

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

GUARDS PRESIDENT'S LIFE



The changes in officialdom at the national capital that followed the inauguration of William H. Taft as president extended even to the personnel of that secret service corps charged with protecting the person of the chief magistrate of the nation.

It is not strange that each president should prefer to exercise strictly his personal preferences regarding the secret service men detailed as his personal escort, for very few officials of high or low degree are more closely or more continuously associated with the chief executive than these protectors in plain clothes. President Taft's selection for the post of principal bodyguard was Secret Service Operative L. C. Wheeler and it all came about in this wise.

From the very day that Taft was elected president, four months in advance of the date on which he was inaugurated, the chief of the secret service, considering that Judge Taft was a personage whose well being was of vast import to the nation—detailed two of his best operatives to guard the president-elect. Mr. Wheeler was one of these men and he accompanied the Tafts everywhere they went—to Cincinnati; to Hot Springs, Va.; to Augusta, Ga., and to the Panama canal, with "side trips" to Washington, Philadelphia, New Haven, New York and other points. The qualities which Mr. Wheeler displayed during this strenuous season made a most favorable impression upon the new president and he asked that Mr. Wheeler be made his principal bodyguard when he was installed in the White House.

Now when President Taft walks, rides, drives or motors abroad in the streets of Washington or in the suburbs Secret Service Agent Wheeler is his inseparable shadow. The conscientious secret service man scarcely lets the distinguished object of his attention out of his sight during his waking hours. If the president plays golf, the faithful Wheeler is close by to ward off inquisitive or suspicious persons. If Mr. Taft occupies a box at the theater his involuntary escort is not far away, perhaps sheltered by the curtains of the box. If the chief magistrate strolls to church on Sunday morning the secret service man walks a short distance behind. President Lincoln always insisted that his bodyguard should walk by his side and chat with him as though he were an intimate friend. None of our later presidents have pursued that course, although under the Taft regime there has been introduced an innovation in that the secret service men who accompany the president to church wear frock coats and silk hats and could not be distinguished by the unknowing ones from fashionable club men sauntering leisurely and apparently unconcerned behind the president.

Wheeler, like to the other secret service men on duty at the White House, is about 50 years of age. He is of athletic build and keeps himself in the best of condition by daily exercise. All these secret service guards go well armed, but the weapons are carefully stowed away out of sight and there is nothing in either the dress or manner of these men to indicate their office.

NEW INDIAN COMMISSIONER



Robert Gordon Valentine, the newly appointed Indian commissioner, is only 35, a fact which lends some irreverent members of the elder contingent to remark that the chorus at Washington is full of squabs and all the leading men are juveniles. Nevertheless, Mr. Valentine is so well in touch with the affairs of the Indian bureau that he was the personal choice of retiring Commissioner Leupp for the succession.

Valentine's knowledge of the Indian was mostly gained back in Massachusetts, where the only Indians are those who come along with the medicine shows. But he knows Lo, because he knows the poor white men pretty well. At least, those New England persons who pride themselves on following cold-ice-cold-facts rather than fancy and sentimental theory believe they know the cigar store Indian with the red blanket and the rooster feathers and the bear tooth necklace will not be in favor with the new Valentine regime any more than he was with the preceding Leupp administration. Valentine admits that, next to a coroner's certificate, the best certificate of goodness Lo can have is to chuck his feathers, put on overalls and a hickory shirt, grab a shovel and get to work with the other Americans. The Indian of romance and Leatherstocking doesn't look as good to Valentine as the Indian with his crops all cultivated and his farm work up to date.

After graduating from Harvard Valentine was a teacher, a bank clerk and then a newspaper writer. The latter job led to his political preferment.

COMPELLED TO BORROW



Henry M. Flagler, the Standard Oil magnate, who is popularly supposed to carry the state of Florida around in his pockets, has been compelled to abandon one of his dearest ambitions and announce a bond issue for the railroad he is building from the mainland across the coral beds to Key West. Up to date the engineering world has seen nothing more unique in its way than this railroad of 600 miles. Flagler has been constructing it much as a man would build a stable, his manager in charge of the work being unlimited as to expense and only bound to make the road a good one. It has been Flagler's pet idea that when the road is completed it should be without a penny of indebtedness of borrowed money. No notes nor bonds nor other evidences of obligation were to be in its records. It was to show that the big Flagler fortune, which had built three palatial hotels at an expense of more than \$5,000,000, was equal to meeting all bills for the construction of a railroad—even such a railroad as this.

