



# OUR MAGAZINE PAGE



## Gossip From Washington

**T**HOMAS UPTON SISSON, member of congress from the Fourth district of Alabama, is destined to go down to fame as the "siphon bottle" statesman. Already he has been dubbed "Siphon" Sisson by his confreres in the house. Mr. Sisson is an orator of parts, rising frequently to rhetorical heights where his fellows fain would follow. His impassioned flights have a certain bubbling effervescence that is distinctly his own, and it was this quality that led Representative Johnson in a recent tariff debate to refer to his colleague as "the sizzling solon from Mississippi, Mr. Sisson." The phrase caught the fancy of the coat room jesters by reason of its resemblance to the gentle pur of the siphon bottle, and now they are ringing the changes on it whenever Mr. Sisson happens along.

There are two good reasons why Representative J. A. Falconer, the Progressive congressman from Washington state, is called "Silver Alec" by his constituents. One is that, although only forty-three years old, the Chinook congressman's hair is snow white. The other reason is his ability to "orate," his gift in this direction being similar to that of the secretary of state, former Senator Joe Bailey of Texas and a few others of the elect. His ability as a singer is even superior to his talents as an orator. He has a rich baritone voice and a Scotch ancestry. What he can do to "Annie Laurie" and the Harry Lauder songs would make Lauder subsidize him to keep him off the stage.



THOMAS U. SISSON.

Jeffersonian simplicity is to be introduced in congress at the coming session, and the embossed letter paper and envelopes of the members are to be taken away to be replaced by less costly stationery. This announcement was made by the joint committee on printing when it discovered that more than 11,000,000 embossed letterheads and envelopes had been used by members each year. It is estimated a saving of \$30,000 a year will be made.



HERMAN A. METZ.

Congressman Herman A. Metz of Brooklyn, in addition to many other talents, is able to talk faster than any other member of the house. It is said that the official stenographers dread the time when he gets on his feet. Mr. Metz's average speed is somewhat more than 250 words a minute.

Because of the manner in which he trims his whiskers Representative Witherspoon of Mississippi is called Uncle Sam by his colleagues.

Representative Howard of Georgia was once a page in the house of representatives of that state.

Charles N. Richards, who is nearing the end of his fiftieth year of service as keeper of the senate's stationery, is the dean of the senate employees. No one in Washington can tell more interesting tales of distinguished men than Mr. Richards, who was born in Massachusetts and in his boyhood knew John Quincy Adams. Before he came to Washington he saw some pretty active service in the civil war, having a part of his nose shot off at Antietam. He is writing a book of reminiscences.

Fifty members of congress recently sat on the stage at an Irish home rule mass meeting in Washington.

### Today's Short Story

## A Message From the Dead

**W**HEN the booming at Sumter fired alike the northern and the southern heart Martin Riggs was in a quandary. He was torn between love and duty. He felt that he should answer President Lincoln's call for volunteers. On the other hand, if he did so he feared that he might lose the love of the girl who was dearest to him in all the world, Ethel Birdsey. But the girl, who had caught the war fever at once, bade her lover go forth and serve his country.

"Martin," she said, "it will break my heart, but I must let you go."

And so it was that Martin volunteered and marched away to the war, Ethel waving him a last adieu, tears streaming down her emotional cheeks.

Four years passed and the war was ended. One day a man got off a train at the town from which Martin Riggs had volunteered and walked up the main street. Passing through the village, he struck a road leading to the right and the left and stood deliberating. Just then a man drove by in a hay wagon, and the stranger asked:

"Can you tell me where I'll find Miss Ethel Birdsey?"

"Y' can't find no sich pussen; she's married."

"Married?" The stranger started.

"Yes; she married two years ago."

The stranger stood looking like one who has taken a journey for a purpose and found the purpose has no existence.

"What y' want with her?" asked the farmer.

"Well, I have a message for her—that is, I had a message for her, but so long as she's married—"

"Who was it from?"

"A soldier of the late war. We met in Andersonville stockade."

"What was his name?"

"Martin Riggs."

