

NEWS and GOSSIP OF WASHINGTON



President Seeks His Relaxation at the Theater



WASHINGTON.—President Wilson finds his greatest relaxation and rest from work in going to the theater. Like President Taft, Mr. Wilson enjoys an evening at the theater as the most complete diversion from official cares. It seems to make little difference to President Wilson whether the play is good or not, he is easily amused and entertained, maintaining a certain good-natured responsiveness to whatever happens to be on the boards, until every player who comes to Washington cherishes the ambition to "play to the president," because he never fails to appreciate the effort from the classic production to the latest slapstick.

The theater-going habit of President Wilson recalls the various modes of former presidents in finding recreation or diversion from the hard day's work in his office. President

Van Buren walked and rode and played checkers for recreation. Andrew Jackson loved to smoke his old corncob pipe and was a patron of the cockpit and owned lots of birds.

John Adams, who came into the White House before it was quite finished or ready for occupancy, was serious to moroseness, and was all but a recluse. President William Henry Harrison had the habit of going to the market for the vegetables and meats of the White House table, and upon one of these occasions, on a rainy morning when the market was chill and damp, he took the cold which resulted in his death.

President Hayes rode little, walked less, and read the greater part of his leisure time. Jefferson's costly French and Italian wines and Madeiras were one of the features of his administration, and President Madison thought that champagne was the most delightful of all wines when taken in moderation, but that more than a few glasses produced a headache the next morning. Consequently President Madison served champagne only at his dinners given Saturday night, when the margin of an idle Sunday might allow for the headache the next morning.

Picturesque Costumes No Longer Worn in Capital

INTEREST in the personnel of the diplomatic corps is revived as the autumn advances and diplomats return from their summer outings. The lamentable thing for sightseers is that the legations are becoming so thoroughly Americanized that there is no novelty now in their appearance on Washington avenues. In former days the Turks, Persians, Siamese and even the Japanese kept to their native costume and made a most notable attraction in social affairs; now, however, they appear like everyone else in evening hats and frock coats, while their ladies wear exquisite Paris "creations."

As one western visitor remarked, about all that is left of the national costumes is the Turkish ambassador's fez—which is nothing extraordinary now that the American Shriner is often seen wearing it when remaining over after a convocation.

Formal social invitations from the lady of the White House will soon be forthcoming. They are embossed in Gothic type and delivered by messenger and tradition has it that they are "commands" and that previous engagements do not count—but this is



only tradition. At the Turkish embassy the "command" cannot be obeyed, for religion forbids the Turkish women to appear in public. The exception comes when a member of the legation, as for instance, Ali Kuli Khan, the secretary of the Turkish embassy, chances to have as his wife an American woman.

It is interesting to witness the informality of ambassadors as they chance to meet. After the summer a little group of diplomats were overheard discussing the delights and pleasures as well as the discomforts of the various American summer resorts. The coming season promises to be a lively one in Washington, and the diplomatic corps will take part in the merriment.—National Magazine.

How "Uncle Jere" Rushed Into Fray; Is Not Sorry



CONGRESSMAN JEREMIAH DONOVAN of Norwalk, Conn., the representative from the Fourth district, and affectionately known by some as "Uncle Jere," as his predecessor was affectionately known by some as "Uncle Ebb," is a genius in the line of making his presence felt wherever fate locates him. It was so when he was a member of the state senate. No one ever knew when the serenity of that body would be stirred and bounced out of the window by the candid Jere. Even Stiles Judson, who was so often the instrument used by Jere to pry the lid off the box of hidden explosives, didn't know.

The Uncle Jere of the Connecticut state senate is the same Uncle Jere who has attracted the attention

of the nation by his occasional attacks on fellow members in congress. He was in action in the house of representatives a few days ago. He lit out, as the saying is, for the Progressive members of that body. Mr. Murdock, who was discussing amiably upon the subject of government by caucus. Uncle Jere took issue with the gentleman and denied that the caucus system was the fault of the legislative system at Washington, that the real fault was absenteeism, and as Mr. Murdock is a Chautauqua favorite, the blow landed in a vulnerable place. In a second there was an uproar. After sparring for a while with indignant congressmen, charging a Kentucky member with being rarely seen in his seat, Uncle Jere slung this out and the storm abated: "Well, they ought to resign and go home if they don't want to stay here on the job."