The announcement, made the other day, that a bond issue is to be put out shows that the Flagler fortune was not at all points equal to the emergency. Still, nobody will believe that the poor commissioners are likely to be called upon in Mr. Flagler's behalf for some time yet. Next to John D. Rockefeller, he is the largest individual stockholder in the Standard Oil Co. He was a poor boy, clerking in a country store, before he heard the rapping of opportunity on the door. But he let go his bundles, sallied out and got a half-Nelson lock on the rapper before the echoes had died away.

GERMAN RAILWAY MINISTER



Herr Von Breitenbach, as minister of public works and railways in the Prussian government, is at the head of the public-owned railroad system. Germany has owned her railroads for a number of years and they are managed by an especially capable and conservative body of officials.

Reports just received from the experts who have been studying the situation there declare however, that the plan is not a success. In respect both to the service received and the financial results public ownership in Germany is declared to be a long way from satisfactory. At the present moment Herr Von Breitenbach has in contemplation several changes of importance in the methods of his departments which look toward finally making the Prussian railroad business profitable to the government or satisfactory to the public, if either or both cases can be brought about.

RESTORATION OF HISTORIC FORT



ETHAN ALLEN TOWER

There is probably no feature of the coming observance of the tercentenary of the discovery of Lake Champlain which appeals more strongly to historic interest than does the restoration of old Fort Ticonderoga. Into the warp and woof of American history the name Ticonderoga has been indelibly worked through years of bitter warfare, and the fact that this historic old fortification, fast falling to decay, is to be saved to succeeding generations through the intervention of a woman, coupled with the fact that the work of restoration has now progressed so far that it was possible to entertain on Tuesday, July 6, the president of the United States in the very building in which on May 10, 1775, Ethan Allen made his famous demand for the surrender of the fortification, "In the name of the great Jehovah and the continental congress," gives to the celebration a place in the hearts of the people of the United States which may not be disputed.

It is at the direction of Mrs. S. H. P. Pell of New York that Fort Ticonderoga is being restored. Mrs. Pell, who is the daughter of Col. Robert Thompson of New York, is the wife of Stephen H. P. Pell, a prominent New York banker. Both her husband and father are interested in seeing her project carried through to a successful conclusion and are aiding it in every way possible. Members of the New York Lake Champlain tercentenary commission are also deeply interested in Mrs. Pell's plan to restore the old fort, and have accorded her representatives every possible consideration with regard to the arrangement of the celebration exercises as regards Ticonderoga. Alfred C. Bossom of New York city, who is the architect in charge of the work for Mrs. Pell, estimates that the work of completely restoring the fort will occupy a period of ten years and the estimated cost has been placed at \$500,000. After a conference with the members of the New York Lake Champlain tercentenary commission it was decided that it would be best to concentrate the work of restoration upon that building known as the "west barracks," and this has been done.

To insure absolute accuracy in the restoration of the fort, Mr. Bossom spent a considerable period of time in personal examination of old records and prints in the possession of the French and English governments, and now has representatives in those countries carefully going over each minor detail of construction. Thus far, however, the architect and his workers have found the fort itself as thoroughly a reliable guide to its reconstruction as could be wished, for when the debris is cleared away from the line of a wall the old-fashioned door hinges, locks and knobs are found where they dropped to the ground as the place gradually fell to decay. Many of these old articles are used as models for the construction of new and strong replicas at the hands of skilled artisans. Probably one of the most interesting finds was a roll of homespun cloth in a fairly good state of preservation despite its long interment.

Beneath the old Pell mansion, which is situated on the lake shore just below the site of the fort, and which is also being restored to its former grandeur, an interesting old bull's-eye watch was found soon after the work was started last November. On the site of the fort enough pieces of pottery have been found to make a complete service, and duplicates of these are being made at great cost, for the interesting old pattern is very hard to reproduce. The most of these pieces were found directly below the old messroom. One pottery punch bowl which has been found in a fine state of preservation bears upon the bottom the inscription: "Success to Gen. Amherst." and has been identified as a punch bowl given him by friends in New York before his campaign in the Lake Champlain country. Any quan-

tity of old-fashioned knives and forks have been found, a perfect old-fashioned bottle and many bar-shot, canister shot, mortar shells, cannon balls and pieces of guns.

Officials of the war departments of both England and France, as well as of the British museum, have given much valuable assistance in the matter of restoring the old fort on historically correct lines. The records show that Fort Ticonderoga was a "star" fort, and the excavations now going forward bear out the records in this respect. The entire fort was surrounded by a moat about 10 or 15 feet deep, and in some places 30 feet wide. Two drains which were used by the former occupants of the fort years ago have been cleared out and are now being used again. Two underground stores, one located in the northwest and the other in the southwest angle of the fort, have also been opened.

