

FOOD & DRINK (from Scrapbooks in computer) There are many of these so not all are included.

MISCELLANEOUS

"Question of having a general dinner of club every month before each meeting with speaker as guest."
(Continuation of Minutes of the Fellows Meeting, 4 November 1910. BookX p26)

PRICES

"I enclose \$1.00 for my plate."
(Response card for Fellows Meeting and Dinner, November 20, 1904. Book1 p75)

"...the dinner will be \$2.00 a plate. ...Among the guests of the evening will be President Eliot of Harvard University..."
(Notice flyer for the first annual dinner and 40th meeting, February 14, 1908. Book2 p47)

"We tried a one dollar dinner including beer and found it good."
(Minutes of the Fellows Meeting, 4 November 1910. BookX p25)

\$2.00. "...at the new Harvard Club..."
(Notice for Fellows meeting and dinner, November 20, 1913. BookX p42)

"The supper afterwards was sufficient although not too generous, as I have cut the price from 75¢ to 50¢, but we had real ale which made up for any shortcomings."
(Minutes of 216th meeting, 25 April 1933. Min1 p4)

"Dinners were held before the first four meetings this year. At that time the Harvard Club notified your Secretary that they were raising the price of the dinner from \$1.75 to \$2.00. In view of the fact that the attendance at these dinners had been falling off your Secretary felt that with an additional raise in price there was not sufficient interest in the membership to warrant having the dinners until some arrangement could be made with the Harvard Club or some other place to provide a more reasonable dinner. Last year we averaged an attendance of nearly 30 at the dinners, the January dinner having an attendance of 40. In October of this year we started out at 30, but the attendance had dropped to 18 in January at the time that they were discontinued. It is hoped that some way will be found of having a simple buffet dinner with a cocktail that will cost not over \$1.50. If this can be done the experiment will be tried to see how much interest the membership takes, and consequently how many members attend. The Secretary would welcome any suggestions."
(Report of the Secretary Treasurer May 1, 1937. Min1 p54)

"The Secretary reported his negotiations with the Harvard Club and his conference with Mr. Taft relative to the same. After full discussion it was voted to leave the matter in the hands of the Secretary for further negotiation, but it was reported as the consensus of opinion of the Council that the cost of dinners must be reduced to \$1.50 or less, and the cost of the suppers be retained at 50 cents, without extra charge for the room."
(Minutes of Council Meeting, 3 May 1937. Min1 p51)

"There was a discussion as to whether it would be a good policy for the club to meet the difference between the \$2.00 charged by the Harvard Club for the pre-meeting suppers with cocktails, and a lesser amount, say \$1.00 or \$1.25 to be charged to members, to see if this would increase attendance. ... The Secretary feels that the attendance would be increased by as much as possibly fifty per cent, but questions wisdom of subsidizing attendance at the expense of the Club."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 19 November 1937. Min1 p58)

"The experiment of charging the members only \$1.50 for the supper for which the Harvard Club charges us \$2.00 was tried without much success. There were 22 for supper, 50 at the meeting, and 42 stayed for the refreshments afterwards."
(Minutes of 256th meeting, 12 April 1938. Min1 p64)

Average attendance of 79. "Informal dinners were held before four of the meetings with an average attendance of 36; much better than in some previous years. These seem to be more popular if not held too regularly. The Harvard Club charged us \$2.00 for dinner, including cocktails, but we collected on \$1.50 from those present. If we do have dinner before the meetings we are charged for the use of the room and more for the light refreshments afterwards."

(Report of the Secretary Treasurer May 1, 1940. Min1 p86)

"...it was voted that we continue our meetings at the Harvard Club, charging the members the same price of \$3.00 until further notice."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 5 October 1948. Min1 p138)

"We discussed the charge for our dinner meetings. We are now charging \$3.00 per person but it cost the Club about \$4.50 per person. We are going to give this subject further thought in the future."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 10 October 1950. Min1 p157)

"We discussed our idea of keeping the quality of food high, in order to attract more members to our meetings, and we hoped that by having a completely buffet system we could reduce the charge for help and so receive better food from the Club."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 14 November 1950. Min1 p159)

"We discussed the Harvard Club meal charges for next year starting October, 1953. Including all taxes, a semi-buffet dinner will cost at the rate of \$4.00 per person, while a plated dinner will cost \$3.75 per person. It was the consensus of the meeting that for our October meeting we would try the plated meal at \$3.75, and then charge each member present \$3.50, the Travellers Club thus subsidizing 50 cents per person."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 14 April 1953. Min1 p185)

"We discussed the cost of meals at the Harvard Club. They are now charging us \$3.75 for a plated meal, and we are charging our members \$3.00. We intend to further explore this question of the proper charge for meals."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 20 October 1953. Min1 p189)

"...it was voted that we increase the dinner charge to our members from \$3.00 to \$3.50 starting at the next meeting, and that a short notice to this effect be sent to all members explaining that the reason for doing this is that the Harvard Club has increased their charge to us to \$3.75 per meal."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 8 December 1953. Min1 p191)

"The cost of our dinners was discussed, and it was decided to have it remain at a charge of \$3.50 per dinner, this being the exact charge now made against us by the Harvard Club, so that the Travellers Club is doing no subsidizing for dinners at the moment."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 8 February 1955. Min1 p203)

"For the last two meetings, the Harvard Club has been charging us the increased amount of \$3.99 per meal. However, we noted in the annual report of the Harvard Club that they still lose money on the restaurant."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 11 December 1956. Min1 p220)

