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Sprinkling Roads With Oil
The large yield from oil wells in California and the consequent cheapness of the product has led to the use of it for sprinkling roads and streets, and with so marked success, it is said, that the custom is becoming more general. The application of oil is said to give a hard smooth surface to dirt roads, preventing dust, enabling horses to do their work with less strain and more comfort, and of course greatly increasing the comfort of all travelers. Moreover, it is said that where the crude oil is so plentiful and readily available as it is in parts of California it is preferable to water, on the ground of economy. Two applications of oil a year, and sometimes one, are found to be sufficient, the first application requiring a third more oil than subsequent ones. The best results are secured if the oil is applied hot. The city of Calton is said to have effected a saving of 45 per cent. by the use of oil instead of water, and in San Francisco, when oil was applied to the Park driveway of four and a half miles, a saving of \$500 a month was estimated, besides a saving of 70,000 gallons of water daily.

John W. Mackay.
Mr. John W. Mackay who has had the reputation of being one of the wealthiest men of his time died in London on the 20th inst. Mr. Mackay was one of the men who, partly by luck and partly by ability to take advantage of the opportunities which a new and rapidly growing country afford to acquire wealth, have risen from poverty to the position of multimillionaires. John W. Mackay was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1831. When a boy of nine he came with his family to New York and learned the ship-building trade. At the age of twenty he went west with other gold-seekers, and for a time worked as a miner with pick and shovel. Some years later he formed a partnership with Flood, O'Brien and Fair. The Bonanza property which they purchased proved rich in gold far beyond all popular expectation, bringing large wealth to its owners, and the quartette became known as the four Bonanza kings. Subsequently, with Flood and Fair, Mackay established in San Francisco the Nevada Bank of which he was president. In company with James Gordon Bennett, he established the Commercial Cable Company, and was also the owner of a controlling interest in the Postal Telegraph Cable Company. Mr. Mackay was also a director of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. An estimate places Mr. Mackay's wealth at \$70,000,000, but this can be only approximate. Mr. Richard Day, a personal friend and former confidential secretary of the deceased millionaire, is quoted as saying that he did not suppose that at the time of his death, Mackay himself knew within \$20,000,000 what the amount of his wealth really was.

In the Interest of Health.
It is said that Dr. Garnault of Paris is not unlikely to lose his life as a martyr to the cause of science. Dr. Garnault is a disbeliever in Dr. Koch's theory that bovine and human tuberculosis are essentially different forms of disease and that tuberculosis in human subjects is seldom if ever contracted from animals. By way of determining the truth of the matter Dr. Garnault has twice inoculated himself with virus from an animal affected with tuberculous disease. As a result of these operations there has been inflammation with the formation of tumors, and the doctor's condition is said to be very serious. He is said to be calmly awaiting the results, regarding a solution of the question involved in his experiments as being of the greatest interest to mankind. The account given of Dr. Paul Garnault is that he is a young French doctor who was formerly head of the faculty of zoology and anatomy at Bordeaux. In common with the medical and

scientific world he was deeply interested in the theory propounded by Dr. Koch in July, 1901, at the Medical Congress in London, that tuberculosis is not transmissible from cattle to man, contrary to the generally received opinion. Dr. Garnault held very strongly the view that the disease can be directly received from a tuberculous cow, and to prove it offered to undergo an experiment in his own case. He placed himself at the disposal of Dr. Koch, but that scientist refused to make himself responsible for the experiment. After a year's travel for the collection of materials to support his theory, Dr. Garnault duly inoculated himself at the Paris public abattoirs of Villette, on June 17 in the presence of several medical men, causing some virus from a cow certified by the sanitary officials to be suffering from the disease to be injected in his left forearm.

Negroes Own and Operate a Cotton Mill.
The existence of a cotton-mill owned and operated by negroes in the town of Concord, N. Carolina, is a gratifying indication of progress on the part of the African race in America. The mill, known as the Coleman Mill, has cost about \$70,000 and has a weaving capacity of 40,000 yards of cloth a week. A correspondent of the New York *Outlook*, described by that journal as "an extremely competent observer of industrial conditions in the South," recently visited the mill and was assured by the manager, who is a white man from Massachusetts, that the negroes were satisfactory hands. Our correspondent, says the *Outlook*, was especially struck with the alertness of the negro as he recalled the opinion formerly accepted at the South, that the negroes could never be worked in a factory for the reason that the hum of the machinery would put them to sleep. The Superintendent of the Coleman Mill told him that several of the operatives had been caught 'napping,' but that such occurrences were not uncommon among white operatives in Massachusetts. The negro operatives furthermore had been prompt in coming to work and had shown no disposition to 'drop out.' The Superintendent is the only white man employed and he has of course had to train all the hands, as Southern negroes have hitherto been practically shut out from this industry. The new mill at Concord, though founded by Mr. Coleman, who is the wealthiest negro in the State, is not entirely owned by him. There are about three hundred and fifty shareholders, including negroes of all ranks from college professors to day-laborers. The success of the venture, as the *Outlook* remarks, will be watched with great interest.

