

PROMINENT PEOPLE

UNCLE SAM'S MAN IN CHINA



In the present critical Chinese situation it is reassuring to know that the very heart and brains of America's China policy is now on guard in the capital of that nation in the person of Edward Thomas Williams, secretary of the American legation at Peking, and charge d'affaires during the visit home of Minister Calhoun for conference with the heads of the state department.

Mr. Williams is a specialist in the history and languages of China, and on familiar terms with its statesmen. It is common report in the inner circles of diplomacy that all the astute moves which blocked Japan and Russia in Manchuria, maintained the open-door policy of John Hay, and prevented the dismemberment of China have been of Williams' devising when he was "Chinaman" of the state department.

The famous "four-nation loan" of \$50,000,000 was the cleverest bit of diplomacy that the far east has witnessed for a generation, and was only made possible through the intimate understanding of eastern conditions and finesse which Mr. Williams possessed.

Mr. Williams was born in Ohio, and served as a missionary in China for ten years, obtaining a perfect command of the language.

LOEB MAY BE CHAIRMAN

It is the generally expressed opinion among wise politicians that if President Taft is renominated as the candidate for the presidency on the Republican ticket Collector Loeb, of New York, will be chairman of the Republican National committee.

The story of the rise of William Loeb Jr., is one of hard work, an unconquerable determination to succeed, backed by a love for the political game, combined with keen insight into character.

Mr. Loeb is of German descent. The straitened financial circumstances of his parents forced him to leave school before he had finished the course and prohibited any thought of a college education. He took up the study of law, but finding that slow and unprofitable he studied stenography between times and later branched out into shorthand reporting.

From the start he was interested in politics and worked hard for his district chief.

The making of Mr. Loeb, however, occurred shortly after the election of Col. Roosevelt as governor.



SPENDS NIGHT IN PRISON



After spending a night in prison to observe the condition of the convicts to investigate conditions there, Gov. B. W. Hooper has announced that the stripes should come off all but the worst prisoners in the spring and that thereafter the stripes should be used only as a means of punishment. As soon as the new chaplain took charge, he stated, schools would be started. As a result of his investigation he issued pardons to 25 prisoners as Christmas gifts. During the night he spent in the penitentiary he mingled with the convicts and learned from many of them the story of their lives.

"The prison," he afterward said, "is a terrible place however humane the management and conditions. Heretofore Tennessee has thought of only two things in connection with the state prison. One was to get some one into the penitentiary, and the other to get him out. It shall be my purpose to reform convicts and turn them

out better citizens.

Gov. Hooper understands the under side of life. He was born in Newport and as a child was a walf on the streets of Knoxville, nameless, until Dr. L. W. Hooper took him into his home and gave him his own name.

SMOOT BACKS WOOL FIGHT

Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, one of the most unrelenting reactionaries in public life, is to direct the administration tariff on the floor of the United States senate.

That Smoot is to be the administration spokesman in the contest over the revision of the wool schedules, around which the entire tariff discussion will center, is a matter of keen satisfaction to the woolen manufacturers of the country in general and to the directors of the so-called woolen trust in particular.

Smoot, a member of the powerful Senate Finance committee, had his training for the important part he has been designated to play during this session, under the tutelage of former Senator Nelson W. Aldrich.

The Mormon church, of which Smoot is an apostle, is understood to be interested in the manufacturing as well as the sheep raising end of the wool industry. This bill, as Washington now recognizes, was a reduction in the extortionate woolen rates fully justified in the light of the tariff board report just filed with congress.

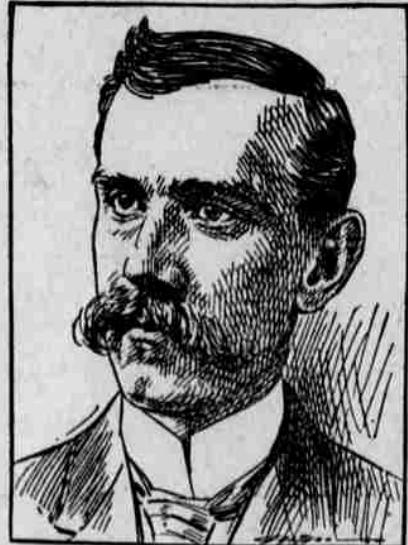


TABLE TOP IMMUNE TO HEAT

How Surface of Antique Furniture Was Made to Defy Hot Plates and Dishes.

I was staying with an antique furniture enthusiast the other day and was very much interested to find that hot plates and dishes seem to have no effect on his old gate-leg dining table, says a writer in the Philadelphia Inquirer.

I inquired how it was managed, and this is what he told me:

When the table was bought, the first thing he did was to remove the coating of French polish that was already on. This he did by scrubbing it with hot water to which a good allowance of washing powder had been added. When the whole was off, the wood was rinsed with clear, warm water, and then rubbed over with a cloth dipped in vinegar and water (equal quantities.) You'll probably think that after such harsh treatment it was ruined, but it wasn't.

