

Indian Summer



By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

WHEN and what is Indian summer? Here is a case, indeed, where "doctors disagree," for there are many theories as to the origin of the name, the reason for it and the time when it occurs. Most people will agree upon the fact that it means a period of warm weather in one of the three months of September, October or November and that it is characterized by three peculiar elements: By a warmth greater than preceding days or weeks, by tranquillity of the atmosphere and by smoke and haze. But when an attempt is made to predict a definite time for the appearance of Indian summer, then divergence of opinion begins.

Consult the dictionaries and you will find that one such authority, the Standard, says, "A period of warm, dry, calm weather in late autumn with hazy atmosphere." But Noah Webster goes into more detail as follows: "Indian summer: in the United States, a period of warm weather late in autumn, usually characterized by a clear sky, and by a hazy or smoky appearance of the atmosphere, especially near the horizon. The name is derived from the custom of the Indians to use this time in preparation for winter by laying in stores of food, or from their belief that it is caused by a wind blowing directly from the court of the southwestern god." However, he expands upon the theme by giving two quotations, one from Freeman and the other from the National Intelligencer, in regard to this season. The first quotation from Freeman is as follows:

"The southwest is the pleasantest wind which blows in New England, in the month of October, in particular, after the frosts which commonly take place at the end of September. It frequently produces two or three weeks of fair weather, in which the air is perfectly transparent, and the sun, which floats in the sky of pure azure, are adorned with brilliant colors. This charming season is called the Indian summer, a name which is derived from the natives, who believe that it is caused by a wind which comes immediately from the court of their great and benevolent god, Catauntowit, or the southwestern god."

The explanation from the National Intelligencer also is based upon an aboriginal custom. It says:

The short season of pleasant weather occurring about the middle of November is called the Indian summer, from the custom of the Indians to avail themselves of this delightful time for harvesting their corn. It is a bland and genial time, in which the birds and plants feel a new creation. The sky in the meantime is generally filled with a haze of orange and gold, intercepting the direct rays of the sun yet possessing enough of light and heat to prevent sensations of gloom or chill, while the nights grow sharp and frosty and the necessary fires give cheerful forecast of the social winter evenings near at hand.

So here are two authorities disagreeing on both the time—one says October and the other November—of Indian summer and the reason for the name. Perhaps the earliest known reference to the term was that made by a Frenchman, St. John Crevecoeur, in 1778 when he was living at Pine Hill, Orange county, N. Y. In an essay, "A Snow Storm as it Affects the

When the Acorns Drop

There's a whisper on the hilltop and a murmur in the wood, There's a dream of golden glory everywhere; On the beech a russet cover, on the elm a mottled hood, While the walnut waits her branches brown and bare, Oh, the crows hold their meeting in the old oak's top, And ho, for Indian summer when the acorns drop!

There's a bloom upon the meadow like the ghost of summer flowers, But the forest and the valleys are aflame, And on hillside and in hollow throughout all, the misty hour of autumn rain, Descend the rustling drops of autumn rain, Oh, the squirrels at his feast-time in the old oak's top, And ho, for Indian summer when the acorns drop!

When the chestnut and the hazelnut put on a richer brown, And the blackbirds all are gathered in a flock, When mallow-in-the-marshes buttons up her yellow gowns, Then it's time to heap the fodder in a shock, Oh, autumn's on her waning; better gather in the crop! And ho, for Indian summer when the acorns drop!

—Cornelia R. Doherty.

American Farmer," printed in 1782, he called it "l'Été Sauvage," a free translation of which would be "Indian summer." In this essay he said, "After the fall of leaves, but before any snowfall, comes a rainy period. Great rains at last replenish the springs, the brooks, the swamps and impregnate the earth. Then a severe frost succeeds which prepares it to receive the voluminous coat of snow which is soon to follow; though it is often preceded by a short interval of smoke and mildness, called the Indian summer. This is in general the inevitable rule: Winter is not said properly to begin until these few moderate days and the rising of the waters have announced it to man."

The origin of the term, which is most widely known, occurs in a book printed several years later than Crevecoeur's essay. This was Dr. Joseph Doddridge's "Notes on the Settlement and Indian Wars of the Western Parts of Virginia and Pennsylvania From 1763 to 1783." Doddridge traces the term back to early colonial times when Indians still were a menace to the backwoods settlers. All during the summer, settlers in the more harassed sections had to live behind stockades in constant dread of Indian raids. When the chill blasts of winter came on, everyone breathed a sigh of relief. No longer were the Indians a threat. The severity of the winter would prevent that danger.

