HEAR YE! TURKEY IS KING!

BY WILL P. SHAFTER

MAKING PUMPKIN PIE FOR THANKSGIVING DINNER

THERE is a United States bureau of statistics which annually furnishes the number of killed, injured and maimed as a result of Fourth of July fireworks celebrations, but Thanksgiving casualties from overeating are never tabulated.

So be careful lest such a plan should be put into operation and you and yours forced into the spotlight of publicity because you gave thanks in too hearty a manner. Indications a few days before the memorable holiday suggested no corner in the turkey market in the middle west, and for that reason the king pin of the Thanksgiving meal was attainable among those who perhaps a year ago were not so fortunate when the birds were higher in price.

With over 20,000,000 persons giving thanks—perhaps 10,000,000 don't know why—in these United States there are 5,000,000 turkeys consumed on Thanksgiving day. The preparation of the birds for the table is one of the country's great industries for several months before the grub-fest takes place. Roast pig, duck, geese and chickens are also sandwiched in as Thanksgiving delicacies, and their preparation for market and the festive board is also a big contribution to the men who do the work.

Sixty-seven years ago the 26th of November was the first Thanksgiving day ever appointed for and observed in Chicago, observed, be it said, by the people generally. There probably were in the population of between 4,000 and 5,000 souls as many New Englanders as there were New Yorkers or Pennsylvanians or Orleans or southerners, and some among those from New England remembered the old home custom of giving special thanks and spreading an extra bountiful meal on the last Thursday in November and privately observed it. But by the large majority of the inhabitants it was entirely ignored, or possibly by the most it was wholly unknown. The New England influence, however, was the most active of any and soon was the controlling element. In 1841 it was sufficiently virile to introduce and establish the annual Thanksgiving as an institution.

Sixty-four years are but few in the life of the institutions of a city or country, but in this case the period carries one back to within 14 years of the incorporation of Chicago.

In 1841 the fifth mayor, Francis C. Sherman, was in the chair of municipal state. A native of Connecticut, he was of Puritan ancestry and had been brought up in reverence of the religious and social customs of New England. He came to Chicago in 1834, when the legally organized town was one year old, and at once started in the business of keeping a boarding house. The first year he was in this business he observed the Connecticut Thanksgiving by giving his boarders the first Thanksgiving dinner ever provided in Illinois.

To facilitate matters he had not the best of education—he betimes sent to Buffalo for a barrel of good apple cider, which was frequently used on this occasion.

But this humble occupation of boarding-house Boniface did not content him for long. He had worked at brickmaking in Connecticut and just then good bricks were much needed in Chicago, and he was just the man to supply them. There was available clay without going farther for it than to where Adams and Market streets now cross each other and there he set up his kiln. The first good house made of his bricks was his own. It was built in Lake street, near Clark. He had now become a leading citizen. He took a good citizen's interest in public affairs and had political influence.

This Puritan born, this giver of the first Thanksgiving dinner in Chicago, waited but four years till he took his turn in the mayoralty.

And he made his occupancy of the office memorable by ordering his official clerk, Thomas Hoyne, to draw up the first proclamation of a public Thanksgiving ever seen in the west.

"Mayor Sherman's Thanksgiving," as the majority of the citizens derisively called it, was gladly observed by every New England family in the place, but that was the extent of its observance. Christmas was already a greater day in New York than Thanksgiving, and in the other Atlantic states out of New England and in the southern states Thanksgiving was mostly unknown. Settlers from those parts, being in the majority and inclined to recognize a Puritan holiday, poked all kinds of fun at the mayor on account of his, as they chose to call it, new-vamped Puritan zeal. Those of them who were members of the Protestant churches or congregations failed to attend the religious services in those churches of the morning of Thanksgiving day.

But every New Englander who could possibly attend did so, and there were enough of them to make up good-sized congregations, or what appeared to be such in the small church edifices of the time. The afternoon was given up to feasting and social pleasures.

No chronicler of the time was thoughtful enough to write for posterity a particular account of the social pleasures in which the thankful people indulged, but one among the still living witnesses of the day is the irrepressible "first citizen," Fernando Jones, and he remembers going to a dance at the mayor's fine house on Thanksgiving night. The Jones family was from New York state and "the good Fernando" says it is a mistake to suppose that nobody but New Englanders observed the day; that his mother got up a big dinner on the occasion and that he ate as much turkey and things "as any Puritan booby in the place." But he admits that the New England families did most of the visiting, feasting and dancing.

