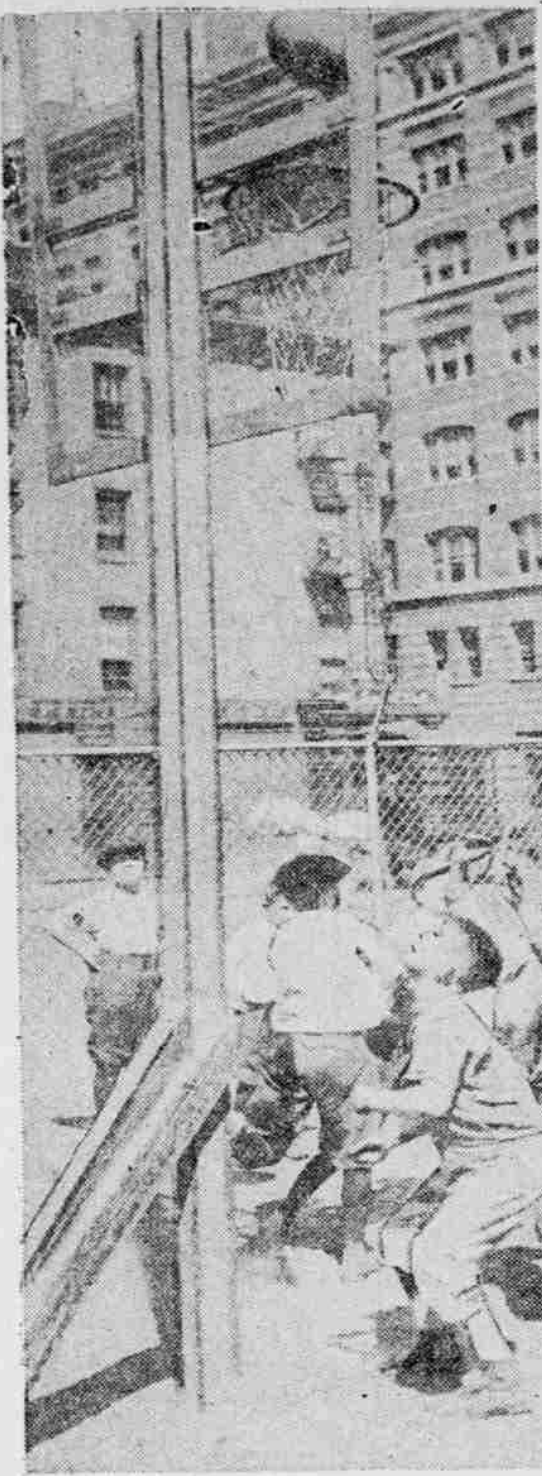


"City Children Healthier Than Country Cousins"