"Oh, yes, I remember. Ethel sent him off to the war. She was very patriotic in them days. She wanted me to go, but I told her I thought I'd continue to do my fightin' on the farm. How's Riggs gittin' along?"

"He's dead."

"Dead? What a fool he was anyway. How'd he die?"

"Well, he was all used up. He was nothing but skin and bone, and then he got sick, and with sickness came nostalgia, or homesickness, and to cheer him up I proposed we should tunnel out. We did so and escaped, but the guard discovered us and shot at us. He hit Riggs, and I carried him on my shoulder to a hiding place, where he died. Just before the end he told me of his love for Ethel Birdsey."

"If you ever get out of this and go north," he said, "see her and tell her that I died in trying to be worthy of her."

The stranger paused for a few moments, then added: "There was one thing more he said, but I don't like to repeat that. It's sacred."

"I'd like to hear it, stranger. I won't tell."

"Jim," he whispered, "make the dear girl happy. Take my place."

The farmer sat silent with the loose reins in his hand. He seemed to be thinking hard.

"Stranger," he said presently, "if you'd 'a' come here and found Ethel single she'd 'a' been jist the gal to cry over Riggs and be consoled by you. But seein' she's married there's no consol'n' to be done; leastaway none in the female line. Ethel's husband wouldn't mind a little o' that sort o' thing. P'raps you might make a deal with him to leave the field open to you and see how she'd take the message and Riggs' plan o' makin' her happy. Her man's been tryin' to do 't for nigh on to three years, and the more he's tried the more mis'able he's made her."

"You seem to know all about her."

"Why shouldn't I, stranger, seein' 'a' I'm her husband?"

The farmer gave the reins a melancholy shake and drove on. The stranger turned and took the next departing train.

### BATHING SUIT VOGUES.

This year one finds among the best looking bathing costumes a good many black and white mixtures, stripes, checks or plaids, the stripes predominating here, as they do throughout all fashion's province. And some of these models are extremely pretty without being startling or conspicuous. They are usually trimmed with plain black satin, with relieving touches of white, and are desirable only in a good quality of silk.

#### Sensational Suit.

The most sensational bathing suit yet is the Bulgarian blouse model, which has a divided skirt in the form of very full bloomers, trimmed up the outer side with white buttons and a very long, loose blouse banded at the hips under a broad belt, also trimmed at the sides with buttons. The neck of the blouse is cut in a deep V and is finished with a short, jaunty tie of silk. One of these suits worn on a popular beach recently attracted some attention; but, striking as the model was, one could not admit that its lines were graceful and well suited for swimming. The suit in question was of plain black. The white striped suit soils quickly and, when wet and clinging, takes on distorted lines, which are unbecoming to the figure. In this last respect the black and white checks and plaids are better than the stripes, but they have not quite so smart an air on the whole.



**Cucumber Salad.**  
For an appetizing salad take two heads of lettuce well washed, dried and chilled. Arrange on a salad dish and heap in the center thinly sliced dill or large salt pickles and sprinkle thickly with small pickled onions, minced fine. Add a plain French dressing and serve very cold.

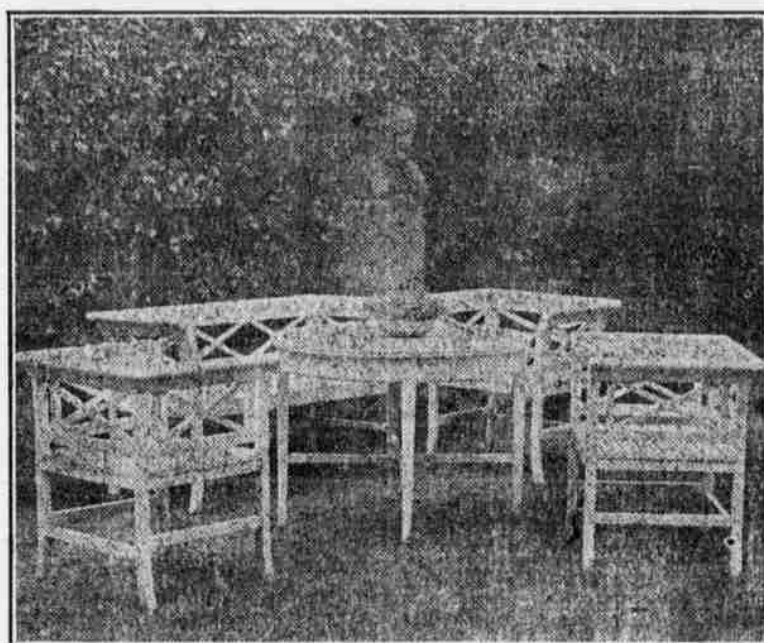
#### Banana Cream Pie.

