

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Army of Clerks Support Washington



IF IT WASN'T FOR ME HAVING TO WORK ALL SUMMER THESE WASHINGTON MERCHANTS WOULD STARVE

WASHINGTON.—Who are the main support of the capital city of our nation? What class contribute most to the general prosperity of Washington? The first city of the United States, unlike most other cities, has no industries that are furnishing a revenue to its citizens and for this reason the question of maintenance naturally arises. Many towns are kept in a flourishing condition by the income which its citizens derive from working in mills, factories and various other forms of manufacturing industries, but Washington has no source of this nature from which to draw its support. Our capital depends on the government clerk. The government itself is the big mill that fills the envelopes of Washingtonians every week and the ducats that flow into the purses of the grocer, baker, plumber, lawyer, doctor and clergyman come from the envelopes of the 40,000 clerks that keep Washington alive.

The members of the legislature really take more money out of Washington than they bring in. When the

height of the season is on they lead an atmosphere of bustling prosperity to the town, but when the warm months come around they leave town with filled purses and spend their bulky sum at the seashore and mountain resorts. The busy clerks stick to their posts in all kinds of weather and all through the year and when the gloom settles down after the big guns are gone the government clerk is the only hope of the merchant and the amusement managers. It may seem strange, but when closely figured out the humble government clerk is the mainstay of our capital city.

During the long months when the congressmen and senators are enjoying the luxuries of vacation the clerk must sweat for his daily bread. Those humid summer months of Washington are hard on a man's nerves and disposition and hence the physician and lawyer are kept from the door of poverty. Food, dress and amusement must be had and this necessity provides for the well being of still another class. In this way the 40,000 clerks keep things moving during the dead season. If the clerks were to follow the example of the legislators and go to summer resorts to rest up for two or three months the capital city would take on the appearance of a deserted village, the merchants would be compelled to close up shop and grass would begin to appear between the cracks of the sidewalk.

Labor Bureau Investigates Insurance



THE federal bureau of labor, after devoting a year's study to workmen's insurance and compensation systems in Europe has put out a report in which it presents a study of the insurance and compensation systems for the benefit of workmen in case of accident, sickness, old age, invalidity and unemployment in 11 European countries. Charles P. Neill, commissioner of labor, believes the report will be of peculiar interest to working men in the United States at this time, in view of the fact that the subject of workmen's insurance is a live subject and one discussed in the legislature of nearly every state. He points out that within recent years eight states, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin, as well as the federal government, have appointed commissions to study methods of compensating workmen for disability incurred in the course of their employment. As a result of these activities one state, New York, has already enacted compensation laws of general application, while two states, Montana and Maryland, have made provisions for state systems of co-

operative insurance against accidents to workmen engaged in mining.

The forms of old age insurance now in operation in the European countries are classified by the commissioner of labor as voluntary insurance not subsidized by the government, voluntary insurance receiving government subsidies, compulsory insurance, and non-contributory insurance. The investigation revealed that in a number of European countries funds are found which provide old age pensions for employees on the basis of contributions from both employers and workmen. Usually the employer requires the workman to join the fund, so that as far as the employee is concerned the system may be regarded as compulsory.

The three European countries having a national system of compulsory old age insurance are Austria, France and Germany. In each case the law enumerates the classes of persons subject to the law. In Austria, the law includes salaried persons only, though the government is now engaged in formulating a plan for a national system of insurance for workmen. In France and Germany the law covers nearly all the population gainfully employed who are receiving wages or salaries, though many independent persons of small means are included. The expense of the pension in each of the three countries is met by payments from the insured persons and from the employers.

Capital Society Women Hope to Fly



FIRST of all the women of fashion to take to aeronautics as a sport, Washington society leaders are planning to lead the world as "high fliers" in the literal sense. The thrill attendant on sailing through the air has fascinated Washington mondaines, and in order to indulge in it to their hearts' content they are going to establish a school and obtain instruction in the science of operating machines. The school may become an actuality some time this spring and after a course of lessons mindfully confidently looks forward to becoming a skilled "sky pilot" and taking a three or four mile "fly" every morning before breakfast.