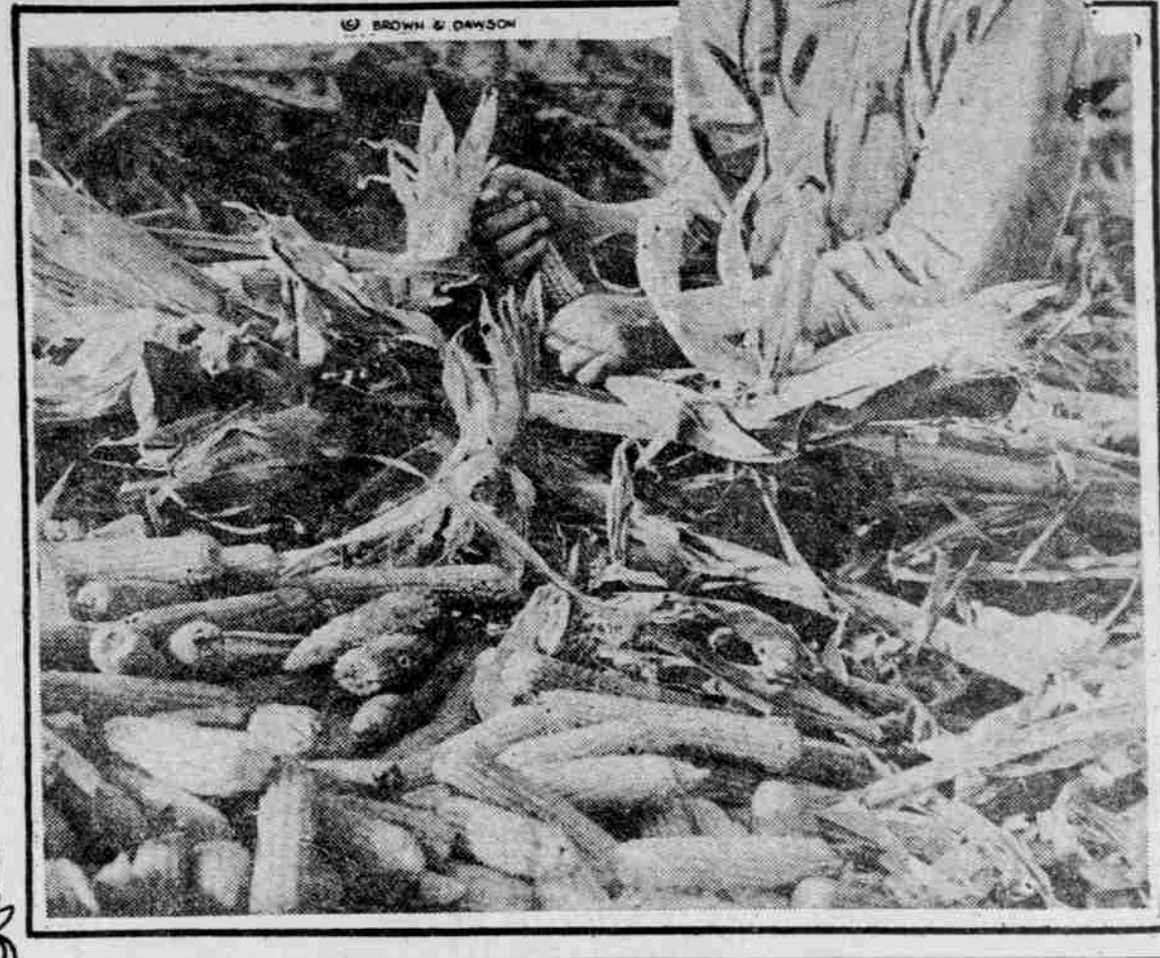
Of Course, We Never Would Have Believed It, but Investigation Shows That City Air is Purer Than Country Air, and Here Are Reasons Why.



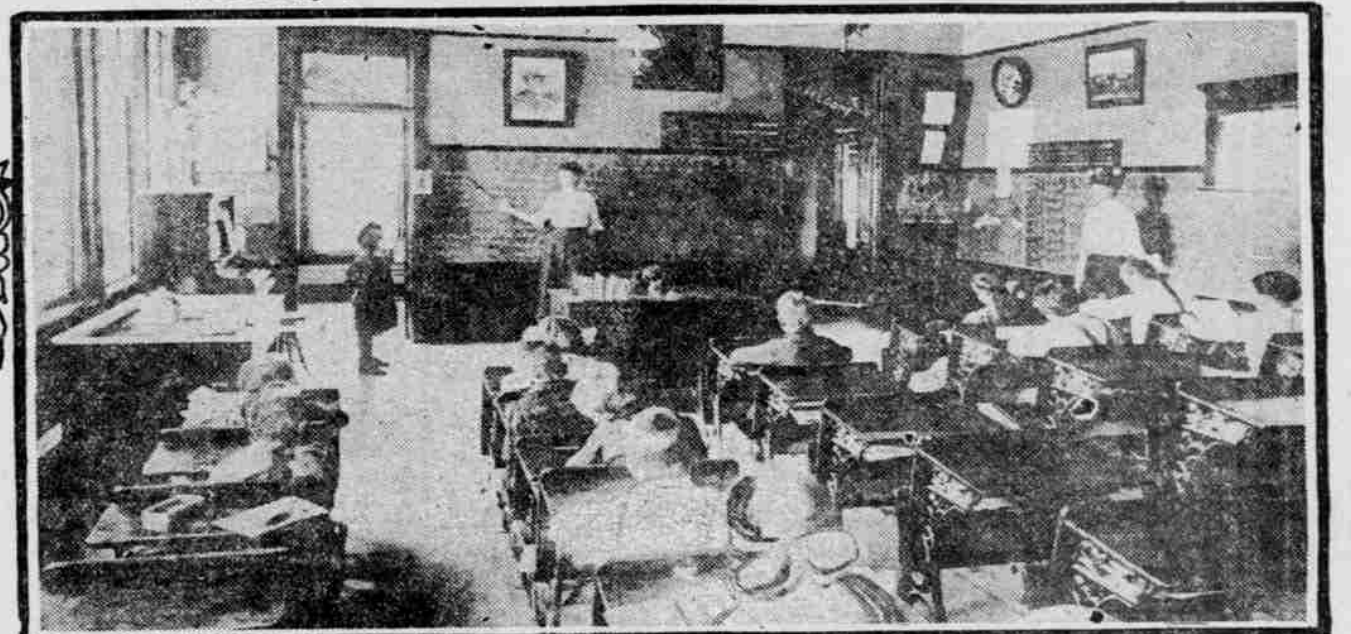
Critical Moment During A Basket Ball Game In A City Playground.



