

Scientific and Sanitary

The British Institute of Public Health has just held its yearly meeting in Glasgow, Scotland. Of the value of sanitation in cities the Lord Provost says: "In 1847 Glasgow had a population of 320,470 and a death rate annually of 56 persons out of each 1,000. In 1893 the population was 687,800 and the death rate only 22 per 1,000. This great change was due entirely to sanitation—to the introduction of pure water, to improved drainage, to rebuilding the slum districts, to opening fever hospitals, to parks and play grounds for children and to cleaner streets."

September and October are the months for the grape cure, much used by overfed people in Europe and might be used to advantage by many of us in America. The cure consists of living for seven or eight weeks on good stale bread and the best of grapes. Some physicians advocate grapes only, with no other food. Meat and the coarser vegetables, as potatoes, cabbage, etc., are omitted entirely. The results are often remarkable. This treatment is not suited to consumptives, to those exhausted and thin, but to the stout and overfed.—*Journal of Hygiene.*

Very few people know much of the Great Salt Lake of Utah, beyond the fact that it is a very large inland sea with very salt water. Some of its physical characteristics, however, are extremely interesting. While the Atlantic ocean contains but 3½ per cent. of solid matter in solution, Salt Lake contains 18 per cent., being of such great density that it is impossible for a man to sink in its waters without additional weight. This solid matter is principally plain salt and soda, although there are small amounts of chlorine, bromide, potassium sulphur, calcium, magnesia, lithia and boracic acid. The result of this great salinity is that tons and tons of salt are deposited by evaporation along the shores of the lake, many tons being often piled up in a single night when a strong wind blows the water high up on the land. Salt Lake is 100 miles long, with an average width of 27 miles. Its mean depth is 20 feet, and from these figures it may be easily calculated that the contents of the lake are 1,505,433,600,000 cubic feet of water, one-sixth of which, or 250,905,600,000 cubic feet, is salt and sulphate of soda, over 219,500,000,000 cubic feet of which is salt. As a cubic foot of salt weighs 80 lbs., it may be seen that the Salt Lake contains about 17,560,000,000 lbs., or 8,780,160,000 tons of salt. As salt is worth about \$10 a ton, it is evident that there is a fortune in the Salt Lake, for its salt alone, by the side of which the riches of Trail Creek are as a drop in a bucket. It is enough to pay the national debts of all the civilized nations of the world.

The human voice may or may not be terrifying to wild animals. . . . Woodchucks, red squirrels, muskrats, mink and various other of the small animals seem to fear the human form, but not the voice. Foxes flee at a lively gait when a man yells, but deer have been known to almost run over men that were talking in loud voices. Logging teamsters in the woods yell and swear at their horses in voices audible a mile away, but deer lie in their beds comfortably less than half a mile distant. Bears do not usually monkey around in the vicinity of men, except during berry time, when they are sometimes on one side of the bushes while human berry pickers are on the other. The human voice is very soothing to wild birds of various kinds, such as robins. They will often come very close to a person who talks to them and turn their heads from side to side, much as caged birds—canaries for example—do, but if a person is robbing a bird's nest the voice adds greatly to the terror of the birds. It is related of a swallow that it had in some manner broken its leg which was observed by a woman as the bird flew about. She went out, called to it, and spoke to it, and after awhile the bird came so near as to be taken in the woman's hands, who then put the leg in splints, setting it properly and putting on a soothing ointment. The bird flew away and was soon chirping with the rest of the birds in the air, its leg having been relieved of pain evidently by the bandages.—*New York Sun.*

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