NEW CURES FOR DREAD DISEASES

Haskins' First Article on Health and How to Preserve It—Pan-American Medical Congress Meets Next Wednesday.

Nothing More Remarkable Than Medical Progress—In Times Past Large Proportion of World's Population Died Young.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Article 1.—Progress of Medical Science.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 1.—The meeting of the Pan-American medical congress in Guatemala next Wednesday is another proof of the great national and international interest in the health of the world's people, another evidence of the progress of the world's physicians in their chosen work. The United States and the Latin-American countries will be represented, and leaders of the various branches of the medical profession will discuss new methods, new cures, new discoveries. Our own national interest in the matter of public health is increasing marvelously.

In the Democratic platform adopted at Denver there is a plank advocating the organization of a national bureau of public health, and the Republican convention advocated similar legislation. Public recognition, though tardy at first, has been accorded the victors over yellow fever in New Orleans and Havana, and over the bubonic plague in San Francisco and Manila. Public sentiment has called for a sweeping pure food campaign, for a war on flies, mosquitos and rats as disseminators of disease, and for a world-wide crusade against tuberculosis.

Where the beginning of the nineteenth century saw helpless patients physiced, blistered and bled, and deprived of air and water in an effort to eradicate disease, the beginning of the twentieth sees a rational awakening of the civilized world. Doors and windows are opened to all the winds of heaven, there is a rush back to Mother Nature for her simplest remedies, and the slogan of today's health worker is "Fresh air, pure food, pure water, and cleanliness." Healers of less than a century ago are said to have worked on the hypothesis that disease was normal, that health was only an abnormal and acquired thing. Today the opposite and true conception is the basis on which physicians work.

Progress of Medicine.

Nothing has been more remarkable than the progress of medicine in recent years. The bacteriological laboratory has become part of the office of the modern physician where he grounds himself in the principles of contagion and prevention, and establishes new theories. The discovery of the germ and its responsibility for most of the ailments of humankind, has revolutionized medical practice and saved millions of lives. The world has grown more rapidly in population in the past 100 years than in any other time with which statistics deal. Medical science is largely responsible for this. In times past more than one-fourth of the world's population died before reaching the age of six years. Medical science is robbing childhood of danger from certain diseases, and millions are now saved every year. It is estimated that today at least 60 per cent of children born into the world live to be 16, where a century or so ago only 50 per cent reached that age. There are now approximately 2,000,000 more births than deaths every year, and, while in some localities race suicide may be lowering the annual birth rate, this is outdistanced at every point by the reductions in the death rate that medical men have made possible.

Preventive Medicines.

Of more importance than the direct application of medical science to suffering humanity is that great boon of preventive medicine. Since the discovery of the principle of succination, medical men have been learning how to put in practice the time-honored proverb that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Sometimes they have, figuratively, had to fight fire with fire, as in preventing small pox. More often they have had to fight disease with cleanliness. But, whatever the method, they have gone forward, forcing back disease inch by inch until this beginning of the twentieth century marks a notable era in the public health.

The Spanish-American war brought the beginning of correct sanitary principles. This nation learned, then, a most humiliating lesson, but it was a lesson by which all the world has profited. In that war the American army suffered 14 deaths from disease to every one from wounds. During the Russo-Japanese war Japan lost one man from disease to four from wounds—so far had the science of preventive measures already advanced. Of $151,000,000 spent in pensions every year, the United States government could have saved half had prevention of disease been practiced.

Conquer Yellow Fever.

Yellow fever has been robbed of its terrors by the work of Major Reed and his associates. But for such work—which has made a summer resort of the canal zone, once a pest hole—the Panama canal could not have been built without the sacrifice of thousands of lives, or perhaps never have been built at all. Typhoid fever has been traced to its source. Evidence shows that it is spread by flies, water and milk. A prominent American physician felt justified in saying not long ago that a man who takes typhoid in an American city nowadays, has as good a case for damages against that city for criminal carelessness, as the man who injures himself by falling into an unguarded excavation. What is true of typhoid is true of scarlet fever, of diphtheria, of tuberculosis and other enemies of life.

Until recent years the victim of consumption was regarded as a doomed man, and was usually shut in an air-tight room to await the end. In that time medical science has been busy. It discovered the communicableness and preventability of the disease, persuaded mankind to call it "tuberculosis," set about educating the layman in the matter, and instituted a sweeping crusade. That crusade has borne fruit. Last year alone, there were 13 congresses having courses of instruction on tuberculosis with 50,000 people in attendance, while a number of states and municipalities aroused public sentiment and legislated against the disease. The death rate from the white plague has been perceptibly cut down, and the whole aspect of affairs promises a conquest of the disease in the near future.

Cases of Cancer.

So it is with cancer. Dr. Wallace E. Brown claims that the use of escharotics in cancerous troubles is a radical cure if applied early enough. He has conquered it also with potassium hydrate and zinc chloride. The latest discovery in the medical world that promises to be of value to humanity is the finding of the germ of paresis. Dr. John D. O'Brien of the Macillon, Ohio, state hospital, claims to have found it, and offers scientific proofs of his theories.

