

# WASHINGTON GOSSIP

## Soon Birdmen Will All Be Machine-Made Aviators

WASHINGTON.—A machine that enables you to experience all the physical sensations of flying and to test your fitness for aviation without once losing your hold upon the earth, has just been adopted by the war department for use in training its pilots. It is probable that this device, known as the Ruggles orientator, will be a feature of all flying schools, and will enable civilians as well as soldiers to determine without risking their lives whether they are fit for flying.

The machine consists of two sets of steel rings, the larger one of which is 12 feet in diameter. One ring revolves in the horizontal plane and the other in the perpendicular plane. The rings are driven by small motors so that they revolve within each other. The "boat," in which the pupil sits, is suspended from the inner ring, and its movements may be controlled by either set of rings. The motors which control the boat may be operated from within by the pupil or from the outside by the instructor. The prospective pilot seats himself in the boat while the instructor sits, with his hand on the control, alongside his machine. The instructor can put his pupil through all the motions of a machine in the air by operating the controls, which are connected to the machine by means of wire batteries. After several demonstrations of looping-the-loop, dipping, gliding and volplaning, the pupil is permitted to operate the machine by the controls in the boat. The test is even more severe than that of actual flying. If the neophyte has anything the matter with his heart, nerves or stomach which will disqualify him for flying, the orientator will bring the fact out at once.

It used to take a hero to tackle the game. Soon the birdman will be machine-made.

## Congress Not Going to Stand for the Red Flag

CONGRESS is not going to stand for the red flag in the United States. May day demonstrations, signalized with the waving of red flags in various cities, have served to emphasize the determination of congressional leaders to force enactment of legislation which will prohibit and penalize such demonstrations.

While the propaganda committee of the senate has had the subject under consideration and probably will submit a bill on the issue, there is one senator who is not going to wait for a committee to initiate such legislation. He is Senator New of Indiana, who submitted an antired flag bill at the last session which went down in the flood of unenacted measures on the closing days of congress. Now the Indiana senator is writing another bill and he plans to introduce it as soon as the new congress is convened. The measure, particularly directed against the anarchist propaganda movement now agitated in the United States, has already been tentatively prepared, and although subject to revision before presentation to congress, it will be substantially as follows concerning the red flag:



"That the display or exhibition at any meeting, gathering or parade, public or private, of any flag, banner or emblem, symbolizing or intended by the person or persons displaying or exhibiting the same to symbolize a purpose to overthrow by force or violence or by physical injury to person or property or by the general cessation of industry, the government of the United States or of all government, is hereby declared to be unlawful."

Provision is also made against the use of the spoken, written and printed words and the use of the mails.

The penalty for violation of the act is a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than five years or both.

"There is entirely too much consideration shown to the class of people who employ the red flag in this country," says Senator New.

## Laboratory Experts Now Predict Fireproof Wood

HAVING perfected methods by which bits of wood can be put together so that the whole is as strong as an unbroken piece; having made wood almost as resistant to moisture as iron, and having learned how to season green wood in a few weeks, the experts of the United States forest products laboratory are setting out to do what seems to the layman the impossible—that is, to make wood fireproof.

These remarkable studies in the use and properties of wood are being carried out at the forest products laboratory at Madison, Wis., which does its work in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin. In view of the work which this laboratory has done, and is now doing, it is not stretching probabilities to predict that within a few years it may be possible to build a wooden house, for less than wooden houses cost now, which will be at least as fireproof as a stone house and will rival a stone house in lasting qualities.

Loss of wooden structures by fires due very largely to carelessness. In the opinion of the laboratory experts, and they do not refer to carelessness in the use of matches and cigarettes, either. They say that the faulty use of wood in building is the cause of many fires, and they are carrying on investigations to determine just how wood can safely be used.

The experiments are accompanied by others in the making of wood fireproof. The experts say that there is no reason why wood, the cheapest and most plentiful building material, should be discriminated against because of its inflammability and its lack of lasting qualities. Both of these shortcomings can and will be overcome.

The forest products laboratory had been puttering along for years until the war stirred it up to real activity.

Many of the things it discovered in war can be applied to peace. War evidently is not an unmixed evil.

## Wanted: Half-Cent Piece for Paying Luxury Taxes

COMMUNICATIONS have reached the treasury department urging the coinage of a half-cent piece as a means of making exact payments of revenue taxes, but there is no indication that the department will favor the proposition.

