

AIR OF OUR HOMES TOO DRY.

A Physician of Boston Has Invented a Contrivance to Remedy the Difficulty.

The System of Heating, and How to Economize in Coal Bill.

At the recent meeting of the American Public Health Association in Philadelphia the platform during one session held what looked to be a miniature telephone cage, but which proved to be a "humidifier," referred to in a paper read by Dr. Henry J. Barnes, of Boston upon the "Lack of Proper Humidity of Indoor Atmosphere." The contrivance is not patented, nor so far as known is it a trade secret, being simply the device of Dr. Barnes for adding to the comfort of his home, the health of his family, and, as it proved, to the lessening of the coal bill.

The humidifier is about 24 inches square, the top and two sides of solid wood, the third side a tight door, and the fourth or front in part of open-work brass. The bottom is open, and the whole affair is intended to stand over the floor register.

One-half of the interior is taken up with a galvanized iron water tank, with a broad edge at the top, on which rests a brass frame to hold several rods from which are suspended strips of cotton felt almost the width of the tank and long enough to reach to the bottom of it. When in use this tank is filled with water and the strips of felt dipping into it become wet. The hot air coming up through the register into the other half of the box has no other means of exit than past these wetted strips, in contact with which it becomes charged with moisture.

If the air of the room becomes too moist, so as to be seen by the deposit of dew or frost on the window panes, then by a simple bit of mechanism the strips are lifted from the tank, the hot air dries them, and, passing beyond, rights matters in the atmosphere of the room. Then the strips dip back again into the tank, and moistening of the air is resumed. When the register of a room is in the side wall Dr. Barnes would have the side of his humidifier opposite the brass open work and made to fit close about the register, and the bottom would be closed.

With this humidifier, Dr. Barnes said, it was possible during its use in his home to obtain a mean of 53 per cent. relative to humidity in a mean temperature of 65.3 degrees through the evaporation of from two quarts to two gallons of water per diem. During this period the outside mean temperature was 32 degrees, with relative humidity of 73 per cent. This temperature was perfectly comfortable, whereas without the addition of the moisture from 70 to 71 degrees was required for comfort.

BREATHING AIR THAT IS TOO DRY

Dr. Barnes's reason for the need of humidifiers in our homes is based on the fact that the air we breathe is constantly kept too dry in cold weather. Our system of heating burns all the moisture out of air, makes it unfit to breathe, and causes catarrh, malaria, and other pestilential annoyances from which people suffer. The mean humidity of this country ranges from 60 to 80 per cent. under normal conditions. Yet the hygrometer shows that there is a wide departure from normal in our homes in winter, the temperature being raised so that the humidity is lowered even below that which naturally exists in the most arid regions of the country. Not infrequently there is no more humidity in the air in which we live than exists in kilns in which lumber is artificially dried. Thus in a series of observations made by Dr. Barnes, he found in a ward of the Boston City Hospital during a period of seven days the average temperature was 60° and the mean relative humidity 29 per cent. the temperature of the outdoor atmosphere being 30° and its humidity 71 per cent. In his own office during eight days the temperature was 71° humidity 27 per cent., outside temperature 31°, and humidity 73 per cent. In the Woman's Hospital, Boston, the inside temperature was 72°, humidity 24 per cent., outside temperature 21°, with humidity 67 per cent. The average of the six places under observation covering thirty-eight days was: Indoor temperature, 70°, with mean relative humidity 31 per cent.; outdoor temperature, 29°, humidity, 71 per cent. That is, while normally constituted air had a mean humidity of 71 per cent., indoor life was with a mean of 31 per cent.

"These observations," Dr. Barnes said, "fairly represent our living conditions when housed in winter, namely, an atmosphere more deficient in moisture than is any other in the world except the arid region of Fort Yuma, the mean of which, however, is above that of the rooms mentioned."

EFFECT OF HOT, DRY AIR.