The hemmed-in settlers now took to the open, going to their log cabins outside, with the joyful feeling of men released from prison. It happened sometimes, however, that the welcome inclement weather gave way to a few days of unseasonable warm weather. This was called the Indian summer because it gave the Indians another chance to wage destructive warfare against the colonists once more.

The term "second summer" was also used for Indian summer, but that was not until some time later. By 1798 the name "Indian summer" was widely used in New England, in New York by 1809 and in England by 1830. The name Indian summer is an Americanism, but the season to which it refers is not limited to this country. The same phenomenon of delightful, balmy weather occurs in Europe. In England it is known as St. Martin's summer or All Hallow summer, referring to the time of the year, if occurring, when it has made the most impression (St. Martin's day, November 11, or All Hallow Even and the days following, All Saints day, November 1). In Germany it is called Old Woman's summer or St. Luke's summer, commencing about October 18, and in the Mediterranean regions it is commonly called St. Martin's Little summer.

So as nearly as it can be fixed Indian summer may come any time between St. Luke's day, October 18, and St. Martin's day, November 11, although the Indian summer type of weather may be experienced before or after either date—in September or even in December. Science cannot find any fixed period to correspond to popular ideas of when Indian summer is and it cannot be predicted any more than thaws in midwinter. Science can, however, account for its appearance even if it cannot predict it, and it accounts for Indian summer by saying that it is a phenomenon resulting from a sluggish movement of the areas of high and low barometer across the country, and the fixation for a time of high barometer in the South with low pressure in the Northwest, giving general southwest winds and mild weather.

Concerning Indian summer one scientist says:

In the United States this indefinite spell is likely to be more apparent in the upper Mississippi valley where it is more inclined to be in strong contrast with the climatic conditions that precede and follow it. East of the Mississippi valley, the autumn periods of dryness and tranquillity become irregular in their occurrence and brief duration. The rainfall is normally so light in the western states of our country that the chief elements of the genuine Indian summer are not sufficiently unusual to attract attention.

The peculiar haze which may occur at this time of the year is chiefly caused by the accumulation of dust and smoke in the almost motionless atmosphere. It is frequently called dry fog and usually appears in what is known as an "anti-cyclone" when fine, dry weather prevails. Minute dusts and volcanic dust and the dust from decayed vegetable matter contribute to the density of it. It may also be increased by the smoke from prairie and forest fires which may be transported great distances through the upper atmosphere, while at the same time the air near the earth may remain quite clear, often producing a peculiar yellowish or pinkish effect due to the blue rays of sunlight being absorbed.

Indian summer has become a part of the English language even though it is not recognized by science. Even though Indian summer is not recognized by science, it has always and probably always will hold its place in American tradition and American literature. It is a favorite theme of poets—especially among the New England group—essayists and cartoonists, all of whom have told in one way or another of the glories of this season.

Olympics of 1928 Give Borah Chance at Paddock

Charles Borah, southern California's sprinting sensation, has a definite purpose in view in directing his attention and 1928 efforts at the Olympics in Amsterdam, Holland, next summer. He is anxious to settle the discussions which have been flying through sportsdom concerning his 100-yard races with Charles Paddock and Chester Bowman. Borah will get a shot at both at the same time at the next Olympiad.

When in 1926 Paddock was given the decision over Borah in a questionable finish, Paddock and not Borah got credit for a 9.5 seconds hundred. "Hard luck," the fans said. A world's record is a big thing to lose by a narrow margin.

And then Borah figured in a 9.6 seconds century at the A. A. U. championships. Although Borah was first announced as winner, a 5-to-4 vote by judges gave not only the gold medal, but a tie for the A. A. U. record to Bowman. A few years hence fans will see only Bowman's name in the books and forget about the close race.

Paddock and Bowman both placed at the 1924 meet. They, with Borah, will probably be in the 1928 affair. There will be no previous meeting between them.

Has "Winning Spirit"



Art Fletcher, former fiery Giant shortstop and Philly manager, who is now coaching for the Yanks, has always been known as possessing a real "winning spirit."

In a recent game Babe Ruth came to bat in the ninth inning, with his team nine runs on the deficit side of the board.

"Come on," screamed Fletcher from the first-base coaching lines, "Nine to tie and ten to win! Let's get 'em, Babe."

Ruth, steaming hot with perspiration and ready to drop prone on the field with weariness, cast an ugly eye on the vociferous coach and remarked pointedly, "That guy has been out in the sun too long."

Olympic Club Players to Meet Californians

Former University of California football stars will play against their alma mater when the Olympic club of San Francisco faces the California varsity on October 22. Among these ex-Californians are Jimmy Dixon, crack halfback, and John Sargent, all Ed Giddings, stalwart guards, all of whom played on last year's Golden Bear machine.

