



By ELMO SCOTT WATSON
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

WHETHER you celebrate Thanksgiving Day on November 21, because of the President's proclamation, or on November 28, in accordance with the tradition of its observance on the last Thursday in November, it won't be long now until you'll be "talking turkey." For, so strong is tradition, that no Thanksgiving Day dinner table seems quite complete unless there's a roasted turkey on it.

That's one day in the year when the turkey is our "national bird" even though the bald eagle officially holds that title and is thus recognized for 364 days of the year (365 this year). But on a Thursday in November the white-headed "king of birds" temporarily abdicates and his place is taken by a king-for-a-day—the turkey.

As a matter of fact, he might have been our "national bird" throughout the year—if Benjamin Franklin had had his way about it. Soon after the Declaration of Independence was signed, a congressional committee was appointed to choose an official seal for the new republic. Like most committees, this one immediately began squabbling over its task.

When some one proposed that the bald eagle should appear on the seal as a living symbol of the nation, there was immediate opposition and Franklin became the leader of the anti-eagle faction. He declared that the bald eagle was a lazy, cowardly, cruel, carion-eating cousin of the buzzard and therefore no fit object to put on the seal. In its place he urged that the honor be given to the wild turkey as a more temperate, humane and judicious bird.

Six-Year Dispute.

So bitter was the opposition to the eagle that it was necessary to appoint no less than six congressional committees to wrestle with the problem. After six years the pro-eagle faction won out and by vote of congress on June 20, 1782, the bald eagle was officially adopted as the symbol of American freedom and of the majesty of the new nation.

Not only was the eagle to be placed on the great seal of the United States but he was also to appear on the first coins issued. The designs of these were rather crude affairs and the eagle on them looked much like a turkey—and a slightly tipsy turkey at that. Whereupon Franklin, still unreconciled to the choice of a national bird, wrote to a friend: "I am not displeased that the figure is not known as a bald eagle, but looks more like a turkey. For in truth, the turkey is in comparison a much more respectable bird, and with a true native of America. He is besides (though a little vain and silly, it is true, but not the worse emblem for that) a bird of courage, and would not hesitate to attack a grenadier of the British guards, who should presume to enter his farmyard with a red coat on."

Two years later he was apparently still unreconciled to the honor paid to the eagle instead of his choice. The Order of Cincinnati, an organization of army officers who had served in the Revolution, had also adopted the eagle as its emblem. Franklin wrote to one of its leaders, declaring that a bird too lazy to fish for himself, who robbed the honest fish hawk on every occasion and who was so cowardly as to permit the little kingbird "to drive him out of the district" was "by no means a proper emblem for the brave and honest Cincinnati of America," who by their prowess had "driven all the kingbirds from our country." But evidently his letter didn't do much good for the eagle remained the emblem of this order.

Franklin was quite right in calling the turkey a "true native of America." That he was one of the authentic "first Americans" is proved by the fact that his bones in fossil deposits show that he is of prehistoric origin, and what appears to have been roosting places for domestic turkeys have been found attached to pueblos and cliff dwellings in excavated ruins of untold centuries ago.

It is a curious paradox that this native American bird should come to our Thanksgiving tables bearing a foreign name which gives the erroneous suggestion that he came from the European-Asiatic country of Turkey. Yet such is the case and here is how it came about:

The Spaniards who conquered Mexico found turkeys, both wild and domesticated, in that country as early as 1519 and it was no less a person than Cortez's own confessor, Fra Agapida, who wrote back to Spain from Mexico the following: "There is a bird, much greater in bigness than a peacock, that is found within the forests and vegas all over this country. It surpasses as food any wild bird we have found up to this time. The natives do shoot these birds with arrows and catch



The first great seal of the United States, adopted by congress in 1782.

them in various kinds of springes and snares.

Specimens of this splendid fowl were almost immediately sent back to Spain and the Jewish merchants, who were the leading dealers in such commodities at the time, thought they looked more like peacocks than anything else. The Hebrew word for peacock was "tukki," from a Hindu word "toka," meaning "trailing skirt," and these merchants began calling them "tukkis" or "American tukkis." Soon the word "tukki" became corrupted to "turkey" and led to a confusion as to their origin, even though they were of American rather than Turkish variety.