"It was voted to continue to charge only \$3.50 for dinner even though the Harvard Club has recently raised its rate to \$4.20."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 10 October 1961. Min2 p3)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$.85 apiece)...supper will be served (price \$3.50 apiece)"

(Notice flyer for 422nd meeting, 15 May 1962. Min2 p26)

"A general discussion of Club finances ended in a decision not to raise the dues or the price of the dinners, even though we are losing about one dollar a person at each dinner."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 19 May 1964. Min2 p81)

"It was voted to increase the charge for dinners next year from the present \$3.50 to \$4.00 (loss of about 90¢ per person per meal in the past season)."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 18 May 1965. Min2 p107)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$.85 apiece)...supper will be served (price \$4.00 apiece)"
(Notice flyer for 447th meeting, 19 October 1965. Min2 p113)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$.90 apiece)..." An increase of 5 cents.
(Notice flyer for 456th meeting, 15 November 1966. Min2 p134)

"Due to rising costs at the Harvard Club, it was voted to raise the charge for dinners from the present \$5.00 per person to \$6.00 per person."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 7 October 1969, Min3 p4)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$1.00 apiece); at 7.00 p.m. Dinner will be served (price \$6.00 apiece)..."
(Notice flyer for 480th meeting, 4 November 1969. Min3 p6)

"The Secretary reported that the Harvard Club had raised our dinner price 25¢ to \$7.50 each, including surcharge and taxes. However, it was voted to retain the present \$6.00 dinner charge."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 6 October 1970. Min3 p28)

"It was voted to start November 9th, 1971, at our next dinner meeting, charging \$1.20 each for cocktails. Harvard Club is now starting to charge \$1.20 for each drink including tax, up from \$1.10, because of a new 5% liquor tax. (We previously charged \$1.00 for each drink and absorbed the extra ten cents.)"

"It was voted to start November 9th, 1971 charging \$7.00 each for dinner (up from the present \$6.00). Harvard Club now charges us \$7.50, including taxes; (taxes of 15% surcharge and 5% Old Age tax would make the dinner ordinarily cost us \$9.00 per dinner, but Harvard Club charges us only \$7.50)."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 5 October 1971. Min3 p52)

"It was also voted to raise the price of all our dinners at the Harvard Club from the present \$6.00 to \$7.00 and to charge \$1.20 each for cocktails."
(Continuation of Minutes of Council meeting, 9 November 1971. Min3 p57)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$1.25 apiece); at 7.00 p.m. dinner will be served (price \$7.00 apiece)..."
(Notice flyer for 501st meeting, 18 April 1972. Min3 p72)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$1.50 apiece); at 7.00 p.m. dinner will be served (price \$7.00 apiece)..."
(Notice flyer for 505th meeting, 12 December 1972. Min3 p90)

"He [H.E. Kennard] also reported that the Harvard Club has raised their dinner price to us from \$7.50 to \$8.00. However, since it appeared to the Secretary-Treasurer that present finances seem adequate, it was voted not to increase our present dinner price of \$7.00 to members."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 2 October 1973. Min3 p112)

"The Council decided to retain the \$7.00 charge for dinner, even though the Harvard Club price has just gone up from \$8.00 to \$8.25. Cocktails are to be \$1.60, as charged by the Harvard Club bartender, at the Harvard Club rate (up from \$1.50)"
(Minutes of Council meeting, 1 October 1974. Min3 p140)

"Secretary H.E. Kennard reported that Mr. R. Vitali, manager of the Harvard Club of Boston, had stated on May 7, 1975 that dinner price for 1975-76 season would be \$8.50, an increase of 25 cents per dinner, to be paid to the Harvard Club. Secretary H.E. Kennard also informed the Council that it would be necessary to raise the price charged to members to \$8.00 per dinner, an increase of one dollar over the 1974-1975 rate."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 27 May 1975. Min3 p163)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$1.60 apiece); at 7.00 p.m. dinner will be served (price \$8.50 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 528th meeting, 4 November 1975. Min3 p173)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$1.75 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 533rd meeting, 20 April 1976. Min3 p187)

"The Council voted to increase the charge of dinners from \$8.50 at present to \$9.00 as of the turn of the year...It was also decided to lower the cost of dinner to undergraduate and graduate student members to \$6.00, thereby relieving their financial burden and, hopefully, encouraging the recruitment of younger members."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 9 November 1976. Min3 p199)

"The Secretary advised the Council that the Harvard Club was raising the price of dinner to \$10.50 per person this year and that next year the Harvard Travellers Club would be obliged to pay the full cost, (which this year would come to \$11.07) including 8% state tax and 15% surcharge. The IRS will no longer allow the latter to be waived. The Council voted to charge members the entire \$10.50 in November, with student members still to be charged only \$6."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 4 October 1977. Min3 p228)

