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HEALTH EDUCATION

BY DR. J. J. MIDDLETON

Provincial Board of Health, Ontario

Dr. Middleton will be glad to answer questions on Public Health matters through this column. Address him at Spadina House, Spadina Crescent, Toronto.

Remarkable advance has been made in the prevention and cure of disease during the past few years. This can be attributed in large part to the general improvement in sanitation and knowledge of the science of healthful living. As compared with the death rate of 1880, a million and a half lives were saved in the United States last year, according to figures just issued by the census bureau.

Wide differences in the death rate in some cases a little short of tragic are shown, while in other cases there is a healthful condition of affairs. Here and there geography may account for the differences but in others no such explanation seems adequate. Very similar conditions prevail throughout the cities and rural districts of Ontario. In some cases the general death rate is high, in some cases the infant death rate is high. Reverse conditions are found in other communities.

A city without slums and a Board of Health that really functions are two important reasons given for the low death rate in one city in Ohio. The report says: "A full time health officer laid the foundation of health work which has been continued and expanded. The enforcement of quarantine in contagious and venereal diseases has been very efficient. Mostly modern school buildings help keep down

children's diseases. Probably one factor in our health standing is the physical examination by large rubber industries of all prospective employees in connection with employers' liability laws." Another city with a low death rate has this message: "There are no slum districts or squalid tenements from one end of the city to the other. Pure water, pure milk and pure food—these are the things which count in our favor. In every case of low mortality rate the reasons given are practically the same: "Vigilance of the Health Department, and its result on pure food, the city clinic, the baby hospital, the water supply, a constant educational campaign, the services of public health nurses and similar measures." Measures that have been given credit for keeping down epidemics, especially water-borne diseases, include the system of health inspection in the schools, strict quarantine regulations among adults, the work of the anti-tuberculosis society, food inspection and well-enforced sanitary regulations generally. Added to this, and of great importance, is the medical fraternity of the cities concerned, which co-operates whole-heartedly, and a public which sensibly recognizes the value of precautionary health measures.

These points are worthy of consideration if health work is to be really effective in any community.

Mosquitoes and Malaria.

It is estimated that the deaths annually from malaria number some two millions, and this figure may probably be multiplied by two or three hundred if we would arrive at the total number of people in the world affected by the complaint.

Malaria is mainly a disease of the tropics, and is caused by a minute parasite in the blood. The parasites in one malaria patient may number anything from one hundred to a thousand and millions. In many cases there are more parasites in the system of a malaria patient than there are people on the earth, and for ages it was believed that marshes and malaria were in some way connected.

Sir Ronald Ross discovered that it was not the marsh but the mosquito which bred in the marsh which was the originator of the disease, and he declares that the parasite of malaria is, to the mosquito which carries it, as a three-penny-bit would be to a hippopotamus!

When a disease-carrying mosquito bites, it injects a saliva in which are the malaria parasites. These are carried into the human circulatory system and so throughout the body.

The cure of malaria is quinine, but the prevention of malaria is the destruction of the mosquito in which it breeds.

Sheep Tracks.

"Sheep tracks" running horizontally along the face of steep slopes, a Danish geologist says, are a natural formation. He calls the little paths "terracettes" and says they begin as a succession of horizontal cracks in the loose earth caused by the settling of the earth to a more stable position. Once the crack is started the action of the rain causes the marking to become rapidly more distinct, and it soon resembles a path made by animals. Sheep and other animals naturally use the paths, but they do not begin them.

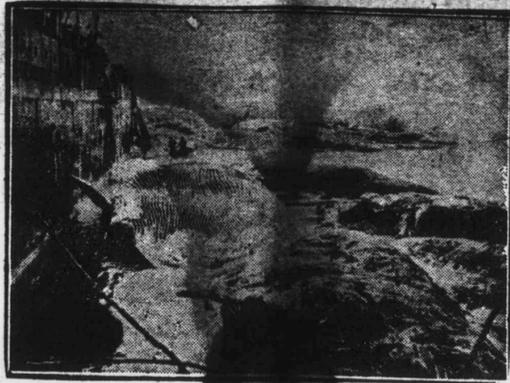


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which contains proven directions Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets Also bottles of 24 and 48—Druggists



Eighteen blue whales along the coast were the result of an expedition into the frozen south. The photograph was made at Discovery Inlet and shows the ice barrier in the background.

One Cure For All Disease.

What is disease? Is it possible that diseases are really one, and that one antidote might be discovered to cure every ill?

That is the startling theory of Mr. J. E. R. McDonagh, F.R.C.S., discussed in "The World To-day" by Mr. J. Abraham, the famous British surgeon. Mr. Johnston Abraham believes that this theory may be the beginning of a new creative crisis in modern medicine.

"Disease," he writes, "if Mr. McDonagh's thesis be accepted, is simply a successful attempt on the part of the invading organism to rob the protective particles in the blood of their free electricity; and recovery from disease is a reversal of this process, due to the protective particles finally getting the upper hand of the invading organism by recapturing this electricity."

