

NOTES AND COMMENTS

In the closing lecture of the Tuberculosis Congress in England, Prof. F. Hunter Boyd paid high tribute to the high value of the Jewish dietary laws, which, he said, had the credit for the well-known good health and longevity of the Jews, and particularly for their immunity from tubercular diseases.

Undoubtedly much of this praise was well bestowed. The Jews have for many centuries been carefully elaborating rules of conduct and diet which would enable them to avoid diseases, preserve health and maintain their existence under the most insanitary conditions. It is said that in the Talmud there can be found a law for everything, from finding a dead fly in a room to the proper method of burial.

All the same, physicians are now inclining to the opinion that the immunity of Jews to pulmonary diseases results from natural selection. For ages the greater part of those whom we know as Jews have been living in squalid, crowded quarters in the most insanitary surroundings. As a result those who are liable to pulmonary diseases died out long ago and left no offspring.

The struggle for religious liberty in Russia is going energetically. In spite of the Czar's manifesto granting religious liberty, the persecution of other creeds has continued unabated, not only against non-Christian religions, but, as is usually the case, those nearest the orthodox church continued to receive the sharpest hostility.

The Duma passed an act giving all citizens the right to choose their own religion, and be further allowed to change it as they wished. Children should have the right to choose their own religion after the age of 14. This act is regarded in Russia as equivalent to the French proceedings in separating the church and state, and the liberal people of Russia exult much over the progress attained.

WISDOM FOR WOMEN.

All's fair in love and marriage. Laughter is good for the teeth—If you have a fine set. Some men think the best way to earn socks is to get married. A woman detests a man who flatters almost as much as one who doesn't. The wife should reign in the house, however much the husband may storm. Many a bride finds it easy to forget the past when she contemplates the presents. Girls are the most up-to-date creatures in the world—except when it comes to telling their ages. A wife plays the leading role on many a domestic stage.

YOUNG FOLKS

BETWEEN THE LINES.

Roger and Donald were about the most excited boys alive when they learned that a regiment of troops was to spend a week in camp near their home. Their grandfather, who had been a soldier himself, told them many thrilling tales of soldier life.

When the time at last arrived it was sport to watch the soldiers go marching by, company after company, with the band playing and the flags flying; and the older people also seemed to enjoy it.

At first the boys watched the doings in camp from a safe distance, but soon they got used to it and were bolder, and one day toward the end of the week they ventured well into the parade-ground itself.

Suddenly Roger clutched Donald by the arm. "Look!" he gasped. "The soldiers are coming this way!"

From one side of the field the troops were marching in double-quick time, line upon line, their guns gleaming in the sunshine, and the mounted officers riding upon the flank. For an instant the two intruders gazed, fascinated, at the oncoming ranks.

"Do you suppose they are after us?" whispered Donald. "Perhaps they think we are spies!" ventured Roger.

They turned to run, but stopped short, for behind them was another body of soldiers, also coming straight in their direction. There was no tree or wall at hand to afford them shelter—only the big, bare field, with the lines of soldiers hurrying down upon them from front and rear.

Hardly had the two boys started to run off to one side, in the hope of escaping that way, when the charging soldiers began firing their guns and shouting with all their might. The air was quickly filled with smoke, and then all at once the soldiers whom they had first seen were upon them.

But the ranks opened a bit, and with laughter and good-natured jokes at their discomfiture, the soldiers rushed by, leaving two very frightened and bewildered young men to hurry home as fast as their legs could carry them.

"This is the day of the mock battle," said their mother, when they had related their adventure to her a few minutes later. "I ought to have told you not to go near the camp."—Youth's Companion.

SOME FREAKISH HOUSES.

"Revolving House," Also Mansion in Trees—Odd Structures.

Instances of eccentricity on the part of those building and furnishing houses are common enough in every country. The following instances of freakishness in that way may be cited in illustration of certain phases.

