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BURNS AND SCALDS.

First Aid For These Painful and Dangerous Injuries.

The severity of burns and scalds depends upon the area of body surface that has been burned, the situation and the depth of tissue that has been destroyed. For example, a burn covering a limited surface of the leg or arm, although of considerable depth, is often less serious than a larger but more superficial burn of the trunk, head or neck, and this is especially true of children, who are more susceptible than grown persons to the shock which accompanies an extensive burn.

Every one is familiar with the simple redness of the skin produced by a slight burn and with the blister that follows if the burn be a little more severe. In such slight accidents no tissue is actually destroyed and no scar results. The redness is caused by congestion of the small blood vessels of the skin and the blister by still further congestion producing a leakage of the fluids of the blood into the upper layers of the skin.

For such slight burns a coating of sweet oil or vaseline covered with clean cotton wool is the simplest remedy. It supplies protection from exposure to the air, which is a cardinal principle in the treatment of all burns and scalds.

The blisters may be pricked with a needle which has been passed through a flame several times to kill all possible germs and the fluid allowed to escape, but the loose skin should be left in place, as it forms a better protective than any artificial substance.

The most painful form of burn is that which extends only as far as the deeper layers of the skin and scorches the sensitive nerve endings which are there situated. If the burn penetrates beyond this point the nerve endings are destroyed and the pain is consequently much lessened, but the loss of tissue is, of course, much greater, healing is slower, and the scar is correspondingly more noticeable.

In giving first aid to one suffering from a severe burn, especially if there is a large surface involved, it is important first to pay attention to the general condition of the patient. Paleness and shivering, a feeble and fluttering pulse, cold extremities and perhaps an appearance of stupor or little sign of suffering are all indications of severe shock, which may produce so profound an impression upon the nervous system and vital centers as to prove rapidly fatal unless met with prompt treatment. In such a condition much can be done before medical help arrives by keeping the head low, giving suitable stimulants, wrapping in warm blankets and applying hot water bottles to the hands and feet.—Youth's Companion.

The official announcement of the award of the Nobel prizes for 1910 will be made Saturday at a meeting of the Swedish parliament in Stockholm.

The Brazilian government will send a cotton specialist to the United States to study cotton growing and to take back with him American experts to further the interests of the industry in Brazil.

Owing to a noticeable increase in the consumption of wheat among the Chinese more and more land in Manchuria is now being used to keep up the supply.

As a result of the extraordinary agitation in recent months by Chinese anti-opium societies, the imperial senate almost unanimously passed a resolution looking to the extermination of the drug.

Jurist Says Kill Man Who Libels.
 Carson City, Nev.—A plea of justifiable homicide will be admissible in Nevada in cases where a man has avenged a libel if Chief Justice James G. Sweeney of the Nevada supreme court, can arrange it. Sweeney says he will try to have a law passed making libel an excuse for killing.

Americans Must Pay Tax.
 Vancouver, B. C.—Officers on the halibut steamers of the New England Fish Company, an American firm with Canadian headquarters here, must pay the income tax in British Columbia, according to a decision rendered by Judge Alexander.

The Chinese government is replacing the Japanese agricultural experts by Americans. When it comes to teaching farming the whole world can learn a thing or two worth knowing from your Uncle Samuel.

The immortal William was just as wise as usual when he remarked, "If all the year were playing holidays, to play would be as tedious as to work."

REPORTING IS STRENUOUS IN BRITAIN, TOO

It is the popular belief in the United States that in no other land is a live newspaper to be found and that only in America will a reporter imperil life or limb in an endeavor to secure for his paper a scoop or beat, a coveted picture or an interview from an unwilling and surly repository of valuable facts.

But word comes from across the sea that journalism of the type termed "yellow" is looking up among our English cousins. The work of the newspapers in the Crippen murder case, the enterprise which sent a bright young Briton to New York and back on the Mauretania, leaving him a few hours to see Gotham, Philadelphia and Washington, and several other modern "ly" stances have convinced the Yankee reporters that lively things can happen outside the U. S. A.

A characteristic example of this enterprise came to light during the recent general election, and the shining light was Alfred J. Rorke of the Central News of London, who scored a beat on every one of the fourteen pollings which he was assigned to cover. As the British parliamentary elections were held any time within a month and the public interest in the results of each contested polling were of the most intense character it behooved each news agency and paper to get the result to London as quickly as possible so that it might keep the mass of the people posted to the minute on the progress of the fight.