"Concerning dinner costs, the Secretary reported that a buffet at The Harvard Club would be more expensive than regular dinners, but that costs for the latter could be reduced if the following courses were omitted: appetizer (50-75¢), salad or vegetable (75¢), dessert (90¢). Note was taken of Dr, John B. Stanbury's suggestion that the Club look into the possibility of holding meetings at The Country Club in Brookline, the general feeling being that the option was not feasible logistically for many members. Brief consideration was also given to the MIT Faculty Club and St. Botolph's Restaurant as possible sites. Another option given serious consideration was to raise all dues by \$5 and to subsidize dinners by \$1, at least. ... In the meantime, it was agreed to charge members attending dinner only \$10 (\$6 for students) for the December and January meetings."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 8 November 1977. Min3 p232)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$1.75 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$10.00 apiece, students \$6.00 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 545th meeting, 6 December 1977. Min3 p235)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$1.85 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$10.00 apiece, students \$6.00 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 551st meeting, 3 October 1978. Min4 p1)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$1.95 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$10.00 apiece, students \$6.00 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 557th meeting, 24 April 1979. Min4 p18)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$1.75 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$10.00 apiece, students \$6.00 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 559th meeting, 2 October 1979. Min4 p25) BUT at the St Botolph Club

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$1.95 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$12.00 apiece, students \$6.00 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 561st meeting, 11 December 1979. Min4 p32)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$2.00 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$12.00 apiece, students \$6.00 apiece)..."

(Notice flyer for 564th meeting, 18 March 1980. Min4 p41)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$2.00 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$13.00 apiece, students \$6.50 apiece)..."

"Regretfully, the Club is forced to increase the cost of dinner by one dollar although this still leaves the total below what we are charged by the Harvard Club (which, in turn, is less than they charge others). The last increase occurred in January 1980."
(Notice flyer for 571st meeting, 17 February 1981. Min4 p71)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m. (price \$2.25 apiece); dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$13.00 apiece, students \$6.50 apiece)..."
(Notice flyer for 572nd meeting, 24 March 1981. Min4 p75)

"...price \$12.00 apiece..."
(Notice flyer for 574th meeting, 26 May 1981. Min4 p83) BUT at the MIT Faculty Club

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m.; dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$14.50 apiece, students \$7.25 apiece)..."

"Regretfully, the Club is again forced to increase the cost of dinner. The last increase occurred in February. The new amount is the same as that charged to us by the Harvard Club."
(Notice flyer for 575th meeting, 6 October 1981. Min4 p90)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m.; dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$15.00 apiece, student members \$7.50 apiece)..."
(Notice flyer for 583rd meeting, 5 October 1982. Min4 p117)

"It was announced that the Harvard Club was instituting a 15% surcharge on food at functions meaning that the per meal price for us would rise to \$17.25. In addition there is sales tax, an equipment charge and the bartender. Raising the price charged to members to either \$18 or \$20 was discussed and in the end the Council voted to raise it to \$20."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 15 January 1985. Min4 p215)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m.; dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$20.00 apiece)..."
(Notice flyer for 603rd meeting, 19 February 1985. Min4 p216)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15 p.m.; dinner is at 7.00 p.m. (price \$25.00 per person)..."
(Notice flyer for 629th meeting, 12 April 1988. Min4 p291)

"We are disturbed at the disparity between what one is served for \$25 downstairs (filet mignon, etc.) compared with upstairs (chicken, scrod)."
(President's Letter, August 1988. Min5 p1)

"After lengthy discussion, it was decided to increase the charge for dinners by \$5 to \$30 each, effective on December 10, 1991."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 5 November 1991. Min5 p61)

"The results of a recent questionnaire were discussed. With 63 responses, the following possibilities were selected by members, with the indicated number selecting the alternative and then a weighted score derived by multiplying the response times the estimated number of meetings the individual expects to attend.

	Raw Score	Weighted Score
Less expensive menu	21	62
Buffet or family style dinners	37	119
Eliminate desert	28	108
Eliminate free wine	33	99
Change meeting format	19	50
Increase dinner charge again	9	36
Increase dues	13	66

The practice of pouring one glass of wine per person rather than placing two bottles on each table has decreased wine cost from an average of \$3.59 per person for the October and November meetings to \$2.60 for the December meeting."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 14 January 1992. Min5 p65)

"The financial situation of the Club was discussed at great length, based on figures supplied by the Treasurer. In brief, each dinner costs the Club approximately \$12 per person more than than the Club receives for it. This loss has in the past been covered by dues, but attendance per meeting has increased from an average of 48 in fiscal year 1995-6 to an average of 61 in year 1996-7, and increased again to an average of 97 for the first three meetings of year 1997-8. Total net surplus of income over expenses dropped from a profit of \$450 in 1995-6 to a loss of \$711 in 1996-7, and the Club faces a probable greater loss in 1997-8. In order to correct or reduce this problem, it was moved, seconded and voted to delete free wine served with the meal and to increase the dinner charge from \$30 to \$35 for any guests in excess of one per member. A former practice of allowing potential members to attend one meeting free of charge is officially discontinued."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 9 December 1997. Min5 p187)

"...cocktails will be served at 6:15pm; dinner is at 7.00pm (price \$30.00 per member and one guest, \$35 for additional guests.)..."

(Notice flyer for 706th meeting, 13 January 1998. Min5 p188)

Relative mostly to the costs of dinners.

(Letter from Bob Boardman, Secretary, 18 December 1997. Min5 p189)

DRINK

"I received a telephone from Mr. Hutchins this morning. He was good enough to give the Club the beer mugs we used at his house at the last meeting. He thought that the Club could use them in the future at the various private houses that we may meet at, and he gives them to the Club with his compliments."

(Letter to W.M. Davis from T.W. Thorndike, dated January 19, 1906. Book3 p23)

"Do you know whether the beer held out? When I get through the doctor business I am going to become a professional caterer. There would be little waste in my kitchen. I have got the science of ordering down to the least common denominator."

