

NEWS and GOSSIP of WASHINGTON



Intense Heat Makes Life Miserable at Capital

WASHINGTON.—Washington sweats. That is the abiding impression one carries away. Under the enormous and stupefying pressure of war the nation's nerve center is speeding up. Moist and hot, the close, heavy sky bends down over Washington, and the great sun burns vaguely through light mist. The city steams, its heavy air full of the sickly sweet odor of locusts; you are drenched with perspiration—even clothes hanging in your room get damp.



Occasionally great clouds ride up over the horizon, black as ink, breasting the wind; night swoops over the town, and storm and solid sheets of rain. Then sun again, breathless air, wet heat. Still, fate hammers swift and heavily, forging history. So fast are events moving, and with such urgency, that never in Washington's history was so much work being done at such high pressure.

Great capitalists and manufacturers run around from office to office in their shirt sleeves, enthusiastic as boys. Thwarted, puzzled-looking congressmen go angrily along, muttering to themselves, with their constituents following. What kind of government institution is this—without congressional patronage?

The Willard, the Shoreham, the Raleigh look like the Hotel Astoria in Petrograd during the war. The same military men in American, Russian, Belgian, French, English uniforms—the same gentlemen with something to sell to the government.

Statesman Resents Insult to Nation's Uniform

WAR clouds hung low and threateningly over the dining room at the Washington Union station at the dinner hour. The firm diplomacy of Representative J. B. Aswell of Louisiana, however, which met quick and favorable response from the management, saved the situation. Mr. Aswell, with a party of friends in the restaurant, saw a waiter order from the dining room a boy not more than eighteen years old, who was wearing the uniform of a United States seaman.



The boy had entered the dining room by the main entrance. He deposited his suitcase by the side of a table and sat down.

The waiter approached him quickly, and said: "The lunch counter is in the room beyond." The boy rose, picked up his suitcase, and walked into the next room. He was embarrassed.

Mr. Aswell called the head waiter. Then he called all the waiters in the room. He demanded apologies from the waiter and from the head waiter, and the latter he sent scurrying after the sailor with an invitation to return and be served.

"And serve him in proper style," shouted Mr. Aswell. "Give him everything he wants, and then give me the bill."

The boy was a recruit. He was on his way to join his ship "somewhere on the Atlantic." He had only a few minutes to catch his train, he said, and had merely dropped in for a cup of coffee. He politely declined the invitation of Mr. Aswell to be his guest at dinner.

"Look here," said the Louisiana member, to the waiter, "don't you ever do that again. You caused me to lose my temper for the first time in four years."

The waiter promised he never again would permit himself to be caught doing anything that could be construed as a reflection upon the uniform of the navy or the army.

Arts Club Stirring Things Up at Washington

THE Biblical injunction to "go to the ant, thou sluggard, consider his ways and be wise," has been improved on by Elise DuFour, interpretive dancer, who, in a brief talk to the Arts club, advised her auditors also to consider the ways of the cat, the caterpillar, the frog, the bear, and the birds.



"All the world is rhythmic except man," said Miss DuFour. "He alone is out of harmony, and the rhythmic dance is the way to put him in tune. We should go to the cat to learn to loosen the bones of the spine; to the caterpillar to learn to curl up and uncurl from the center; to the frog to learn the proper articulation of the leg.

"We should go to the bear to learn from his easy loping the proper articulation of the hip joints. From the birds we may learn the flying rhythm, and one sings as one flies. There are many animal rhythms that we might study with much profit."

Miss DuFour was one of three speakers at the Arts club lawn party, the others being Ossip Peralma, Russian portrait painter, and Edwin Callow, singer.

The talk of Mr. Peralma contained as much patriotism as art, and he made frequent reference to the bonds of fellowship uniting this country and the new Russia.

"This Arts club is a wonderful cradle of progress," said the Russian, "for it is a pioneer movement in Washington, which has become the capital of capitalists. Washington is the great ideal which stands for liberation of oppressed peoples. America has gone into the war to help humanity, to see that these great ideals do not perish."

Patent Fire Extinguisher Played No Favorites

THE experiences of Charlie Chaplin in the movies didn't have anything on an incident on Fourteenth street between G street and New York avenue. A cigarette butt, carelessly thrown from an upper window, had become entrenched in the awning in front of a cigar store and was throwing up quite a little smoke.

Dashing out of the door of the cigar store came one of the clerks, carrying one of these patent fire extinguishers that go to work as soon as its top is turned where the bottom usually is. In his haste, gripping the top and bottom, the young man happened to turn the extinguisher over and the fun began.



The crowd that had gathered got a generous sprinkling, but the first full force of the discharge took a colored porter in the eye. A grandmotherly woman who wanted to see all the fun and yet not suffer herself had the quick wit to open her umbrella and use it Indian fashion as a shield.