"The effect of the arid atmosphere of Fort Yuma, as given by Dr. Billings, is, 'Dry and hard skin, crisp hair, loosened furniture, newspapers so brittle that they must be handled with the greatest care, and scarcely more trace from a No. 2 Faber pencil than anthracite would make.' Tyndall says of the Sahara: 'Where the soil is fire and the wind is flame, the refrigeration is painful to bear.' This cooling effect of hot dry air is understood when we know that in a temperature of 70 degrees, with a relative humidity of .81 per cent., the wet bulb thermometer (from which heat is extracted as from our bodies by evaporation of moisture) would indicate a temperature of only 54.4 degrees. With the minimum of .35 per cent. in the temperature of 99 degrees of the City Hospital, the temperature would feel, as shown by the wet bulb thermometer, would be only 48 degrees. The slightest movement of air under such conditions would

TRUCE WITHNESS AND CATHOLIC BOYS

produce the feeling of intense draught, a very common experience in our homes in winter. A draught produced by a fan gives no refreshment in the saturated atmosphere of the dog days, no matter what the temperature may be, because of the incapacity of the air to extract heat by taking up moisture. The effects of the dry air are to be seen in the shrinkage of wood floors, opening of joints, rattling windows, shabby furniture, and the breaking away of the binding of books. The influence on our bodies is to rapidly take moisture from the skin and respiratory tract, lower the temperature, and cause the sensation of cold, which temperature if normally constituted in respect to per cent. of moisture would be considered comfortable. Out doors in June, in medium clothing, with temperature of 65 degrees and normal humidity of 65 to 75 per cent., we are comfortable; in doors in winter, with heavy clothing, we require five degrees more of heat for comfort.

DANGEROUS TO LIVE IN.

"High temperatures are enervating. The dry siroccos produce suffering for extreme latitude; the simoon parches skin and creates a raging thirst. The relative humidity where these winds prevail is never more than 10 per cent. lower than in our houses, and the lassitude often complained of by those spending much of their time in heated rooms in winter may be ascribed to this, as may also the catarrhal difficulties so common during the period when we must use artificial heat in our dwellings. Breathing an atmosphere that, by action of a natural law, robs the mucous membrane of the moisture so necessary to the preservation of its secretion, must impair the integrity of the tissue and give a favorable soil for the development of the infected organism. The frequent failure of the vocal organs of public speakers and singers may be the result of breathing excessively dry air. If the air be too dry the lining membrane of the lungs, throat and mouth may be deprived of its necessary moisture so rapidly that an uncomfortable degree of dryness and even inflammation may be induced. The unpleasant feelings many persons experience in a dry atmosphere are frequently relieved by placing a vessel of water on the stove or in the furnace, but it is rare that the quantity of water evaporated is sufficient to give the necessary degree of moisture. When air is saturated with moisture water is deposited on all bodies which conduct heat readily and have a lower temperature than the air. If entirely deprived of watery vapor the air evaporates moisture from the body, thus causing the unpleasant sensation."

Various methods to restore the necessary humidity to the air have been tried and Dr. Barnes evolved the one shown for his own use. The hygrometer shows that it accomplishes to a very considerable extent the desired purpose, and advises people to make and use some such appliance in their homes. He declared himself as in no way interested in the manufacture of any such article and gives to the public the benefit of his experiences and experiments.

MONTREAL FREE LIBRARY.

The Annual Afternoon Tea to be Held on Saturday Next.

On Saturday, the 20th inst., at Hall & Scott's Rooms, 2269 St. Catherine street, will take place the annual "Afternoon Tea" for the Montreal Free Library. This year the patronesses have stretched the table to make it cover the hours from 4 to 7 and from 8 to 10 p.m., in order to give every one a chance of attending. It is always a most delightful occasion where friends meet friends, where music and refreshments are thrown in for the modest sum of 50 cts—children 25c.

But apart from the enjoyable character of the entertainment, it must be looked upon in a more serious light—as the main support of a most praiseworthy institution. Books, good books, the best in each department of literature, are circulated from end to end of the city—twelve thousand volumes last year, with promise of increased circulation this year. People of various nationalities and creeds come to get these books. Think what that means in a time when the spread of vicious literature is one of the greatest evils! This work has cost time, trouble, self-sacrifice and thought to many—the Reverend Director, who is one of the Jesuit Fathers, the librarians and several ladies, who devote their precious time, needless to say unremunerated, to the work, every Friday and Sunday afternoon.

