

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Congo Free State has received most of the blame for inhumanity to African natives in the last decade. Whatever diplomatic ends were aimed at in the agitation against the Belgian government in this connection seem now to have been either attained or abandoned, for in the last year or two the question has lost almost all its former prominence. One result is that information as to conditions in Central Africa now comes with broader scope and more fairness.

The London Times, for example, has recently printed an article on the Central African slave trade, in which it is shown that this trade flourishes not only in the southwestern portion of the Congo State, but in the adjoining sections of British Rhodesia and of Portuguese Guinea. That makes three nations more or less responsible for it. The degree of responsibility is made, however, to be considerably different. The slaves, it is stated, go to the Portuguese islands of Sao Thome and Principe, so that if the Portuguese government prevented their shipment from its ports the traffic would end. The stimulus to the slave traders themselves is their need of weapons partly for use in a long-organized rebellion against the Congo government and partly by natives who are not rebels for protection against these very rebels. Great Britain is given no responsibility save for insufficient policing of those parts of her domain in which slaves are often captured.

If the account is as impartial as it seems to be, we have industrial exploitation responsible for a vast deal of suffering and abuse; on the one side the exploiters being Portuguese island planters, on the other side the Kasai trust. The abolition of the slave trade and accompanying reforms would reduce profits somewhat in both respects, but by all accounts the respective industries could easily stand the reduction. Unfortunately, however, the account is not so impartial as it seems to be, we have industrial exploitation responsible for a vast deal of suffering and abuse; on the one side the exploiters being Portuguese island planters, on the other side the Kasai trust.

TEMPERAMENT AND DISEASE

In a former article some facts were stated concerning the different temperaments or types of vital action into which mankind is divided. These are usually reckoned as five, although the classification is not very definitely fixed. Each of these types is distinguished by a predisposition to certain maladies and by a special mode of reaction to the poison of the infectious diseases. Those of the lymphatic or phlegmatic temperament are sluggish and disinclined to exercise, their muscles are soft and flabby, and there is a general absence of tone in the system. The diseases from which they suffer are usually those marked by debility, and they have often to be kept up with tonics even when not really ill. Those of the nervous type are of small frame, active in mind and body, light eaters and light sleepers. Their tendency is to diseases of the nervous system. They tire easily after a spurt of work or play, but above all things should resist the temptation to resort to "pick-me-ups," which have a fatally good effect for the time being. These people need sleep—but must not resort to drugs to get it—and regular vacations.

CHICKENS HAVE MEMORY

Scientists Discover in Hens a Trait Belonging to Human Family. If the average man were asked if hens had any memory he would probably say "No." But he would be wrong, according to the experiments of two German scientists. The plan they adopt was to gum twenty grains of rice on a piece of cardboard and between them to place ten grains of loose corn. At first the hens, of course, pecked at both rice and corn, but very soon they learned to leave the rice alone, thus very clearly showing that they remembered that the rice was stuck down. A very remarkable point about the experiment was that the longer the time between the trials, the better was the hens' memory. When the experiments were made consecutively it took them six times to learn that the rice was not worth touching, but when the experiments were made at intervals of an hour they learned the lesson at the third try, thus showing not only that they had memories, but that they thought the matter over in the intervals.

"Snow, snow, beautiful snow, filling the sky and the earth below."

and fertilizing as it falls. From experiments conducted at Ottawa, it appears that there are some slight grounds for the widely accepted opinion among agriculturists that snow is a direct fertilizer. It is found to contain nitrogen equivalent in round numbers to about a pound per acre of land covered by an average winter snowfall in that district. The amount of nitrogen as free ammonia was high, but fluctuated greatly, from .082 to .589 parts per million; the nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia ranging from .333 to .078 parts per million, and the nitrogen as nitrates and nitrites ranged from .027 to .390 parts per million. The average of twelve determinations from February 21, 1907, to May 4 was: Nitrogen as free ammonia, .256; as albuminoid ammonia, .052; and as nitrates and nitrites, .163 part per million. It is intended to continue the experiments, both in summer and winter to determine definitely the fertilizing value of both snow and rain.

YOUNG FOLKS

EARS FOR EYES. Aunt Ruth, Bertha and Alice were on the piazza, busy with needlework. Carl and Norron were lounging near. "Oh, put up your work—do! I want a game of some sort," pleaded Norton. "This mat never will be done. I don't hurry up," replied Alice. "Shut your eyes, Norton," said Aunt Ruth, "and tell us what you hear." "Is it a game?" "I'll leave that for you to say, when we have all tried it," laughingly said his aunt. "Well," began Norton, as his eyes went together, "I think I hear wheels down the road. Yes, they are coming nearer. Shall I open my eyes now?" "Wait a minute! Tell us what the wheels are on." "Why, a wagon of some sort. I guess it's a grocery team—I don't hear it now."