After applying the vinegar and water, he rubbed it as dry as possible, and when dry he started to polish it with boiled linseed oil. One can buy it all ready for use at any oil and paint shop.

Taking a very little of the oil on a soft cloth, he began to polish with a circular movement round and round. When he had gone all over the surface he polished well with a clean soft duster till all trace of the oil was removed.

Next day he repeated the process, and this he did every day, barring Sunday, for six months, adding just a wee drop of ammonia to the oil during the last month or two.

The result is a hard, beautifully polished surface that does not mark even if hot plates or dishes are put on the table.

It is now polished very occasionally only, with a little turpentine and beeswax, made so thin that it can be shaken up in a bottle.

I have come back terribly dissatisfied with my own French polish dining table, which shows a white mark on the slightest provocation.

Sauce for Plum Pudding.

Cream together a cupful of sugar and half a cupful of butter. When light and creamy add the well-beaten yolks of four eggs. Stir into this one wineglass of wine or brandy, a pinch of salt and one large cupful of hot cream or rich milk. Beat this mixture well, place it in a saucepan over the fire, stir it until it cooks sufficiently to thicken like cream. Be sure and not let it boil.

Squash Biscuit.

One pint of sifted squash, one cup sugar, half pint milk, scalded, half yeast cake, butter size of an egg, one teaspoon salt, one teaspoon soda. Mix milk, butter, squash and sugar together; when cool add yeast, dissolved, and flour enough to knead a little stiffer than bread, raise over night, cut down in the morning and form into rolls. Bake about half an hour.

Fruit Cake.

One pound butter, two pounds brown sugar, six eggs well beaten, three pounds flour, half teaspoon soda dissolved in teaspoon of hot water, half pound blanched and chopped almonds, two pounds currants, two pounds raisins (seedless), half pound citron (cut fine), half pound lemon peel (candied), half pound prunes (pitted and soaked and chopped), half pound New Orleans molasses, half teaspoon all kinds of spice.

Cocoonut Mousse.

Dissolve one tablespoonful of powdered gelatine in two tablespoonfuls of boiling water; cool and add one cupful of cocoonut, three tablespoonfuls of orange juice and two cupfuls of whipped cream. Pour the mixture into a chilled mold. Pack in ice and salt for four hours. Garnish with whipped cream when turned out.

Orange Loaf Layer Cake.

Melt a piece of butter the size of an egg, put into a measuring cup, with two eggs and fill cup with milk. Beat well, add 1 cup of sugar (beat until sugar is dissolved), grated rind of 1 orange. Sift 3 times 1 1/2 cups flour, 1/4 teaspoon salt, 1 heaping teaspoon baking powder, Mix dry ingredients and butter, etc. Beat well and bake.

Frosting.—Two great spoons of orange juice, thickened with confectioner's sugar. Frost cake when cool. Frost cake first with orange frosting, then smear over with cocoa.

Pie Crust.

Here is my way of making pie crust for two pies. Two and one-half cups of flour, one heaping teaspoon of baking powder, salt. Sift all together. Mix in with hands, one cup of lard, cold water to roll. Mix with silver knife.

Ginger snaps.

Half cup molasses, half cup sugar, half cup butter and lard, three table-spoons hot water, three cups flour, one teaspoon soda, three teaspoons ginger; salt

TO HANG BEDROOM CURTAINS

Necessity for Fresh Air at Night Makes Question a Most Important One.

Since fresh air at night has become imperative the right way to curtain a bedroom must be studied. Every window must be raised at top and bottom, which is better for lungs and complexion than for hangings.

The specialist advises no curtains; so will most men, who rarely like the dainty draperies dear to women. Few housekeepers agree with this, even the health fanatics. Nothing furnishes a room like fresh white curtains; besides, the publicity of the uncurtained room is objectionable, not to mention the bare look of the outside of a house.

The woman who believes in fresh air never hangs at her bedroom windows curtains that cannot be laundered easily or that are ruined by dampness. Windows up the year around soon works havoc on delicate lace or colored curtains.

Double draperies are not advisable for the bedroom. Too much air is shut out, though they are lifted back each night. When one will have them, choose denim, wash prints or heavy wash silks that stand tubbing.

One woman fastens to the side linctels of her window high above the middle sash, a small hook. In a convenient place she keeps cords for each half of curtain and her maids are taught when preparing the room for the night to loop the curtains up and back, thus giving free current of air.

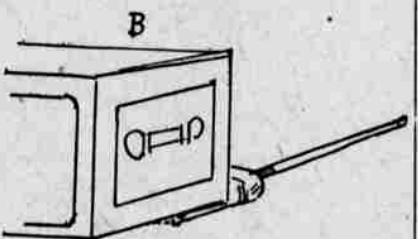
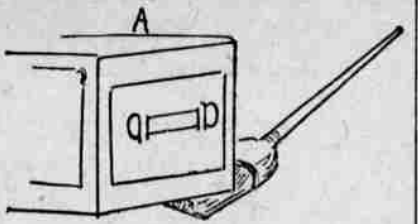
The most practical method of curtaining a bedroom is to divide the curtain in two sections horizontally. A rod is run at the top of the lower sash and the lower half run on it by a narrow casing. The upper curtain is cut longer than the lower one and hung on a rod at the top of the casing so they conceal the lower rod.