Now, the only support asked from the public, and the only support received, with the exception of a very few private donations, is the "Tea." It enables the books to be covered and re-covered, to be checked and catalogued, the light used to be paid for, the accommodations for books increased, and the number of books augmented yearly by some hundreds.

As is known, the Fathers of the Society of Jesus and the Catholic Union have given the use of their hall for the purposes of the library. But every other expense has to be met almost entirely by the results of the "Afternoon Tea." Therefore it is a great charity, and should be patronized by all Catholics who are interested in the work of spreading good books.

Tickets may be had from Miss Sadlier, 96 Burnside Place; Miss Gethin, 49 Sussex Avenue, and at the Free Library Hall.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

St. Anthony's C. Y. M. Society at their last regular meeting, held in their hall, No. 329 St. Antoine street, on Sunday, the 7th inst., adopted the following resolution of condolence: Whereas, God has been pleased to end the earthly pilgrimage of our esteemed honorary member, Mr. Thomas Bowes; Resolved, That we, the members of St. Anthony's C. Y. M. Society, extend our deepest sympathy to his family in their sad bereavement. Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his daughter, Mrs. P. J. Carroll, inserted in the minutes, and published in the Press of the city.

CATHOLIC BOYS TO FORM AN ARMY.

Plan to Establish a Military Organization, With Branches in Every Parish.

Has the Archbishop's Sanction—Will Be Uniform & Have an Annual Parade and Review.

We take the following from the Philadelphia Standard and Times:—

The need of parish organizations which will interest boys from twelve years old and upwards has been felt for some time. The total abstinence cadets and pioneers, the sodalities and other bodies appeal to some. The young men's societies claim a number over sixteen years of age, but there remains after all these have gathered in their votaries a large element yet unprovided for, whose needs are not consulted by any of these and who are unnecessarily exposed to dangers as a result. It cannot be denied that at this time of life (from 12 to 18) habits are contracted and associations formed which constitute a determining factor in moulding the future of the youth. For some time past the Protestant churches of the city have had their youth organized into boys' brigades. Military uniform, tactics and discipline have an irresistible attraction for the average boy blessed with the energy of youth which must have some method provided for its exercise. These boys' brigades were not instituted, as is so often the case with similar movements, as proselytizing engines. The rules require the members to be of some of the so-called evangelistic (Protestant) denominations; yet Catholic boys, attracted by the uniform and drill, have found their way into them, deceiving both their officers and their parents. The regulations require attendance on Sunday school and bible class, and a note regarding absence from these has in at least one case first called a Catholic mother's attention to the fact that her son was a member.

Such subterfuges to "join the army" need not be resorted to any longer. Steps have been taken for the organization of a similar body, to be composed of Catholic boys. Archbishop Ryan and Bishop Prendergast have given their project their hearty approval and a number of pastors have consented to the formation of branches in their respective parishes. The movement had its origin with Professor Arnold V. Power, head master of the Collegiate Military School, the cadets of which made such a favorable impression in Archbishop Ryan's jubilee parade.

PLAN OF THE ORGANIZATION.

A constitution has been formulated. From it we learn that the name will be "The Catholic Cadets," and that it will be under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin and St. Louis. Boys between twelve and eighteen years will be admitted. The religious and social features will be combined. Members will be required to approach Holy Communion in a body in uniform once a month, on each Sunday as the pastor shall appoint. Ascension day will be the annual feast day of the cadets, when all must approach the altar for the general intention of the organization: An annual review and parade will be held on the afternoon of the same day.