Another valuable discovery yet to bear more fruit, is that of Dr. Junod, the eminent French physician of the past generation. He evolved a system of enforced circulation by the use of vacuum cups and receivers. His work was so successful that the French government commissioned him to carry it further. In France and Germany his method was hailed with wide acclaim and has been put to great use. Last year a member of the University of Bonn traveled all the way to Washington to tell a tuberculosis congress of the successful application of this treatment in tuberculosis of the joints. It has also been successfully used in locomotor ataxia and paralysis.

Curing Leprosy.

Leprosy for many long, hopeless centuries was deemed incurable. The old Levitical code decreed that the unfortunate sufferers be stoned from the cities and be forced to live in caves. The United States is seeing things differently—though only three years ago it suffered the persecution of a leper through two of its commonwealths until death released him. It now promulgates the theory that there is little danger from the disease. The United States public health and marine hospital service has recently built and equipped an experiment station at the Hawaiian leper settlement on the island of Molokai, where science will be brought to bear on every case. Louisiana has gone further. Through Dr. Isidore D. Dyer, a physician in charge of the state home for lepers, 16 cases have been successfully treated and sent out into the world again, pronounced cured.

Anaesthetics.

It is in the realm of anaesthetics that medical science has found some of its richest trophies to lay at the feet of suffering humanity. It has made possible thousands of life-saving operations that otherwise could not have been accomplished. The present decade has given the world many important discoveries along this line. To find something that would make the patient insensible to pain without affecting the heart deleteriously has been a hard quest. It has recently been found that the system can be electrically shocked into a profound sleep by the same sort of contacts with the body of the patient that are used in electrocution and this sleep can be maintained for many hours at a time.

Humanity owes one of its greatest debts to vivisection. It has proved one of the greatest aids to modern medical science. It has enabled scientific men to reach important conclusions in their investigation of disease and its cause. These men have met stern opposition at the hands of one of the most determined bodies of people in the world, an association of anti-vivisectionists, who have diligently sought to have congress pass a national anti-vivisection bill. They would save a few rabbits, dogs and guinea pigs at the expense of probably 10,000 human lives.

Most people kick at their doctor's bills. Sometimes they are the last of the household bills paid—and sometimes not paid at all. Yet, when one comes down to facts, there are lawyers in the United States by the score who make $500,000 a year out of their profession, while there is scarcely a physician who has an income of $100,000, the majority having a few thousands at most. Take any city in the United States and it will be found that the man who protects the property of his clients gets more out of it than the man who protects their lives. In the final summing up of the big world's affairs, if a roll call of heroes be made it is safe to assert that more will be drawn from the ranks of the quiet, self-sacrificing, plague-quelling physicians than from any other class of people. For of such stuff are heroes made.

For Sore Feet.

"I have found Bucklen's Arnica Salve to be the proper thing to use for sore feet, as well as for healing burns, sores, cuts and all manner of abrasions," writes Mr. W. Stone of East Poland, Maine. It is the proper thing, too, for piles. Try it! Sold under guarantee at Skidmore Drug Co. 25c.

Foster & Kleiser Signs

NEW FORBES CHURCH OPENS ITS DOORS TODAY

The new Forbes Presbyterian church, at Sellwood street and Gantenbein avenue, will be opened to the public for the first time today. This morning services will be held there and Rev. Harry H. Pratt, the pastor, who has worked so energetically for the construction of the new church, will preach the sermon. This will not be the formal dedicatory service, for now so many members are away for the summer vacation in September the church will be formally consecrated with special services.

The old church was burned down last December and Mr. Pratt and the members opened a campaign at once for the erection of a larger and better church. Members and friends gave liberally to the best of their ability, socials and concerts were given to increase the fund and finally a fine $12,000 church was built on the site of the old one. It affords much more space for Sunday school rooms than did the old one.

The auditorium will seat about 200 and the Sunday school room, which can be thrown into one with the main room, will make the seating capacity 200 more. The church is already carpeted, the seats are put in and everything is in order. The insurance on the old church amounted to $5,000, and this was quickly added to to make up the sum needed. W. M. Ladd, who is a generous donor to all Presbyterianism, started the subscription list with $250.

WASHOUT HOLDS HEARST MEN UP

Coast Delegates' Return Delayed—Leader Predicts Victory.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Ogden, Utah, Aug. 1.—The delegations to the Independence party convention from Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada, returning from Chicago, were delayed 40 miles east of this city all last night by a cloudburst which washed out the railroad tracks.

National Committeeman Melsaac, of San Francisco, when they reached here today, said the convention was entirely successful and that none of the members of the party believed the statements emanating from Fairview regarding Bryan's attitude toward the new party and its platform. They say that a Hearst victory is "not far off."

NORTHWEST WHEAT CROP ONLY 25 PER CENT SHORT

Threshing operations in the inland empire show that the wheat crop is going to be much better than expected. J. P. O'Brien, general manager, and R. B. Miller, general freight agent, of the O. R. & N. Co., who have just returned from a very complete trip over the lines in eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho, bring encouraging reports. It is believed that the general average crop will be within 25 per cent of last year's enormous crop.