In attempting to direct the hose at the burning awning the young man turned it directly at a group gazing down from a window.

Then he let it flop back and it knocked a cigar out of the mouth of a customer just coming from the cigar store. When he had finally extinguished the incipient blaze he was nonplussed as to how to shut off the flow and in juggling the extinguisher gave himself an inverted shower bath, which he took with a sangfroid that pleased the crowd, and he got a "hand."

But there was one person in the crowd that couldn't see anything funny in the incident. That was a summer girl, whose gorgeous purple silk bosomy were well sprinkled. She threatened to tell the police.

GOOD ROADS

SYSTEM OF NATIONAL ROADS

President of National Highways Association Would Have Federal Government Take Charge.

Thanks to the pushful, pervasive automobile, American road building has "got a move on" at last. There is everywhere the cry for roads, for more roads and for better roads. The drawback has been that, as yet, there has been no co-ordination of these multitudinous enterprises. The president of the National Highways Association, Charles Henry Davis, C. E., in a recent paper, stated that we spent last year \$249,955,967, or more than two-thirds the total of money expended so



Good Road in England.

far on the construction of the Panama canal—for our road improvements throughout the country. Mr. Davis' contention is that good roads, roads that run for thousands of miles through state after state, are, properly, not the responsibility of the state, but of the nation. He would have the federal government build a system of national roads joining the West with the East, the North and South, connecting every part of the country, as is the case with the national highways of Europe, and, as history shows, such as was the essential equipment of every first-class power of the past. How would such an enormous construction be paid for and kept up? "Suppose," asks this eminent engineer, "the government built 100,000 miles of properly planned roads, and at the same time purchased, say, 300 feet of land on either side. This land would so continually increase in value, and in demand for leasing on long rental, that the cost of the road and the land purchase would soon be paid. A rental rate of \$6.00 per acre would pay the interest on the cost of construction. But much would rent at vastly higher rates, in cities and towns, high enough to give the nation an income equal to its total annual expenditures"—from these national highways alone!

SYSTEM OF NATIONAL ROADS

We Will Soon See Necessity for Separate Systems for Freight and Passenger Traffic.

President Rowe of the American Automobile association says that in ten years the United States will be covered with systems of national roads. By that time he says we will begin to see the necessity for separate systems for freight and passenger traffic. Present highways will be greatly multiplied and largely increased in width. The quality will be improved as the country begins to learn the art of road building. Good roads he believes, are the greatest practical step toward national preparedness.

BUILDING ROADS IN FORESTS

In Past Fiscal Year There Were Constructed 227 Miles of New Highways—Other Improvements.

During the past fiscal year there were constructed on the national forests 227 miles of new road, 1,975 miles of trails, 2,124 miles of telephone line, 89 miles of fire lines, 81 lookout structures, 40 bridges, 222 miles of fence, 545 dwellings, barns and other structures, 17 corrals and 202 water improvements.

IMPROVE ROAD BY DRAGGING

Ordinarily It is Best to Use Impement When Surface is "Moist, but Not Sticky."

It is probable that you can improve the road by dragging it the moment the drag is purchased or constructed, no matter what is the condition of the earth. Ordinarily, however, it is best to drag when the surface is "moist, but not sticky."

Road Progress.

Missouri and Kansas have both passed new road laws during the recent sessions of their legislatures, and work under them is already starting. Missouri has made longer steps forward toward good roads than ever in her history.

More Receipts for Roads.

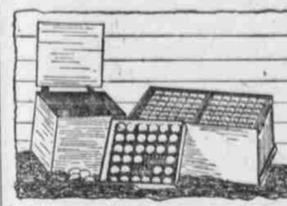
The receipts of the Pennsylvania highway department from motorcar licenses were \$147,742 April 1, an increase of \$700,000 over last year. The entire fund is available now.

CRACKED EGGS SPOIL

All Handlers of Market Product Should Be Very Careful.

Thirteen Million Dozen Ruined Annually Because Shells Have Been Slightly Cracked—Germs Find Ready Entrance.

Over thirteen million dozen eggs, most of them laid in the spring, spoil in cold storage simply because their shells have been cracked slightly between the hen and the cold room. Just a little more care in handling eggs on the farm, in getting them to the country collector, in packing them properly in cases for shipment, in



Handy Egg Cases.

handling the cases as fragile shipments, will greatly lessen this enormous and important waste of valuable food. It is urged, therefore, that everyone who has anything to do with getting eggs to the storage markets exercise unusual care this year to prevent them from being even checked. Once an eggshell is cracked, even so slightly that the eye cannot see it, germs and molds find ready entrance into the egg and spoil its contents. Nature has provided the egg with a delicate protective, gelatinous coating, which as long as it is intact tends to keep out air and germs. Once this coating is pierced, the keeping quality of the egg is lessened immediately. Five per cent of the 2,400,000,000 dozen eggs put in cold storage, the specialists find, spoil because they were checked; that is, eggs so slightly cracked that they could not be detected in quick handling during the spring rush of storing the bulk of eggs for winter use.