Gymnastic exercises and military drill will be held weekly from September 1 to July 1, and where practicable, parish bodies will meet once a week for social exercises and religious instruction. The organization will be conducted on strict military principles, subject to such modifications as are deemed necessary to the nature and spirit of the society. The executive council will consist of the commander general, his staff and the regimental and battalion commanders. The adjutant will be secretary and the quarter-master treasurer of the board. The cadets will be divided into companies, battalions, regiments and brigades, with the usual officers. Companies shall consist of not less than thirty-seven and not more than seventy, including officers. Any parish having one hundred and fifty or more cadets shall form a battalion, called by the parish name. Four companies shall form a battalion and three battalions a regiment. Colonels and majors will be appointed by the battalion council. These are more than likely to be selected from present or past members of the militia. They will appoint their staffs. Captains and lieutenants will be selected by the cadets of the companies, subject to the approval of the majors and executive council. Captains will appoint the non-commissioned officers of their companies. Colonels will be installed by the commander general, majors by the colonels, captains by the major and lieutenants, and non-commissioned officers by the captains. Promotions will be based upon good conduct and military efficiency. Colonels and majors will hold office for five years, company officers for three years and all vacancies will be filled by promotion. Officers may for good and sufficient reason be requested to resign by the executive council, and any cadet may be dismissed by his captain for any conduct unbecoming a Catholic gentleman. Drillmaster's appointments will be subject to approval of commander general, and drillmasters shall have the right to regimental and battalion commissions.

THE UNIFORM.

The uniform will consist of a blouse of dark blue cloth, trimmed with white braid and brass buttons, trousers of a lighter shade of blue, with cap to match, the latter bearing within a gold scroll a cross and the initials "C.C." A Maltese cross of gold, three inches long, will be worn on the left breast, and white belts with brass buttons will be used. The flag of the organization will be six feet long by four wide, and will consist of a blue ground bearing over a Maltese cross the motto, "Pro Deo et Patria" (For God and Country). Other points relate to organization of companies, dues, inspections, etc.

"No boy residing in a parish where there is a branch of the cadets can join

USE ONLY

Religious News Items.

Pending the convocation of a general chapter to elect a successor to the late Very Rev. L. J. Soullier, the superior of the Oblates, the affairs of that Order will be administered by Very Rev. J. E. Antoine, O. M. I., who acted as assistant general to the late Superior, and who has since his death been made vicar-general or general pro tempore of the society.

The most irrefragable testimony comes from all those who have had an opportunity of having a personal interview with His Holiness that the health of the Pope was never better. Bishop J. J. Hennessy, of Wichita, Kan., who led the recent American pilgrimage to Rome, has this to say on the one subject which so vitally interests the Catholic World: "I saw no change in His Holiness since my last visit, four years ago, save that he is bent a little more. His physical health is good, his eye is bright, his mind clear, his judgment excellent, and his memory extraordinary."

The Antigonish Casket says: Rev. O. B. Devlin, S. J., who is well known in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia as an earnest missionary, recently gave a very successful retreat at the Convent of the Good Shepherd, St. John, N.B., to the religious and the inmates under their care. He also delivered several able sermons at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and at the Church of the Holy Trinity, which were much admired and appreciated by unusually large audiences for solidity of doctrine, clear and simple presentation of Catholic truth, and eloquence in delivery. The Rev. Father left for Montreal on Tuesday Nov. 2nd, whence he went to Farnham, P.Q., where he was to have begun a mission on Sunday, 2nd inst.

Archbishop Keane, who has but a short time ago returned from a visit to Rome, thus refers to the Canadian College in the Eternal City, in an interview published in the Boston Globe:—But among the visitors to the Eternal City and to my modest lodging in the Canadian College there are, of course, none so welcome as those who come from the United States. They bring with them all the memories, all the associations, all the ideas and influences which are dearest to me on earth. I have been so long a priest of the Church and a soldier of Providence that I am not much influenced by local attachments. America is, to my mind, the embodiment of ideas, conditions and influences which are the best that the world has yet beheld for the furtherance of human welfare.

A PRIEST'S GIFT.

Will Present a Free Public Library to the City of Gloucester, Mass.