Uncle Jere is the sure Bernard Shaw of American politics. It is suspected that Uncle Jere plunges in where angels fear to tread, just to satisfy himself that the angels lack pip. But he is never sorry.

Men Lay Success on Hickory Switch

VESIDENT MARSHALL at a session on corporal punishment claimed the leadership of the hickory switch league with a percentage well over 500. Admiral George Dewey, hero of Manila bay, occupies the cellar position with a percentage of .000043.

The vice-president attributes much of his success in the world to early spankings.

"I cannot recall," he said, "any specific case just now, but I got in round numbers about 500 licks. I never got spanked in the graded school, though. Mine were all of the home talent variety, personally conducted by my mother, a good old-fashioned Presbyterian who believed in a liberal use of the rod."

Secretary Daniels got his worst "licking" for celebrating too highly the birth of his country. Back in 1876, on the Fourth of July, he was assigned to hoe in the garden of the old homestead down in North Carolina. That was too much for his patriotic



spirit and he rigged up his cannon, with which he intended to glorify the day, and shot the garden into fragments. The whipping was a result.

"If there is any good in me, I lay it first to baptism and second to the strap," the Rt. Rev. W. T. Russel said. "I don't care to make a confession to the public, but I was virtually hammered into shape."

Admiral George Dewey declares he was never "licked" by the enemy either at home or abroad.

"I have been mildly chastised, like all other boys," the admiral said, "but I cannot recall any specific time that I was spanked."

MISTOOK POWDER FOR BEER

Unconscious Bravery Exhibited by Tramp Who Extinguished Fire Approaching Giant Explosive.

It wasn't a safe thing to store 20 kegs of explosives under the residence of the superintendent, but it was the only safe and convenient place in that wilderness where the railroad construction gang was blasting its way through a mountain.

A tramp came by, and paused before the cellar's open hatchway, into which autumn leaves and various combustible litter was blowing.

Carefully he lighted a two-inch stump, and carelessly he threw down the still blazing match. Almost instantly a tongue of flame darted up, and then another and another, until a fierce fire was being sucked into the cellar.

The tramp turned. He saw the angry flames leaping towards the kegs, and he knew it was his work, but he did not run. Tearing his tattered coat from his back, he sprang to the rescue.

With an energy truly remarkable in a person of such apparent placidity, he beat and smothered the fierce blaze to death, not conquering until the staves of the kegs were actually scorched.

Burned and weary, he leaned against a keg, until the superintendent, attracted by the unusual noise below, came running in. He took in the situation at a glance, then grasped the tramp's blistered hand.

"My good man," he exclaimed, "you have saved my entire family and myself from total destruction by your bravery. Name your reward. Those kegs contain giant powder."

"Oh, lor," said the tramp digustedly, "I thought it was beer."

HAD FORGOTTEN SOMETHING

An absent-minded farmer drove to town with his wife, and on their arrival both set out on their respective errands. When the farmer had transacted his business he climbed into his



wagon and started home in a hurry. He had a sort of a feeling that he had forgotten something, but could not remember what it was until he reached home and the children set up a howl for their mother.

Of Mixed Ancestry.

Count Berchtold, Austrian foreign minister, comes of an uncommonly mixed ancestry. He has in his veins, according to a biographer of a genealogical turn of mind, strains of German, Hungarian, Bohemian Italian, Polish, Ruthenian and southern Slav blood. As regards social standing, too, the count's relationships are of a composite nature. While connected through one of his ancestors with an Austrian peasant family, the Emperor Francis Joseph is his ninth cousin, the czar of Russia and the German emperor are his eighth cousins and King Ferdinand of Bulgaria is his fifth cousin.