The annual contest between the California varsity and the Olympic club has assumed increasing importance each year, especially since 1925, when the clubmen handed the Golden Bears their first defeat since 1919.

This year's game will witness the unusual occurrence of a former club player performing in a California uniform. The player in question is Lee Eisan, clever quarterback, who led the Olympic club to its victory over the Golden Bears in 1925.

Lefty Grove's Control Is Quite Remarkable

Lefty Grove's control against the Yanks recently was phenomenal. At one stage of the game he pitched the ball over the plate nineteen times in succession before Umpire McGowan had to call a "ball."

In the course of this streak of plate-cutting Grove fanned Meusel, Lazzeri and Dugan on ten pitched balls. The latter, after two strikes, fouled one off. Then came Dugan's third strike, retiring the side. Starting the third inning, Grove pitched nine straight pitches, all of which were strikes except those hit by the batters for flies and grounders. During the string of nineteen "strikes" no Yank reached first base. When they hit the ball they were retired.

Philippine Fighter Is After the Bantam Title

Ignatio Fernandez, the latest Philippine bantamweight to invade America, can neither read nor write, even in his own language. He never went to school. A thumb print accompanied by an "X" is his signature on a contract.

But Fernandez never makes a move without consulting his friend and advisor, Senor Thomas Cortez, graduate of an American university in Manila. Cortez supplies the business sense for the combination.

Fernandez, in his American debut, knocked out Abe Attell, Goldstein, \$400,000. More than three hundred persons are directly concerned with the preparation and the management of the matches.

Giants' Boss Not Hard-Boiled

Rogers Hornsby, discussing his baseball playing code, his ideas of leadership, attitude toward the game and the fans, leaves the distinct impression that he comes of the same school that

turned out John J. McGraw—or perhaps it was McGraw that started it.

At any rate, it is generally understood that McGraw will turn over the full reins of leadership to Hornsby when the gray-haired veteran decides to retire. He has given Rogers a pretty free hand this season a number of times and the results haven't been unsatisfactory.

"A lot of people have the idea that McGraw is hard-boiled," Hornsby said, "but they have him all wrong. 'Probably they got the notion because Mac is decisive and forceful in the way he does things. He gives orders and expects them to be followed. He doesn't do any second-guessing. If a mistake is made on his orders, the player isn't blamed."

"I would rather work for McGraw than any other man in baseball because I realize, and so do all the other players, that he's forgotten more baseball than we know."

"There isn't any friction on the club, either. You hear stories about wrangling in the clubhouse or on the bench once in a while. They're bunk. We may not always work smoothly, but there isn't any argument over who's running the team or why."

"You know, they think I'm hard-boiled, too. They said that of me when I was managing the Cardinals last year. I don't do any kidding around on the field, if that's what they mean. When I'm out there, it's all business."

"I like McGraw's methods. It wasn't difficult for me to adjust myself to the Giants' style of play. The game is the same. When Mac puts confidence enough in me to let me run the club at times I attempt to follow out his plans just as though he were on the bench."

John J. McGraw.

Rogers Hornsby.

HOW MRS. WEAVER WAS HELPED

By Taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

As Mrs. Weaver herself says, "I was never very strong." This is a mild statement describing her condition, for, according to her letters, she was subjected to no small amount of ill health. Fortunately her sister was familiar with Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and begged Mrs. Weaver to try it.

"After three or four weeks," writes Mrs. Weaver, "I felt a great difference in myself. I would go to bed and sleep sound, and although I could not do very much work, I seemed stronger. I kept on taking it and now I am well and strong, do my work and take care of three children. I sure do tell my friends about your wonderful medicine, and I will answer any letters from women asking about the Vegetable Compound."—Mrs. LAWRENCE WEAVER, East Smithfield St., Mt. Pleasant, Pa.

If you knew that thousands of women suffering from troubles similar to those you are enduring had improved their health by taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, wouldn't you think it was worth a try?

In some families, the fourth generation is learning the merit of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Originality and so mirrored in this black chiffon velvet tationally modish flounce and yoke of ly studded with dull



Since 1871

Use it today

Go to the drug store

Porter's Pain King A Lintment

Powerful, penetrating and soothing, this time-tried remedy brings quick relief from menacing coughs and colds. For other uses read the directions within every bottle, near.

"Specials" for Pigeons

During the present pigeon racing season in England one railway is running special trains to carry the birds from the homes to the starting points. So far 20 such trains have been planned. The road has 44 special cars in the racing area. Each car is 35 feet long and will carry 540 birds. The cars are steam heated and have special ventilators. Pigeons occasionally race 700 miles, and birds are valued at as high as \$1,000 each.

