

Gossip of Washington

What Is Going On at the National Capital.

Federal Sleuths Kept on the Jump



WASHINGTON.—That branch of the public service which its detractors called "the government spy system," or "the Black Cabinet," has been brought into conspicuous prominence by the tiff between congress and the president, growing out of the criticism in the president's message of the action of congress in circumscribing the activities of the secret service.

The system of government espionage over the private citizen has grown in an unprecedented manner under the administration of President Roosevelt. Whether it conduces to the general public welfare is a matter for publicists to discuss, but as to the fact that the secret service has reached greater extensions than ever before there can be no doubt.

This extension has been brought about by the executive branch of the government, and its justification, in large degree, is that a law has no value unless it is enforced, and the only way to enforce it is to look after violations.

Time to Call a Halt on the Practice



THE origin of the paragraph in the last sundry bill, restricting the activities of the secret service, which provoked the hot denunciation of the president, is decidedly interesting. While a subcommittee was framing the sundry bill it was brought to the attention of the members that a secret service man had been assigned to keep watch over the conduct of a certain naval officer. The application for the detail was made to the navy department by the wife of the officer, who was not entirely satisfied as to the faithfulness of her spouse. The officer was not even on duty at the time, but was away on leave of absence.

It occurred to members of the appropriations committee that this was the limit of governmental espionage and that the time had come to call a halt. President Roosevelt, of course, had a secret service sleuth detailed for such a purpose and when the subcommittee wrote and inserted a pro-

Originally the secret service of the United States had two functions and two only. Those were the detection of counterfeiters and the hunting down of illicit distillers. A good many years ago, however, long before Mr. Roosevelt entered public life, one of the presidents detailed secret service men to serve at the White House. There was not the slightest authority in law for such a procedure, but congress had a good deal of consideration for the executive and this violation of law went on year after year. Finally congress, seeing that the practice had become permanent and not wishing to engage in a dispute with the executive branch, conferred the legal authority necessary to enable presidents to make such a detail.

Gradually the presidents enlarged the practice of detailing secret service men and sent them hither and yonder on all sorts of errands. Then other administration officers—cabinet chiefs and even bureau heads—without the remotest authority in law, called upon the secret service branch for agents to send out on confidential missions. Chief Wilkie of the secret service was up a tree, figuratively speaking. He did not have men enough to go around. Congress allowed him a blanket appropriation, but it was not large enough to hire all of the detectives demanded.

vision limiting the functions of the secret service, it was not striking at the president, but at a custom. At least that is the solemn assertion of all the members who had anything to do with it. Representative Walter L. Smith of Iowa, drafted the provision and it was put in with the approval of Chairman Tawney and all the members of the appropriations committee.

Gradually congress itself has enlarged the inspection, or espionage, system of the government, but for the most part, it has done so under executive pressure. Naturally, the fact that the congressmen helped to create so many "spies" would be expected to stop their criticism, but it is fashionable now to blame a good many things on the president. The army of government detectives numbers all told about 5,000. Nearly all of these men are engaged in traveling about the country and mingling with the 80,000,000 people outside of Washington. The list includes secret service men, postoffice inspectors, special agents of the land service, pure food inspectors, meat inspectors and others. The talk that in some instances secret service agents have been used to work up damaging information about congressmen who are objectionable to the administration seems to be without the slightest foundation.

Gridiron Club Gives Annual Dinner



THE annual fall dinner of the Gridiron club, held the other night, was made noteworthy by the presence of a distinguished company of guests. An extended program devoted entirely to fun-making, made the night one long to be remembered by the organization. The company was one only possible to bring together at the capital of the nation. The president, vice-president, president-elect, vice-president-elect, presidential possibilities of the future, senators and representatives almost without number, an English lord, diplomats of this and other countries, newspaper men whose names are known far and wide, captains of finance and industry, and men of affairs generally were seated about the gridiron-shaped table. Coming so soon

after the recent national campaign, the dinner presented an exceptional opportunity for the merry-makers.

One of the funniest skits was a roll call after the recent national political battle. The mournful tap of a drum was heard in the anteroom and there came marching in a tattered and dilapidated troop. The uniforms showed the members had been on the firing line. The president of the club announced in solemn voice that the slaughter had been terrific. The members of the troop answered to the roll call. Sergeant Jim Watson was reported as "killed while riding to the front on the water wagon." Private Charlie Landis "fell at Watson's side." Private Charles G. Dawes "passed in his checks," and Private Frank Lowden was "shot in the pocket." Corporal Norman E. Mack was reported as "burying the dead." Corporal William J. Bryan was "among the missing." Corporal Loe was "in the hands of his friends," and Color Sergeant Hitchcock was announced as "here, with the colors."