In the County Westmeath an Irishman has built himself a house, all the windows of which are made to resemble in outline the backs of easy chairs, the idea of the eccentric owner being to match the backs of the set of chairs in the dining room.

A Russian gentleman recently erected, at a cost of 8,000 roubles, on his country estate at Savinowka, in Podolia, a sixteen-roomed house made entirely of paper. This house is calculated by its architect to last longer than would a building of brick or stone. The whole of the furniture, too, is made of the same material.

In another instance a landowner, thinking that the view from his house lacked a church, proceeded to supply its place by erecting a row of cottages so designed as to resemble, from his side, the edifice required. Approached from the other direction, however, the sham is at once manifest.

Some years ago a man of scientific attainments, as well as of considerable means, elected to live in a tree in the suburb of a busy city—that is, he enjoyed his leisure moments in the branches of the tree itself, where he caused to be built a platform large enough to accommodate easy chairs and such other furniture as he desired to make use of during the day.

At the base of the tree, however, and surrounding it, was built a structure of brick and stone enclosing the sleeping apartments of this eccentric individual. For many years this unique residence was one of the sights of the district.

One of the oddest houses ever constructed was the fruit of a Frenchman's inventive fancy. This was the "revolving house," a structure actually built upon castors so to speak, in order that the occupant might, by means of an ingenious mechanism, at any time roll it about, obtaining whatever light and air his fancy dictated.

"What's the matter? Doesn't life look rosy?" "Not much. My creditors are after me, and life is more of a dun color."

FOR THE NURSE AT HOME

SOME HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE AMATEUR.

Absolute Cleanliness is a Necessity—Patient Must Not Hear Consulation.

There are many little points for those who are nursing in the home to know that are of the utmost importance for the comfort of the ill, among them the preparation of the invalid's tray and the food that goes on it.

The absolute cleanliness of the room is a necessity, prompt removal of soiled dishes and glasses, empty bottles and soiled linen and fading flowers, while no strong odored fruits should be allowed to stand in the room a moment.

Remember to shield the light from the patient day or night. Oil squeaking door hinges and soap the sills and edges if the door sticks.

Gently, but firmly, restrict all friendly visits to fifteen minutes, if allowed at all, and suggest that the visitors introduce only pleasant topics into their conversation while they stay.

Never stand over an invalid's bed and consult with another about food, or, in fact, anything that concerns him or her, for it makes the invalid nervous and irritable. It is enough to worry about those things when one is able to walk about, but on the flat of one's back it is torture.

Realizing the great power of mind in these days the cheerful nurse is the only one to have one who seems a tower of strength to the weak one. If asked to read the paper pick out the newsy bright articles, speak distinctly and do not rattle the paper needlessly.

GIVE FOOD DEFTLY.

When feeding invalids with a spoon sit close enough to do it deftly, so that they are not afraid of being choked or drenched by its contents.

When the patient is ready for the night let the nurse be ready for quiet also and not fidget around until the patient is wide-awake and nervous.

Never startle an ill person by coming from behind them; always come toward them, and speak naturally and quietly lest they grow confused as to one's identity. It worries the weak to keep clearly the persons in mind about them if there are a number coming and going.

Do not attempt to stir a patient into a lively sense of gratitude for flowers, fruit and so on sent by friends, but keep the cards, as it is amusing to answer them during the convalescent period.

Bells, clocks, pianos or any noised that annoys should be guarded against.

HAVE DAINTY TRAY.

The advent of the tray is always an interesting event in the patient's day, and to prepare it is a great art. It must be exquisitely dainty so that it seems appetizing, and small portions only served at a time, lest the sight of too much turns the patient's desire. The usual jellies of wine, fruit, chicken, calf's foot, made in the regular way should be moulded in tiny moulds.

Broiled chicken, birds, chops, oysters, frogs' legs and sweetbreads are highly recommended for nourishing fare, as is also stewed tripe, baked potatoes, rice and stewed prunes. Stale bread, pulled bread, and toast are the usual varieties in the "staff of life." French codfish boiled and shredded on toast is very dainty with cream dressing.