A Royal Gift.

From Spain the new delicacy from the New world spread to other parts of Europe and won instant favor. Turkeys were taken to Persia by Armenians, and to Batavia by the Dutch. In France—where the turkey was, and is, called "dinde" because they believed it hailed from India—the bird was first served for the wedding feast of the lively young Charles IX and Elizabeth of Austria. Twelve turkeys were considered fine enough for a royal gift from the merchants of Amiens to Charles. By the middle of the century, England met the bird, and in another 20 years it was being plentifully raised in various sections of Great Britain.

And now comes one of the curious paradoxes of history, in that this "native American" be-

came an immigrant to the shores of his own land. In 1629 a letter, written to Governor Endicott in Salem, Mass., by his agents in London, assured him that "tame turkeys shall be sent you by the next shippe." So in a short time the New England variety of the North American wild turkey was being mixed with his partly domesticated descendant from Mexico via England—thus completing a curious 100-year round-the-world tour.

It is probable that not one turkey in a thousand which will grace the Thanksgiving table this year will be a native wild turkey. For the original New England wild turkey (Meleagres Americana) is all but extinct in the part of the country where he first made his appearance on that festal board. The wild turkey of today (Meleagres gallapavo silvestris), according to ornithologists, is found in greatly reduced numbers only from Pennsylvania and Ohio south to the gulf states and west to Arkansas. There is a smaller variety, the Florida wild turkey, in that state; in southern Texas is another, the Rio Grande turkey and in the Rocky mountain region, another, Merriam's turkey. All modern domesticated turkeys are derived from the Mexican wild turkey (Meleagres Mexicana) of the earliest days.

The First Thanksgiving.

But to get back to why the turkey occupies such a prominent place on our Thanksgiving day dinner table—of that first celebration, held in Plymouth in 1621, Edward Winslow wrote back to England as follows:

"Our harvest being gotten in, our Governor sent four men on a fowling, that so we might after a more speciall manner rejoice together, after we had gathered in the fruit of our labours; they four in one day killed as much fowle, as with a little help beside, served the company almost a week, at which time amongst other recreations, we exercised our Armes, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and amongst the rest of their greatest King Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five Deere, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governor, and upon the Captaine (Standish) and others."

There is no doubt that among the "fowle" at this feast, enjoyed alike by the Pilgrims and the Indians, was the native wild turkey, for that bird had long been a staple in the diet of the red man. Incidentally, that familiar expression "talk turkey" dates from those early days and we are indebted to the Indians for it, too.

In one of the Thirteen Colonies (it cannot be stated positively which one, although from certain aspects of the incident the suspicion arises that it was in New England) an Indian and a white man agreed to hunt together for a day and then to divide the spoils. This they did and the division proceeded agreeably enough until only a crow and a turkey remained.

Thereupon the white man, volubly frank and seemingly generous in manner, said: "Now you may have the crow and I'll take the turkey; or I'll take the turkey and you may have the crow." But the red man was not so easily taken in by this glib proposal and replied indignantly: "Huh! Why you no talk turkey to me?" And ever since that time, so says the legend, when a person began to dissemble, to conceal his real meaning in a superfluity of words, to attempt to "put over" something on another, it became time for the other to advise him to "talk turkey," i. e. to be straightforward and get down to business.

Election Statistics

(Table below shows state results in the election of the President (electoral vote), Congressional Representatives, U. S. Senators and the governors of each state in which these posts were at stake.)