(Letter to W.M. Davis from T.W. Thorndike, a member, dated April 28, 1906. Book3 p44)

"The supper afterwards was sufficient although not too generous, as I have cut the price from 75¢ to 50¢, but we had real ale which made up for any shortcomings."

(Minutes of 216th meeting, 25 April 1933. Min1 p4)

"...a buffet supper at \$1.75 per plate, including cocktails. With the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment we are able to charge those present for the cocktails instead of having them furnished by some generous member of the Council (usually Mr. Lyon)."

(Minutes of 220th meeting, 19 December 1933. Min1 p11)

"...it was voted that starting at our next meeting there will be an extra charge for cocktails. Tickets will be sold; charge, 50¢ per cocktail."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 14 November 1950. Min1 p159)

"We discussed the Women's Night and we all seem to be in favor of free cocktails for the evening."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 14 February 1956. Min1 p213)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$.85 apiece)...supper will be served (price \$4.00 apiece)"

(Notice flyer for 447th meeting, 19 October 1965. Min2 p113)

"...cocktails will be served (price \$.90 apiece)..." An increase of 5 cents.

(Notice flyer for 456th meeting, 15 November 1966. Min2 p134)

"It was voted to continue the charge of one dollar per cocktail, even though the Harvard Club had recently raised the price to \$1.10."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 10 December 1968. Min2 p187)

"The date of this meeting had been changed from Tuesday, November 3, 1970 to Wednesday, November 4, 1970, because November 3rd was Election Day, with no liquor legally served until after eight P.M. at the Harvard Club."

(Minutes of 488th meeting, 4 November 1970. Min3 p32)

"A voluntary assessment of \$10.00 on each member of the Council produced \$90. To pay for red wine and a birthday cake for the March 21st, 1972 dinner meeting."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 15 February 1972. Min3 p66)

"It was suggested and approved by the Council that two bottles of wine would be provided to each table, with any additional wine desired by members to be bought by individuals concerned."

(Minutes of Council meeting, 9 October 1990. Min5 p41)

MENUS

Includes Mock Turtle Soup, Fried Scallops, Roast Spring Chicken, Lettuce & Tomato salad, Neapolitan Ice Cream & Cake, Cheese, Coffee.

(Menu of the Colonial Club [presumably for Fellows dinner] Book1 p78)

MENU

Cape Oysters

Radishes

Olives

Bisque of Lobsters a'la Travellers Club

Consomme Julienne

Fillet of Chicken Halibut Estragon

Potato Croquettes

Tenderloin of Beef, Bordelaise

Delmonico Potatoes

String Beans

Roast Young Capon, Giblet Sauce

Frozen Tom and Jerry

Sweetbreads en Caisses

Peach Fritters, au Cognac

Fancy Assorted Cake

Neapolitan Ice Cream

Fruit Cheese Coffee

(Menu for First Annual Dinner, 14 February 1908. Book2 p46)

MENU

Cotuit Oysters

Celery Olives Radishes

Medaillon of Bass, Normandie
Pmmes Noisettes

Contre Filet Pique a la Dumas
Petits Pois
Potato Croquettes

Punch a la Romaine

Breast of Chicken au Cresson
Salade Panachée

Frozen Pudding, Nesselrode
Fancy Cakes

Camembert Cheese

Café Noir

Price: \$2.00 per plate

(Menu for 59th meeting, Captain R. A. Bartlett, 11 February 1910. Book2 p93) Also Book3 p148.

MENU

Cotuit Oysters
Celery Olives Almonds

Mock Turtle, au Madere

Medaillon of Sole, a la Victoria
Cucumbers
Pmmes Fondantes

Roast Jumbo Squabsur Canape
Julienne Potatoes
French String Beans
Salade Waldorf

Frozen Pudding, aux Marrons
Fancy Cakes

Cheese Croquettes

Cafe Noir

\$2.00 per plate

(Menu for 67th meeting, January 27, 1911. Book2 p108)

"...43 stayed for the usual refreshments (beer, ginger ale, sandwiches, crackers and cheese) afterwards."
(Minutes of 271st meeting, 16 April 1940. Min1 p84)

"...the Council voted to eliminate the appetizer course from next year's menu. Options of eliminating
dessert ... or salad were considered but not approved."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 23 May 1978. Min3 p252)

Boston, Feb. 24, 1913.

S. S. Pierce Co.,
Tremont St.,
Boston, Mass.,

Gentlemen:

Will you please deliver the following order at the house of Prof. William H. Schofield, 21 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, sometime during the afternoon of Friday, February 28th and charge to the Harvard Travellers Club account.

2 doz bots Purex~~ia~~ Ginger Ale

4 " " Schlitz Beer

6 large cream cheeses

5 lbs of pretzel~~ettes~~

2 lbs bents hard water crackers

Please send bill to H. K. Orendorff, 17 Court St. City.

Yours truly,

Secretary.

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY
AT HARVARD COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

File No 2

November 14, 1931

Mr. George A. Lyon
10 Post Office Square
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Lyon:

Mr. Coolidge has asked me to send you the enclosed menus. Mr. Westcott will be glad to supply any sort of food from a bowl of punch to punch and crackers, punch and cake, ice cream, or anything that the club wants on the occasion of the meeting of Nov. 23.

Very truly yours,

Beverly Sheldon

Secretary

ENCS

Bursar's Office, Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Nov. 12, 1931

Mr. Harold J. Coolidge
95 Prescott Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

I have enclosed copies of two menus
for your approval for a buffet to be served
in the Geography Building on Nov. 23rd, 1931.