TEMPERAMENT AND DISEASE. In a former article some facts were stated concerning the different temperaments or types of vital action into which mankind is divided. These are usually reckoned as five, although the classification is not very definitely fixed. Each of these types is distinguished by a predisposition to certain maladies and by a special mode of reaction to the poison of the infectious diseases. Those of the lymphatic or phlegmatic temperament are sluggish and disinclined to exercise, their muscles are soft and flabby, and there is a general absence of tone in the system. The diseases from which they suffer are usually those marked by debility, and they have often to be kept up with tonics even when not really ill. Those of the nervous type are of small frame, active in mind and body, light eaters and light sleepers. Their tendency is to diseases of the nervous system. They tire easily after a spurt of work or play, but above all things should resist the temptation to resort to "pick-me-ups," which have a fatally good effect for the time being. These people need sleep—but must not resort to drugs to get it—and regular vacations.

PAUPERS ON A DIET. Remarkable dietetic experiments have been conducted in a Yorkshire (England) workhouse during the last few months with the object of reducing the superfluous weight of two aged but exceedingly fat paupers. With such success has the "cure" been carried out that in sixteen weeks the patients have each lost three stone, and at the same time gained in health and strength. For fifteen years Henry Williamson and Joseph Kemp have been inmates of the Keighley Workhouse. Both men possessed insatiable appetites and in addition to their own food were always on the lookout for any crusts of bread or odds and ends left at meal times by the other inmates, and yet they were always hungry. Both men suffered from ailments which prevented them from taking exercise or doing much work. The fact and their gargantuan appetites led to a steady increase in girth. Kemp, who is sixty years of age, at one time, weighed nearly 250 pounds, and Williamson, who is seventy-seven, became so stout that he could only walk with difficulty. The workhouse medical officer, Dr. W. M. Gabriel, ultimately decided that for the benefit of their general health they would have to undergo an anti-fat cure, and the old men were placed on a special diet. The men, however, got surreptitious supplies of food from their inmates, and Dr. Gabriel then had the patients placed in an isolation ward of the workhouse infirmary. The nurses made them understand that what was being done was solely for their benefit, and after a few days the men who at first resented the treatment, fell in with the doctor's proposal. Three meals a day were allowed them, the dietary including brown bread, green vegetables, watercress and stewed fruit. Potatoes, sugar and fat in any form were strictly forbidden. The efficacy of Dr. Gabriel's treatment exceeded expectations, and the two patients are highly pleased with the result.

QUEER FREAK OF NATURE

Mountain Near Pachuca, Mexico, Covered With Spikes. One of the most remarkable geological freaks in Mexico is a mountain situated on the outskirts of Pachuca which presents the appearance at a distance of being covered with spikes. The sides of the mountain are closely studded with stone columns or palisades. These columns are five to twelve feet long and as large around as an average man's body. It is a remarkable uplift of nature which has the appearance, however, of being the handiwork of human beings. One side of the mountain is almost perpendicular, and the stone columns protrude from the surface at right angles, forming an impressive picture. Pachuca is one of the most noted mining districts in Mexico, and it is said by geologists that this remarkable spiked mountain is out of keeping with the remainder of the formation of the mineralized region. The stone is as hard as flint, and has withstood the elements for ages. The spikes form a natural battlement that makes the mountain appear from a distance like some ancient fort. The mines of the Pachuca district are situated not far from this wonderful freak of nature, but the formation encountered in their respective underground workings is of an entirely different kind from that of the palisaded outcropping.

SCIENTISTS DISCOVER IN HENS A TRAIT BELONGING TO HUMAN FAMILY

Scientists Discover in Hens a Trait Belonging to Human Family. If the average man were asked if hens had any memory he would probably say "No." But he would be wrong, according to the experiments of two German scientists. The plan they adopt was to gum twenty grains of rice on a piece of cardboard and between them to place ten grains of loose corn. At first the hens, of course, pecked at both rice and corn, but very soon they learned to leave the rice alone, thus very clearly showing that they remembered that the rice was stuck down. A very remarkable point about the experiment was that the longer the time between the trials, the better was the hens' memory. When the experiments were made consecutively it took them six times to learn that the rice was not worth touching, but when the experiments were made at intervals of an hour they learned the lesson at the third try, thus showing not only that they had memories, but that they thought the matter over in the intervals.