State	Electoral Vote		Congressmen Elected		Senators Elected		Governors Elected	
	D	R	D	R	D	R	D	R
Ala.	11	9						
Ark.	3	1	1				1	
Calif.	9	7						1
Colo.	22	11	9	1				1
Conn.	8	6	2	1			1	1
Del.	3	1	1					1
Fla.	7	5	1					1
Georgia	12	10						1
Idaho	4	1	1	1				1
Illinois	29	11	16	1				1
Indiana	14	4	8	1				1
Iowa	11	2	7					1
Kansas	9	1	6					1
Ky.	11	8	1	1				
La.	10	8						
Maine	5	3					1	
Md.	8	6						1
Mass.	17	6	9	1				1
Mich.	19	6	11	1			1	1
Minn.	11	8						1
Miss.	9	7	1					1
Mo.	15	10	3	1				1
Mont.	4	1	1	1				1
Neb.	7	2	3	1				1
Nevada	3	1	1					
N. H.	4	2						1
N. J.	16	4	10	1				1
N. M.	3	1	1	1				
N. Y.	47	25	19	1				
N. C.	13	11						1
N. D.	4	2	1	1				
Ohio	26	12	12	1				1
Okla.	11	8	1					
Oregon	5	1	2					
Pa.	36	19	15	1				
R. I.	4	2	1	1				
S. C.	8	6						
S. D.	4	2						1
Tenn.	11	6	2	1				1
Texas	23	21	1	1				
Utah	4	2	1	1				
Vt.	3	1	1	1				
Wa.	11	9	1	1				
Wash.	8	6	1	1				
W. Va.	8	6	1	1				
Wis.	12	1	6	1				1
Wyo.	3	1	1					
TOTALS	449	32	267	162	22	12	18	15

Additional Congressional Results.
* Minnesota has one Farmer-Laborite.
† New York has one American-Laborite.
‡ Tennessee has one Independent.
§ Wisconsin has three Progressives.

NOTE: It should be remembered that only 31 states elected governors and 35 states elected senators in this 1940 election.

(Tabulation below gives the popular vote for the presidential election as reported by the various states.)

	Roosevelt	Willkie
Alabama	179,589	27,651
Arizona	77,212	41,833
Arkansas	102,805	26,495
California	1,750,876	1,240,231
Colorado	198,675	212,435
Connecticut	417,358	361,689
Delaware	74,387	65,059
Florida	338,847	121,033
Georgia	240,734	41,482
Idaho	117,201	99,490
Illinois	2,130,194	2,036,431
Indiana	860,472	884,557
Iowa	572,655	622,737
Kansas	348,974	465,599
Kentucky	481,550	350,222
Louisiana	186,171	29,542
Maine	154,774	163,928
Maryland	364,168	250,362
Massachusetts	1,052,678	916,411
Michigan	1,025,963	1,032,963
Minnesota	622,032	583,356
Mississippi	100,825	4,737
Missouri	946,125	856,531
Montana	109,139	73,379
Nebraska	256,761	341,863
Nevada	31,567	20,946
New Hampshire	125,625	109,592
New Jersey	1,014,978	947,638
New Mexico	105,031	82,754
New York	3,262,273	3,029,180
North Carolina	575,072	182,706
North Dakota	113,909	144,635
Ohio	1,728,020	1,584,655
Oklahoma	468,397	342,672
Oregon	229,819	202,715
Pennsylvania	2,168,693	1,884,847
Rhode Island	181,881	138,432
South Carolina	85,077	4,193
South Dakota	114,623	159,730
Tennessee	323,710	150,531
Texas	682,173	162,758
Utah	153,494	93,906
Vermont	64,244	78,335
Virginia	236,512	169,682
Washington	349,869	244,057
West Virginia	483,566	360,769
Wisconsin	693,017	672,343
Wyoming	58,262	51,996
Total	25,960,408	21,606,691

(Above figures are unofficial. Complete and official returns are announced following canvass by the various state boards.)

Election Sidelights:
Both presidential candidates carried their own home voting districts. Roosevelt received a majority of 74 votes to win. 376 to 302; Willkie's native town gave him a margin of 438 votes. The count was Willkie, 4,151; Roosevelt, 3,713.

Post-election celebration kept Manhattan firemen busy after Roosevelt's victory became apparent. More than 50 fire alarms were turned in as a result of street bonfires set by celebrants.

In order to record the electoral vote the 531 presidential electors will gather on December 16 in their various state capitals and send their votes to Washington by registered mail. These letters will actually be tabulated by Congress on January 6 and President Roosevelt will be sworn in for his third term on January 20. Members of the electoral college used to get a trip to Washington but in 1934, congress decided that its duties were too routine and turned it into a "correspondence school."