Yours very truly,

Roy L. Westcott

80 Boylston Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Buffet for 50/75 persons

75 cents

Olives

Pickles

Assorted Sandwiches

Cheese Crackers

Doughnuts

Ice cream and cake

Bock Beer

Punch or Ginger Ale

60 cents

Olives

Pickles

Assorted Sandwiches

Cheese

Crackers

Doughnuts

Bock Beer

Punch or Ginger Ale

Computer File: CentenaryMinute5Food

Centenary Minute No 5 - May 28, 2002

In researching the history of the Club I have been going through the minutes and records from its founding in 1902 and adding interesting and relevant details to a computer database. I have now reached the early 1960s. Food and drink and their associated cost have been a constant topic of discussion by the Council from the very beginning. And needless to say there have been many changes. Here are some of things I've found so far:

In the early days of the Club there were no dinner meetings as we now know them. Members gathered to hear a talk or sometimes two or three talks in a single evening. However, refreshments were often served afterwards, including beer apparently. Secretary Townsend Thorndike wrote President Davis after a meeting in 1906: "Do you know whether the beer held out? When I get through the doctor business I am going to become a professional caterer. There would be little waste in my kitchen. I have got the science of ordering down to the least common denominator."

The Minutes of the 216th meeting, April 25, 1933 note that "The supper afterwards was sufficient although not too generous, as I have cut the price from 75¢ to 50¢, but we had real ale which made up for any shortcomings."

Post-meeting refreshments were still being served into the 1940s. The Minutes of the 271st meeting, April 16, 1940, report "...43 stayed for the usual refreshments (beer, ginger ale, sandwiches, crackers and cheese) afterwards."

Initially, dinners were only served at the separate meetings attended by the Fellows, back when they were the ones that ran Club affairs. At one dinner in 1904 at the Colonial Club they dined for \$1 each on "... Mock Turtle Soup, Fried Scallops, Roast Spring Chicken, Lettuce & Tomato salad, Neapolitan Ice Cream & Cake, Cheese, Coffee."

Occasionally a special dinner was held when a particularly important person spoke (Teddy Roosevelt and Peary's captain, Bob Bartlett, being early examples) or in conjunction with an annual meeting. The First Annual Dinner was held on February 14, 1908, at the Hotel Brunswick and was attended by President Eliot. Here's what was served, all for \$2.00:

Cape Oysters
Radishes
Olives

Bisque of Lobsters a'la Travellers Club
Consomme Julienne

Filet of Chicken Halibut Estragon
Potato Croquettes

Tenderloin of Beef, Bordelaise
Delmonico Potatoes
String Beans

Roast Young Capon, Giblet Sauce

Frozen Tom and Jerry

Sweetbreads en Caisses
Peach Fritters, au Cognac

Fancy Assorted Cake

Neapolitan Ice Cream

Fruit Cheese Coffee

Eventually buffet dinners before some of the meetings became common. The Minutes of the 220th meeting, 19 December 1933 record "...a buffet supper at \$1.75 per plate, including cocktails. With the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment we are able to charge those present for the cocktails instead of having them furnished by some generous member of the Council (usually Mr. Lyon)."

By 1950 the cost of dinner had risen to \$3.00. The Council met in November and "...voted that starting at our next meeting there will be an extra charge for cocktails. Tickets will be sold; charge, 50¢ per cocktail."

Not long after the present pattern of sit-down dinners was established. From the Minutes of the Council meeting, April 14, 1953: "We discussed the Harvard Club meal charges for next year starting October, 1953. Including all taxes, a semi-buffet dinner will cost at the rate of \$4.00 per person, while a plated dinner will cost \$3.75 per person. It was the consensus of the meeting that for our October meeting we would try the plated meal at \$3.75, and then charge each member present \$3.50, the Travellers Club thus subsidizing 50 cents per person."

The subsidizing of dinners still continues today even with the price now at \$30.

"I enclose \$1.00 for my plate." (Response card for Fellows Meeting and Dinner, November 20, 1904.)

"Includes Mock Turtle Soup, Fried Scallops, Roast Spring Chicken, Lettuce & Tomato salad, Neapolitan Ice Cream & Cake, Cheese, Coffee." (Menu of the Colonial Club [presumably for Fellows dinner])

"...the dinner will be \$2.00 a plate. ...Among the guests of the evening will be President Eliot of Harvard University..." (Notice flyer for the first annual dinner and 40th meeting, February 14, 1908.)

MENU

Cape Oysters
Radishes
Olives

Bisque of Lobsters a'la Travellers Club
Consomme Julienne

Filet of Chicken Halibut Estragon
Potato Croquettes

Tenderloin of Beef, Bordelaise
Delmonico Potatoes
String Beans

Roast Young Capon, Giblet Sauce

Frozen Tom and Jerry

Sweetbreads en Caisses
Peach Fritters, au Cognac

Fancy Assorted Cake

Neapolitan Ice Cream

Fruit Cheese Coffee
(Menu for First Annual Dinner, February 14, 1908)

"Do you know whether the beer held out? When I get through the doctor business I am going to become a professional caterer. There would be little waste in my kitchen. I have got the science of ordering down to the least common denominator." (Letter to W.M. Davis from T.W. Thorndike, a member, dated April 28, 1906.)

