

18th Century Ice Cream

While the ice cream industry is now a large one, with more than 4,000 factories operating in this country, its growth is not astonishing as it is an American institution. The making of ice cream as an industry had its beginning about the time of the Revolution and the first newspaper advertisement offering ice cream for sale seems to have been one which appeared in the *New York Gazette*, of May 19, 1777. Dolly Madison is believed to have been the first to introduce ice cream into the social events of the time in the White House, although Mrs. Alexander Hamilton is thought to have the honor of first publicly serving the dish at any important function. Not only has the ice cream industry grown but per capita consumption has advanced perceptibly, from 1.04 gallons per year in 1905 to 2.9 gallons in 1928.