Agitation on the subject, reported from Chicago and other cities, it was stated by treasury officials, would be successful only if sufficiently strong to induce action by congress. Such action would be necessary before a coin of a new denomination could be issued.

Inasmuch as the extra half cent which taxpayers are required to pay on numerous articles goes into the treasury, its officials would not be likely to take the lead in a move which would cut off a portion of the revenue. Members of congress, as the direct representatives of the people, might champion the proposal.

Officials of the internal revenue bureau are trying to prevent profiteering through greater increases in prices than justified by war taxes. The regulation for the collection of the luxury tax has been framed specifically with a view to this end. It is provided that it must be made clear to the customer just what the price of the article is and the amount of the tax.

Although the luxury tax has been in effect only a short time reports of profiteering are reaching the revenue bureau. Revenue agents say violations will not be tolerated.

Under the revenue law false representations are subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both.



### To Utilize Embroidered Monograms.

Take the embroidered initial or monogram from old bolster and pillow cases and use them on new slips. Cut letter from old slip, leaving a three-inch square around it (letters for bed-linen are usually two inches), then cut the material to form an oval leaving a small margin to turn under. Sew to the new slip, then outline with embroidery cotton to conceal stitches. Outline another row one-fourth of an inch from the first and work eyelets at intervals between the rows to form a medallion. The result is even prettier than when first embroidered.

### Turning a Dress Skirt.

If a skirt has become faded or soiled, it can often be turned to good advantage. First, clean it as thoroughly as possible. Rip one seam, turn and baste carefully before ripping another. If there are plaits refold, following the old creases, making what was formerly the wrong side the right. If the skirt is a good hanging one, any home dressmaker can do the work satisfactorily, for it is not nearly so difficult a task as to make a new one. One seam at a time is a much better way than to rip all the seams apart before beginning to baste.

### When Sewing Taffeta.

Use a thin, fine needle for sewing taffeta. The blunt end of a needle long used is liable to pucker the goods, and the stitches will not be even. A heavier needle may be used in sewing China silk.

### To Sharpen Scissors.

Cut them rapidly on the neck of a small glass bottle, or better still, on a ground glass stopper. It trues the edges and makes them cut like new.

Take a fine file and sharpen each blade, being careful to keep the same

angle as they had at first; file till rough places are all taken out. Put a little oil on the edges of the blades and snap together. Then wipe off all the oil.

### When Stitching Seams.

When stitching heavy white cotton or linen, rub the seam to be stitched, with hard white soap, and the needle will not cut the material.

### To Prevent Pricking the Fingers.

One accustomed to doing needlework of any kind is aware of the discomfort caused by the needle pricking the finger which holds the underside of the cloth. This can be prevented if the worker will moisten a small strip of court plaster and stick it on the end of the finger.

### To Freshen Oriental Rugs.

A mixture of borax, ammonia and water is excellent and will not injure the rugs. To one pint of water add two tablespoonfuls of powdered borax and one tablespoonful of ammonia, stirring well. Apply while the water is warm with a small brush, rubbing against the nap. When the entire rug has been gone over wipe in the same direction with the nap with a soft cloth which will not lint. Then brush with the nap, using a dry brush. After this treatment the rugs will be silky, clear and with a better sheen. This was told by a native rug dealer.

### Demand for Waistcoats.

The demand for waistcoats has almost completely submerged the separate collar vogue that has been such a feature of the coat suit.

### Belgian Blue is Popular.

The brilliant, sea-fresh Belgian blue is as popular as it ever was. It is a favorite facing for big, black hats.

## Neatness in Frocks for Children



The dresses brought out by many manufacturers of children's clothes this season ought to be a great help to mothers. Neatness is characteristic of the new designs and neatness is the first thing that mothers must teach their little ones. Little girls acquire good taste in dress unconsciously and the responsibility of cultivating it rests on the mother. She will be safe in selecting the clothes turned out by specialists in children's wear for her little ones—if she doubts her own gifts and intuitions—in the selection of frocks.

A frock for the times when our little miss must "dress up" is shown at the left of the picture above. It is made of swiss organdie, as crisp and fresh as snow. A wide hem and eight pin tucks above it speak for the attention given the skirt, while the bodice rejoices in bretelles of narrow swiss embroidery at each side and a "V" at the front filled in with plain organdie with tiny pearl buttons at each side. The embroidery outlines the neck, and a little, prim bow of ribbon calls attention to it. This same ribbon makes a pretty sash that will complete the happiness of the very young lady who is to wear it and help teach her to be careful of her finery.