On the tip of the tongue of land which Fort Ticonderoga was built to command stands all that remains of the grenadier battery, as it is known locally about Fort Ticonderoga, though there seems to be no real reason for its being given this name. In 1756 the French began the erection of a fort on the present site of Fort Ticonderoga, which they named Fort Carillon, a name meaning "a chime of bells" and referring to the music of a nearby waterfall. In strength this fortress was second only to Quebec, but in 1759 the English had gained so in numbers and the French had been weakened so by their campaign in Canada that the English, under command of Gen. Amherst, were able to drive them from the stronghold and force them from the Champlain valley. The year before Abercrombie, commanding 15,000 troops, had made an assault upon the stronghold which was successfully repulsed by Montcalm, commanding 4,000 troops. Gen. Amherst, following the evacuation of the fort by the French, repaired and rebuilt it, for before leaving they had destroyed as much as possible of the fortification. The rebuilt fort was christened Ticonderoga and was held by the English until its capture on May 10, 1775, by Ethan Allen and his little company of Green Mountain boys.

History throughout all these years has credited Allen with demanding the surrender of the fort "In the name of the great Jehovah and the continental congress," and in this connection the investigations of Mrs. Pell's representatives must prove a severe shock, for according to them Allen did not use the choice language with which history has credited him. According to Alfred C. Bossom, the architect, who has personally examined many records of the surrender and has talked with descendants of men who were with Allen on the night of that memorable May 10, the "Robin Hood of New England," as Allen has sometimes been styled, sailed across the lake from Larrabee's point in the dead of the night, landing with his small command of 83 men at Willow point, on the west shore of the lake about a half mile north of where the old Pell mansion now stands. Crossing what is now the garden of the old mansion he went down a flight of stone steps and along an underground passage admitting to a rear entrance on the east side of the fort. Through a sally-port he made his way into the fort proper. In the parade ground Allen divided his small command into two parts, lining one up at the east and the other at the west end. He then climbed the stairs to the second story of the west barracks and walked along the balcony to the last door at the southern end. Before this door he made his demand for the surrender of the fort.—Louis E. Shattuck.

Menacing the Race.

Now it is the defective teeth of civilized races which, according to dental authority, imperil their future. Shall the savage races of Africa and the Antipodes, with their gleaming "ivories," yet survey the ruins of Anglo-Saxon civilization? The wonder grows as to how the fathers of the republic who lived in the primitive days of dentistry were enabled to transmit their heritage to posterity.—New York World.

Courtroom Repartee.

The lawyer for the defense was so severe upon the prosecutor that the latter rose and asked: "Does the learned counsel think me a fool?" The retort was prompt: "My friend wishes to know if I consider him a fool; and in reply to his question I can only say that I am not prepared to deny it."

PEA SILAGE FEEDING OF LAMBS IN WISCONSIN

Green Feed Will Eventually Cut a Wide Swath in Beef and Mutton Making As Result of Experiment at Waukesha.

Into the cavernous maw of a silo 70 feet in diameter and 43 feet in height a vast quantity of green feed can be tacked away. From such a silo a Waukesha county (Wis.) firm marketed during the past winter 9,000 fat western-bred lambs. As results in this case showed a profit of around \$11,000 better testimony as to the value of silage for lamb finishing purposes could not be desired. For the purpose of making comparisons the firm fed during the winter a smaller band of the same kind of lambs on hay and corn, and that operation barely paid expenses. The Waukesha feeding was largely of an experimental nature and was revolutionary in that the grain ration was reduced to a minimum and silage forced on the stock. Results were so convincing that the ration of last winter, practically one pound of grain per lamb per diem with an un-

lot, from the standpoint of economical production this experiment was satisfactory in every respect. The season's work may be summarized by the statement that lambs fed on hay and a heavy corn ration lost money; fed on silage and a limited grain ration profits were handsome. Corn used in this feeding cost 50 to 63 cents; screenings were worth \$16@17 per ton. Had last winter's ration of screenings, three pounds per day, been used the cost per head for grain would have been 2 1/4 cents. Corn cost but little over one cent per day. The feeders demonstrated, to their own satisfaction at least, that pea silage and corn constitutes a well-balanced ration.

Montana mountain-bred lambs were used, as the feeders consider them far superior to plains-bred stock. Every lamb was bought on the Chicago market and in dividing the two bands



Wisconsin Pea Silage-Fed Lambs Ready for Market.

limited quantity of silage, will be adopted by the firm as its standard. The feature of this feeding was the limited quantity of corn used.