VALUABLE FOR CATTLE FEED

Trials of Grain of Broom-Corn Millet in Rations for Stock More Profitable Than Corn.

PROSO, or broom-corn millet, is more distinctively a grain millet, and it has been used to some extent in North Dakota and South Dakota as a grain crop. Trials of the grain of broom-corn millet and the foxtail millets in rations for hogs and beef cattle indicate that it is much less valuable than corn for this purpose and does not equal barley as a flesh producer. The South Dakota agricultural experiment station found that it took about 8 per cent more millet than barley to produce a pound of gain, and on this basis it would be about 16 per cent less efficient than corn as a hog feed. The meat produced by millet contained a greater percentage of lean than that produced by other feeds, and the fat was softer. For feeding steers it required 37 per cent more millet than corn to produce a pound of gain, 29 per cent more than oats, and 22 per cent more than spelt.

GOOD LUBRICANT IS HELPFUL

Too Many Farmers and Teamsters Use Cheap Grease on Wagons and Drays—It Don't Pay.

The useful life of a wagon or dray employed in heavy hauling depends very largely on the care of its wheels and axles.

Hosts of farmers and teamsters who ought to know better, think that "grease is just grease anyway," and so cut the boxes out of their wagon wheels by using some inferior lubricant, which runs off and leaves the spindle dry, or forms a stiff, almost gritty substance in the wheel, which is just as bad.

LITTLE THINGS COUNT MOST

Thorough Drying After Cleansing is of Great Importance in Caring for Dairy Utensils.

Of chief importance in the care of dairy utensils, especially in warm weather, is thorough drying after cleansing. Cleansing will remove a large per cent of the bacteria and much of the food for their growth. Application of steam for 30 seconds kills but few, but it will supply heat to dry the utensils, which prevents bacterial growth, so that there will be practically no more present 12 hours later than five minutes after washing the utensil.

STOCK HELP SOIL FERTILITY

Taking Crops Off Farm on Four Legs is One of Surest Ways of Obtaining Profits.

Do not forget that taking your crop off on four legs is one of the best ways to make clear money off of your farm, besides improving its fertility by keeping all manure on your land. This method of farming, if carried out properly, makes your land of greater value year by year, and you will have larger returns from your work. In other words, feed your crops to those animals which you like best, be they cattle, sheep or hogs.

KEEP DAIRY PRODUCTS COOL

Importance of Act is Emphasized by Expert of Kansas College—Concrete Tank Favored.

Importance of keeping the dairy products cool during the summer months is emphasized by N. E. Olson, instructor in dairy husbandry in the Kansas State Agricultural college. A satisfactory cooler for the milk and cream can be made at a small cost.

If the milk house is near the windmill or hand pump all that is necessary to keep the milk cool and in good condition is a large barrel with pipe connections from the pump to the stock tank. A coal oil barrel, deodorized by burning, will answer the purpose. The inlet pipe from the pump should be near the bottom and the outlet pipe near the top of the barrel. This should lead to the stock tank.

The cans may be hung in the water so that the top of the cream or milk is well below the surface of the water. It is necessary, however, to stir the contents of the cans so that the milk or cream will be evenly cooled. Thick cream should be stirred every 15 minutes or half hour for two hours. The new cream should be cooled before it is mixed with the old cream.

Farmers who are building new milk houses will find it convenient to build the cooling tank of concrete, in the opinion of Mr. Olson. This may be set two feet in the ground and 18 to 24 inches above the ground. It is not necessary for the windmill to keep pumping continuously in order to keep the dairy products cool enough with this arrangement. If the water is changed a few times each day they will keep.

OIL CHEAPER THAN REPAIRS

Examination of All Parts of Machinery is as Important as Feeding Horse.

Oil and grease on a tractor are cheaper than repairs plus time lost in obtaining them and getting started again.

Looking over all parts of the machine regularly is just as important as regular feeding and watering of horses.

The wrong kind of lubricating of wastes power and fouls every working part. Get instructions from the builders as to kind and quantity of oil.

These are tractor suggestions from the horse and machinery committee of the Kansas council of defense.

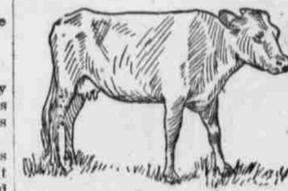
Sharp plows, it is further pointed out by the committee, call for less power from the engine to do good work, hence less cost to operate and longer life for the tractor. Lengthening of hitches between engine and plow will often eliminate a large part of side draft, which is another way of reducing the cost of the work.

A good headlight, moreover, will greatly increase the usefulness of the engine.

