

SPECIALISTS IN HUMAN ILLS

Some More or Less Sage Reflections on the Subject of Diseases and Their Treatment.

Dentists now cure rheumatism, dyspepsia, kidney troubles, sore eyes and corns by pulling, filling or otherwise maltreating the teeth. Stomach specialists relieve toothache by treating the digestion. Headaches have nothing to do with the head, except to make it hurt; the seat of their operations is in the stomach or liver. The whole body seems to be merely a system of interlocking directorates, the Philadelphia Ledger comments.

Why, then, one is inclined to ask, do we have specialists? If the functions of the body, instead of being a system of such complete entanglements and inter-relations from head to foot, were really divided up into watertight compartments, then specialistic treatment would indeed be indicated. In that case each specialist would have his own compartment to look after, with a sign upon the membrane which marks the entrance to his domain, "Trespassers will be prosecuted." But what are you going to do with a body in which nephritis is directly caused by an ulcerated tooth which the dentist hasn't discovered, and the legs swell up and become useless because there is an unlocated intestinal kink? It would really seem that before a man is fitted to operate as a specialist on any part of the body he must have specialized a while over every other part of it—so that the East side doctor's sign, "Specialist in All Diseases," need not be regarded as so absurd after all. The first qualification of a good specialist is to be an all-around physician.

But at present the dentist has the advantage over all other specialists. Give him a chance to pull out every tooth in your head and you will be delivered forever from Bright's disease, rheumatism, pleurisy, liver complaint, neuritis, pyelitis, and virtually every other kind of disease. But what will the dentist do when he has drawn everybody's teeth?

MUCH DEPENDS ON ONESELF

Good Hard Sense as Applied to Ancient Superstitions Concerning "Blue Monday."

I happened to find a most entertaining old book in the free library—a dictionary of superstitions. It has three big volumes, all crammed with the fears and beliefs of the human race. Just to sample some of them that apply to Monday, here are a few:

"If things commence to go wrong on Monday they will go wrong all the week, but if you have good luck on Monday you will keep it up."

"Pay no bills on Monday if you can help it."

(This is congenial advice and easily followed.)

"If you meet a cross-eyed person on Monday you will not have good luck till Thursday."

"If the sun sets clear Friday night it will rain before Monday night."

"It is a bad sign to lose a tooth on Monday."

(Yes, or a hand or a leg either, I should say.)

"If you lose your temper three times on Monday you will have a great family quarrel."

(This bit of sagacity has an excellent chance of being true, one would think. Still, there may be some men who could get away with three blow-outs and have no comeback.) To add our own observation to the collected wisdom of the ages your Monday is neither more or less than what you choose to make it when you get out of bed in the morning. You can make it lucky or unlucky if you wish.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Impressable Fowls.

Sunshine seems to play an important part in the lives of fowls. There is no doubt that they lay much more regularly, and appear generally happier, when in the sunlight. The next best thing to sunshine in this dull old country is a light which gives to the fowls the impression that the sun is shining.

Fortunately the fowl is easily deceived, with the result that a great deal of success has attended the experiments of a well-known engineer who is building fowl-houses with a material similar to canvas, stained and varnished so that the house is always lighted in the daytime with light of a pleasant golden color. By means of electric light placed outside, the fowls can easily be made to think the sun is always shining; and so successful have been the results that a farm is being established on these lines.

Ticklish, Isn't It?

Is there a problem which, perhaps, is more likely to be answered some day than this one, which has been propounded to the bewilderment of scientists.

Suppose a pipe which would permit of the passage of a man's body were pierced through the earth from London to the Antipodes, and a man commenced to descend by means of a ladder running the length of the pipe. Naturally he would descend feet foremost. On reaching the center of the earth he would, on account of the revolution and formation of the globe, presumably be going upwards until he emerged in the Antipodes.

Query: How can a ladder on which one is descending become a ladder on which one is ascending? And how could one go up a ladder feet foremost? Next, please!

COUNTRY OF ROLLING HILLS

The Drumlins, Between Syracuse and Rochester, N. Y., Make Exquisite Bit of Scenery.

Between Syracuse and Rochester lies a country of hills, known as drumlins, which is one of the most beautiful and unique bits of scenery in the eastern United States.

The term drumlin is an Irish one and is applied to low, rolling hills of glacial origin which exist in that country, and also in parts of New York and New England. This section between Syracuse and Rochester is the very heart of the American drumlins.

Most American mountains and hills were formed by violent disturbances of the earth's surface, and their rude origin is reflected in their ruggedness. But the drumlins were built by the great ice sheet which once covered all of North America. The materials of which they are made were pushed together slowly by the crawling glaciers molded and tamped and smoothed by the great ice fingers as a child makes mud pies.