"It will thus be seen that the idea underlying this revolutionary doctrine is based on the electron theory—the theory which has already altered all modern ideas of physics, chemistry, and electricity."

In Mr. McDonagh's view, the body possesses a general protective substance which resist generally. The basis of cure would be in every case of organic illness the strengthening of this substance; and, given certain poisonous conditions, the antidote most suitable for increasing the condensed power of the protective particles could be worked out by chemists.

This antidote would be a cure-all. It would put reinforcements into the system to fight the germs of all diseases.

CHILDHOOD INDIGESTION

Nothing is more common in childhood than indigestion. Nothing is more dangerous to proper growth, more weakening to the constitution or more likely to pave the way to dangerous disease. Fully nine-tenths of all the minor ills of childhood have their root in indigestion. There is no medicine for little ones to equal Baby's Own Tablets in relieving this trouble. They have proved of benefit in thousands of homes. Concerning them Mrs. Jos. Lunette, Immaculate Conception, Que., writes: "My baby was a great sufferer from indigestion, but the Tablets soon set her right, and now I would not be without them." Baby's Own Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

His Mother's Spirit?

A little boy, six years of age, recently ran away from his home at Aversa—about twelve miles from Naples—to escape from his stepmother, who illustrated him.

Having searched for him in vain, his father informed the police. Soon Pasqualino was discovered at Naples with his few days before, she had heard a knocking at her door, and on opening it, she had seen, to her astonishment, her small grandson standing there alone.

"Who brought you here?" she asked. "A woman," answered Pasqualino. "What woman?"

"I don't know," said the child, who then told his grandmother that he had run away because his stepmother beat him, but had got frightened, not knowing where to go. While he was wandering about the streets of Aversa, a woman came up to him and took him by the hand. Without speaking she lifted him on to the electric tram that runs between Aversa and Naples, holding him closely to her all the way. At Naples she led him to his grandmother's house, knocked, gave him a kiss, and left him.

"Had you never seen her before?" asked the wondering grandmother. "Never, but she was like that," said the boy, pointing to a photograph of his own mother that stood on the table. His mother had died when he was only a few months old.

In Doubt.

He: "You are the sunshine of my life. Your smile falls like lightning into my soul. With you by my side I would defy all the storms of life." She: "Is this a proposal of a weather report?"

The optimist is a barometer stuck "ret. f. l.": the pessimist is a barometer stuck "ret. s. l.": No sensible man will pay sixpence for either.

TRIALS OF INDIGESTION

Common Errors About This Trouble Into Which People Fall.

Many people so far misunderstand the digestive system as to treat it like a machine; neglecting it until it works sluggishly, then irritating it into work again by the use of purgatives. The stomach needs help at all times, but a study of the process of digestion will show that purgatives, as commonly taken, are seldom necessary and often harmful.

To safeguard your digestion the diet must be controlled. Over-eating is always harmful, but one must assimilate enough food to supply the needs of the blood. Remember, the blood has to carry nourishment to all parts of the body and find fuel for its energy. Hence when the blood becomes weak and fails to do its work, indigestion arises. Therefore the sure remedy for indigestion is to build up the blood. If you suffer from any form of indigestion choose your diet carefully and take wholesome nourishment. Above all, start building up your blood by taking a course of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Then under the influence of the new blood supply, your digestive system will respond naturally, your appetite improve and your food will do you good. So begin to improve your digestion by starting to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills now.

You can get these pills from your druggist or by mail at 50 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.



Of Course.

Mother—"Bobby, this note from your teacher says you're the last boy in a class of twenty-five." Bobby—"Well, it could be worse." Mother—"I don't see how." Bobby—"It could be a bigger class."

Butterfly Culture in France.

Butterfly culture in the south of France is rapidly growing in popularity. There, under expert scientific guidance, hundreds of beautiful specimens are bred. The farms are provided with special leafy trees and plants on which the eggs are hatched. Directly the young appear the branches are taken to a well-ventilated room, where they are placed in pans of water. As soon as the caterpillars have eaten up this first supply of leaves fresh branches are provided. Having been in an even temperature for about two weeks, the young caterpillars are taken out into the open, where they are placed on plants protected from birds by nets. When fully grown this protective net is removed and soon they retire into cocoons or roll themselves up into leaves. There are collected and stored in boxes, where in a very short time butterflies of wonderful hues are evolved. Cross-breeding has been tried and numerous experiments are conducted to obtain brilliant and original markings on the wings of these insects, which are afterwards sold to collectors or for the decoration of women's hats and dresses.

A few fellows who tried to do ge work have wound up in the penitentiary at hard work without remuneration.

Frame your mind to mirth and merriment, which bar a thousand harms and lengthen life.

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MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

Old People

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WHEN IN TORONTO VISIT THE
Royal Ontario Museum
225 Bloor St. West, near Avenue Road. Largest permanent exhibition in Canada. Archaeology, Geology, Mineralogy, Palaeontology, Zoology. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 2 to 5 p.m. Elevator, Bay, and Church cars.