By this arrangement the window can be lifted with no floating draperies to blow out the window and get stringy, yet the room has the benefit of curtains.

EASY WAY TO HANDLE TRUNKS

Old Broom Placed Under Corner is Wonderful Help in Moving Heavy Baggage.

Sometimes a woman is compelled to move heavy trunks or boxes because her husband or the boys are not at home. An old broom placed under



one end or corner, will be a great help in sliding it over the floor. If the woman has strength enough to lift the box up so the broom can be put under the center, she can then manage to drag the trunk across the floor.

Flaming Oysters.

Shell oysters, heat in their own liquor, and trim them. Procure some shallow silver casseroles, and put the oysters in them, allowing six oysters for each guest. Sprinkle each casserole with a tablespoonful of good rye whiskey and set it alight while serving. This dish must be prepared quickly.

Corn Gems.

Beat together a half cupful of butter, a half cupful of sugar and two eggs. When smooth add two cupfuls of sweet milk, then two cupfuls each of cornmeal and flour. Lastly stir in three tablespoonfuls of baking powder

Sugared Popcorn.

Boil one cup white sugar, three table-spoons water and one teaspoon butter until ready to candy. Then throw in three quarts popped corn. Stir well and cool. Nuts may be prepared in same way.

Cocoonut Cookies.

One cup sugar, one egg, butter size of walnut, one-half cup sour cream, one-half cup molasses, one-half teaspoon of soda, one-half teaspoon baking powder, one cup cocoonut, pinch of salt, three cups of flour, vanilla to taste. Roll, cut and bake.

A Natural Propensity.

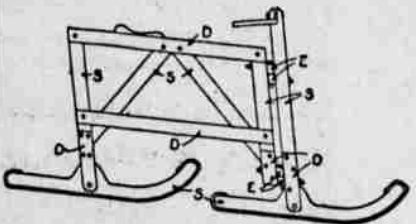
"You can't teach women anything by experience."
"Well, naturally, they object to getting any wrinkles."—Baltimore American

For the LITTLE ONES

NEW TYPE OF COASTER SLED

One Built on Bicycle Principle and is Easy to Make—Constructed of Good Quality of Pine.

The accompanying drawing and sketch illustrate a new type of coasting sled built on the bicycle principle. This coaster is simple and easy to make, says Scientific American. It is constructed of a good quality of pine. The pieces marked S are single, and should be about one by one and one-half inches; the pieces marked D



Has the Lines of a Bicycle.

are double or in duplicate, and should be one-half by one and one-half inches. The runners are shod with iron, and are pivoted to the uprights as shown, double pieces being secured to the uprights to make a fork. The seat is a board, to the under side of which is a block, which drops down between the two top slats and is secured with a pin. A foot rest is provided consisting of a short cross-piece secured to



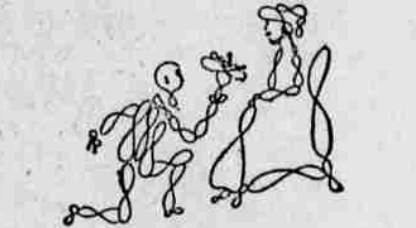
Coasting.

the front of the frame and resting on the two lower slats. The frame and front fork are hinged together with four short eyebolts E, with a short bolt through each pair as shown.

AMUSING GAME FOR WINTER

Interesting Pastime for Young Folks on Dull, Long Evenings—Prizes May Be Given.

Can you make a picture composed solely of the figure 8? It is an amusing as well as an interesting game for the home, and our artist has shown what can be done in this direction. Many amusing pictures can be thus drawn by the amateur artist. Two competitions might be held, one prize going to the person who draws the



The "8" Figure.

most amusing or interesting picture, using the smallest number of the figure 8, while a competition might also be held for those who use the greatest number of figures in one picture.

Can You Tell?

Twenty tiny sardines Packed in a tin! We can get them out, But how did they get in?

Birds and Snakes for Shoes. Snakeskin shoes have met with approval, and in mottled gray and mud colorings as well as a dull green have an excellent appearance.

A large measure of approbation is given to the gaiter shoes made of black patent leather and white kid which are deemed immensely smart, and there are the most comfortable boudoir shoes made of knitted silk, and very picturesque brocade "mules" to match brocade rest-gowns, interwoven with gold threads.

There is a fancy for edging slippers with ostrich plumage, and very costly shoes made entirely of tiny feathers have been seen.

Nettie's Explanation.

"Why, Nettie," said the mother of a four-year-old miss, "how did you tear your apron?"
"It got stuck on a nail and Jes' tore'd itself," explained Nettie