The leaders of the movement are Viscountess Benoit d'Azy, wife of the naval attaché of the French embassy, witty, breezy and enthusiastic as a schoolgirl; Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, who retains the girlish vivacity and

daring of her "Princess Alice" days, and Miss Gladys Hinckley, by many considered the handsomest unmarried girl in society, who is "in" for all that which makes for good, thrilling sport, be it hunting or careening around the Washington monument in an airship. Many others are interested in the movement, and the school promises to be a genuine success.

Even now the question of proper dress for aeronautics is engaging the minds of maids and matrons who plan to take the course of instruction. Each woman will be a law unto herself, for a time at least, until fashion prescribes a costume which all will adopt. None of the sponsors of the new school is yet prepared to answer what the dress will be; they prefer instead to dilate on the pleasure in store for those who learn to operate their own machines.

Far more serious, even to women-kind, than dress, is the style of machine to be used. No definite plans have yet been made in this regard.

Next in order comes the question of a corps of instructors, a sort of faculty of the new school. Men instructors will be engaged at first. Yet when women become thoroughly proficient who knows what may happen?

Senate Shocked in Closing Session



GREAT SCOTT IVE GONE AND ESTABLISHED A PRECEDENT

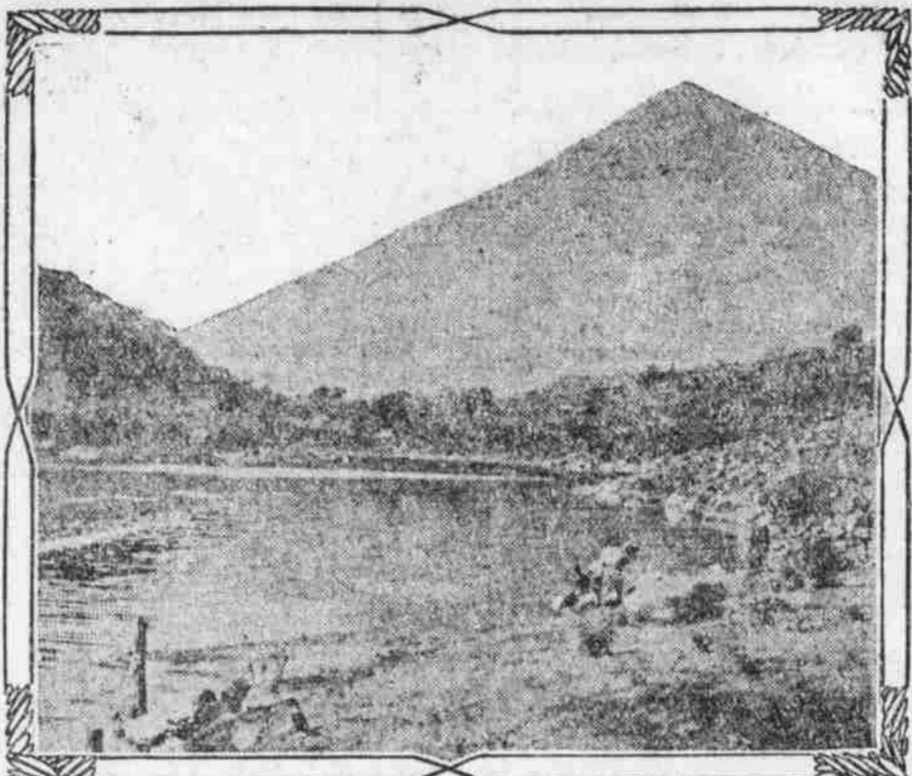
FOR the first time in the history of the government the expiring gasp of a short session of congress was prolonged beyond the "legislative day of March 3" and into the legislative day of March 4. The precedent was set in the senate, and it happened this way: Inadvertently a motion was adopted Friday to the effect that the Senate session of Saturday was to begin at 8 a. m. The custom had been to take a recess until the time agreed upon for the meeting on the calendar day of March 4, but early Saturday morning

the Senate adjourned the legislative day of March 3. When the senate recovered therefrom it was for both the legislative and calendar day of March 4.