Of all these beats the election at Peckham shed more glory on Rorke than any of the others. He gleaned a big advantage by cozening the returning officer into giving him the exclusive newspaper right in the polling

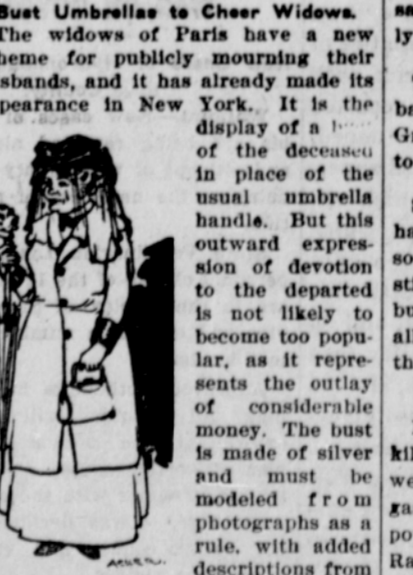


Photo by Central News, London.

ALFRED J. RORKE (IN THE REAR), THE HERO OF FOURTEEN ENGLISH ELECTION BEATS, WATCHING THE BALLOT COUNTING AT PECKHAM.

room and then elaborated upon his concession by getting in a bureau photographer and taking a flashlight of what to the Englishman is the "holy of holies." In England such a picture is regarded as something akin to tampering with the ballots, hence sacrilege.

But the count was finally concluded, and Rorke, with the totals on a slip of paper, rushed from the room to a telephone for which he had arranged in advance. Outside the door he fell into a sea of mud left by the street scavengers, and while trying to arise from the muck he was knocked down by an automobile. This time his shoulder was dislocated and an arm and wrist were badly torn. Despite these handicaps he gained the phone and got his news to London first.



But Umbrellas to Cheer Widows.
 The widows of Paris have a new scheme for publicly mourning their husbands, and it has already made its appearance in New York. It is the display of a black umbrella in place of the usual umbrella handle. But this outward expression of devotion to the departed is not likely to become too popular, as it represents the outlay of considerable money. The best is made of silver and must be modeled from photographs as a rule, with added descriptions from the widow.

One that was seen recently was striking in design, for the silver had been treated, dark oxidation marking the hair and the cheeks in spots, while the mustache, cut off sharply at a level with the upper lip, was a dead gray. The remainder of the features were slightly burnished metal, and the eyes were bored out conically, as in bronze figures, to give expression.

LIFE OF A WATCH.

Depends Largely on the Timekeeper and the Man Wearing It.

The life of a watch, jewelers say, depends largely on the person carrying it and the care taken of it. As to the care of a watch some jewelers say that it should be oiled once a year, some once in two years; perhaps once in eighteen months would be about the right thing.

All jewelers say that a watch should always be wound at the same time daily. This is essential to make it give the best and most uniform results. If a watch is permitted to run down it may on rewinding keep different time and require regulating. With the watch wound regularly and kept running there is set up and established in the mainspring a certain tension. If this strain is wholly released by letting the watch run down the spring may on rewinding take on a somewhat different tension. This difference may be extremely slight, but it may be enough to affect the running of the watch.

While some watches are long lived, many are short lived, the long lived watches being of course those of fine quality that are also well cared for. But there is a limit to the life of any watch that is kept constantly in use. The best of watches, like the best of anything, will wear out in time.

A watchmaker had lately brought in to him for repair a watch 125 years old that had been running practically continuously. It might be difficult to say of just what duration its intervals of rest had been, but it was supposed to have been run practically continuously, and, though it had stopped at least once, it was still in fairly good condition and good for some future use. But this was an extraordinary case. Most watches, however excellent they may have been originally, would with constant use wear out in far less time.

Sometimes there are brought in to jewelers fine old and once valuable watches whose owners, desiring now to buy a new watch, wish to offer the old watch at some price in exchange, but it is of no value except for the weight of the metal contained in its cases. Every jeweler has an accumulative collection of such old works, which are of no value whatever, except that at long intervals there may be found among them a wheel or a part that may serve in some other old time watch brought in for repair.

So watches do wear out, and as to the life of a watch, a jeweler said, a good average watch with fair care ought to wear from thirty to forty years and a fine watch fifty years; it might last seventy-five, but fifty years would probably be nearer the figure.