MENU

Cotuit Oysters
Celery Olives Radishes

Medaillon of Bass, Normandie
Pommes Noisettes

Contre Filet Pique a la Dumas
Petits Pois
Potato Croquettes

Punch a la Romaine

Breast of Chicken au Cresson
Salade Panachée

Frozen Pudding, Nesselrode
Fancy Cakes

Camembert Cheese

Café Noir

(Menu for 59th meeting, Captain R. A. Bartlett, 11 February 1910 at the Exchange Club. Price: \$2.00 per plate)

MENU

Cotuit Oysters
Celery Olives Almonds

Mock Turtle, au Madere

Medaillon of Sole, a la Victoria
Cucumbers
Pmmes Fondantes

Roast Jumbo Squab sur Canape
Julienne Potatoes
French String Beans
Salade Waldorf

Frozen Pudding, aux Marrons
Fancy Cakes

Cheese Croquettes

Cafe Noir

\$2.00 per plate (Menu for 67th meeting, January 27, 1911.)

Roosevelt Dinner

MENU

Cotuit Oysters
Celery Olives Salted Almonds

Broiled Halibut
Cucumbers, French Dressing

Roast Black Duck
Saratoga Chips

Grape Fruit and Red Pepper Salad

Frozen Pudding, a la Nestlerode
Cakes

Camembert Cheese

Coffee

(Dinner for Theodore Roosevelt, December 12, 1911 at the Exchange Club)

"The supper afterwards was sufficient although not too generous, as I have cut the price from 75¢ to 50¢, but we had real ale which made up for any shortcomings." (Minutes of 216th meeting, 25 April 1933.)

Buffet supper at \$1.50 a plate. (Minutes of 218th meeting, 17 October 1933.)

"...a buffet supper at \$1.75 per plate, including cocktails. With the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment we are able to charge those present for the cocktails instead of having them furnished by some generous member of the Council (usually Mr. Lyon)." (Minutes of 220th meeting, 19 December 1933.)

"The Secretary reported his negotiations with the Harvard Club and his conference with Mr. Taft relative to the same. After full discussion it was voted to leave the matter in the hands of the Secretary for further negotiaton, but it was reported as the concensus of opinion of

the Council that the cost of dinners must be reduced to \$1.50 or less, and the cost of the suppers be retained at 50 cents, without extra charge for the room." (Minutes of Council Meeting, 3 May 1937.)

"Dinners were held before the first four meetings this year. At that time the Harvard Club notified your Secretary that they were raising the price of the dinner from \$1.75 to \$2.00. In view of the fact that the attendance at these dinners had been falling off your Secretary felt that with an additional raise in price there was not sufficient interest in the membership to warrant having the dinners until some arrangement could be made with the Harvard Club or some other place to provide a more reasonable dinner. Last year we averaged an attendance of nearly 30 at the dinners, the January dinner having an attendance of 40. In October of this year we started out at 30, but the attendance had dropped to 18 in January at the time that they were discontinued. It is hoped that some way will be found of having a simple buffet dinner with a cocktail that will cost not over \$1.50. If this can be done the experiment will be tried to see how much interest the membership takes, and consequently how many members attend. The Secretary would welcome any suggestions. (Report of the Secretary Treasurer May 1, 1937)

"There was a discussion as to whether it would be a good policy for the club to meet the difference between the \$2.00 charged by the Harvard Club for the pre-meeting suppers with cocktails, and a lesser amount, say \$1.00 or \$1.25 to be charged to members, to see if this would increase attendance. ... The Secretary feels that the attendance would be increased by as much as possibly fifty per cent, but questions

wisdom of subsidizing attendance at the expense of the Club." (Minutes of Council meeting, 19 November 1937.)

"The experiment of charging the members only \$1.50 for the supper for which the Harvard Club charges us \$2.00 was tried without much success. There were 22 for supper, 50 at the meeting, and 42 stayed for the refreshments afterwards." (Minutes of 256th meeting, 12 April 1938.)

"Interest in the pre-meeting informal dinners fell off during the autumn and they were given up for the remainder of the year. It is hoped that there will be demand for their resumption later on." (Report of the Secretary Treasurer May 1, 1939)

"...43 stayed for the usual refreshments (beer, ginger ale, sandwiches, crackers and cheese) afterwards." (Minutes of 271st meeting, 16 April 1940.)

"Informal dinners were held before four of the meetings with an average attendance of 36; much better than in some previous years. These seem to be more popular if not held too regularly. The Harvard Club charged us \$2.00 for dinner, including cocktails, but we collected on \$1.50 from those present. If we do have dinner before the meetings we are charged for the use of the room and more for the light refreshments afterwards." (Report of the Secretary Treasurer May 1, 1940.)

"We discussed the charge for our dinner meetings. We are now charging \$3.00 per person but it cost the Club about \$4.50 per person. We are going to give this subject further thought in the future."
(Minutes of Council meeting, 10 October 1950.)

"...it was voted that starting at our next meeting there will be an extra charge for cocktails. Tickets will be sold; charge, 50¢ per cocktail. We discussed our idea of keeping the quality of food high, in order to attract more members to our meetings, and we hoped that by having a completely buffet system we could reduce the charge for help and so receive better food from the Club." (Minutes of Council meeting, 14 November 1950.)

"It was decided that in order to properly celebrate our fiftieth anniversary dinner on November 18th that champagne be served and that it be a sit-down dinner affair." (Minutes of Council meeting, 14 October 1952.)