Many a so-called absent-minded man remembers the poor.

The louder a man talks the easier it is not to believe what he says.

The BABY

Why do so many, many babies of today escape all the little trifling spells and infantile ailments that used to worry mothers through the day, and keep them up half the night?

If you don't know the answer, you haven't discovered pure, harmless Castoria. It is sweet to the taste, and sweet in the little stomach. And its gentle influence seems felt all through the tiny system. Not even a distasteful dose of castor oil does so much good.

Fletcher's Castoria is purely vegetable, so you may give it freely, at first sign of colic; or constipation; or diarrhea. Or those many times when you just don't know what is the matter. For real sickness, call the doctor, always. At other times, a few drops of Fletcher's Castoria.

The doctor often tells you to do just that; and always says Fletcher's. Other preparations may be just as pure, just as free from dangerous drugs, but why experiment? Besides, the book on care and feeding of babies that comes with Fletcher's Castoria is worth its weight in gold!

Some Aged Golfers

Jack Kolza, hard-hitting Southeastern league player reported bought by Brooklyn, is the property of the Birmingham Southern league club.

The first triple-steal ever recorded in the national leagues was pulled off by Miller, Cruise and Long of the St. Louis Cardinals on June 14, 1917.

Joe Hendry, professional golfer at the San Angelo (Texas) country club, recently set a record of "29" for nine holes and finished second round with a total of "63."

John Levi, former Haskell Indian football star and All-American fullback in 1923, has been engaged as assistant to Coach John Thomas of the Haskell team.

Many a football fan will catch a \$50 cold this fall while waving a 50-cent pennant. But what's a little thing like pneumonia if alma mater gets a touchdown?

Feinting Is Lost Art Among the Heavyweights

Joe Choyinski, famous heavyweight of past years, who knocked out Jack Johnson, says the big boxers of today do not know how to feint.

"It seems to me the big fellows take numbers of unnecessary punches," said the veteran. "They seem content to take a punch to land one. They apparently have not been taught the art of slipping punches or how to pull away from or get inside of long swings."

"Back in the old days even Jeffries knew a lot about feinting," he went on. "Fitzsimmons was a great feinter and so was Jim Corbett. Even Peter Maher and Gus Ruhlin knew how to draw their opponent's leads."

"I wish," he concluded, after watching Jim Maloney, Big Boy Peterson, Arthur De Kuh, the Italian, and Jack Sherry of New York perform recently in Chicago's first all-heavyweight bill, "that I could go back 25 years. I would be a millionaire in less than a year."

Harvard Has Increased Its Athletic Facilities by 20 Tennis Courts and 3 Football Fields

The New York Giants boast of a future rival to Ruth and Gehrig in a rookie catcher named Bill Barrett.

Ralph Judd, pitcher of the Peoria (Ill.) club in the Three-Eye league, has been purchased by the Washingtons.

Ted Ray says the British golfers need more bunkers to improve their play—and the British boxers less bunk.

Croker Wade, hard-hitting leftfielder of the Winston-Salem Twins, Piedmont league, has been sold to the Detroit Tigers.

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Albert "Chief" Bender, veteran Indian pitcher, has signed a one-year contract to coach the Navy nine next season. It will be Bender's fourth season with the midshipmen.

The longest baseball game on record was played between Boston and Brooklyn on May 1, 1920, according to "Liberty." The game went to 26 innings for a score of 1-1.

The shortest game on record was played in New York by National league teams on September 28, 1919. The game lasted 51 minutes, and the score was, New York 6, Philadelphia 1.

The cost of running an international polo series is between \$350,000 and \$400,000. More than three hundred persons are directly concerned with the preparation and the management of the matches.

Hooper's First Row

The department card of Harry Hooper, former Red Sox player, has at last been spoiled after 20 years of professional ball. Hooper prided himself on his amicable relations with the umpires. The manager of the Oakland Mission club ventured a protest, however, during a game with the San Francisco Seals, and Umpire Casey sent him to the clubhouse.

Children Cry for Fletcher's CASTORIA

EFFECTIVELY

Originality and so mirrored in this black chiffon velvet tationally modish flounce and yoke of ly studded with dull

Such Is

JUNIOR, I MET YOUR TEACHER ON THE WAY HOME

Washington, — searchlight, which he capable of penetrating and rendering nary smoke screen warfare, has been Scotchman named Commerce department by a constab Lindbergh.

"Noctovision" given the device, to have a penetrating sixteen times beam of ordinary fog or smoke.

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