The British Cabinet.
The resignation of Lord Cadogan as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, following Lord Salisbury's resignation, reduces the number of the British Cabinet from twenty to eighteen, and it is thought probable that the number will not be increased. After the coronation a number of cabinet changes are expected to take place. Lord Cadogan has not been a popular Lord-Lieutenant, having pleased neither the Nationalists nor the Unionists. This may not be really to his discredit, as the position is necessarily one of extreme difficulty, and criticism from both parties may mean that he has endeavored to do his duty impartially. The Duke of Marlborough's name is mentioned as a probable successor to Lord Cadogan. Among those mentioned as probable candidates for the position of Chancellor of the Exchequer is Lord George Hamilton who has won a reputation as a financier by his clever handling of the problems of Indian finance. Mr. I. N. Ford is of opinion that Mr. Austen Chamberlain, son of the Colonial Secretary, and Mr. George Wyndham will be members of the reconstructed Cabinet and that Sir Robert Findlay is likely to be Lord Chancellor. There is evidently in the Tory wing of the Government party a good deal of jealousy of Mr. Chamberlain, but whatever ambitions in respect to the premiership the Colonial Secretary may cherish, he is probably willing to bide his time and for the present at least support Mr. Balfour in the leadership.

Foresees Friendly Relations.
At the opening of a new Conservative Club at Fulham a few days ago, Premier Balfour spoke in optimistic terms in reference to Great Britain's relations with other nations. Mr. Balfour expressed the belief that, with the cessation of the war in South Africa, a new era of friendly relations with the Continental powers would set in and would continue. The views expressed on the Continent during the war regarding the British people and British troops had caused surprise and indignation, Mr. Balfour said, but the controversies were now ended and he hoped they would never be revived, and believed that those who had accused Britain of wantonly attacking a free people would see in the future of the Transvaal what British ideas of liberty, colonial self-government and purity of administration could do to amalgamate races and make of South Africa what Great Britain has made of so many other portions of the world. Referring to Lord Salisbury, the Premier said he had left the country at peace with the whole world, and he, Mr. Balfour, believed they could look forward to ever-increasing good relations with Continental nations, and to a prolonged period of international good will. He trusted that the great family of civilized nations would be what it ought to be—a brotherhood with like interests and like aims. These are certainly very admirable sentiments on the part of Mr. Balfour and may doubtless have some influence in promoting the friendly relations which he desires and foresees. We hope, however, that it will not be considered cynical to remark that nations, as well as individuals, are very apt to see in their neighbors the things which they desire to see, and that a good many Continental newspapers will need to experience a change of heart before they can feel any admiration for Great Britain because of the success of her colonial policy.

Editorial Notes.

—A Toronto despatch says that there is every indication that a great wave of temperance sentiment is rising in Ontario. A prohibition convention meets on Tuesday of the present week in Toronto, at which many delegates representing all parts of the Province are expected to be present. The meeting is expected to endorse the suggestion of the London Convention that a union committee of representatives of the Alliance and Temperance League conduct the Referendum campaign.

—The *Independent* calls attention to archeological researches made in Carthage during the past twenty-five years, which have resulted in practically restoring in outline the city of the Punic period and in furnishing a mass of material for the study of the antiquities of that period. In reality the work has consisted in the unearthing of a vast necropolis, thousands of graves having been opened, revealing interesting data of the life of the Carthaginians from the eighth century, B. C., down to the destruction of the city, the various periods being found in different sections of this vast city of the dead. The finds that have been made in these tombs include all kinds of utensils, illustrating the public and private life of the people. The customs of the Phoenicians and Egyptians were observed in the burials of the Carthaginians, and accordingly there is a total lack of arms or warlike weapons of any sort. But all kinds of rings for the hand and ear, amulet chains in gold and silver, also pearls and glass ornaments of dress of great value were found. In the tombs of the last century of this period new articles appear showing the influence of the contact of the people with the Romans and Greeks.

—Recent despatches from Cairo give alarming accounts of the spread of cholera in that city and in Upper Egypt. The rapid spread of the disease in Cairo has caused consternation among the people. There seems to be little or no hope of checking its progress, and it is represented as almost certain that it will assume the form of a devastating epidemic. A despatch from Cairo dated July 25th says, that on the preceding day the disease had appeared in practically every quarter of the city. Forty-two new cases were reported and several natives fell dead while at work. Temporary hospitals are being erected and the British regiments at Cairo will leave to camp in the desert at the earliest possible moment.

—The Baptist and the Disciples of California are talking about union, and have appointed a joint committee to confer and report upon the matter. It does not seem probable that an organic union of the two bodies is at present practicable, but some form of co-operation may be. Co-operation in educational work appears to be the most immediately feasible. The Disciples are quite a strong body in the State and have two influential churches in San Francisco. They have a theological or Bible school, but no college, while the Baptists have a college, but no theological school now in operation.