"A special 50th Anniversary sit-down dinner was served. Champagne and a large birthday cake were presented by the Council." (Minutes of 344th meeting, 16 November 1952)

"We discussed the Harvard Club meal charges for next year starting October, 1953. Including all taxes, a semi-buffet dinner will cost at the rate of \$4.00 per person, while a plated dinner will cost \$3.75 per person. It was the consensus of the meeting that for our October meeting we would try the plated meal at \$3.75, and then charge each

member present \$3.50, the Travellers Club thus subsidizing 50 cents per person." (Minutes of Council meeting, 14 April 1953.)

"The Harvard Club has presented to us four changes which they wish to make for our 1956-1957 season, and it was decided that we talk the matter over with Harvard Club and make arrangements as agreeable as possible for both parties concerned. The four points are --

1) They wish to increase the price of our dinners from the present \$3.50 to a figure between \$3.60 and \$4.00.

2) They no longer wish to handle our advance reservations and telephone calls.

3) They no longer wish to collect the dinner charge during the dinner.

4) They no longer wish to reset the room after dinner taking out the tables and lining up the chairs." (Minutes of Council meeting, 15 May 1956.)


"For the last two meetings, the Harvard Club has been charging us the increased amount of \$3.99 per meal. However, we noted in the annual report of the Harvard Club that they still lose money on the restaurant." (Minutes of Council meeting, 11 December 1956.)

From + DRINK

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4 Do. - 1/2 BOTS SCHLITZ BEER	1.00	4.00
6 LGE CREAM CHEESE		90
1 LGE CAN KENN PRETZELETES 8 1/2 Lbs	.10	85
2 Lbs BENTS H W CRACKERS		34
1 Lge cookie Carta		7.79
		50
		8.29

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Food + Drink

11/11/8

How about also letting members pay for dinner of same
time as cocktails, getting a receipt for dinner paid for
either turning in the receipt, or 3.00 when a
girl comes around to collect at the lobby.



Office of the Secretary
89 Broad St., 3rd Floor
Boston 10, Massachusetts

Mr. Henry S. Hall, Jr.
154 Coolidge Hill
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Henry:

For our meetings at the Harvard Club we charge each of our members \$3.00 for the evening. The Harvard Club charges the Harvard Travellers Club \$3.50 per person for the food plus at least \$1.00 per person for the cocktails, or a total of \$4.50 plus. On October 10th although we cut out the cocktails early - and had several complaints because of it - the charge for the cocktails was \$45.38 for 41 persons present.

This subject has been very much on my mind now for a year and I have been trying to figure out some solution. I have now come to a final decision and I wish to propose it at the next meeting of the Council, to take effect immediately. I am sending copies of this letter to the other officers of the Council so that they can be thinking about this subject, pending the next Council meeting.

1 - Although the Harvard Club charges the Harvard Travellers Club \$3.50 per meal, I suggest that we continue, as usual, in charging \$3.00 per person. I feel that this is a method we can use in trying to encourage our members to come to our meetings.

2 - Concerning cocktails, I propose that we immediately institute a plan which almost every other organization uses when at the Harvard Club for a dinner. I suggest that while serving cocktails an employee of the Harvard Club sell chits at 50¢ per drink to those who wish to have cocktails. I have attended many parties at the Harvard Club where this system has been used and it seems to work quite satisfactorily.

I am proposing this change principally for three reasons:

- A) I do not feel that the limited funds of the Harvard Travellers Club should be used in such large amounts to pay for alcohol.
- B) In this way, those who want to drink cocktails can drink all they want and pay for the cocktails themselves. When we tried to limit the cocktails on October 10 several persons complained that they did not get all they wanted.
- C) This new method would mean that those who don't want to drink cocktails - and there are some - will not have to pay for them.

I want to propose this plan at our next Council meeting and will appreciate your reaction.

Very sincerely yours,

Henry S. Hall Secretary

HSH/MEM

Food + Drink
- Menus

FOLDER 6 (44)



HARVARD CLUB OF BOSTON

374 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

MANAGER'S OFFICE

File # 3

May 4, 1931

Mr. G. A. Lyon,
P. O. Box 2287,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lyon:

We are pleased to submit the following menus for the Harvard Travellers' Dinner to be given on Friday, May 15th.

(1) Price \$2.75

Fresh Fruit Cocktail

--
Onion Soup a la Francaise

--
Braised Tenderloin of Beef, Financiere

New String Beans

Potato au Gratin

--
Spring Garden Salad

--
Vanilla Ice Cream

Petits Fours

--
Demi Tasse

(2) Price \$2.75

Grapefruit, New York

--
Cream of Asparagus

--
Sea Food Newburg en Coquille

--
Roast Rack of Lamb

Hot Mint Sauce

Broccoli Hollandaise

Potato Lorette

Frozen Pudding,

Petits Fours

--
Demi Tasse

Very truly yours,

Harold E. Severance
ASSISTANT MANAGER.

HES*KG

Food + Drink
- Menu

FOLDER 6 (51)



103

HARVARD CLUB OF BOSTON
374 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

MANAGER'S OFFICE

January 9, 1931

Mr. George A. Lyon,
P. O. Bos 2287
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lyon:

Confirming your telephone conversation of today, I am pleased to submit the following information:

The dinner given on January 28, 1930, there were eighteen dinners served, at a charge of 3.75 per person. This charge covered the following menu:

- Assorted Canape
-
- Grapefruit, New York Style
-
- English Mock Turtle Soup
-
- Fried White Bait, Oyster Crabs
- Brown Bread Sandwiches,
- Sliced Cucumbers
-
- Roast Duckling, Apple Sauce
- New Peas
- Candied Sweet Potatoes
-
- Vanilla Ice Cream,
- Fresh Strawberry Sauce
- Petits Fours
-
- Demi Tasse
-

On May 16th, there were forty-six dinners served at 2.50 each, the menu at that time, consisting of:

Fossil + Drink

Boston, Feb. 24, 1913.