As soon as it became noised about that a custom had been violated, senators began a hasty examination of precedents. Senator Gallinger was in the chair. He referred the question to Henry H. Giltry, the senate parliamentarian. After a long search it was discovered that while the senate never had a legislative day of March 4 for the purpose of winding up a session of congress, there was no reason, except custom, for that fact.

For the first time, therefore, leaders of the senate learned that the calendar day is superior to the legislative day in determining parliamentary situations.

BEAUTIFUL LAKES OF GUATEMALA



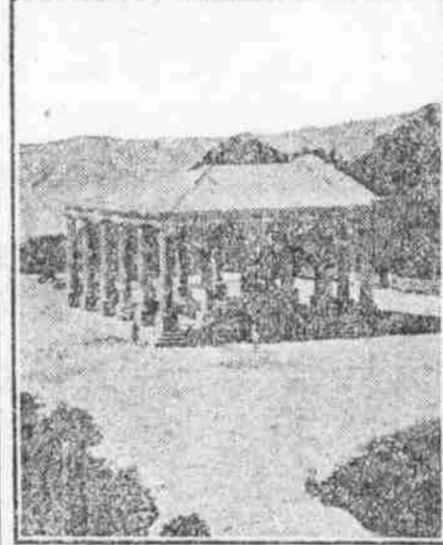
IN THE LAKE COUNTRY

BORED by the loveliness of Norway's fjords and grown weary of the soft beauty of the Italian and the rugged grandeur of the Swiss lakes, the blase globe trotter turns in search of some new enchanted spot where the realization that it is seen for the first time lends again some zest to life.

The world is fast grasping the fact that in the comparatively small space between Mexico and the Isthmus of Panama lies, as it were, a Land of Promise—a promise of wealth incalculable to the realm of commerce, through the cultivation and development of marvelously rich and fertile countries which are being opened up with wonderful rapidity by the network of railroads that are spreading throughout the five beautiful republics of Central America. More than a land of promise to the archaeologist, who has here a vast field for research wherein to unravel the mystery which surrounds the history of the ancient American civilization and throw some light upon the origin of the people whose wonderful works are evidenced in the ruins of prehistoric cities found hidden in dense tropical forests. A land of beautiful realities to even the ordinary tourist, who finds easily accessible a wealth of scenic beauty unsurpassed and a perfection of climate rarely equaled. This is particularly true of Guatemala, the most northern of the Central American republics and our nearest neighbor after Mexico. It is reached by a three days' delightful sail on the Gulf of Mexico and along the coast of British Honduras.

Upon our arrival in Puerto Barrios we concluded to visit Lake Yzabal before going up to the city of Guatemala. Lake Yzabal lies about fifty miles inland and a regular line of steamers ply between Livingston and Panzós, in the interior on the Polochic river. Entering the lake proper, a beautiful picture is before us—the lovely expanse of water with its wooded shores rising gradually to the rugged Sierras de las Minas, to the south, and the Santa Cruz mountains, to the north. Here stand the picturesque ruins of the old Spanish fort of San Felipe, built in 1525 by Hernando Cortez during his march from Mexico to Honduras and erected to protect the approach to the town of Yzabal, which at that time was the principal port of entry. Large brass cannon, bearing the date 1496, have been found scattered among the ruins of this old fortification. Neither pen nor brush can do justice to the wild beauty of the Polochic river, and those in search of new sensations can enjoy the unique experience of traveling in perfect safety through a tropical wilderness, where gayly colored parrots and picturesque monkeys chatter at the intruder from overhanging branches and crocodiles, with wide open mouths, lie basking in the sun.