The drumlins look as though they had been designed by some great intelligence with a sense of beauty, for they rise in smooth, gentle curves, like those of a perfect human body. They are remarkably uniform in height, usually a little less than 200 feet, and so smooth and lenient are their slopes that many of them are cultivated to their summits. Some of them are as round as half an apple, and others are long welts or rolls.

Scattered among the hills are a number of small lakes and ponds, clear and pretty, and there is good fishing in many of them. The drumlins are a favorite playground of the people in Syracuse, Rochester and other nearby towns, but they are little known beyond the counties in which they lie.

CHARM OF "MERRIE ENGLAND"

What It Was in the Days of Old Can Still Be Discerned in Spots Today.

Of our forefathers, nine out of ten lived in the rural parts; and the remainder, the busiest and the best title of English humanity, in towns whose darkest lane was never a mile from the orchards round the town, so that the recreation of the city dweller was by the hedgerows and riverbanks. . . . The spring and the winter came unsought into every man's life, not as they come today, wayfarers bewildered among the housetops, feebly whispering of unknown things in far salubrious lands, but fresh with bursting bough or strong in glowing frost. The thoughts of the "Allegro" and "Il Penseroso" are indeed the thoughts of a rare mind, but the most vulgar slave of custom enjoyed in the days of King Charles the conditions of daily life which Milton there described: the sweet influences of the seasons, had their effect. . . . Whether they knew it or not, the Cavaliers drew their charm from the fields, and the Puritans their strength from the earth. . . . What this old England was can still be seen and felt in the combs and on the round hilltops of Somerset and Devon, in the wooded lands over which Malvern looks to the west, and in the broken valleys that lead the lake mountains down toward the sea. —G. M. Trevelyan.

Prizes for Pigmanship.

Every year a pig race is held at Crone-sur-Marne, in the north of France, a prize of 2,000 francs being awarded the lucky rider of the winning pig. This race is held in accordance with the terms of the will of a wealthy tradesman of the village, who died forty-two years ago.

He ordered that amongst the amusements of the annual fete should be included a race with pigs, to be ridden either by men or boys. The prize, however, was not to be handed to the winning jockey except on condition that he wore deep mourning for the deceased for two years after the race. The municipality accepted the eccentric bequest, and these singular races have been held regularly ever since.

Felicity a Necessity.

The presence of a wise population implies the search for felicity as well as for food; nor can any population reach its maximum but through that wisdom which "rejoices" in the habitable parts of the earth. The desert has its appointed place and work; the eternal engine, whose beam is the earth's axle, whose beat is its year, and whose breath is its ocean will still divide imperiously to their desert kingdoms bound with unfurrowable rock, and swept by unarrested sand, their powers of frost and fire; but the zones and lands between, habitable, will be loveliest in habitation. The desire of the heart is also the light of the eyes. —Ruskin.

Question of Opinion.

The late General Booth of the Salvation army was conducting a big meeting which lasted unusually long, and toward the close a newspaper reporter left his seat and gained the aisle. General Booth pointed a finger at him and said:

"Whoever leaves this auditorium will be damned by God."

The reporter answered: "If I don't leave this auditorium and hurry back to my office I'll be damned by the city editor."

"God is above the city editor," retorted General Booth.

"Yes, I think he is," plausibly responded the reporter, "but the city editor doesn't!"

"Meats in Storage"

Every working day of the year 75,000,000 pounds of meat are required to supply home and export needs—and only 10 per cent of this is exported.

These facts must be kept in mind when considering the U. S. Bureau of Markets report that on June 1, 1919, there were 1,348,000,000 pounds of meats in cold storage. If the meat in storage was placed on the market it would only be 20 days' supply.

This meat is not artificially withheld from trade channels to maintain or advance prices.

Meats in storage consist of—

65 per cent (approximate) hams, bacon, etc., in process of curing. It takes 30 to 90 days in pickle or salt to complete the process.

10 per cent is frozen pork that is to be cured later in the year.

6 per cent is lard. This is only four-fifths of a pound per capita, and much of it will have to go to supply European needs.

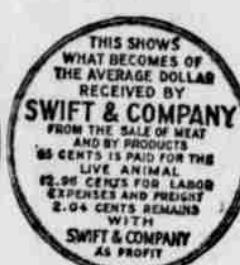
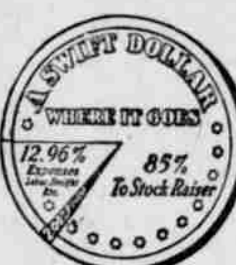
19 per cent is frozen beef and lamb, part of which is owned by the Government and was intended chiefly for over-seas shipment. If this were all diverted to domestic trade channels, it would be only 1½ lbs. per capita—a 3 days' supply.

100%

From this it will be seen that "meats in storage" represent merely unfinished goods in process of curing and the working supply necessary to assure the consumer a steady flow of finished product.

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