PECULIARITIES OF CANADIAN VEGETATION

New Map Shows Areas of Various Forms of Vegetation and Emphasizes Striking Features of Tree Growth

Lack of knowledge of climatic and vegetation conditions has caused many prominent travellers and visitors to Canada to unjustly criticize this country. The same and in many cases greater ignorance of Canadians has permitted much of this unjust criticism to pass unanswered and unrefuted, with the result that Canada has often been unfairly condemned.

The Natural Resources Intelligence Service of the Department of the Interior, partly as a result of the great number of enquiries received, has prepared and published an exceedingly interesting Vegetation and Forest Cover Map of Canada. This shows at a glance the different zones of vegetation and their chief distinguishing characteristics, from what are known as the barren lands, that are in no sense barren but support a growth of hardy grass and vegetation peculiar to the cold climate, to what is termed the Carolinian zone, in south-eastern Ontario, where is found almost subtropical vegetation in the fruit belt.

The enormous area of Canada must of necessity provide a wide range of vegetation and forest conditions. In the northern country, extending from the shore of Hudson Bay to the Mackenzie delta, the white spruce struggles for existence, while on the south-eastern portion of Vancouver Island are found a number of Californian types of trees, the most remarkable being the madrona, or arbutus, the only broad-leaved evergreen tree in Canada.

The new map is an intensely interesting one, and one that will conduce to much study and investigation. An immense amount of hitherto unpublished information is shown thereon, much research work was entailed, and the notes of explorers and surveyors, from those of Sir Alexander MacKenzie, Sir John Franklin, Samuel Hearne and others to the more modern surveys and explorations of the different Federal and Provincial government departments, were carefully examined for authentic records. To the student of Canadian conditions the new map will be of much assistance in enabling him to segregate the several vegetation zones, approximate the possibilities of forest exploitation, and establish the areas of known farming districts.

From north to south, from east to west, all the wonderful changes in our natural vegetation are vividly portrayed on the new Vegetation and Forest Cover Map. It fills a want long experienced, and will no doubt be in considerable demand. Copies may be obtained from the Director of the Natural Resources Intelligence Service of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa.

Six Years of Pain.

There is a prevalent opinion on the outside of China that the custom of foot-binding among the girl children of that country has been generally abandoned, but such is not the case. The movement appears to have taken root only in the more populous districts, but at other parts the custom is still followed to a very great extent. The foot of the infant girl is turned under so that the toe is bent back toward the heel and it is tightly bound in this position. It means six years of constant pain before the foot has taken the desired shape and then it measures from three to five inches in length. At one time a law was passed forbidding foot-binding, but there was no penalty and no means of enforcing it, so that no attention was paid to it by the natives.

Twenty miles of sewing cotton may be used in the making of a fur coat.

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For pain, stiffness, or inflammation apply Minard's and rub it in.

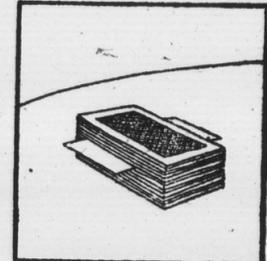


Old People

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FARM LOANS MADE—
Mortgages purchased. Reynolds,
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EASY TRICKS The Cut Foretold



This stunt is invariably successful if it is performed in a matter of fact, straightforward manner. Observe, while shuffling the cards, which card is on the bottom of the pack. This can easily be done, and will excite no suspicion as the trick does not immediately follow. Borrow a business card, write the name of the card you observed on it and seal it in the envelope. Before doing this, place the pack of cards, face down, on the table.

Ask the spectator to cut the cards into two parts in the usual manner. Place the envelope on the packet which was the upper pack—or ask a spectator to do this and place the other packet on the envelope.

The rest of the trick consists of showing, in as impressive a manner as possible, the "fact" that before the cards were cut that you wrote the name of the card at which the spectator cut.

(Olip this out and paste it, with other of the series, in a scrapbook.)

Minard's Liniment for Rheumatism.

Three golden rules of life of a centenarian who died, aged 107, never; Never to enter a ball-room; never to talk scandal; and never to enter a bar.

Dancers to the number of 10,000 can be accommodated on the new dance floor at Wembley; this is the largest in England, if not in the world.



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"Branchton, Ont.—"When I wrote to you for help my action was mostly prompted by curiosity. I wondered if I, too, would benefit by your medicine. It was the most profitable action I have ever taken, I heartily assure you, for through its results I am relieved of most of my sufferings. I have taken six boxes of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Tablets and a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Blood Medicine, and I can honestly say I have never been so well before. I had suffered from pains and other troubles since I was fifteen years old, and during the 'Great War' period I worked on munitions for two years, and, in the heavy lifting which my work called for, I strained myself, causing pelvic inflammation from which I have suffered untold agony, and I often had to give up and go to bed. I had doctored for several years without getting permanent relief, when I started to take your medicines."—Mrs. GOLDWIN MISENER, Branchton, Ont.

Write to the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Cobourg, Ontario, for a free copy of Lydia E. Pinkham's Private Text-Book upon "Ailments of Women." 0



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