

PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 15, 1908

AN ELECTRIC WAR ON AGENCIES OF DEATH

HUDSON MAXIM'S PLANS TO PROLONG HUMAN LIFE

A POOL OF BETHESDA for mankind.

A wellspring of health, of freedom from disease, which shall miraculously cleanse of the infirmities of the flesh not only the sick and ailing, but safeguard from the transmission of disease their children and their children's children.

That is the wonderful hope held out to the human race by Hudson Maxim, the famous inventor.

In the 'et immature science of electro-chemistry' he discerns the possibility of a marvelous agent for conveying, into the germ-invaded human body, remedial agents that are the deadly foes of bacteria and protozoa.

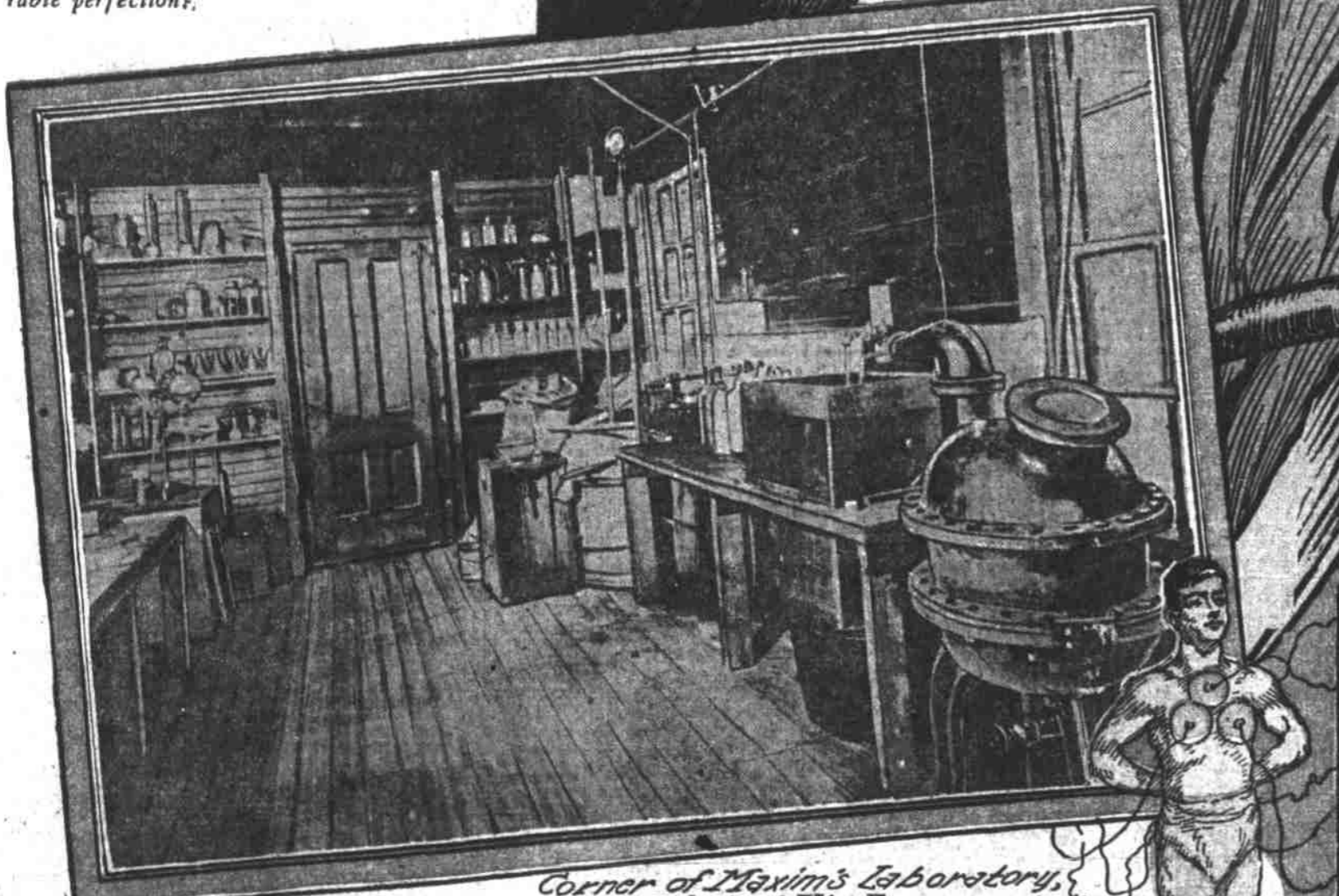
Like Nobel, the great European inventor of high explosives, the passing years have brought to this creator of the world's most rending, destructive energies the prevision of a supreme boon to mankind — one which, where the altruistic Swedish inventor of dynamite beheld a future of universal peace and love, manifests itself to the American discoverer of maximit in the guise of the goddess Hygiea.

