

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Evidence to show the epidemic of infantile paralysis is due either to unusually powerful germs or to a new strain of them is being gathered at the research laboratories in the Willard Parker hospital in New York.
That one or the other of these things may be true is indicated, said Health Commissioner, Emerson of New York recently. The death rate is much higher—approximately 20 per cent—than in the previous visitation. This may be due to greater virulence of the poison or to a new strain of these germs that has got here.
We know that during weeks, at the outset of this epidemic, before it was discovered, practically everybody in the original district of infection in South Brooklyn was exposed to con-

Dr. Emerson added that the number of children discharged from hospitals, will approximate \$1,000 and the fund for braces will need to be raised from \$15,000 to \$22,000. The braces costing \$15 each. Already \$14,978 has been contributed.
The department recently issued this bulletin to parents:
"Do you know why, despite the infantile paralysis and despite the hot weather, fewer babies have died in New York City this year than in previous years?
"Because mothers have watched over their babies with greater care.
"Because homes have been kept cleaner.
"Because flies have been swatted, starved and poisoned.
"Because baby's milk has been kept clean and cold.
"Because the doctor has been called in time.
"Because all the streets in the congested districts have been flushed daily."
Dust gathered from city streets is being microscopically examined at the United States Public Health Service laboratories, Washington.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Mixed Up the National Air (Indianapolis News)
Have we a national air or hymn or tune? Do we know any such composition and are we to honor such a warble by rising to our feet when it is played or sung? Last Tuesday at the mass band concert given at the Coliseum at the finale of Von Weber's jubilee overture, the band played "Heil dir im Siegerkranz" ("Hail to Thee With Victory Crowned"). This air is the same as "America" and "God Save the King". It is used by several nations as a musical invocation to save all kinds of kings and queens and princes. When this was played a considerable part of the large audience

arose. These people recognized the strains of "America." Then by tens and twenties, as most of the audience did not rise, they doubled up in their seats again. A little later the band played "March Through Georgia." About one-fourth of the audience arose, looked about and one after another sat down. At "The Gem of the Ocean" a respectable minority rose dubiously, but soon sat down again. Last of all, the only genuine Jacob Townsend, blown-in-the-bottle national anthem, was given—"The Star Spangled Banner, Oh Long May it Wave!" and by that time as most of the audience had already paid homage to other tunes only a few dozen knowing people rose in recognition of "the only genuine."

Bank Becomes Treasurer (Sacramento Union)

The entire state will watch with interest the experiment of San Jose in making a leading bank the city treasurer. This action was taken by the city manager who is clothed with great powers by the charter.

Under this system the money of the people will not be locked up in big vaults as some cities have done, out will be available for the use of the business world.

The city will be made safe against loss and the bank will be responsible for its safekeeping. As the bank which will handle the money for the city and be to all intents and purposes the treasurer was selected by competition there can be no charge of improper influence.

While this is a political experiment there seems no good reason why it should not succeed. Certainly the city money will be used to better advantage in this way than when it is held as so much dead capital in canvas bags.

THE PASSING OF MY HAT.

La Grande, Aug. 28.—(To the Editor)—By the orders of the powers that be we are to part. You have been a close and loyal friend. You have sheltered this old gray head from the cold and wintry blasts; you have shaded these old eyes while watering the opening of the beautiful flowers that come in the spring; you have protected me from the hot sunshine and the rain that follows in the "good old summer time"; you have sat by me in the glorious Autumn viewing the many blessings that come to those who live in this fruitful and beautiful land; you have sat high upon my brow in joy, and low upon my forehead in sorrow, when my eyes were wet with weeping and my heart near breaking at the passing of a loved one. And now you are old and torn, and your crown is nearly gone, your rim is broken, your band is frayed, and now your spirit is called to go over the divide into the folwer-covered valleys beyond. And we shall meet again and "know each other there," and part no more forever. A GRAND RONDER.

DOWN NORTH SASKATCHEWAN

BY CHE-CHE-PE-TOE-I-GI (Continued from Saturday, Aug. 19)
I spoke to the Hudson Bay Factor about selling a good first-class breed as guide, etc. He advised me to go to Grand Rapids and engage a man by the name of Tom and go north as there was nothing to see or do around Cedar Lake. He was like all the other Hudson Bay Factors from the Pacific to the Atlantic and from the Arctic Circle to the U. S. and Canadian boundary line, the don't want the prospector, trapper and trader nosing around, what they consider their domains. He was so anxious for me to go along and not come back to Cedar Lake that I registered