In the northern part of the country lies the great lake of Peten, or San Andres, of which comparatively little is known, except to antiquarians. Situated in a wild, almost uninhabited part of the country, perhaps the richest in all Guatemala, it is difficult of access. This immense body of fresh water, 27 miles long and having a shore line of 70 miles, is dotted with numerous islands. On the largest of these is the town of Flores, with about 15,000 inhabitants. Near Flores are the ruins of a buried city, with stone images and monoliths covered with hieroglyphics, showing the un-



Temple on Shore of Amatitlan.

read history of a people which dwelt in the midst of this primeval forest ages ago.

At Lake Amatitlan we find ourselves on a much visited lake. The borders of this lovely body of water, lying only 18 miles to the south of Guatemala City, are the playgrounds of the capital. Situated at an altitude of nearly 2,000 feet above the level of the sea, 12 miles long and 3 miles wide, it is very deep and gives rise to a river, the Guastoya, which has its outlet in the Pacific ocean, 12 miles south of the port of San Jose, where it is 12 miles wide.

A curious phenomenon, which is a yearly occurrence, generally during the month of March, is an eruption which takes place at the bottom of the lake, and great quantities of sulphur rise to the surface of the water. This, for a time, is the death knell of the fish.

In the boiling springs which abound in the laundry work of the city, the women taking advantage of this water heated by nature and ever ready for use. Groups of dark-skinned Indian women, in their gayly colored native costumes, kneeling by the deep waters amidst the piles of snowy linen, present a most attractive and fascinating picture. There is also a novelty about a picnic, when eggs can be cooked without trouble by merely dropping them into one of Mother Nature's ever-boiling pots.

It has been my good fortune to see many lakes in different parts of the world, but never have I seen one more exquisitely beautiful than the curious crater lake of Atitlan, incomparable for grandeur of scenery and perfection of climate. In the very heart of the mountains we find this lake, 30 miles in length and 10 miles in breadth. Although many streams empty their waters into it, there is no visible outlet and its depth is unknown, no soundings having been made with a line of more than 300 fathoms. No fish live in its icy waters, and here and there upon its surface mineral springs bubble up from its unfathomable depths.

It is impossible to describe the charm and witchery of this country, bathed in moonlight, the scenery at each step becoming more impressive. We forded rushing, tumbling mountain streams, looking like cascades of silver, and we rode through silent Indian villages, where the inhabitants were sleeping in front of their strange little bamboo huts. The only sound to break the silence was the plaintive call of the whippoorwill. Words are inadequate to portray the scene which was before us. The great expanse of water lay like molten silver in the moonlight, the mountains, solemn and awe-inspiring, standing in serried ranks like giant sentinels to guard this treasure. A soft, pearly mist hung over all, but not so dense as to hide the perfect outline of the three great volcanoes—the two Atitlans and San Pedro. These stupendous giants rise to the height of nearly 12,000 feet and fall in one unbroken sweep to the water's edge.

The hazy veil of mist which is characteristic of this region during the greater part of the year occasionally melts away, and as we stood on this spot, speechless before the wonder of this panorama, it seemed for our benefit alone to have crept silently away in the night and earth and sky and water were perfectly revealed, outlying each other in deepest tones of blue. But even as we gazed soft clouds formed in the valleys below and crept stealthily up, writhing and twisting like great white snakes, until once more they had encircled the mountains like giant serpents whose power even the great hills could not withstand. Nature seemed to say that we had looked already too long upon her secret treasures, and softly but swiftly she again drew around them the gauzy mantle in which, except at rare intervals, she keeps them wrapped.

E. F. TISDEL.

His Impending Fate.

"I see they've got a machine for sewing on buttons, now," said the humorist's wife.

"That's just my luck," said the humorist; "the first thing you know somebody will invent a machine for finding lost collar buttons, and my business will be ruined."—Yonkers Statesman.