New Flair for Satin Increases As Women 'Rediscover' Fabric

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



A FLAIR for satin has developed that extends throughout the entire program of fall and winter fashions. Not only is its smartness recognized but women are rediscovering how marvelous satin of pure silk dye feels in the wearing. It has even come to be regarded as an enthusiastically accredited year-round fabric.

Satin is being importantly used in the realm of costume design in combination with other materials as in the styling of fashionable bolero and long-coat ensembles. The vogue for satin also reflects in everything from hats to shoes, bags, gloves and countless other accessory items. Ever so chic are long satin evening wraps in black or colors.

Designers who know, declare that the satins they handle must necessarily be of the pure-silk type in order to arrive at the lovely effects in shirring, draping and general manipulation achieved in the stunning modes illustrated. Then too, they point out the economy and practicality of all-silk satin in that it wears so satisfactorily, cleans so beautifully and proves up to the mark from every test angle.

A style-distinctive version of that ever-perennial favorite, the white satin blouse, is shown above to the left in the group pictured. Its fitted midriff accords with an outstanding fashion trend. Tucks starting at the diagonal yoke seam are released into soft bust fullness. The hat worn with it is an artful translation of the Suzy fisherwoman sailor.

Jeweled buttons down the front impart sparkle to the very effective green silk satin overblouse with

small rolled collar pictured to the right. Artful shirrings accent the longer waistline. A soaring hat of pleated felt and ribbon by Louise Sanders tunes to the colors of the blouse.

From the milliner's viewpoint satin is declared an ideal medium. For the pompadour turban shown below to the right, satin in the new "huaca" (potato peel) brown is combined with black. Note that this hat is worn well back on the head to show the new off-face hair-do, altogether a very characteristic movement this season. The hat as well as the black satin handbag designed by Lilly Dache reflect the trend to soft unpressed pleats. The bag inclines to the new long narrow shape that is the "last word" in design.

Renewed interest in evening gowns fashioned of satin is evidenced throughout the present style program. In the inset panel we are showing a satin dinner-dance gown that demonstrates the exquisite grace with which satin yields to soft draping effects. A new handling in the side drupe gives a decidedly up-to-the-minute aspect to this gown so artfully created by Kiviette, noted American designer. A long panel back, also the V-neck decolletage, are intriguing details.

Some very good-looking long-coat costume suits include a blouse of satin matched to the color of the cloth that makes the coat and skirt. Especially outstanding is the all-black ensemble that tops the satin blouse with long coat or bolero that is handsomely braided. With a costume suit of this description the program of dress for daytime wear is aptly solved in a flattering way. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Gloves Match Hats



Dozens of colors in the newest American leather gloves make it possible to follow fashion's latest dictate which bids you match hats and gloves or hat trimmings and gloves. Here a gay red hat and equally red mocha gloves put color spice into a black suit. Since the hat flaunts beige wings and a dark green veil, either beige or dark green gloves could also be used. Notice how the buttons fasten on the side.

Jerkins Transform Costume Magically

Jerkins are becoming increasingly popular. You can have anything from a sports jerkin of colorful suede, velveteen or corduroy to an esthetic evening type that can be slipped over any simple frock. Jerkins, with their long torso lines, look stunning slipped over frocks with all-round pleated skirts and are dramatic when worn over slinky long pencil-slim evening gowns trailing long skirts or the new harem skirts that slit up the side.

Fasten Dress, Blouse With Jeweled Buttons

The smartest way to fasten your dress or blouse in the new-to-one-side way is with a single large fur covered button. These fur buttons play into the scheme of furred ensembles cleverly, the button matching the hat of fur or the fur buckles that are so new for pumps.

Jeweled buttons are important this season, especially on blouses of rich fabric. Many black velvet dresses are enhanced by the sparkle of rhinestone or jewel set buttons.

Match Sweater, Crepe Skirt for Evening Wear

Colorful crepe evening dresses are selling with matching sweaters to serve as formal jackets. Embroidered sweaters that sparkle or that are gorgeous with metal thread and beadwork take on the new long-torso lines. Smart afternoon dresses have pleated skirts with form-fitting hip-length slipover sweaters that are all-over sequin embroidered.

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