In the previous year's work self-feeders were used and the lambs given all the screenings they could consume. This resulted in only limited consumption of silage, the lambs filling up on grain. Gains by this method were satisfactory, but cost was excessive and the feeders determined on a radical change. Hand-feeders were substituted and the stock practically forced to eat silage. A small quantity of corn

care was exercised to give each feed-lot an equal chance. The first feed began October 19 and ended December 14. The average weight going into the feed-lot was 71 pounds; at the stock yards on selling day 85 pounds. The 3,000 lambs, costing \$5@5.25 when put in, sold in one lot at \$7 after a 40-day feed on the silage and corn ration. The second feeding period was strung out during the winter, drafts being purchased at the Chicago market as opportunity offered. Investment prices ranged from \$5.25 to \$7.20 and sale prices of the finished stock from \$7 to \$8. They went in weighing 75 to 80 pounds. None weighed less than 90 pounds coming out and some reached 104 pounds. All of the second feeding were shorn and while the fat lambs were mainly disposed of before the spring rise in prices (otherwise financial results would have been greater) a booming wool market added materially to the profits. These lambs enjoyed popularity in killing circles. They dressed well and were regarded by buyers as fully up to the standard of lambs fed on hay and grain. The grain delegation brought no better prices than the silage-fed contingent. The grain-fed band consumed more than twice as much grain as the others.



Sheared and Ready to Kill.

was fed twice daily, the grain ration from beginning to the end of a feeding period of 60 to 70 days never exceeding 1 1/2 pounds per day and not averaging a pound. It was a mixture of corn and oilmeal, the proportion of the latter being limited to one-quarter pound per day. At the outset one-quarter of a pound of corn per head was used, this being gradually increased to the maximum. The previous season, when allowed all the screenings they could eat, the average consumption of grain was three pounds per head. While heavier gains have been made in the feed-

All this relates to pea, not corn silage, and the feed used in this instance was canner's waste. The experiment has determined the feeding value of pea silage in combination with a small corn ration. It indicates possibilities for a vast extension of cattle and sheep feeding in an area not regarded as within the corn belt proper, embracing Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota, where the pea crop thrives.

VALUE OF SHEEP AND GOATS

Their Use in Clearing Brush Land for Cultivation.

Much has been said, written and done of late years regarding the great value of goats clearing brush land for cultivation or for the growth of permanent grass. It is true that goats are great browsers on brushy land and that they will soon clear such land of undesirable growth. However, they are to be recommended for this use only when all the brush and trees on the land are to be removed. If some of the trees are to remain for shade or timber purposes, the goats will bark many of them, causing the mether to die or to become deformed and almost unfit for use.

The writer has just visited a large estate in the hill land of Missouri, where the estate is being partially cleared for permanent blue grass pasture. Undesirable trees are cut out and the best trees of best timber value are left standing. Among the good trees on this land which are preserved for growth and future utility are the black locusts, which are widely known as an excellent timber for fence posts, telephone poles and railroad ties. The goats are not content to browse on the tender sprouts alone, but they persist in chewing the bark from the black locust trees and a number of other valuable trees so as to permanently injure them.

Sheep will keep down sprouts and weeds on cleared land almost as effectively as will goats, and they do not have the pernicious habit of trying to eat the large trees which may be left in the field. If the trees and other undesirable growth are cut out,

the sheep will eat off the young sprouts and the foliage, causing the sprouts to die, allowing intervening spaces among trees to catch in blue grass or other pasture grass. They will not eat the bark from standing trees of any considerable size.

NUBBING OF FARM TREES.

J. C. Evans of Harlem, Kan., has a fine orchard of 200 persimmon trees. The fruit is about as large as a California plum and he finds a ready market for his product at Kansas City. The 200 trees yield an average income of about one dollar each year.

The largest pumpkin grown in the state of California was raised in Santa Clara county a number of years ago. It weighed 264 pounds.

It is better to raise onions which yield on an average 100 to 125 bushels per acre, even if the price is 50 cents a bushel, than to raise ten-cent cotton.

Nearly one-third of the coal mined in the United States, speaking in round numbers, is burned, not in homes or factories, but by the locomotives. It is estimated that through lax and improper methods in the handling of milk and cream a loss of over \$5,000,000 results annually.

This country consumed 115,000,000 pounds of tea last year and Japan imported 14 per cent. less than ten years ago.

Mending Roofs.

A roof covered with paper or felt can be quickly mended with coal tar. Paint over thickly with warm tar, then lay on a piece of fresh roofing paper, which should be fastened at the edges with roofing brads; then paint some more tar over the patch and over the edges, making a neat waterproof patch which will last as long as the rest of the roof.