The example thus set by Mayor Sherman was followed by his successors for ten years before Illinois adopted the annual Thanksgiving as a state institution.

In 1833, three years before Chicago introduced the Thanksgiving custom to its own citizens, a fraudulent Thanksgiving proclamation was issued in the name of Gov. Duncan which caused the festival to be universally talked about in the state at large. Its object was to fool the Springfield, Ill., clergy without any thought at first of its going further. And sure enough it did fool the clergymen at the capital. It no less imposed on the clergymen all over the state.

Most of the inhabitants of Springfield were from the south or from states west of the Alleghenies, but a few were from New England and from these latter a petition had proceeded requesting the governor to appoint a day of Thanksgiving. He was a Kentuckian by birth and a Presbyterian and, therefore, had not much tolerance for New England religious and social customs. He would not on any account issue the proclamation asked for, but that did not quite end the matter.

It occurred to a few of the young men employed in the executive offices that a bogus proclamation might be ventured. They, for some reason had not the fear of Gov. Duncan before their eyes and they foresaw how eagerly the Protestant ministers at the capital would welcome it as, of course, genuine. Accordingly they drew up a proclamation in the usual form of such documents, signed the governor's name to it, as well as the name of the secretary of state, and had numerous copies printed, sending a copy to each minister who was known to be desirous of celebrating a Thanksgiving. All were deceived by it save one, the Methodist minister, who had been quietly notified by one of the young men that it was a hoax. The others made formal announcement that they would on the day thus fraudulently appointed hold Thanksgiving services. But on the evening before the day arrived to let the hoax just fall of its object the young men sent word to each of the ministers that the proclamation was not genuine.

The ministers were not long in informing their people that the Thanksgiving was declared off. After that the subject of Thanksgiving was a forbidden topic of conversation or even allusion at the Illinois state capital for several years. But the Thanksgiving was not so easily prevented in the outlying districts. Copies of the bogus proclamation had been sent to all the principal towns, which made preparations to observe the festival. The authors of the hoax had, however, repented in time with reference to places outside of Springfield and consequently warned clergymen in those towns not to be fooled. It was believed in Chicago to be genuine, but no notice was taken of it first or last.

Twelve years passed, in which the annual Thanksgiving of New England had no official recognition, except in Chicago. In 1851 Joel A. Matteson, a native of New York, was elected governor of Illinois, and notwithstanding his nativity and religious connections—he was not a Puritan nor even Puritanically inclined—he, first of the governors of the state, issued his proclamation for a day of general thanksgiving, after the fashion of the New Englanders. He thus had the honor of being the founder in Illinois of this ever-to-be-cherished institution.

In the days of the revolution Thanksgiving day was a national affair, it being annually recommended by congress. But there was no national appointment of the day till 1784 on account of the suppression of the "whisky rebellion." President Madison recommended Thanksgiving for the peace of 1815. That was the last national Thanksgiving for 48 years.

It is a well known fact that the observance of a day of thanksgiving dates far back in American history. Its origin is traced to ancient festivals in which the Puritans at Plymouth Rock voiced their thanks to the Almighty for preserving them year after year from the arrows and scalping knives of the red Indians. The season of the "fall of the autumn leaves," bringing denudation to the forests and removing the hiding facilities for ambuscades of the redmen, was deemed especially appropriate for the Thanksgiving services, which were held in the religious meeting houses of the little colony.

In the first days of the first settlement of pilgrims at Plymouth Rock they had a little village, with the houses constructed of hewn planks. There were gardens inclosed behind and at the sides with other rough hewn planks. These fences were stockades that served as a protection against sudden attacks and the crude defenses thus arranged were reinforced by three heavy wooden gates at the ends of the streets. In the center, on a cross street, stood the colonial governor's house. Before this was a square inclosure, upon which four cannon were mounted, so as to flank along the streets. On a surrounding hilltop they had a large square house, with a flat roof. This structure was made of the customary thick planks of rough hewn timbers, like the massive American log houses of later times. The planks were stayed or braced with oak beams, upon the top of which they had six cannon, which shot iron balls of four or five pounds and had a commanding sweep of the surrounding country. The lower part of this building was used for a church, in which religious services were held on Sundays and the usual holidays. The pilgrims were called to the services in this church with beat of drum and each man came with his musket and firelock. While at worship they rested on their firearms. They wore their cloaks and stood three abreast, with a sergeant-major in command. Behind came the governor in a long robe; beside him, at the right hand was the preacher, with his flowing cloak on, and on the left hand was the captain, his side arms pendant and a small cane in one hand.