Rev. J. J. Healy, rector of St. Ann's Church, Gloucester, Mass., is giving the people of his city an example of unusual generosity. He is erecting a large and beautiful building on Prospect street which he will present to the city for a free public library. It is a Father Healy's personal gift to the city in which he has labored so long and successfully, and the inscription over the entrance will read, "The Gift of Rev. J. J. Healy, P.R." lest there be a misunderstanding as to its origin. It comes from his personal funds and from no other source.

The building itself is centrally situated on Prospect street, nearly fronting Dale avenue, and will be an ornament to the city. It will be of brick, with a portico and entrance of granite. In height it will be two stories, although a generous basement and well-planned roof will give it a much more imposing appearance than would appear from a mere description. The construction is most substantial. The walls are sixteen inches in thickness to the second story.

The best thing with which a mother can crown her daughter is a common sense knowledge of the distinctively feminine physiology. Every woman should thoroughly understand her own nature. Every woman should understand the supreme importance of keeping herself well and strong in a womanly way. Nearly all of the pains and aches, nearly all the weakness and sickness and suffering of women is due to disorders or disease of the organs distinctly feminine.

A woman who suffers in this way is unfitted for wifehood and motherhood. Mortality is a menace of death. Thousands of women suffer in this way because their innate modesty will not permit them to submit to the disgusting examinations and local treatment insisted upon by the average physician. These ordeals are unnecessary. Dr. R. V. Pierce, an eminent and skillful specialist, for thirty years chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y., has discovered a wonderful remedy with which women may treat and speedily cure themselves in the privacy of their own homes. This medicine is known as Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It acts directly on the delicate and important organs concerned. It makes them well and strong. It allays inflammation, heals irritation, soothes pain and rests the tortured nerves. Taken during the critical period, it banishes the usual discomforts and makes baby's advent easy and almost painless. Thousands of women have been once weak, sickly, nervous, fretful invalids, are now happy, healthy wives, because of this medicine. It is sold by all good medicine dealers and no honest dealer will advise a substitute.

"When I commenced using Dr. Pierce's medicine some three years ago," writes Mrs. Ella J. Fox, care of W. C. Fox, of Biddeford, Maine, Me. "I was the picture of death. I had no heart to take anything. Weight was 125. My husband had been to see five different doctors about my trouble (female weakness). I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's medicine and wrote to him for advice. I took four bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and, behold, I was a well woman."

Finlayson's Linen Thread.

IT IS THE BEST.

after that being twelve inches. There will be no walls, partitions, posts or other divisions to break the space between the walls.

The design of Father Healy is to make this a place free to the coming generations, where good literature of all countries may be enjoyed, history, fiction, poetry and kindred lines. His private library, comprising a most comprehensive selection of all the historians, novelists, poets, essayists, etc., about 1,000 volumes, will be used as the nucleus of the library.—Catholic Union and Times.

Memorial to Father Hecker.

Mrs. Josephine Hecker of 278 Madison avenue, New York, widow of George V. Hecker, a millionaire flour merchant, with her daughter, Mrs. Locke, has given \$60,000 for the decoration of the sanctuary of St. Paul the Apostle's Church, in Columbus avenue, near 59th street. The gift is a memorial to the late Father Hecker, founder of the community of St. Paul known as the Paulist Fathers. The task of decorating the sanctuary has been intrusted to John LaFarge, who has three years within which to carry out his design. He intends that this shall be the masterpiece of all his productions. The decorations will be an exquisite setting for the magnificent high altar designed by Stanford White.

This altar is the finest of its kind on the North American continent. It is made of Mexican onyx, and contains all the component parts called for in the ritual. The baldacchino, which is a huge block of alabaster, weighs several hundred tons, and is inlaid with Venetian enameled gold mosaic. It is supported by monoliths of red Numidian marble, each weighing two tons. Two sets of these monoliths were made. The ship that carried the first set foundered at sea. Consequently it became necessary to have a second set quarried. The sculpture is by Macmonnies.

Other work in the church is nearing completion. Fourteen panels in alto relievo of the stations of the cross are being erected, under the direction of Father Deshon, the present superior.