CONSERVE HIGH-PRICED FEED

Farmer Should Convert Robber Cow Into Beef at Once and Buy Good Quality Stock.

With the high price of butter and the price of feed for dairy cows soaring upward, the question of the profitable or unprofitable cow becomes more interesting. Do not go right along feeding a lot of scrub cows that cost more than they earn. If you have ten cows and the tester shows that four of them do not produce enough milk to pay for their keep, why not sell



An Unprofitable Specimen.

them and put the proceeds into one good cow? One good cow would save the loss of the feed consumed by three of the cows and give you a good profit each year. Convert the robber cows into beef at once, purchase good stock then watch your profits grow.

NECESSARY FOOD FOR TREES

Question is Asked as to Amount of Potash Returned to Soil by Average Fruit Grower.

It is estimated that an acre of apple trees in 20 years (counting ten crops of fruit to that period) will consume 1,336 pounds of nitrogen, 319 pounds of phosphoric acid, and 1,895 pounds of potash.

To restore the potash alone would require more than 21 tons of high-grade ashes, containing 5 per cent potash. How much of this does the average fruit grower return to the soil?

INTESTINAL WORMS IN COLTS

Mixture Recommended by Some Veterinarians is Given—Give in Feed Twice Each Day.

For intestinal worms in colts the following mixture is used by some veterinarians: Mix together as a base one pound each of salt and granulated sugar; in this mix one-half pound of tobacco dust of finest tobacco, four ounces of sulphate of iron powder, six ounces of powdered worm seed. Give a heaping teaspoonful in the feed at first once per day, then twice per day, and keep up for three weeks.

POULTRY FACTS



SPECIAL CARE FOR ROOSTER

Keep Male Exercising, Supply Plenty of Proper Kind of Food and Eggs Should Be Fertile.

Good breeding males sometimes get themselves out of breeding condition by overgallantry. Instead of taking their share of the food they call the hens. A good plan is to give every male a special feed at night. Many breeders coop the male at night and feed him morning and night.

See to it that the male's spurs are not long and sharp enough to cut the backs of the hens. Either wrap them with narrow strips of cloth or saw them off.

If the male has a bare spot on the head, or a torn wattle, the hens are likely to peck at him. Some males will permit the hens to pluck feathers and peck at their noses until there is a raw surface. Grease these bare spots with carbolized vaseline, and coop the bird until the wound has a chance to heal over. An open wound of this sort is apt to become infected with the germ of chickenpox and give lots of trouble. Pigeons, sparrows and other birds are said to carry chickenpox. If the germs are in the ground, and the male rubs his sore spots with infected feet, he is almost sure to get the disease.

Keep him exercising, give him plenty of the right kind of food and the eggs should be fertile.

TOULOUSE IS MOST POPULAR

All Economic Breeds of Geese Are Kept Primarily for the Production of Meat and Feathers.

Six breeds of geese have been admitted to the American standard of perfection, namely Toulouse, Embden, Chinese, African, wild or Canadian, and Egyptian. In addition to the standard breeds there is the so-called mongrel goose, which is a hybrid made by crossing one of these varieties, or the common goose, with wild geese. Crosses of the varieties of geese, es-



Toulouse Geese.

pecially of the Toulouse and Embden, are occasionally made, but without any apparent gain. The Toulouse, Embden, Chinese and African are easily the most popular breeds or geese in this country, the first two greatly leading the other breeds. All economic breeds of geese are kept primarily for the production of flesh and feathers; and although their eggs are occasionally used for culinary purposes on the farm, there is no demand for them for food purposes in the markets.

MARKED EGGS IN INCUBATOR

Just Before Pipping—Sew Eggs Which Are to Be Pedigreed into Cheese-cloth Sacks.

The eggs of one hen, or a setting of eggs, may be hatched in the incubator with other eggs, if, just before pipping, the eggs to be pedigreed are sewed into cheesecloth sacks. Make the sacks large enough to leave plenty of room for each chick, and see that there are no loose threads to choke the chicks. If there are several sacks, mark each sack, as the shells are often broken too much to show the record. Boil the sacks before using a second time.

FIND DIFFERENCE IN BREEDS

Fowl May Not Be Up to Standard Qualifications and Yet Be Pure-bred—Markings Are Off.

A "standard-bred" fowl and a "pure-bred" fowl are not necessarily the same. A bird may not be up to the standard of qualifications and yet be a purebred. But a standard-bred is bound to be a purebred. Utility poultry are fowls bred for increased egg and meat production, and while they are pure in blood may be way off in markings from a poultry show point of view.

CAREFUL SELECTION OF HEN

Constitutional Vigor Should Be First Consideration—Excellent Points to Note.

Constitutional vigor should be the first consideration in the selection of a hen.

The head should be broad, wide and deep; the eyes full, round and prominent; and the neck of medium length.