Shameful Treatment of Uncle Ike



UNCLE IKE STEPHENSON, champion buttonhole story teller of the senate, has certainly been treated shamefully since he came down here last winter to take Mr. Spooner's place as one of Wisconsin's legislators. He has the distinction of being the oldest man in the senate and at the same time of being one of the wealthiest, and he is used to having his own way. He had no sooner got here last December than he discovered he had been assigned a committee room over in the Malby building, on B street northwest. This was too far from base to suit Uncle Ike, so he made a good-sized kick, and finally got himself assigned to a room on the senate terrace, away down in the ground.

But a great surprise was in store for Uncle Ike when he returned this December. He had no room at all. His

office furniture was all standing out in the corridor. This was too much. Off he went to see about it. What he found out was that there had to be a place to put a new power plant, and his room was the only one available. Where was he to go now? Oh, he'd have to go over in the house office building until the senate office building was finished.

So now, Uncle Ike, who has more money than he knows how to spend and who could buy himself a thousand committee rooms, is located away over in the extreme southeastern corner of the house office building—Anacostia they call it in the house—and it looks as if he will have to stay there for a few months anyhow.

As a consequence, he is an exceedingly sad-looking senator these days. It is said that some one heard him remark the other day that he would put up a temporary office building of his own on the capitol grounds if he could get the permission. Vain hope.

Two other senators have been sent over to the house office building with Uncle Ike. They are Cummins of Iowa and Du Pont of Delaware. But that doesn't console him any.

Midwinter MILLINERY never more CHARMING



A NEW DRESSY GAGE MODEL

THE Easter bonnet is a bagatelle in comparison with the headgear fashion evolves for winter time. No airy arrangement of straw and flowers at this season ekes out the price charged for the milliner's ingenuity; but substantial velvets, furs and costly ostrich feathers sum up a total that makes even the milliner's skill but an item.

This year, for the poor husband's further undoing, have been added gorgeous gold and silver blooms that cost a pretty penny, a perishable rose cloth of gold often outdistancing a durable ostrich tip in price.

Such a craze is there for these huge gold and silver roses that, fast as the makers can turn them out, the shops cannot supply the demand. Fresh relays are eked out to pacify the clamoring of store buyers, and everywhere one meets the baffling information: "We are just out of gold roses, madam," or, "We are expecting more silver roses to-morrow morning."

Flower hat trimmings always make their appearance at the very height of cold weather, just as wings seem to suit Dame Fashion's fancy in the last sultry days of August. The very contrast of the biting wintry winds with the fragile blossoms, however, seems to lend spice to the choice of flowers for midwinter wear. In fact, the front seems to have an amazing effect on these winter flowers, for they grow to mammoth proportions, some of the huge chiffon roses measuring not an inch less than a foot across.

The illustration shows the latest dressy Gage model, just now popular.

VOGUE IN SEASON'S COATS.

Are Slightly Narrower Than Those of Last Winter.

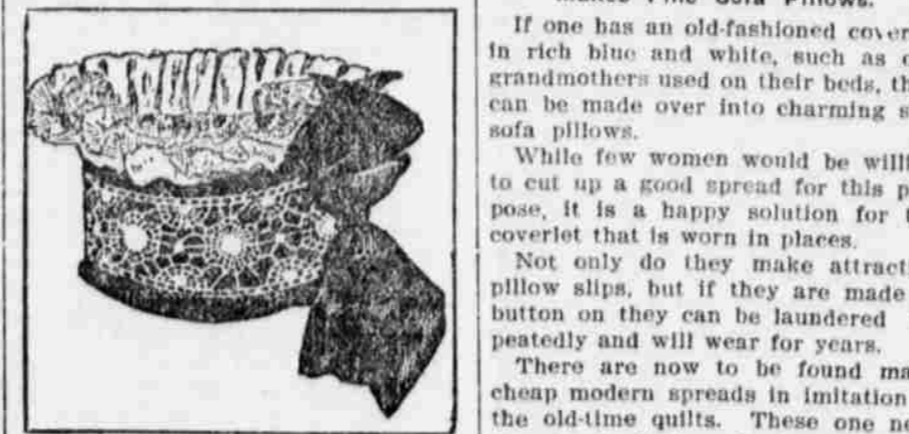
The coat is slightly narrower than those of last winter across the shoulders at back. The fronts are double-breasted, fastened with huge buttons of brilliant set in a composition like platinum.

The revers, which are quite broad, are made of old blue satin, that very good looking tone that comes in so many fabrics. These are slightly embroidered with a heavy silver thread forming bees. The long sleeves are without fullness, each fastened tightly at wrist with a button of brilliants, and finished with a fringe of old lace.

The blouse that rises above this high-waisted skirt is built of gray felt tulle in the coarse round mesh that is fashionable. It is draped over thin silver gauze, and shows a round gulle and stock of Mechlin lace. Its sleeves are long and tight, made of tulle wrapped around the arm.

Here and there are embroidered silver bands, and there is one large o where the bodice tucks under the skirt of center front.