Didn't Appeal to Him.

A Dutchman residing at the upper end of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, was applied to, to contribute something to the Washington monument, the agent at the same time presenting a picture of the contemplated structure for his inspection. The Dutchman regarded the plate attentively for a moment, and at length exclaimed: "Vell, I von't pay noting toward him, for I don't see no use to pild a house mit such a pig chimply."

Not for Winter.

A Paris correspondent to the Philadelphia Telegraph introduces to its readers the heelless dancing slipper, now in vogue in Paris and says: "Young girls are especially fond of this kind of dancing slipper, and it is believed over here that little else will be worn next winter."

Broad minds are never shocked, some one has said, but as a winter costume this seems amazingly incomplete.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Home Trader.

A surgeon in a western town, engaged to perform an operation of minor character upon a somewhat unsophisticated patient, asked him if he were willing to have only a local anesthetic.

"Sure," replied the other; "I believe in patronizing home industry whenever you can."

Had Other Meanings.

"I suppose when you said you were going to make a home run and put one over the plate, you were thinking of the big baseball games?"

"No, I wasn't. I was thinking of the hot muffins for supper."

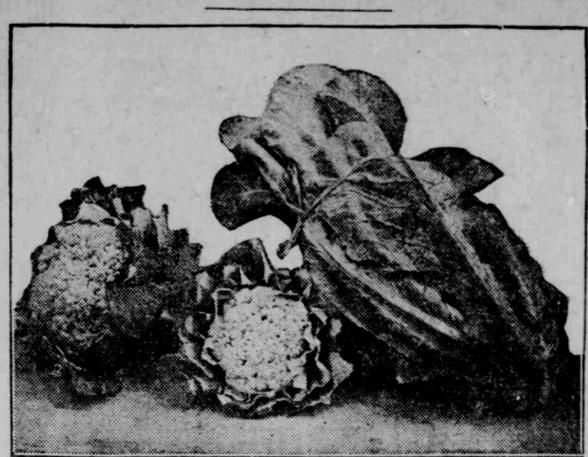
Grasping at a Straw.

"I was glad when the comedian said he would sing."

"Why so?"

"A song was bound to interrupt his monologue more or less."

MOST POPULAR AND DELICIOUS VEGETABLE



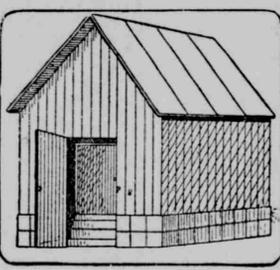
To have success with this fastidious vegetable requires a high degree of soil fertility, plenty of moisture and proper drainage. They must be protected from excessive sunshine. The cabbage root maggot is the worst enemy of the cauliflower. Plant lice bother it some, but dusting with fine tobacco dust will be found an effective remedy.

PLAN FOR ICE HOUSE

Building Should Be Located on Easily Drained Ground.

Protection From Scorching Rays of Sun is Also of Importance—Sawdust is Considered Best Material for Packing Walls.

The location of the ice house is important. It should be placed on ground that is easily drained, and if possible located beneath the shade of some large tree that the beaming rays of the sun may not beat on it in the hot summer time. Here is a good plan for building an ice house which has been used by a number of farmers; Make an excavation three feet deep and 12 by 12 feet. Wall this up with brick or cement blocks, letting the wall extend two feet above the ground. Dig a trench and put in a tile drain. Now put up the house, using two by ten studding ten feet long for the walls. Place the studding two feet apart. Then board up the building inside and out. A cheap grade of lumber may be used for inside work. A hollow space ten inches wide will be left in the walls, and this should be filled with sawdust. Straw is not good for this purpose, and should not be used. Either shingle or felt roofing may be used for covering, but one should be certain to get the roof high enough so that he will not strike his head when putting in the ice. The door to ice house should be two feet eight inches by six feet eight inches or close to these dimensions. Cleats should be nailed to the inner and outer edges of the door facing to hold ends of boards that may be slipped in and sawdust tamped down between them. Put coarse cinders over the floor of ice house and cover them with eight inches of sawdust. Now the house is ready for the ice. Cut the cakes of ice the size to fit your ice box or refrigerator,