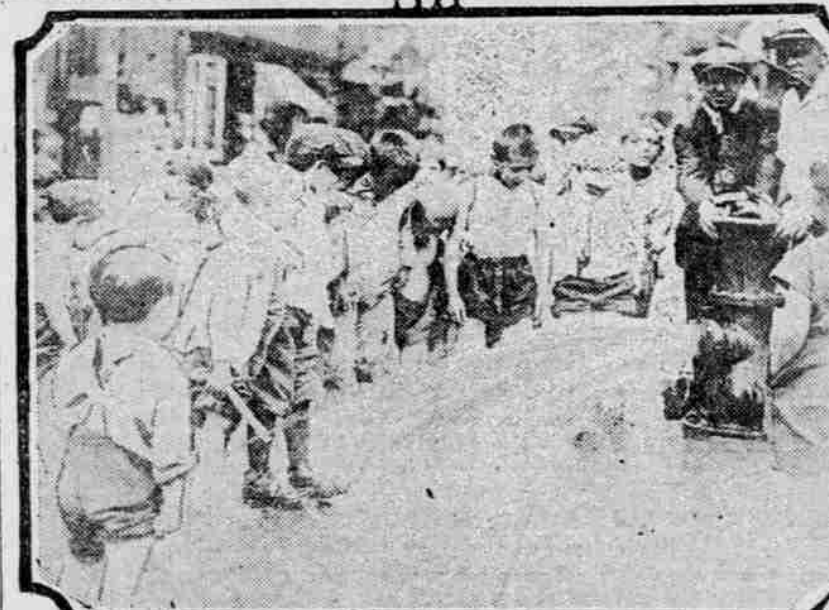
A Busy Hour At The Children's Desk Of A City Public Library.



Getting Practical Exercise "Down On The Farm"



A Country "Detention" School "In Session"



Who Says City Children Don't Have Their Times Of Adventure.

tions are likely to lower the vitality of children and make them subject to colds, throat troubles and finally tuberculosis. In contrast to these conditions, the city child, as a rule, lives near schools and is much less exposed in bad weather.

The investigations have shown that the city child is also better nourished than his country cousin. The common opinion that food in the country being nearer the sources of supplies is purer and more wholesome than in the city is entirely wrong. The comparison is not made with the food of children in rich or even moderately well-to-do families, but includes the tenement districts where there is often great poverty. The food in the country is much less varied than in the city and there is greater ignorance of food values and the importance of balanced rations.

In the country where food is supposed to be so abundant the investigation shows that there is much more malnutrition than in the cities. There is, besides, much more ignorance among country mothers regarding the modern scientific theories of baby and infant diet and culture. The average country mother cares for babies almost exactly as did her grandmother or great-grandmother. Although the country baby is supposed to have the advantage of unlimited fresh air and pure milk, it is less well nourished and cared for in all respects than the city baby and starts out with less vitality.

Advantages City Children Have.
There are besides fewer physicians, dentists and oculists in the country than in the city in proportion to the population, and country children are more likely to be neglected as regards skillful medical attention. Defects are therefore more common in the matter of teeth, eyes, throat and nose troubles. The country parents do not, as a rule, appreciate the dangers which follow from such neglect as do the city parents. Such familiar complaints as adenoids or enlarged tonsils are not likely in a child considered in the country and a child considered through life under a handicap which the average city child with better attention would be entirely relieved of.

