the black back of a black-spotted haddock.

Oliver Ogglethorpe ogled an owl and an oyster. Did Oliver Ogglethorpe oggle an owl and an oyster? If Oliver Ogglethorpe ogled an owl and an oyster, where are the owl and the oyster Oliver Ogglethorpe ogled?

Theophilus Thistlebones, the unsuccessful thistle-sifter, in sifting a sieveful of unsifted thistles, thrust three thousand three hundred and thirty-three thistles through the thick of his thumb. If, then, Theophilus Thistlebones, the unsuccessful thistle-sifter, in sifting a sieveful of unsifted thistles, thrust three thousand three hundred and thirty-three thistles through the thick of his thumb, take care that thou, in sifting a sieveful of unsifted thistles, thrust not three thousand three hundred and thirty-three thistles through the thick of thy thumb.

## EXAMPLES FOR BOYS.

Christopher Columbus was the son of a weaver and was also a weaver himself.

Homer was the son of a farmer.

Demosthenes was the son of a cutter.

Oliver Cromwell was the son of a brewer.

Howard was an apprentice to a grocer.

Franklin was a journeyman printer and son of a tallow-chandler and soap-boller.

Cardinal Wolsey was the son of a butcher.

Shakespeare was the son of a wool-stapler.

Milton was the son of a money scrivener.

Robert Burns was the son of a ploughman in Ayrshire.

## Rule for E! and Ie.

There have been times, no doubt, when many of the boys and girls have been puzzled about the proper use of e! and ie in such words as receive and believe, which have the long e and e sound, nor need they feel ashamed to acknowledge it, for many "grown-ups" confess to the same weakness. There is a very simple rule, however, easily borne in mind, that will help you forever to overcome this doubt. The consonants c and s should be followed by e!, and all other consonants by ie, except that in two words—"sledge" and "steve"—the s is followed by i. Is not this an easy thing to remember?

## Foolscap Paper.

Doubtless many Wide-Awakers who have had occasion to write upon foolscap at school have wondered why this quality of paper is thus called. The watermark gives the explanation, and a watermark, as every one knows, is the maker's trade-mark, visible in the paper when a sheet is held up to the light. The watermark of foolscap is supposed to be a figure of Britannia supporting a cap of liberty on a pole. The resemblance of the cap of liberty to a dunce's cap led to the common use of the name which the brand of paper now bears.

## That's Easy.

A little girl was engaged in making an apron for her doll. Looking up to her mother, she said, "Mother, I believe that I will be a duchess when I grow up."

"Why, Molly, how is it that you expect to become a duchess?"

"Why, by marrying a Dutchman, of course."

## Bright Tommy.

"Tommy," said the teacher of the juvenile class, "when water becomes ice, what is the great change that takes place?"

"The change in price," replied Tommy.