HE SMOKED ON.

Andrew Carnegie, at a recent dinner, told the following story: "I was travelling Londonward on an English railway last year," he said, "and had chosen a seat in a non-smoking carriage. At a wayside station a man boarded the train, sat down in my compartment, and lighted a vile clay pipe."

"This is not a smoking-carriage," said I. "All right, governor," said the man. "I'll just finish this pipe here." "He finished it, then refilled it." "See here," I said. "I told you this wasn't a smoking-carriage. If you persist with that pipe, I shall report you at the next station to the guard."

"I handed him my card. He looked at it, pocketed it, but lighted his pipe nevertheless. At the next station, however, he changed to another compartment."

"Calling the guard, I told him what had occurred, and demanded that the smoker's name and address be taken."

"Yes, sir," said the guard, and hurried away. In a little while he returned. He seemed rather awed. He bent over me, and said apologetically:

"Do you know, sir, if I were you I would not prosecute that gent. He has just given me his card. Here it is. He is Mr. Andrew Carnegie."

HEALTH

ENDOCARDITIS.

By this is meant an inflammation of the endocardium or membrane lining the cavities of the heart. It is caused by the presence of poisonous material, usually of living germs, in the blood, and is therefore most often associated with, or a consequence of, some general disease, such as rheumatism, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, diphtheria or pneumonia.

There are the usual two forms found in most diseases, acute and chronic, the last following upon the first; and there are also the more important divisions into simple and malignant endocarditis.

In the simple kind the lining membrane of the heart presents numerous points of inflammation—little red areas with a tuft or ball of fibrin, or clotted blood, in the centre. These inflamed spots are not large, and the clots attached to them are also small, in the simple form; but in malignant endocarditis the area inflamed is much more extensive and the clots are larger—sometimes almost filling the cavity of the heart. In some cases of malignant endocarditis, then called ulcerative endocarditis, the inflammation is so acute as to cause ulceration of the affected parts.

The dangers of endocarditis are twofold, danger to the heart itself and danger to the brain or lungs or of the other organs of the body. The danger to the heart is from injury to one of the valves. This almost always happens except in the mildest form of endocarditis, because the inflammation most often affects the edges of the valves. Even when the disease subsides without giving any sign of valvular injury at first, this often appears later through a fibrous thickening or scar-like contraction of the part originally inflamed. This interferes with the complete closure of the valve, and the result is a heart permanently crippled by valvular disease.

When there is actual ulceration of the valves, injury is inevitable. The danger to the brain or other organ is from detachment of the little blood clot from the inflamed spot and its carriage into the general circulation, where it plugs one of the smaller arteries. If this happens in the brain, it gives rise to symptoms of apoplexy.

The first principle of treatment is absolute rest in bed, and this inaction must be insisted upon long after the patient feels well and is well, and for the rest of life anything that may cause heart-strain must be carefully avoided.—Youth's Companion.

MAKING A DICTIONARY.

Fifty Years Was Spent Over One Book.

Twenty-one years ago Sir James Murray, better known perhaps as Dr. Murray, commenced to compile a new English dictionary. At the present the letters M. and P are in course of completion, and it is hoped that Z will be finished in 1912, or close upon a quarter of a century after the commencement of the work.

This, however, is by no means a record length of time for the compilation of an important dictionary. There is one published in Amsterdam and known as the great "Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal," which was commenced as far back as 1852. The first volume was published thirty years later, and at the present time the work is about half finished. The first volume of another Continental dictionary, containing A, was published in 1863, and will, it is estimated, not be finished until fifteen years hence.

A good idea of what the compilation of these important dictionaries really means is conveyed by some interesting figures published by the London Globe, concerning the dictionary on which Sir James Murray is engaged. It is estimated that there are 34,351,680 words in the dictionary to the letters mentioned, and 120,133,704 letters. There are 9,431 pages in this section, and if a man were to read such portions as are already published at the rate of one page a day, his task would take him nearly twenty-six years.