The city conditions with which the country observances are compared were made in New York City where overcrowding is supposed to menace the health of children. It will be noticed in the accompanying chart that in 14 defects the city child suffers appreciably less than the country child. In many instances diseases are fully twice as prevalent in the country as in the city, although it is the general opinion that the reverse is true.

As final proof Dr. Wood announces that in the last five years the death rate in rural New York has been higher than in New York City, where people live more closely crowded together than anywhere else in the world. The explanation is to be found in the fact that for a decade or more the health standards in cities have been rising above those in the country.

BY CLIVE MARSHALL.
AS A result of an exhaustive country-wide investigation inaugurated by the Teachers' college of New York City, the interesting discovery has been made that city-bred and city-reared children are sturdier, healthier and less subject to disease than children born and brought up in the country.

Statistics are being presented today to show the apparent fallacy of the old-fashioned notion most of us had that country air, country water and country food are superior to that which long-suffering city people have to put up with. It has been discovered that there no longer exists any necessity for city folk to go to the country every so often to be restored to health after months spent in the disease-infected atmosphere of the city. Indeed, it is suggested that country cousins in search of good health, purer air, better drinking water and fresher and more wholesome food will now have to go to the city to recuperate.

The common belief that the brawn and sinew of the land comes from the rural districts is placed in the doubtful class in view of the newest investigation into actual conditions. And, saddest blow of all, the ambition of so many city parents to move out into the country that their children may grow up out of doors healthy and sturdy, seem founded upon ignorance of conditions as they actually are.

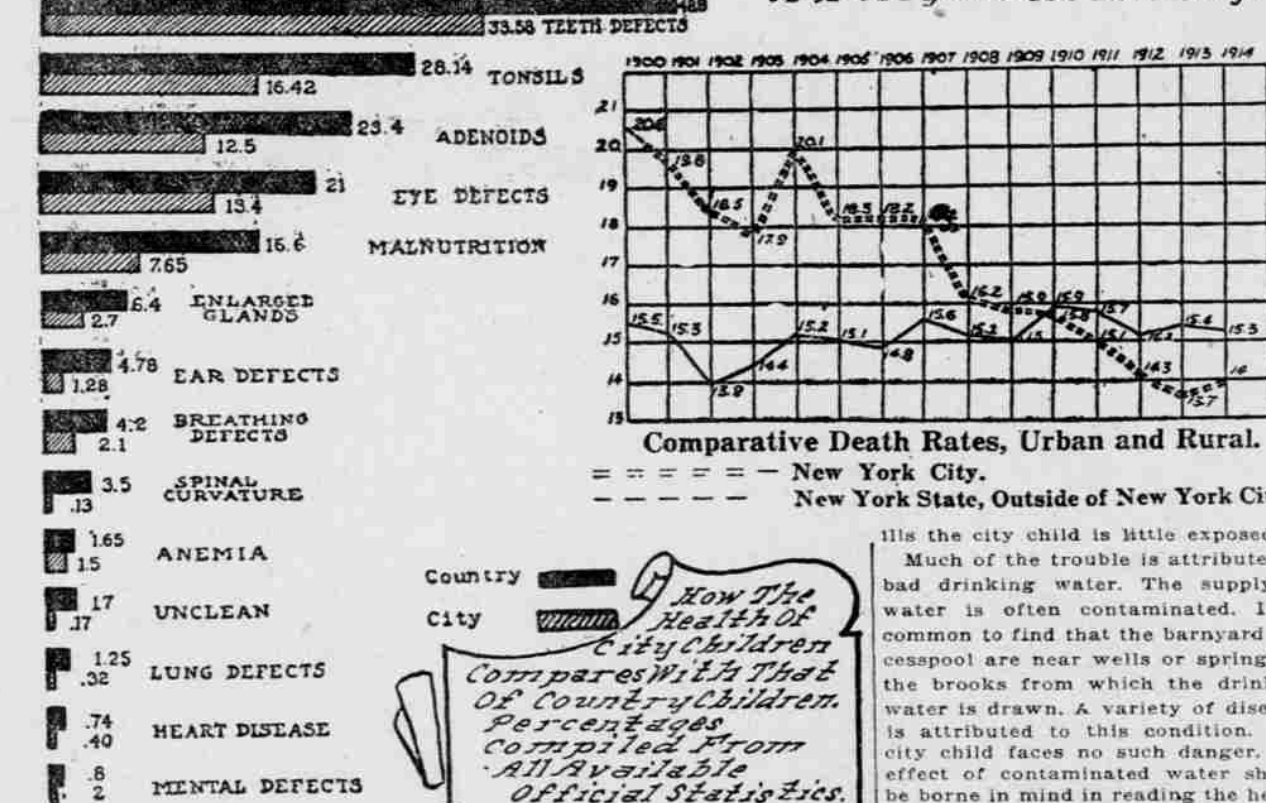
City Hygiene as a Fine Art.
City children, statistics show, are more healthy today than their country cousins. Contagious diseases, physical defects and unhealthy conditions due to food, air, water and general surroundings, are more common today among children living in unsanitary country settlements than among children of cities where hygiene has been reduced to a fine art.