At the right of the picture a new model for a very little girl shows a quaint frock with batiste body and gingham skirt. There is not much to say of it, except that it is pretty and cozy looking, for the picture tells all its simple story. The square pockets are cut on the bias of the goods and have a border of batiste at the top. Often plain chambray is used instead

of batiste, with plaid gingham and with striped cotton materials. One new touch in this little frock appears in the pointed front that laps over from left to right and is fastened under a small bit of needle-work by way of ornament. The sleeves are elbow length, with turned-back cuffs, and there is a small turnover collar. Feather stitching is more liked for finishing these little frocks than hem-stitching.

### Julia Bottomley

### Bead Work.

All kinds of bead work is so much in vogue that amateurs will hail with delight any suggestions. To have good results proper tools must be on hand. Procure fine straw or long-eye crevel needles. Use fine linen thread and wax it. Baste the canvas to thin goods, such as lawn, on the wrong side of the design if it be a bag of solid work, so it will not pucker. Spread beads out on a soft white cloth for dark beads, and the light ones on a dark surface, then work only in a good light, not facing it. Do not work until tired and restless. It will not pay.

### Always the Sash.

The summer dress, whether of silk or cotton, has a sash, which may be of wide or narrow ribbon, or of soft crushed satin. It may assume the form of chiffon streamers, or may be a bow made of the dress material.

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NO TASK FOR THE TIMID  
Prudence is the wing plucked from some past folly.

Photography Today May Be Classed Among the Occupations That Require Nerve.

The adventures, reported recently, of an expedition that penetrated British East Africa to secure motion pictures of big game in its native jungle reminds one strikingly of the change that has come over the vocation of photography. In the beginning photography was as mild an occupation as any; it called for a pleasing address in the photographer, and for conversational tact to encourage the sitter to forget that the camera was watching him, but it was not adventurous, and the timid might excel at it. Then the newspapers began to use the camera, and the photographer had often to be a man of courage. But the motion picture industry goes even farther. Bold and brave must be the man who successfully takes pictures of lions, tigers, and other denizens of the jungle in their native haunts.

### If You Need a Medicine You Should Have the Best

Have you ever stopped to reason why it is that so many products that are extensively advertised, all at once drop out of sight and are soon forgotten? The reason is plain—the article did not fulfill the promises of the manufacturer. This applies more particularly to a medicine. A medicinal preparation that has real curative value almost sells itself, as like an endless chain system the remedy is recommended by those who have benefited, to those who are in need of it. A prominent druggist says "Take for example Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a preparation I have sold for many years and never hesitate to recommend, for in almost every case it shows excellent results, as many of my customers testify. No other kidney remedy has so large a sale."

According to sworn statements and verified testimony of thousands who have used the preparation, the success of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root is due to the fact, so many people claim, that it fulfills almost every wish in overcoming kidney, liver and bladder ailments; corrects urinary troubles and neutralizes the uric acid which causes rheumatism. You may receive a sample bottle of Swamp-Root by Parcel Post. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., and enclose ten cents; also mention this paper. Large and medium size bottles for sale at all drug stores.—Adv.

### Dubious Indignation.

An American motorist, stopped by a Scotch constable for speeding, hinted broadly that he might pay to be let off. "What, sir?" cried the constable. "Dne ye suggest that I widge take a bribe? Dne ye dare to insult me, sir?" "Oh, excuse me," said the American. "I really—"

"But, now," put in the constable, "supposin' I was that kin' o' a man, how much widge ye be inclined to gie?"

Not So Slow. "What a quaint little village! As I live, there are some old men pitching horseshoes on the public square!" "Yes, but those old codgers are not as far behind the times as you may suppose. Any one of them can give you the warmest argument on 'What's the Matter With Russia' that you ever listened to."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

### Atmospheric Injustice.

"But, my friend, you must remember that the rain falls on the just and the unjust alike," remarked the chronic quoter.

"Wrong again," returned the man with the furrowed brow as he gave up the hunt, "the unjust are usually found carrying the umbrellas which belong to the just."

### Saluting Everybody.

A nurse at Funston approached the bed of a patient to take his temperature. He said to her: "Do I salute you, too?" He had taken the influenza the third day in camp.

### Its Class.

"I have just been reading Poe's story, 'A Manuscript Found in a Bottle.'"

"What do you think of it?" "It is a corking story."

### Of Course.

"Here is a speaking likeness of Foch."

"Does it speak in French?"—Boston Transcript.

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