Inexpensive Ice House.

and be certain to secure the purest ice possible. At the ice house the cakes can be slid down a long board into their places. I believe it is best to set the ice up edgewise, says a writer in the Iowa Homestead. The cakes are easier to get out and they retain their usual thickness. Pack the ice to within five inches of the wall all around the building and pile ten or twelve feet high. The ice should be packed as solidly as possible, therefore all cracks should be filled with small chunks and particles of ice. Put eight inches of sawdust over top of the ice, packing it down in the five-inch space all around the house.

Current Wood Cuttings.

Cuttings of this year's growth of currant wood may be made. These should be about eight inches long, and be set firmly in rich, sandy loam. Leave but one or two of the top buds out. When the ground freezes, cover with earth or mulch. They should form some roots this fall, ready for a rapid growth next spring. Cultivate thoroughly next season, and they will be ready to set permanently next fall.

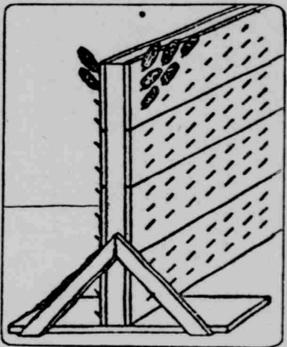
Salt as a Fertilizer.

Almost any sort of material that contains soluble potash, phosphoric acid, or nitrates has more or less fertilizing value, but salt has not a trace of any of these. Sodium and chlorine are all it has to offer. Salt might possibly have some little effect on the physical condition of the soil under some conditions, but even this would be too slight to warrant its use.

TESTING SEED CORN CLOSELY

Best System for Drying Is That Which Holds Each Separately—Rack Allows Air Circulation.

Seed corn should be dried well, and the best system is that by which each ear is held separate from others. Stringing is one method, and the corn tree or rack is another good one. Careful farmers are testing their seed very closely, now-a-days, and the single ear test is the one plan considered thorough. Where this plan is



The Seed Corn Dryer.

used, it is necessary to mark or number each ear, and a rack which will aid in this work is in favor.

The rack shown here is one of this sort. Ears are held on the points of wire nails driven through partitions of inch boards. A double rack of this kind is made and supported at the ends as shown in the illustration, says the Wisconsin Agriculturist. Each nail is numbered, and the tester box can be numbered to correspond to the units of the drying rack.

Free air circulation and perfect drying can be had very certainly by the use of such a rack, which requires but little time and lumber in its construction. It insures accuracy and system in the valuable work of testing.

REVIVING DEAD SOIL SPOTS

Lack of Plant Growth Sometimes Attributed to Want of Water—Manure Is Lacking Essential.

(By H. P. FISHBURN, Assistant Chemist, Idaho Experiment Station.)

On land devoid of sufficient organic matter or sand, there sometimes occur spots that are apparently dead or unresponsive to water and plant life to any marked degree. Lack of plant growth is sometimes attributed to want of water, and oftentimes such may be the case, but the spots in question are of a different nature from the surrounding soil, usually very compact and most impervious to water, indicating a too large percentage of clay.

Experiments have shown that these spots can readily be brought to a high state of fertility by the proper incorporation of manure. Such a condition could not easily be remedied if it were a case of alkali, which answers the question several times asked, whether or not this be a case of alkali.

Study Your Cows.

In learning about the individual cows in your herd you are studying a problem that is of much interest, deeper and greater than simply looking at the animal. You are endeavoring to find out some of the hidden forces of nature that produce these different results. Get acquainted with your cows, individually. Get acquainted with their different wants, their different tastes; and also find what results are obtained from the individual cows, so that you can treat them according to their deserts. Some of them deserve the very best of treatment because they are doing good and profitable work. Others should be sent to the butcher, because they are leeches on the good work of the others.

Value of Cows.