This estimate applies only to the territory tributary to the O. R. & N. Co.'s lines, which last year handled about 42 per cent of the total wheat crop of the inland empire embracing the three states.

The wheat crop of the territory adjacent to the Northern Pacific and Great Northern is said to be harder hit than areas near the O. R. & N. The Big Bend country has sent out reports very unfavorable, yet the general impression now is that these reports have been exaggerated as were those from other sections of the wheat country.

Better Than Expected.

"We found farmers in eastern Washington who would have sold their grain crop on a basis of 30 bushels to the acre," Mr. Miller said. "In the Walla Walla country the outlook is especially good. The crop is being threshed and will not be worse than 15 per cent under last year's crop. As the 1907 crop was very much above the average we figure that the general run of the fields tributary to our lines will produce about an average crop this year.

"In the Palouse country the yield will run about 25 per cent under last year's crop. The river counties in Oregon are hard hit by drouth and smut. They will not produce more than 50 per cent of the crop yielded last year. This estimate includes Morrow, Sherman, Wasco, Gilliam, and even Umatilla county."

Mr. O'Brien was of the opinion that although the crops are somewhat short the farmers will do nearly as well as in previous years owing to the good prices that prevail this year.

Oregon river counties last year produced about 6,500,000 bushels of wheat. The remainder was raised in the Grand Ronde, and in eastern Washington and northern Idaho. The port of Portland last year exported 20,000,000 bushels of wheat and flour, and all Puget sound ports shipped 25,000,000 bushels. This means that the O. R. & N. lines handled more than 40 per cent of the total grain yield of the three states.

It is estimated that on a local population of 2,000,000 people, consuming eight bushels per capita annually in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, the total yield reached 60,000,000 bushels. The situation at the present time does not favor an estimated total yield of much over 40,000,000 bushels, on account of the depressing reports from the Big Bend country, and from the region of Conell and Kahlotus.

So far as O. R. & N. territory is concerned the total grain tonnage is expected to be not much below that of last year. Barley and other grains are yielding heavily and the only serious shortage indicated is reported from the river counties in Oregon.

TEST OF OIL ON MAIN STREET TO DETERMINE ITS VALUE

Superintendent Alex Donaldson of the street cleaning department commenced the experiment of doubly oiling one of the city's streets for the purpose of determining whether the new process could be so constructed as to make it durable for more than one season.

The street selected was Main street from Fourth to Sixth. The two blocks were first rolled with the "spiker," an ordinary roller with large, blunt spikes screwed into the rear rollers. Oil was sprinkled on the street after this and then rolled flat after a covering of sand had been thrown over the oil. With this part completed the street was again oiled and rolled.

Main street was taken for the reason that it averages up with other streets in the amount of traffic, besides having a slight grade which will be an important factor in determining the wearing qualities of the oiling process.

If the street thus prepared withstands the winter rains and is in good condition next year, the city will prepare to oil all the streets for the purpose of saving the large amount of money spent annually in sprinkling streets. Other streets will be treated in the same manner as Main street for the purpose of giving the scheme a thorough trying out.

WAR MANEUVERS BY FORT STEVENS' MEN

Steamer Major Guy Will Attempt to Run Gauntlet of Fort Under Cover of Night.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Astoria, Or., Aug. 1.—Orders have been issued by the war department for the troops at Fort Stevens to engage in two weeks' war maneuvers, commencing tomorrow morning. Search lights will be operated at night to repel an attack by the enemy. The steamer Major Guy Howard will attempt to run by the forts without being detected.

PROCESS SERVERS OUT AFTER TOBACCO KING

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 1.—Process servers were sent to New York today to make an attempt to serve James B. Duke, the tobacco king, with papers in the $1,500,000 suit which has been started against the American Tobacco company by the Monarch Tobacco company. The Hall & Williams Tobacco company and the Mengel Box company are made codefendants in the Monarch suit, which was filed yesterday in the federal court.

The complaining company alleges that its business has been damaged to the extent of $500,000 through the practices of the so-called trust, and asks three times that amount.

DEATHS FROM HEAT IN CALIFORNIA

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Fresno, Cal., Aug. 1.—Two deaths from the intense heat were reported from outside towns today. Mrs. C. E. Fashpach was found dead in bed at Visalia this morning. The body of Rizeri Srugari was found in a ditch near Tulare. Both deaths were direct results of the heat.

The temperature yesterday afternoon was 114 degrees, the highest in many years. A sharp wind and sand storm occurred in this section of the San Joaquin valley last evening.

At Tulare a row of big trees was blown down and a big force of men was employed trying to remove the debris. Several houses were damaged by falling trees.

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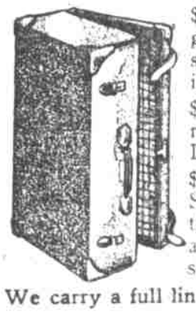

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