As a memorial to the late Father Caserly an altar in white Italian marble, dedicated to the Sacred Heart, has been placed in one of the chapels of the epistle aisle. It is Italian renaissance in style, and rises to the height of twenty-three feet from the floor. It consists of a table supported on onyx columns, with a bas-relief of the Sacred Heart in the crypt and vari-colored panels on either side. The reredos carries out the general lines as regards the carving. The effect is greatly enhanced by the introduction of rich mosaics in the entablature and tympanum.

The work is from the design of John B. Mooney of 246 West 23rd street. Samuel Adams, a drygoods merchant of New York, employed Mr. Mooney to erect a memorial altar to his wife, which was to be dedicated to St. Anne. This altar, which is now receiving its finishing touches, consists of a table and reredos in Carrara marble, lined with Siena marble bands.

The reredos is formed by two full columns and six pilasters, capped by bronze Corinthian capitals. The columns and pilasters carry an entablature, on which rests a semi-dome of silvered bronze, the whole being surmounted by a cross. Immediately about the altar table is a fine oil painting, four feet by seven, from the atelier of Mayer of Munich, in which St. Anne is depicted teaching the Blessed Virgin. All of the marble work on this altar was executed under the supervision of a professor of the Roman Academy.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

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We guarantee to every victim of the liquor or drug habit, no matter how bad the case, that when Mr. A. Hutton Dixon's new vegetable medicine is taken as directed, all desire for liquor or drugs is removed within three days, and a permanent cure effected in three weeks. The medicine is taken privately and without interfering with business duties. Immediate results—normal appetite, sleep and clear brain, and health improved in every way. Indisputable testimony sent sealed. We invite strict investigation. Address THE DIXON CURE CO., No. 40 Park avenue, Montreal.

"See, madame, did you ever see such a homely man as that one over by the chimney corner?"

"Sir, that is my husband!"

"Ah, madame, how true the proverb is that the homeliest men always have the handsomest wives!"—Gaulois.

DR. ADAMS' TOOTHACHE GUM is sold by all good druggists. 10 cts. a bottle.

Faithful Domestic: Please mum, you'll have to git another dog or I won't stay.

Mistress: I mourn the loss of poor Fido as much as you do, but I don't think of leaving the house on that account.

Faithful Domestic: But, mum, you don't have to wash the plates.

SEE OUR JOB LINES OF NOTE PAPER, ENVELOPES, 50 per cent. 25 per cent.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Court Clerk: Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon a verdict?

Foreman: We have.

Clerk: What say you; do you find the prisoner at the bar guilty or not guilty?

Foreman: We do.

Clerk: You do? Do what?

Foreman: We find the prisoner at the bar guilty or not guilty.

Clerk: But, gentlemen, you must explain.

Foreman: Of course; you see, sir, six of us find him guilty, and six of us find him not guilty, and we've agreed to let him go at that.

Scene. Leper Hospital, Waterford, A. D. 1850. At that time the doctors of this institution, still so called, were well paid for having nothing to do, leprosy in all its forms having long since disappeared from the country. A man who had just broken his leg is taken to the hospital for admission and treatment.

Doctor: None but lepers admitted here.

One of the Bearers: Faith, Doctor, this fellow is one of the biggest lepers in Ireland. He's just got his leg broken in leaping from Ardnamoe.

"I wish," said the young man, "that you would be less informal and call me by my first name."

"I'd rather not," replied his fair companion, "your last name suits me."

A few minutes later they were discussing the merits of the different firms that supply furniture upon the instalment plan.—Chicago News.

A countryman was brought up before a magistrate for cruelty to a mule. When the decision was given one of the local magistrates said:—"Paddy, I would advise you to sell that old mule and buy a good donkey."

"Arrah, musha, your honour," says Paddy, "I tried that, but they have made magistrates of all the asses in the country."

Why He Didn't Lock It.—Friend (leaving the office with the broker)—I say, old man, you didn't lock your safe.

Broker—No, never do. It cost £60, and I don't want burglars to spoil it for the little I've got in it.—London Tit Bits.

Naples University is to have new buildings. The Prince and Princess of Naples have just laid the corner stones for them.

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