

Supplement to Bandon Recorder

JULY 2, 1908.

SUBINTELLIGENCE.

Some Persons Imitate Unconsciously the Actions of Others.

"Have you ever noticed," asked an observant physician the other day, "how persons who have something on their minds imitate unconsciously the actions of others?"

A reply in the negative brought forth a reiteration of the statement.

"A subintelligence seems to be at work," continued the physician, "in all of us at all times that controls our actions and causes us to do a great many things unconsciously. A nervous man or woman will twist and tear a scrap of paper or toy with some article for an hour at a time. When spoken to such persons start and look at the article in their hands as though wondering where they had obtained it. In nine cases out of ten this person saw some other person doing the same thing, and unconsciously his or her hands, under the direction of subintelligence, sought out the paper or article to play with."

The conversation took place in the waiting room of a ferry house, where a score of business men, all preoccupied mentally with the coming business of the day and all anxious to get to their offices, were congregated, waiting for a boat. To prove the truth of his remarks the physician suggested an experiment. He began a march up and down the waiting room. In two seconds a worried looking man who appeared to be a prosperous merchant or broker began to march also. Two clerks and a stout person followed his example. In five minutes two men who were reading newspapers were the only persons out of the twenty odd in the room who were not walking about. The physician ceased suddenly. Peculiar as it may seem, his action appeared to give the whole assemblage a shock. They woke up, as it were, but not sufficiently to know that they had been experimented upon. Before the boat arrived they had assumed the positions in which the physician found them.

"Another thing I have noticed," added the physician, "is that the higher the intelligence of a man is the more liable he is to be controlled by subconsciousness. An unintelligent man seems to have none of it."—New York Globe.

FOREST ETHICS.

Put Out Your Campfire Yourself and Plant a New Tree.

Be sure to put out your campfire before you abandon it in the morning to take up the trail. Do not leave the task for one of your camp servants, not even for your guide, whose interest in keeping the woods free of devastating fires, being a matter of bread and butter, is therefore the keenest of any of your camp followers, but who, none the less, is apt to be careless. See to it yourself. Leave no smoldering back-log of the night's "friendly fire." Leave no smoking coals that have served to broil (so deliciously) the breakfast trout, for such relics so often are fanned into the tiny flame which, feeding upon nearby leaves or moss or bush twigs, grows within two days to a devouring blaze that consumes acres of forest before its withering touch is stayed. If you are close to a brook use its water plentifully, and if water is scarce knock the live ends of the larger sticks until not a spark is left and scrape dirt over all the coals—not a few handfuls of dust that the wind may scatter at its first breath, but dirt that will bury and smother.

No doubt my average reader thinks I am writing a lot to deliver one small message, but let him consider that hundreds of acres of forest land, worth thousands, measured by dollars, and of inestimable resources of the country, are annually destroyed from just such insignificant beginnings as the campfire which was not put out beyond the power of the passing breeze to re-suscitate. Therefore the warning appeal cannot be too important since we as a nation are using up from three to four times as much wood every year as the country is producing.

Two worthy exhibits of genuine Americanism are, first, not to add to forest destruction by carelessly leaving fire around, and, second, always to plant a new tree—young tree—for every one you destroy. And plant it where it will do the most good.—Outing Magazine.

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Job Work

to THE RECORDER.

THE COW AND THE GATE.

Animal Ability to Associate One Thing With Another.

When I was a bucolic treasury clerk in Washington the cow of an old Irishwoman near by used to peep through the cracks in my garden fence at my growing corn and cabbage till her mouth watered. Then she saw that a place in the fence yielded to me and let me in, so she tried it. She nudged the gate with her nose until she hit the latch, and the gate swung open and let her in. There was an audible crunching of succulent leaves and stalks that soon attracted my attention. I hustled her out and sent a kick after her that fell short and nearly unjointed my leg. But she was soon back, and she came again and again till I discovered her secret and repaired the latch so that nudging or butting the gate would not open it.

How surely such conduct as this of the cow's evinces reason to most persons! But shall we not rather call it the blind gropings of instinct stimulated into action by the sight and odor of the tender vegetables? Many of the lowest organisms show just as much intelligence about their food as did the old cow.

Even the American sun dew, according to Mrs. Treat, will move its leaves so that it can seize a fly pinned half an inch from it. The method of the old cow was that of hit and miss or trial and error. She wanted the corn, and she butted the gate, and, as luck would have it, when she hit the latch the gate swung open. But shall we conclude that the beast had any idea at all but the sense impression made upon her hunger by the growing vegetables?

Judge Topping was in Coquille last week where he had a case in the equity court.

Ray Bixby and R. G. Nevinger of Mc Pherson, Kas., arrived in Bandon Tuesday and will open up a pantorium in the Gallier hardware building. These young men are both experienced in this line and will no doubt give entire satisfaction in their work. See their ad in this issue.

SEE THE OTHER SIDE