An electro-chemical bath that shall be a veritable Pool of Bethesda—

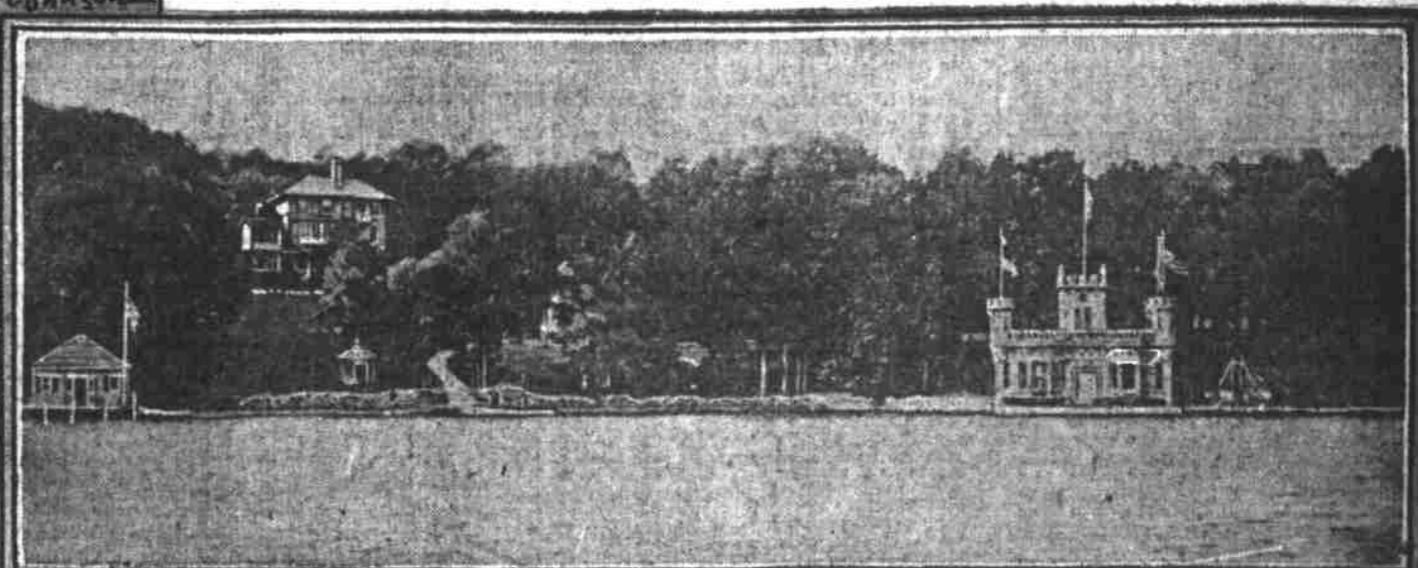
Is it merely the dream of that paradox incarnate, the creator of the agents of destruction, who ever longs, in his inmost soul, to upbuild anew in some more admirable perfection?



Hudson Maxim at His Summer Home.



Corner of Maxim's Laboratory, Where Most of His Experiments Have Been Made.



The Maxim Estate on Lake Hopalong, N.J.

Or is it the first glimpse of some sublime reality, such as is vouchsafed, in these modern years of progress, to those inspired seers of our era, those Promethean scientists who, greatly daring, wrest from nature secrets which, to the seers of an earlier day, appeared divine?