The investigation, which has extended over several years, was begun by Dr. Thomas D. Wood, as chairman of the committee on health problems of the National Council of Education, acting jointly with the Council on Health and Public Instruction of the American Medical Society.

No other institution in the country is probably so well prepared to make an investigation of this kind as the Teachers' college or to direct a reform movement. It is not generally realized that for every six trained teachers east of the Mississippi one has attended the Teachers' college, and that one trained teacher in every seven in the entire country comes from that institution. Acting upon the information thus disclosed, a nation-wide movement is to be set in operation to improve the health surroundings of country children.

There are today more than 20,000,000 children attending school in the United States. Three-fifths of this number attend rural schools. The poor health of country children as a class largely is blamed upon the rural schoolhouses. The "little red schoolhouse" is commonly supposed to have served a very useful service in educating the population as a whole. It has often been held up as a model of its kind whose work is the basis of our national greatness. The specialists who have studied actual conditions are severe in their criticism of the country schoolhouse and call it one of the most serious menaces of the country.

In his arraignment of the rural schoolhouse Dr. Wood says that the general sanitary conditions of such buildings is unspeakable. "The rural school," he goes on, "from the stand-



point of health and general fitness for its important use is the worst type of building in the whole country. When I say this I include not only all types of buildings used for human beings, but also those used for livestock and domestic animals. Rural schools are on the whole less adequate for their use than prisons, asylums, almshouses, stables, dairy barns, pig pens, chicken houses and dog kennels are for their uses."

In the rural schools and many farm

houses as well, it has been found that the disposal of waste matter dangerous to health is frequently neglected or entirely ignored. Little attention is paid to the fly, which is an active carrier of disease germs. In place of proper drainage, obsolete systems are often used or the matter is wholly neglected and the cellars as a result are damp and the houses above them musty and unhealthy. The children who live under such conditions are subject to a variety of

ills the city child is little exposed to. Much of the trouble is attributed to bad drinking water. The supply of water is often contaminated. It is common to find that the barnyard and cesspool are near wells or springs or the brooks from which the drinking water is drawn. A variety of diseases is attributed to this condition. The city child faces no such danger. The effect of contaminated water should be borne in mind in reading the health charts.

Children reared in the country suffer from a variety of ills due to poor ventilation. Less attention, it has been found, is paid to ventilation as a rule in the country than in the city. The country child breathes bad air for a great part of the day and night. To bad air is attributed much of the tuberculosis among children in the country. The dread disease again is less well understood in the country than in the city and fewer precautions are taken against its spread.

If a discrepancy is discovered between the total found by hand counting and the amount by the machine, the amount is turned over to another counter to check up on. This rarely happens, however, except on days when the receipts are exceptionally heavy. The men count by spreading the coin on the table and spinning it into the left hand with the fingers of the right at such a speed that the eye is unable to see the flying coins.

It then is put by stacks into boxes that are actual gauges as to count and the counter can tell at a glance whether his total is right. After it has been run through the machine and checked with the ticket agent's report, the money is wrapped and put into bags. The bags are sealed and weighed. It is possible to tell at a glance from the scales whether the bag is short or over, for despite the difference between coins from wear the average correct bag will not vary from another by so much as an ounce.

Much World's Tonnage Idle.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, Eng.—Signs of a decline in freight rates and a consequent decline of the price of commodities and the cost of living are seen by Sydney Hogg, a large ship owner and president of the Hartlepool chamber of commerce. He says that one-third of the world's tonnage is idle because of the indisposition of transport workers to move goods in transit.