STATE CAPITAL STORIES OF GENERAL INTEREST

RIGHTS OF MARRIED WOMEN BROUGHT BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT.

ROCKEFELLER GIVES \$20,000

Oil Magnate Donates Sum Toward Y. M. C. A. Building—Cotton Mill Property to be Sold—Clever Trick Worked by Prisoner to Escape.

Raleigh.—An interesting case was argued in the supreme court. In this the matter was that a man had married a lady of considerable property, real and personal. The charges in the case were that the man treated his wife brutally, got drunk, beat her black and blue with a stick, ran her off the premises, took possession of the house and had "high jinks," using all her property of every kind, including her crop and supplies.

The wife brought suit against her husband for damages for the physical injuries done her and to compel him to account for her property, and to prevent him from continuing to waste it. His counsel appealed upon the ground that a wife could not sue her husband because at common law they were one and that to permit an action at law by her against him would destroy the common law cordiality of the marriage relation.

In the supreme court the chief justice suggested to counsel that the "cordiality of the marriage relation" seemed to have been disturbed by the husband's club and that the fear of a suit by the wife would conduce to maintain friendly relations. The counsel replied that at common law such actions were not permitted. The chief justice remarked that the common law was merely the utterances of judges where there was no statute and that the decisions of the English judges, four or five centuries ago, were probably correct presentations of the views of the semi-barbarous people of that day, among whom the wife was esteemed as a chattel of her husband, that her property was his and that he could beat her when he saw fit, but that the judges of the present day, representing the civilization of this age were justified in overruling such expressions since they had over-ruled decisions of judges of their own day.

The counsel subsequently withdrew his appeal but the chief justice was careful to say that in his remarks he did not assume to speak for any others of the court. It is, of course, not known what the position of the various lawyers of the court would be, whether unanimous or not, and if the case had gone on the opinions of the judges would doubtless have been extremely interesting reading to the married women of the state, and to those who are contemplating matrimony.

Charters for New Enterprises.

Charters are issued by the secretary of state to the Marion Enterprise Manufacturing company of Marion to do a general lumber business, authorized capital \$50,000, paid in \$2,000; the Farmers' Bank of Gates at Hobbsville, authorized capital \$10,000, paid in \$5,200; the Windsor Manufacturing company of Windsor to engage in the lumber business, authorized capital \$25,000.

Days to be Observed for Good Cause.

"The Man and Religious Forward Movement," asks that Sunday, September 24, 1911, be observed as "Rally Day for Men and Boys." It also asks that Sunday, April 23, 1912, be set apart as "Conservation Day," on which to gather up the achievements of the year preceding, in connection with the movement.

Two Special Terms of Court.

Governor Kitchin has issued instructions for two special terms of court as follows: Rowan county to begin on April 10th. One week civil term with Judge C. C. Lyon presiding. Alamance county to begin on April 24th. One week criminal term with Judge B. F. Long presiding.

Governor Kitchin to Waynesville.

Governor Kitchin has accepted an invitation to address the students and faculty of the Waynesville graded schools on Friday morning, the fifth of May.

Printer Gets Government Job.

Mr. Edward F. Scarborough, a popular printer of Raleigh, who stood a civil service examination last September, has received an appointment in the government printing office at Washington, D. C., as Monotype machine operator.

Pardon Granted to Prisoner.

Governor Kitchin granted a pardon to Joe Banner, sentenced to six months on the Surry county roads for an assault with a deadly weapon.

Fruit Crop Greatly Damaged.

State Horticulturist Hutt said that the peach crop in North Carolina was greatly damaged by the recent cold wave. The loss at one point is reported as being equivalent to \$40,000. The apple crop is uninjured, as the blossoms were not out. The danger of freezing has passed.

Cotton Mill Company in Distress.

Because the Neuse River Cotton Mills company, 6 miles from Raleigh, defaulted in an interest installment of \$1,875 due the Trust Company of America on a \$75,000 bond issue originally sold to the Colonial Trust company that was absorbed by the Trust Company of America, proceedings were started in the Federal court here by W. H. Pace, as counsel for the creditor, for foreclosure of the mortgage securing the bond issue.