It may be thought that a superior watch would last longer than that, but really the wonder is that this delicate piece of mechanism running year after year ceaselessly should run so long.—New York Sun.

An ideal city for persons of moderate means is to be laid out near New York city by the Sage foundation. The ideal city will not consist merely of lawns and plumbing and pavements and the other material things of life multiplied and refined. In the ideal city there will be neither backbiting nor mud slinging. Frail mankind will wear the blinders of charity, and the village gossip will go muzzled, and there will be neither church feud nor spite fence. Such a city will consist of men and women rather than of houses and lots, but it is only fair to say that it can be developed most easily under perfect housing conditions.

The clocks of France are to be set back nine minutes to comply with Greenwich time. Nine happy minutes to be lived over again!

Some of the best governed countries have the worst constitutions, while some of the worst governed have constitutions which are theoretically all but perfect. The ruling factor, after all, is the genius of the people and their capacity for self government.

Power House Is Wrecked.
 New York.—Twelve persons were killed, two of them women, and 30 were injured in a double explosion of gas and dynamite in the new electric power-house of the New York Central Railroad Monday morning.

The power house, which is built of stone and brick and is six stories high, took fire after the explosion and the interior was practically burned out. Fortunately for the thousands of commuters on the New York Central's lines, the force of the dynamite blasts was directed in an opposite direction from the railroad tracks.

WINTRY SWIN IN ATLANTIC JOY OF MANY

The old English habit of taking a cold plunge on rising is certainly spreading to an alarming extent. The Americans naturally were the first to follow this practice, which is now quite general throughout the world. But that was merely the first chapter in the progress of cleanliness. The second combined endurance and hardihood with the ablutionary process, and the third chronicles the daring stage.

There were a number of estimable cold water devotees in London who found their fancy was no longer a novelty or badge of distinction, whereupon they established what is now a historic London institution—the Christmas Bathing Club. The members of this organization solemnly and sturdily bathe annually each Christmas morn in the Serpentine in Regent's park in the conventional abbreviated costume, breaking the ice if necessary to permit a header from the springboard.

Not desiring to be outdone in such a manner, various members of the New York Athletic Club, aided and abetted by sundry other arctic swimmers, have instituted a daily dipping association with the roaring Atlantic or Sheephead bay as the receiver general, to use a pugilistic term. Coney Island is the brink of this fountain of perpetual youth, so it is evident Ponce de Leon was several miles out of the way in his bootless quest.

One of the most remarkable of the charter members of this club is Magistrate James E. Tighe of South Brooklyn, who for thirty years has followed the practice of taking a wintry bath, carrying an ax with him in case the ice proves refractory in Sheephead bay. The Judge is now about sixty years of age, so it is evident the congealed plunge either agrees with him or he is possessed of a marvelous constitution. He admits that he uses a mental science, persuading himself that the water is delightfully warm, else, as he candidly confesses, "it would be all over with me, for with one shiver I'd have to quit."

But all the Coney Island bathers are admittedly not as hardy as Judge Tighe, for they warm up with a medicine ball before entering the surf and confine their dips to brief spasms. It is quite a fad for New York motorists to watch the ice defers.

New Yorkers, particularly residents of Long Island, have another winter pastime that is equally as exciting as the ocean plunge and less chilling to the majority. This is scooting. The habitat of the scooter is on Long Island sound and the Great South bay in particular, and the number of its admirers increases annually.

What is a scooter? Well, it is neither an iceboat nor a yacht proper, but its construction is of such a nature that it combines the advantages of both and travels with equal facility on ice and water. The bottom is shaped somewhat like a spoon and bears



BATHERS ON BEACH WITH THERMOMETER AT FIVE DEGREES—READY FOR A SNOW BACE.

Photo by American Press Association.

SCOOTER YACHT USED AS A DUCK BLIND.
 Two long steel runners. The craft is usually twelve to sixteen feet in length and carries a sail and a jib. It is steered either with a long pole tipped with an edged runner as a rudder or by the jib. As for speed, the scooter has the reputation of having beaten one of the fastest iceboats in the east.

The scooter is utilized as a winter lifeboat by the relief station at Smith beach, Long Island, but it is particularly popular among sportsmen. Duck hunters, for instance, can visit hunting grounds twelve miles away in less than half an hour and find spots that would otherwise be inaccessible at that time of the year. The scooter can also be used as a blind.