If the lines of type were arranged end to end, the distance covered would be about 116 miles, or five and a half times the journey between Dover and Calais, and nearly from Newhaven to Dieppe or from Dover to Ostend and back again in both cases. The printed matter in the volumes referred to, if arranged in columns, would extend nearly twenty-four times as high as the Eiffel Tower, and over 118 times as high as the Monument.

She—"Do you have any trouble in trying to live up to your ideals?" He—"Yes, I do; my ideal is a man who pays his bills."

"Yes, ma'am, this is spring lamb," declared the butcher. "Which spring?" asked the careful housewife.

IN MERRY OLD ENGLAND

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE.

Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World.

At the Hotel Great Central, London, Mrs. Moser, an American woman, was robbed of jewels valued at \$20,000.

Messrs. C. T. Brock & Co. have received the royal warrant appointing them pyrotechnists to H. M. the King.

The hospital authorities at Coventry are sending their convalescent patients to farm houses to recuperate.

A grocer at Haywards Heath has collected 110,000 postage stamps. The hobby has occupied his spare time for nine years.

The Mayor of Launceston has been appointed constable of Launceston Castle by the Prince of Wales, at a salary of \$5.00 a year.

Henry James Cross, a platelayer, was at Kirkham sent for trial for the alleged murder of his wife in a lonely cottage by beating her with a stick.

The scheme of street improvement in Croydon involves the demolition of the almshouses erected by Archbishop Whitgift in the sixteenth century.

A Dudley collier, his wife, and four children were attacked by ptomaine poisoning on account of eating boiled fowl and beef which had been twice cooked.

The fishermen of Portwinkle, Cornwall, caught a shark measuring nearly 10 feet in length. It became entangled in a mackerel net and caused great damage.

A Dover newspaper recently printed an account of a water otter being caught there. It was found out later that the "water otter" was an iron tea kettle.

Members of the local police force are occupying the pulpit at services now being held at Wesley Hall, Sydenham, for the benefit of the force in the district.

A London theatrical manager who requires a classical beauty for an artistic statutory act, is offering \$2,500 a year to the lady who comes up to the required standard.

To form a site for a new examination hall for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Nos. 8, 9, 10 and 11, Queen's square, Bloomsbury, have been purchased.

During the last six months the Primrose League of London has enlisted 44,924 members, and since its inception twenty-five years ago 2,000,000 members have been enrolled.

The total number of visitors to the Zoological Gardens from January 1 up to the end of July was 442,077, or a decrease of 33,330 as compared with the corresponding period last year.

Tramps who spend the week-end at Salisbury Workhouse are deprived of their clothes on Sunday and are compelled to remain all day in the cells in a shirt provided by the guardians.

The organ in Layston parish church, Hertfordshire, failing to play, it was found that mice had built their nests inside.

The death occurred at Epping-bourne of Honorary Lieutenant Charles Austen, aged seventy, who had spent fifty-two years in the royal navy.

Three thousand pounds has been subscribed to the City Steamboat Company, Limited, which proposes to re-establish a cheap steamboat service on the Thames.

Suicide whilst in a fit of bad temper was the very unusual verdict returned at Haslingden recently at an inquest on the body of a man who hanged himself after a tiff with his wife.

SEVERELY REPRIMANDED.

General Stawes was a martinet, a stickler for etiquette, a man with a prodigious sense of his own dignity, and when Private S. Weigh, the bugler, one day failed to honor him in passing with the customary salute, he flew—internally—into a towering rage.

"Knutt," he said that afternoon to the colonel, "Private Weigh failed to salute me this morning. A breach of etiquette, sir! A piece of impertinence—my dignity—how! See that the man is severely reprimanded."

Colonel Knutt trembled and nodded and next day spoke to the captain.

"Bisket," he said, "Private Weigh failed to salute the general yesterday. Please see that he is severely reprimanded."