a solemn vow I was going to find out what was in the wind. I found out later that it was amber and black pearls. Tom later on took and showed me where they got the amber—pieces about one inch wide by half inch long, but it can only be procured in low water. And every creek is just alive with clams, hence the black pearl. After this little digression we will continue. We left Chmahwyn one morning about 3 a. m., went down about mile of river, then entered the Cedar Lake and passed hundreds of beautiful little islands, and made for one island called Fort Island. Here we had breakfast and as there was every prospect of it being a fine day the helmsman decided to make a straight cut across the lake to Rabbit Point, so when grub was finished we started. In about three hours time we were out of sight of land, just enough wind to make traveling good. I had dozed off, but was rudely awakened by a douse of cold water. What was my surprise on looking around me, to find white water, and a regular little gale blowing. I could see the men looked anxious and by my compass I saw, we were running due north instead of southeast. I saw we were making for a small island right ahead of us and about three miles off. Say, I was proud of that halfbreed helmsman, he sure could handle that boat. I spoke to him about the storm and he told me they come up very suddenly and sometimes they have had to lay up for a week behind some island, and the way we whipped around that island showed me that that man was a good navigator even if he was an Indian, but luck was in our way, we only laid up for about as long as it took to cook and eat a good dinner, when we nosed our way out again. The wind had again shifted so up went the sails and we headed south east. At about 5:30 we were around Rabbit Point and headed toward the Narrows, stopping at Gull island for the night. I had had my supper and was just on the point of rolling into my blankets when I noticed that the Indians and their women had all disappeared. I was curious and so got up. I could hear someone talking—praying to God to take them through the rapids and land them safe at Grande Rapids, etc., etc. So I got suspicious and strolled down to the water's edge and threw into the water a piece of bark and could easily see that there was quite a little current. I went back and rolled into bed and slept. They woke me up at day break, 2:30 a. m. had some breakfast and hot coffee and got aboard. The sails were furled and everything was made ship shape. Then in a little while we could hear a sullen roar. The helmsman told me that these were not the worst rapids, and there was only a fall of 6 feet between Cedar Lake and Cross Lake, then an eight foot fall between Cross Lake and the mouth of the river, then 10-foot fall over the Roche Rouge Rapids. While he had been talking we came in sight of the rapids, we steered right down the center and the boat was shot through just like a cork. Then after a run of about three miles we passed the Calico Rapids. They were mild. Then we were into Cross Lake, after a run of eight miles we hit the mouth of the river. Talk about a roar, the noise was beyond description, and I will admit I was feeling a bit anxious myself. We passed one small rapid, the boat must have been traveling at about 14 miles or more an hour, we sure were going some, but our helmsman sure knew what he was about. He took us through a side channel where the rocks stood up as thick as the bristles on a hog's back, then a plunge and back into the main river. He called out, "look behind". I turned and saw the river about three hundred yards wide falling a sheer ten-foot drop, it was beautiful, here the river was running like a mill stream straight for the Grande Rapids, a fall of one hundred and two feet in seven miles, but we will not try that, we just head for the landing stage, load our belonging on the horse train for the Hudson Bay Post and Settlement at the foot of Grande Rapids, seven miles away. The horse pulls the cars until we get to the top of the hill then the horse walks up on the last car and we all coast down to Grande Rapids and Lake Winnipeg.

(To be Continued)

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Foley Hotel Guests.
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PHENOMENON ADMIRER.
Electrical Display Saturday Night Beautiful and Impressive.

Many Grande Ronde valley people Saturday night saw a spectacular phe-

nomenon in the heavens beginning with a beautiful aurora borealis early in the evening and ending with a heavenly "fireworks" in the nature of a zodiacal lights. The whole northern heavens were lighted up by the ever-shifting rays of brilliant light early in the evening. Later on these disappeared and in their stead appeared a rainbow-like light across the zodiac from east to west. This lighted up the night even more decisively than the early display.
In numerous instances those who first discovered the lights called their friends and from all parts of La Grande the spectacle was closely watched during the several hours it prevailed.
Concerning the celestial display the Oregonian today said:
Dr. William Conger Morgan, professor of chemistry at Reed college, did not observe the display, and from accounts is uncertain whether the aurora borealis was on parade or whether sheet lightning was mildly in evidence as the offspring of an excessively warm day. Dr. Morgan said he had seen only one showy display of the aurora in a latitude so far south as Northern Oregon. This was the celebrated one in the early '90s, when the sky scintillated nightly for weeks above the northeast part of the United States and above Eastern Canada. "Probably not three times in 100 years is there so magnificent a spectacle of the aurora as was that," said Dr. Morgan.
"It's the corona of the sun," learnedly pronounced some Portland observers. "It's electrons," said others, although the majority clung to the more familiar explanations of the aurora borealis and sheet lightning. Yet the corona, the electron and the aurora factions may all have been right, according to Dr. Morgan, who said:
"The corona of the sun is believed to be finely divided matter sent out from the sun to a great distance and ordinarily invisible because it is overwhelmed by the vastly greater light of the parent body and of the moon. When the sun is far in the south the competition of its light sometimes lessens to a degree that permits the corona to be seen, when other conditions are right. There has been much talk in recent years of electrons also, and it is a reasonably acceptable theory, though not an established fact, that the phenomena of the corona of electrons, and of the aurora borealis are one and the same.
"I question whether last night's brilliancy was that of the aurora borealis. A mild electrical display, due to the unwanted heat, is more probably what it was. The cause of generation of electricity and of the resultant visible evidences of it under such circumstances is not definitely known by scientists."
Scientists differ somewhat upon the variation in heights of the aurora. Dr. Alfred Wegener, a contributor to astronomical discussions, estimates the range to be from 43 to 250 miles, while Paulsen's estimate of the range is from the earth's surface up to 300 miles. The aurora, according to Paulsen, at time appears below mountain summits and low-lying clouds, and at others is above the lofty cirrus clouds in far northern latitudes. Saturday night's rays are believed to have been lofty. An auroral drapery that is so high as to seem only a few yards wide may really be 150 miles or more in width.

the birds will be judged by comparison, and not strictly on a scoring basis. He also said that lectures and demonstrations will be given daily in connection with the show, and that for the first time in the history of the fair there will be a "sales class."
"This plan has been worked successfully in the east and is well liked," said Superintendent Fulmer in referring to the "sales class." "Such an event, put on year after year, could be made a feature that would result in making the poultry show a magnificent success. All the breeders of birds are in favor of it."

Reconstruction, of course! When the great war is over, shattered Europe must be rebuilt. Mediaeval architecture, crumbled by cannon, will be replaced by well-lighted, well-ventilated, convenient and sanitary buildings of the present day. In this tremendous rebuilding,



then what? Reconstruction, of course! When the great war is over, shattered Europe must be rebuilt. Mediaeval architecture, crumbled by cannon, will be replaced by well-lighted, well-ventilated, convenient and sanitary buildings of the present day. In this tremendous rebuilding,

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