S. S. Pierce Co.,
Tremont St.,
Boston, Mass.,

Gentlemen:

Will you please deliver the following order at the house of Prof. William H. Schofield, 21 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, sometime during the afternoon of Friday, February 28th and charge to the Harvard Travellers Club account.

2 doz bots Puroxia Ginger Ale

4 " " Schlitz Beer

6 large cream cheeses

5 lbs of pretzeléttés

2 lbs bents hard water crackers

Please send bill to H. E. Orendorff, 17 Court St. City.

Yours truly,

Secretary.

Bar / P

Food & Drink

Box 1 L

HARVARD CLUB OF BOSTON
374 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
F. S. MEAD, TREASURER

November 20, 1914.

Professor Theodore Lyman,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,-

In accordance with your request, we are sending you itemized bill for the Travelers' Club Dinner, which you requested.

The following are the items in detail:

Room, - - - - -	\$10.00
Crackers and cheese, - - - - -	3.00
5 Pitchers Beer, - - - - -	<u>3.75</u>
Total,	<u><u>\$16.75</u></u>

Yours very truly,

F. S. Mead, Treasurer,

per C. L. K.

Concord, Nov. 23, 1914.

Prof. Theodore Lyman,
Brookline, Mass.,

Dear Prof. Lyman:

Your letter with the Harvard Club of
Boston bill received.

I received the bill direct from the
Harvard Club on the first of the month. I did
not put it through as I thought that Mr. Fay ^{would return}
before the middle of the month and sign the
checks. When I found out that he was not to
return until the last of this week or the first
of next I sent the check out to Prof. Dixon.

I am sorry that it caused inconvenience.

Very truly yours,

Food & Drink

Box 1 H

HARVARD CLUB OF BOSTON
 374 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
 TELEPHONE BACK BAY 566
 MANAGER'S OFFICE

February 10, 1914.

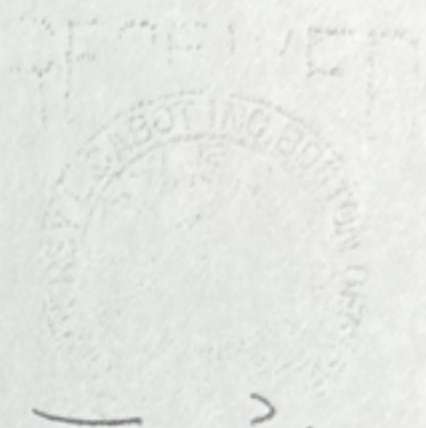
Prof. Theodore Lyman for the Travellers' Club
 to the Harvard Club of Boston, Dr.

1914

Feb. 6,	To 57 dinners at \$2.50 per plate,		\$142.50
"	flowers,		6.00
"	2 boxes E. & E. Invincibles,		5.26
"	wines as follows:		
1 pt.	Bollinger,	✓ (E. M. Parker) Paid	2.50
1 qt.	Pontac,	✓ (E. Thaxter)	.40
2	Scotch,	✓ (J. C. Phillips)	.30
1 pt.	Bollinger,	(W. D. Swift)	2.50
1	Scotch,	✓ (J. C. Rice)	.15
1 qt.	Comet,	✓ (E. P. Richardson)	2.50
1	stein beer,	✓ (R. P. Blake)	.
1	Budweiser,	"	.30
1	Chambertin,	✓ (E. W. Forbes)	2.25
1 qt.	Bollinger,	✓ (Theo. Lyman)	4.75
2	Scotch,	✓ (J. W. Worthington) Paid	.30
1 qt.	Chat. Roths,	✓ (S. W. Harrt) Paid	3.00
1 pt.	Pontac,	✓ (N. B. Robbins) (?) Paid	.40 - Palfrey
1 qt.	Haut Saut,	✓ (W. C. Chase)	1.75
1 qt.	Club Claret,	✓ (C. W. Townsend)	.35
4	stingers,	✓ (W. P. Robbins) (?) Paid	.80 - Palfrey
1 qt.	P. Canet,	✓ (G. L. Lincoln)	1.50
1	Scotch,	✓ (J. H. Carrington) (?)	.15 - Cunningham
1	beer,	✓	.15
1	Scotch,	✓	.
1	Sarsaparilla,	✓	.30 -
2	Scotch,	✓ (J. C. Phillips)	.30
1 qt.	Chat. Yquem,	✓ (T. Barbour)	2.40
			<u>180.81</u>

Food + Drink

27



MANAGER'S OFFICE

HARVARD CLUB OF BOSTON
374 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

March 27, 1954

Mr. Thomas D. Cabot,
940 Old South Bldg.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Cabot:

Your observation is right in that the price of a bottle of **Martini** Cocktails has gone up from \$2.25 to \$2.50. I am afraid that this is a permanent price unless the Government reduces its very heavy tax on imported gins.

The Martini Cocktail which is served to you contains a blend of gin half of which is "Booth's Old Tom". The margin of profit is very small and does not nearly contribute its share in helping our overhead.

I hope that this answers your question. If there are any other questions, do not hesitate to call on me.

Very truly yours,

Harold Reverance
Assistant Manager.

HES:KG