LATEST IN COLLARS.



The new Paris "Bull Dog" collar, showing the bow to be worn at the back or the side.

Quickly Adjusted Shields.
A girl who has theories on the evils of pinned shields will not use the tiny safety ones sold for that purpose. She compromises by not sewing in her shields after each washing, but hooks them in.

A small, non-rustable hook is sewed on the corners of each shield, and an eye to correspond on the proper place on the armhole. The preliminary sewing takes only a few minutes, and is much easier than fastening a shield with needle and thread each time it is changed.

EVENLY MATCHED.

Magistrate (to witness)—And where were you when this assault occurred? Witness—Just across the street, your honor.

Magistrate—Then why didn't you go to the plaintiff's assistance when you saw him attacked? Witness—Faix, I wasn't sure then that he wouldn't be the defendant, your honor.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Indigestion, Irritation of Bowels, Bile, Headache, Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pains in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature
CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

Western Canada

MORE BIG CROPS IN 1908

Another 60,000 settlers from the United States. New districts opened for settlement. 320 acres of land to each settler. —160 free homestead and 160 at \$3.00 per acre.

"A vast rich country and a contented prosperous people."—Extract from correspondence of a National Editor, whose visit to Western Canada in August, 1907, was on inspection.

Many have paid the entire cost of their farms and had a balance of from \$10.00 to \$20.00 per acre as a result of one crop.

Spring wheat, winter wheat, oats, barley, flax and peas are the principal crops, while the wild grasses bring to perfection the best cattle that have ever been sold on the Chicago market.

Splendid climate, schools and churches in all localities. Railways touch most of the settled districts, and prices for produce are always good. Lands may also be purchased from railway and land companies.

For pamphlets, maps and information regarding low railway rates, apply to Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or the authorized Canadian Government Agent.

W. V. BENNETT, Omaha, Nebraska. 801 New York Life Building.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.

Mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is tenfold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

Sold by Druggists. Price, 75c. per bottle.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Reflected Glory.

"Say, what do you think?" cried De Ripper.

"Give us the answer," said young Van Dippy.

"I've just found out," cried De Ripper, "that I wear the same sized shoe as the chap who kicked out a victory for Harvard, don't you know?"

Disillusion.

Little Johnnie had just learned the heart-breaking fact that there wasn't a "really" Santa Claus, and he felt that the world had collapsed about his ears.

"I don't believe n-nothin' at all," he sobbed. "I d-d—don't b-believe there's any George Washington neither!"

"Marriage Service" Defined.

A Boston cynic of the female persuasion defines the "marriage service" as "waiting on one's lord and master in the capacity of cook, laundress, seamstress and maid-of-all-work."

ONLY ONE "BROMO QUININE"

That is LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for the signature of Dr. W. G. GROVE. Use the World over to cure a Cold in the Day.

It is better to begin late doing our duty than never.—Dionysius.

Lewis' Single Binder Cigar has a rich taste. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

He isn't much of a baker who oats all the bread he kneads.

Use Allen's Foot-Paste. Cures tired, aching, swelling feet. Trial package free. A. S. Winston, Le Roy, N. Y.

A singer doesn't weigh his words on the musical scale.

DR. McINTOSH celebrated NATURAL UTERINE SUPPORTER

gives immediate relief. Sold by all druggists, chemists and leading druggists in the United States & Canada. Catalog and price list sent on application. T. H. McINTOSH & Co., 311 Madison St., Philadelphia, Pa., manufacturers of trusses and sale makers of the genuine stamped "McINTOSH" Supporters.

TANNING Hides and Furs

and manufacture of Roben. Cures Itchy, Scaly, Swelling Feet. Write or call. Omaha, Roben & Furring Company, So. Omaha, Neb.

DEFIANCE STARCH easiest to work with and starches clothes nicest.

W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 1, 1909.

MAPLEINE

A flavoring that is used the same as lemon or vanilla. By dissolving granulated sugar in water and adding Mapleine, a delicious syrup is made, and a snap better than any other. Mapleine is sold by grocers. Send stamp for sample and recipe book. Crescent Mfg. Co., Seattle.

Let Me Send You a Package of Defiance Starch

with your next order of groceries and I will guarantee that you will be better satisfied with it than with any starch you have ever used.

I claim that it has no superior for hot or cold starching, and

It Will Not Stick to the Iron

No cheap premiums are given with DEFIANCE STARCH, but you get ONE-THIRD MORE FOR YOUR MONEY than of any other brand.

DEFIANCE STARCH costs 10c for a 16-oz. package, and I will refund your money if it sticks to the iron.

Truly yours,
HONEST JOHN,
The Grocery man

DEFIANCE 16 OZ. FOR 10c ALL OTHER BRANDS 12 OZ.

DEFIANCE STARCH WILL NOT STICK TO THE IRON