NEW YORKER CARRIES SIX TONS OF NICKEL IN POCKETS

Huge Weight of Change Packed in Jeans Mainly for Use in Paying Subway Fares.

THE flood of coins that pour each day from the pockets of the citizens of Greater New York through the hundreds of elevated and subway ticket offices and the thousands of surface cars of the several traction companies swell to a mighty stream of more than \$300,000 in the course of the average 24 hours.

Two-thirds of this sum is currency weighing in its bulk form about six tons. An idea of what this means may be drawn from a picture of its accumulation in a single spot for a week. A barricade ten feet high and five feet thick could be built of this daily six tons across Broadway at Times square in seven days. And it would take 15 men with three trucks a good day to remove it.

The nickel, dime or whatever coin paid for a ride is counted and put back in circulation in from 24 to 36 hours. For example, the nickel which a passenger pays to get home at night will be counted the next morning, absorbed by some bank before nightfall and handed out early the following morning to a merchant obtaining his cash for the day's business. If it were not for this expeditious circulation the country's currency would have to be inflated to an unwieldy and almost unmanageable point.

Once a day a car makes the circuit

of the subway and elevated lines and collects the receipts of the previous 24 hours, together with the tickets that have passed into the chopper. The money collected has previously been counted by the several agents, tabulated and checked against the record of tickets sold and put away in the safe, of which there are more than 600 in the various stations. Only one man in the collection car knows the combination of the safe, but should anything go wrong with the combination there is an assistant handy to open it.

The money is brought to a central counting room at the company's headquarters. This room is about 100 feet long and half that in width. Long tables are arranged down its length with eight men at a table, four on a side, so that they face each other. On a raised platform at the end of the room sits the head counter, who assigns the work each day and keeps a watchful eye on the proceedings. No counter receives the money from the same station two days in succession.

Many of the more expert among the counters can run through \$5000 in a day. They start early in the morning when finished are privileged to go home. Machines are used only to check up and are but slightly faster than hand counting.

Serum From Snakes Cures Snake Bites.

Serpents of All Kinds Have Fine Homes in Brazilian Gardens.

THE serpent garden of Butantan is a sort of "snakes' paradise." There the most venomous snakes in the world have palatial homes, built in the shape of beaver huts, of concrete; and their surroundings and the care taken of them leave even the most exacting snake nothing further to desire.

The garden is about ten miles from Sao Paulo, Brazil, and here scientists are studying the mysteries of snake biology.

The original reason for the establishment of the garden, which is a huge nursery for snakes, was to obtain serum enough to provide a remedy for those bitten by snakes throughout Brazil. In the comparatively small state of Sao Paulo alone the average annual death rate from snake bites used to be 240. Since the garden of Butantan was opened and serum cultures taken, the prompt treatment of victims has been made possible everywhere and the death rate reduced to nil. There are said to be more snakes in Brazil than in any other country in the western hemisphere.

The garden is 600 acres in extent and divided into three departments, two of which are devoted to cobras, crotalids and bothrops, the most poisonous snakes known; while the

third department is given over to the non-poisonous snakes. The inclosure within which the snakes' habitations are situated is surrounded with a low, thick stone wall and a ditch, that while not wide enough to be dignified with the name of moat, is nevertheless an impassable barrier to the slimy, creepy denizens of the garden of Butantan. In the center of the garden is another smaller inclosure, against which the outside world is similarly safeguarded as from the larger one; and in that smaller inclosure are kept only specimens of the rarest species of the reptile family.

Mammoth Cave May Be Park.
LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Mammoth Cave, Kentucky's contribution to the wonders of the world, may soon be purchased and transformed into an extensive national park. Reports from Washington are to the effect that the rules committee of the house of representatives contemplates calling up for passage shortly a measure which would appropriate \$1,000,000 for the purchase of the great cavern and 32,000 acres of virgin forest land lying around it.

Immigrants Reach Canada.
TORONTO, Ont.—A special immigrant train arrived here during the week containing 19 coaches, the largest load to reach this point since the outbreak of the war. Four hundred of the party, including many women and girls, got off here, while others went to other provincial points. A group of girl line workers from Ireland were bound for Guelph and a party of Flemish farmers for Sarnia.