The mill has paid the interest regularly since 1901, when the bonds were issued, until this year. A. A. Thompson is president of the mill. He is also president of the Raleigh and Caraleigh mills, both of which are understood to be in good condition. Under the proceeding against the Neuse mill, a commissioner will be named by the court to sell the plant.

Two paper mills and other enterprises have failed in the same building and with the same waterpower in recent years, the cotton mill having been established a dozen years ago.

How Whitson Escaped Prison.

T. B. Whitson, who escaped from the state's prison 16 years ago while serving 30 years for murder, and who was captured in Lexington, Ky., was brought back by Warden T. P. Sale. Whitson states that he escaped with two other convicts, one of whom was dressed in citizen's clothes which he stole from the guards' quarters, and forged a note to the guard at the main gate to the effect that he was to come down from the stockade and report at the office. The prisoner then took his place on the stockade and turned Whitson with another prisoner, who wore stripes, up the railroad track to freedom. The other prisoners were later caught but Whitson went to Letcher county, Ky., where he married and bought farms, amassing a comfortable fortune. Besides his wife, Whitson has seven children in Kentucky.

Insane Man's Bloody Work.

Henry P. Powell, proprietor of the Powell house at Sanford, committed suicide in the crowded depot at Raleigh by shooting himself after firing wildly. Powell was here as a member of a delegation asking for better railroad service and was talking to two friends, D. E. McIver and D. R. Smith of Sanford, when he suddenly stepped back, pulled two pistols and began shooting. One bullet struck Smith in the arm and shoulder and the other missed McIver. Powell then turned the pistol to his head and killed himself. Powell was 60 years old. Temporary insanity is supposed to have been the cause of the deed.

Rockefeller Gives \$20,000 Y. M. C. A.

It has been announced that John D. Rockefeller had given \$20,000 towards the erection of a Y. M. C. A. building at the Agricultural & Mechanical college at Raleigh, provided the students would raise \$20,000. The sum of \$7,000 has already been raised, leaving a balance of \$13,000.

Insurance Agent Gets Ten Years.

For the betrayal of Lizzie Palmer, a pretty orphan girl, J. E. Hampton who had been prominent in the insurance business in southwest Virginia, and at Greensboro and Raleigh, was sentenced to 10 years in the Virginia penitentiary in the corporation court at Bristol, Va. It has developed since Hampton's arrest in Raleigh that he is a married man.

Railroad Contracts \$4,500,000.

The contract for another link in the Interurban line of the Carolinas, being constructed by the Southern power company, was given out at Greenville, S. C., to W. J. Oliver, of Knoxville, Tenn. This link will connect Greenwood and Spartanburg, both in South Carolina. The contract is for grading only, a distance of 90 miles and the price was \$900,000. The work is to be completed within 15 months. The link to be constructed between Charlotte and King's Mountain, was the first link to be given out.

To complete these two links ready for the operation of trains it is estimated that it will take an expenditure of nearly \$4,500,000.

Seaboard Freight Depot.

The Seaboard Air Line has begun work on a \$62,000 freight depot. It will be fire-proof, with automatic fire protection for freight. It will extend through one square with a two-story office building.

Neglected to Pass Highway Bill.

Both the Alexander and the Pratt bills, making possible the building of the Salisbury-Asheville highway with bond money voted by the townships traversed, failed to pass the recent legislature.

Military Commissions Issued.

Adjutant General Leinster issues commissions to E. M. Edwards as second lieutenant of the Franklinton military company, and to Francis J. Clevenger to be captain of the medical corps at Asheville.

In Jail on Embezzlement Charge.

J. F. Gurley is in Wake jail in default of \$1,000 bond on the charge of embezzling \$450 from the Apex Knitting Mills company, of which he was superintendent and general manager. He was arrested in Tennessee.