Have you ever estimated the value of your dairy cows in counting the cost of living? Give them credit for the milk and butter produced and for the increased fertility of the soil from the manure saved. If you do this you will take more pride in saving plenty of feed for the cows.

Equivocal.
"What did Della do about that oscillation proposal of Harry's?"
"She was immediately up in arms about it."

Coughs vanish in a night. Dean's Mentholated Cough Drops soothe the throat, effecting a speedy cure—5c at all Druggists.

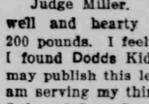
His Supposition.
"A couple," said Mrs. Simpkins, "got married a few days ago, after a courtship which had lasted 50 years."
"I suppose," replied Mr. Simpkins, "the poor old man had become too feeble to hold out any longer."

Important to Mothers
Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher*. In Use For Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Marks on Life's Pathway.
Wife—We have been married twelve years, and not once have I missed baking you a cake on your birthday. Have I, dear?
Hubby—No, my pet. I can look back upon those cakes as milestones in my life.

JUDGE CURED, HEART TROUBLE.

I took about 6 boxes of Dodds Kidney Pills for Heart Trouble from which I had suffered for 5 years. I had dizzy spells, my eyes puffed, my breath was short and I had chills and backache. I took the pills about a year ago and have had no return of the palpitations. Am now 63 years old, able to do lots of manual labor, am well and hearty and weigh about 200 pounds. I feel very grateful that I found Dodds Kidney Pills and you may publish this letter if you wish. I am serving my third term as Probate Judge of Gray Co. Yours truly,
PHILIP MILLER, Cimarron, Kan.
Correspond with Judge Miller about this wonderful remedy.



Dodds Kidney Pills, 50c. per box at your dealer or Dodds Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y. Write for Household Hints, also music of National Anthem (English and German words) and recipes for dainty dishes. All 3 sent free. Adv.

Just Speculating.
"This dancer says she believes in art for art's sake."
"She does, eh? I wonder how long she would retain her enthusiasm if her salary of \$1,000 a week were cut in half."

A Natural Inference.
"Johnny, did the whale swallow Jonah?"
"Yes, ma'am."
"What makes you think so, Johnny?"
"That's the only way the whale could have carried him, ma'am."

More Important Than Success.
The most important thing in a man's life is that which he has been striving at. All that he actually accomplished was dependent to a considerable extent on purely accidental circumstances, and in the best cases, proved only a far inadequate realization of his intentions.—John Ruskin.

Redeeming Feature.
"Have you heard about Vizzard's latest play?"
"Yes. They say it's revolting."
"It is. But give Vizzard credit for the thing."
"What's that?"
"He firmly refuses to say there's any moral purpose in it."

Pastor to Blame.
The church choir had resigned, and the parson asked what was the cause of the trouble.

"Well," replied one of the officers, "you have yourself to blame. You know you said, 'Providence having seen fit to afflict all of our choir with bad colds, let us join in singing, 'Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow.'"

SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

Experience of a Southern Man.

"Please allow me to thank the originator of Postum, which in my case, speaks for itself," writes a Fla. man. "I formerly drank so much coffee that my nervous system was almost a wreck." (Tea is just as injurious because it contains caffeine, the drug found in coffee.) "My physician told me to quit drinking it but I had to have something, so I tried Postum."

"To my great surprise I saw quite a change in my nerves in about 10 days. That was a year ago and now my nerves are steady and I don't have those bilious sick headaches which I regularly had while drinking coffee."

"Postum seems to have body-building properties and leaves the head clear. And I do not have the bad taste in my mouth when I get up mornings. When Postum is boiled good and strong, it is far better in taste than coffee. My advice to coffee drinkers is to try Postum and be convinced."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Write for copy of the little book, "The Road to Wellville."

Postum comes in two forms:

Regular Postum—must be well boiled.
Instant Postum is a soluble powder. A teaspoonful dissolves quickly in a cup of hot water and, with cream and sugar, makes a delicious beverage instantly. Grocers sell both kinds. "There's a reason" for Postum.