HUDSON MAXIM, boldest among experimenters—whose vanished left hand for years has remained eloquent proof of his devotion to his faiths, whose great wealth, coined from his fertile brain, remains as convincing evidence of the soundness of his judgment—is as cautious as he is bold in his prophecy. The huge, main fact that science will furnish its Bethesda Pool appears to him distinctly possible; but when, and precisely how, it is to come, he avers cannot now be foretold. This, let it be carefully noted, has been the attitude of modern science upon all epochal discoveries and inventions, from antisepsis to aerial navigation. Yet all of them—some quickly, some slowly, and many, like the antitoxins, as suddenly as full-fledged Minerva from the brow of Jove—have descended in their com-

plete beneficence upon the unexpected, astounded world.

The dictum of a Hudson Maxim upon the possibilities of electro-chemistry is not the far-fetched fancy of an authority upon one branch of science rushing in upon a domain with which previous experience has left him unfamiliar.

On the contrary, it is the sober, slow, logical outcome of a broadly trained and deeply versed intellect studying the possibilities of a science which has long been its familiar tool and ally. The catholic learning and the originating genius of the creative chemist were essential attributes of the mind that could achieve such triumphs with high explosives as make his name known to all the governments of the world. The profound knowledge and the daring skill of a scientist, beside whose achievements the ability of an ordinary "electrical expert" are child's play, were requisite for his devising of electric furnaces and his discovery of the calcium carbide now in common use. Chemistry and electricity both have been his obedient geni for years; yet, they are only successors to the favorite study of his early manhood, followed in its developments with all the affectionate interest a man bestows upon

the vocation which circumstances and some ambitions more readily attainable lead him to abandon. For had not Hudson Maxim become the most important aid of the American government in equipping its guns and projectiles with smokeless powder and tremendous maximit, the world would have had a physician, his whole career devoted to the cure of the ills that flesh is heir to. As a young man he studied ardently the principles of medicine in the expectation of making its practice his lifework. He did not go on with it in the formal courses of the schools, for the numerous avocations of his active mind drew him into many other fields. But every step in modern medicine's advancement has been a subject of intense interest and concern to him. His remarkable memory, famous among his associates for its scope as well as its amazing

retentiveness, has left him, in the midst of his innumerable other activities, more broadly learned in the modern aspects of scientific medicine than many physicians in active practice.

This, then, is the electric scientist who holds up to the race of man the golden promise of health for the future—of such health as humanity has never known, with its hope soaring beyond the cure of generations in the present to transmission of their blood, pure and unalloyed by the latent germs of disease, to posterity. And these are the words of his forecast in

hereditary disease in parents would be the greatest kind of a godsend to their children.

"There remains among the inventions and discoveries which are possibilities of the future the devising of a method for the destruction of disease germs in the human tissues, lymph and blood by an electro-chemical process, which may or may not be one of electro-osmosis or cataphoresis.

"It would be the greatest discovery possible for man to make; he who should solve the problem would be at once the greatest inventor and the greatest benefactor of the human race.

all their boldness and all their well-weighed caution:

"I am not among the number who believe in the indefinite prolongation of human life, for death is only one of the aspects of life. Life is a series of fermentations—as Herbert Spencer stated it, 'a continual adjustment between internal and external forces.' Death is merely the necessary conclusion of that adjustment.

"Neither is it desirable that individual human life should be indefinitely prolonged, for the species is better served by the destruction of old human derelicts, in order that they may give place to those that are newly launched on life. "If, however, science could devise a veritable Pool of Bethesda, in which the germs of disease could be destroyed and degenerative processes arrested, individual life could be very greatly prolonged. Yet this is not so important as the benefits which would accrue to coming generations. The elimination of germs of

"I have not solved it; but that it can be solved appears to lie within the power of man's invention. From investigations I have already made, I believe that such a thing is not only possible, but very probable, and that before many years there will exist in very truth a Pool of Bethesda in the form of an electro-chemical cabinet, within which the victim of any of the dreaded germ diseases may be cleansed of his affliction. "This augury of hope for the future is so enormous in its scope, so huge in its promise that a measurably clear idea of the principles of modern medicine must be had in order to afford some reasonable foundation. "The whole science of medicine is based upon the attempt either to destroy disease germs existing in the body by directly attacking the germs or by poisoning or modifying the media on which they feed and thereby to kill them indirectly. "There are in the whole science of medicine (CONTINUED ON INSIDE PAGE)



As Electricity May Do His Work.