"Right, sir," said Captain Bisket, and the next day he spoke to the sergeant. "Sergeant," he said, "Weigh didn't salute the general. See that he is severely reprimanded."

"Look here, Binks," said the sergeant next day to the corporal bugler, "give Weigh a good talking to, will you? He didn't salute the old general the other day."

Finally the corporal bugler communicated with Private Weigh. "Look here, funny face," said he, "if you don't salute old Pokesback next time you meet him, what-ho, young feller, you'll get a blooming clout on the ear 'ole!"

Fashion Hints.

SEEN IN PARIS SHOPS.

Sleeves are now tight fitting only at the wrist.

Many draped hats are being shown for the early fall.

There seems to be a revival of colored linings for sheer gowns.

Heavy corded moire is a material that will be much seen this fall.

Bengaline and moire promise to be great favorites in the winter costume.

An innovation of the season is the use of mousseline ruching to finish silk gowns.

The reappearance of the flounced dress is one of the novelties of the moment.

Foulards will figure generously in the making of fall and winter house dresses.

Cloaks of the moment are much on the same lines as those of fifty years ago.

Trimmings of sable blackness are again to figure conspicuously or nearly everywhere.

Huge cut jet barrettes are being worn and are particularly effective upon blond heads.

Some of the huge turban shaped hats of soft material are studded with jewels or with jet.

The latest sleeve for tailor made is small and close with no apparent fullness at the top.

Where every day suits are in plain color navy blue and brown seal will be popular shades.

All kinds of eighteenth century gear is to be in vogue this winter, if Paris predicts aright.

Silk serge and some of the heavier ottoman weaves in silk are to be made up in dressy fall street costumes.

Black velvet bearded velvet wheat in sheafs is the newest trimming on hats for middle aged and elderly ladies.

Handsome knotted silk fringe are moving this season and form the natural trimming for the embroidered cape.

Some of the gayest colored linen gowns are of the simplest treatment with collars and cuffs of plain white linen.

Even full dress costumes are to clear the ground if the latest edict of Paris abolishing all trains is obeyed.

Established tones of colors to be worn this season are maize, cerise, blue, lime green, linden green, and King's purple.

Many of the new silks incline to dull effects rather than to brilliant sheen, but the latter will be by no means abolished.

The fall coat will almost certainly be long, so long, in fact, that not over two inches of the skirt will be left in view.

The Louis XVI tricorne, or three cornered hat, is coming back this winter with its luxurious mass of feathers.

Satin fabrics will undoubtedly figure prominently in fall and winter wear, as they combine excellently well with the favorite nets.

If the low cut coat, buttoning below the waist, retains its popularity, as seems likely, we shall soon see the waistcoat playing an important role.

Wide bands of pretty embroideries are inserted in some sleeves from the collar and shoulders of the gown, continuing down as far as the elbow.

The double width crepes, satins, roadcloths, etc., are excellently adapted for the circular or draped cape, and this season there are innumerable new candidates for such uses among the modish materials.

MINING FOR WOOD.

A curious source of wealth is reported by the French Consul at Montze, in upper Tonkin. It lies in wood mines. The wood originally was a pine forest, which the earth swallowed in some cataclysm. Some of the trees are a yard in diameter. They lie in a slanting direction and in sandy soil, high covers them to a depth of about eight yards. As the top branches are well preserved, it is thought the geological convulsion which buried them cannot be of very great antiquity. The wood furnished by these timber mines is imperishable, and the Chinese gladly buy it for coffins.

SIMPLE COUGH CURE.

A simple cough cure that is highly recommended by a well-known physician is composed of one ounce each of horehound and licorice, two ounces of gum arabic, one pound of molasses and one teacupful of vinegar. Boil the horehound in one quart of water, dissolve the licorice and gum arabic in a little water first. Strain the horehound before adding the other ingredients. Add the vinegar last when it is nearly done.

Her string is soon worn out if a girl has too many beaus.

Many a man would rather have a tooth pulled than pay his taxes.