PREPARING TURKEYS FOR MARKET

A DRY PLUCK

Odd Compact Nets $15,000

Mrs. Margarette Castens, 94 years of age, who received $15,000 three years ago, as the result of a unique compact entered into by 65 girls in a German convent school more than 70 years ago, died at the home of her daughter in St. Louis, Mo.

Seventy-five years ago Mrs. Castens was a pupil in a convent near Stuttgart, Germany. The girls agreed just before they graduated to pay a certain number of marks a year into a Berlin bank and the entire amount was to go to the last surviving member of the class.

Three years ago Mrs. Castens found herself the only one of the class remaining. She wrote to the bank, believing she would receive a few thousand dollars. The amount she got was in excess of $15,000.

BED-BOUND FOR MONTHS.

Hope Abandoned After Physicians' Consultation.

Mrs. Enos Shearer, Yew and Washington Sts., Centralia, Wash., says: "For years I was weak and run down, could not sleep, my limbs swelled and the secretions were troublesome; pains were intense. I was fast in bed for four months. Three doctors said there was no cure for me and I was given up to die. Being urged, I used Doan's Kidney Pills. Soon I was better and in a few weeks was about the house, well and strong again."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

THE NEWEST MODE.

Susie—What does the new baby at your house look like? Is it nice?

Sammy—Must be the latest thing in babies. Maw's as tickled over it as if it just come from the milliner's.

WARNED OF THE CYCLONE.

Telephone Just a Few Seconds Ahead of High Wind.

Once upon a time a Kansas zephyr broke loose and meandered about the country, picking up various things. Bill Baumgartner's telephone, 20 miles away, rang.

"Is that you, Bill?" yelled an excited voice.

"Yes. What's the matter?"

"This is Frank. We've got a cyclone down here, and it's headed your way. Look out! I—" Frank's voice broke off suddenly. Bill heard a crash and a sputtering, then all was silence. He gathered up his family and rushed them to a deep ravine. They were just in time to dodge a funnel-shaped cloud that wrecked the house, picked up his barn, two cows, and a couple of miles of fence.—Hampton's Broadway Magazine.

SEVERE HEMORRHOIDS

Sores, and Itching Eczema—Doctor Thought an Operation Necessary —Cuticura's Efficacy Proven.

"I am now 80 years old, and three years ago I was taken with an attack of piles (hemorrhoids), bleeding and protruding. The doctor said the only help for me was to go to a hospital and be operated on. I tried several remedies for months but did not get much help. During this time sores appeared which changed to a terrible itching eczema. Then I began to use Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Pills, injecting a quantity of Cuticura Ointment with a Cuticura Suppository Syringe. It took a month of this treatment to get me in a fairly healthy state and then I treated myself once a day for three months and, after that, once or twice a week. The treatments I tried took a lot of money, and it is fortunate that I used Cuticura. J. H. Henderson, Hopkinton, N. Y., Apr. 26, 1907."

A Riddle.

An English paper recently asked its readers for an answer to the following riddle:

What does a man love more than life,
Hate more than death or mortal strife;
That which contented men desire,
The poor have, and the rich require;
A miser spends, the spendthrift saves,
And all men carry to their graves?

All sorts of answers were sent in, but the correct one was declared to be "Nothing."

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Too Unkind.

"Didn't you say there was a statesman in your family?" inquired my deaf friend.

"Oh, no," I cried, hastening to correct his peculiar impression; "I merely said that a relative of mine was one of the United States senators from New York."—Bohemian Magazine.

Failure after long perseverance is much grander than never to have a striving good enough to be called a failure.—George Eliot.

PISO'S

Coughing Spells

are promptly relieved by a single dose of Piso's Cure. The regular use of this famous remedy will relieve the worst form of coughs, colds, hoarseness, bronchitis, asthma and disease of the throat and lungs. Absolutely free from harmful drugs and opiates. For half a century the household remedy in millions of homes.

At all druggists', 25 cts.

25 CTS. 25 CTS.

CURE