Put a lump of butter in a basin and warm it together with a little crushed loaf sugar, the yolks of two or three eggs, a little milk and sherry or angelica, and pulp of bananas mashed thoroughly. Pour the mixture in a deep dish, stirring in the well whipped whites of two eggs; place the dish in a moderate oven and bake, not too quickly, till done. Serve hot or cold.

#### Carrots, Viennese Style.

Peel some carrots, cut in small pieces and boil in salted water until tender. Drain and make a sauce from one-half cupful of the water in which the carrots were cooked, thickening with a roux of one tablespoonful of flour with two tablespoonfuls of butter, a little sugar and two tablespoonfuls of vinegar. Add the carrots and one cupful of cooked peas, a pinch of pepper and some minced parsley. Simmer ten minutes and serve.

## OUTDOOR FURNITURE ON SIMPLE LINES



WHITE ENAMELED GARDEN FURNITURE.

**G**ARDEN furniture of this type is extremely popular. Owing to its simple lines it may be easily copied by the home crafts worker. The chairs and settee suggest the mission style and are finished with white enamel paint. A set of this kind is suitable for the porch, arbor, sitting room or for the garden.

### INEXPENSIVE CHAIR SEATS.

These chair seats resemble leather and wear a long time. Fix to chair seat a piece of tapestry carpet (wrong side of carpet up) and tack firmly to chair with common flat headed tacks.

Give seat two or three coats of dark green paint and when thoroughly dry give two coats of shellac.

Finish edges of seat with a strip of dark green leathert a half inch wide, raw edge folded under. Tack on with brass headed tacks an inch and a half apart.

### AN OLD FAVORITE

**L**ET me go wherever I will,  
I hear a sky born music still,  
It sounds from all things old;  
It sounds from all things young.  
From all that's fair, from all that's foul,  
Peals out a cheerful song.

It is not only in the rose,  
It is not only in the bird,  
Not only when the rainbow glows  
Nor in the song of woman heard,  
But in the darkest, meanest things  
There alway, alway, something sings.

'Tis not in the high stars alone,  
Nor in the cup of budding flowers,  
Nor in the redbreast's mellow tone,  
Nor in the bow that smiles in showers,  
But in the mud and scum of things  
There alway, alway, something sings.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

### FOR MY LADY

The latest idea in the realm of toilet aids is the evening face powder. Every woman knows that her skin under the unfriendly glare of the electric light doesn't look the same as it does beneath the more caressing rays of the daylight. Yet up to the present even the most fastidious women have used the same powder for the day and the evening. The result naturally has been that some skins look well in the evening, others in the daytime, but the same skin does not look equally well at both times.

In order to get the best results one ingenious manufacturer has compounded a powder especially for the evening. It has a decidedly mauve tinge which turns to a soft pink under the searching electric light, giving a soft, warm glow to the skin that is very becoming. The ghostly white appearance, which at times was almost green, is banished by this powder. As it is a novelty the price is high. Yet the cut glass cases hold an unusually large amount of the powder, so that \$6.50 is not as extravagant as it sounds.

It is a good plan to brush the eyebrows every day with a brush barely touched with vaseline, which keeps the hairs together and enables one to train them to a curving line.

Warts will disappear if touched several times a day with acetic acid. Apply with a small camel's hair brush or the end of a match.

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