"Did the widow who was after Sam marry him?" "No; he escaped her." "What did he die of?"

METHUSELAH NOT SO OLD

NEARLY EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS CUT OFF.

Reduction in Ages of Biblical Patriarchs—Cycle of Moon Was a Year. In a recent discussion of Jewish characteristics the Jewish World says: "Methuselah loses his famous record, for his 969 reputed years are whittled down to 784." There has always existed a certain amount of doubt, even among believers in the literal truth of the Bible, concerning the great age to which the Jewish patriarchs are recorded as having lived. Some of the theories evolved to reduce the Biblical records of this kind to something near the allotted span of a man are dealt with in the article.

PAUPERS ON A DIET

Remarkable dietetic experiments have been conducted in a Yorkshire (England) workhouse during the last few months with the object of reducing the superfluous weight of two aged but exceedingly fat paupers. With such success has the "cure" been carried out that in sixteen weeks the patients have each lost three stone, and at the same time gained in health and strength. For fifteen years Henry Williamson and Joseph Kemp have been inmates of the Keighley Workhouse. Both men possessed insatiable appetites and in addition to their own food were always on the lookout for any crusts of bread or odds and ends left at meal times by the other inmates, and yet they were always hungry. Both men suffered from ailments which prevented them from taking exercise or doing much work. The fact and their gargantuan appetites led to a steady increase in girth. Kemp, who is sixty years of age, at one time, weighed nearly 250 pounds, and Williamson, who is seventy-seven, became so stout that he could only walk with difficulty. The workhouse medical officer, Dr. W. M. Gabriel, ultimately decided that for the benefit of their general health they would have to undergo an anti-fat cure, and the old men were placed on a special diet. The men, however, got surreptitious supplies of food from their inmates, and Dr. Gabriel then had the patients placed in an isolation ward of the workhouse infirmary. The nurses made them understand that what was being done was solely for their benefit, and after a few days the men who at first resented the treatment, fell in with the doctor's proposal. Three meals a day were allowed them, the dietary including brown bread, green vegetables, watercress and stewed fruit. Potatoes, sugar and fat in any form were strictly forbidden. The efficacy of Dr. Gabriel's treatment exceeded expectations, and the two patients are highly pleased with the result.

HEALING BY ELECTRICITY

Wounds Healed by Electric Fluid. A new use for electricity involving its employment as the handmaiden of surgery is recommended to medical men in the last issue of The Roentgen Ray Archives, a German scientific review. The writer affirms that the healing of wounds, cuts, and laceration, which have become infected through the presence of dirt and other extraneous matter, can often be effected by the application of rays emanating from high-power electrical currents. Wounds of this kind, which include those produced by gunshot and powder explosions, form a large class, often extremely dangerous, owing to the difficulty of securing surgical cleanliness. The present writer points to the successful experiments of Dr. Martin Freund, the German bacteriologist, as evidence that electricity applied under proper conditions will kill the microbes of tetanus, the most dangerous of germs to be feared in these cases. The healing influence of electricity in such wounds is attributed in part to the ozone which is produced through powerful electrical discharges, it being well established that ozone is destructive to noxious bacteria. The writer suggests that electricity itself can be used to heal sores and abscesses caused by Roentgen ray burns, which heretofore have proved extremely difficult to treat successfully.

BOUND TO DO IT

Though talk is cheap, The moral's lost, Some men would talk At any cost. People who set a good example never know what it will hatch out.

THEY NEVER RETURNED

THE TRAGIC HISTORY OF POLAR EXPLORATION.

Disastrous Expeditions Into the Regions of Perpetual Ice. The first great tragedy of Arctic exploration was the mysterious disappearance of Sir John Franklin and more than 100 of his companions. After having made two successful voyages to the frozen North, Franklin left Greenwich on May 1845. Just about two months later he sent despatches home from Whalefish Island, and then followed a silence which has never since been broken. FROZEN HOPES. In 1871 there was another Arctic tragedy. Captain Hall, the commander of the U. S. ship Pelagic, left New York with high hopes in the June of that year, was frozen in by the following September, and died in November. His crew, more fortunate than he, survived, and, after intense suffering, reached Newfoundland in May, 1873. Still more disastrous was an expedition which left San Francisco a few years later—that of the Jeannette, commanded by Captain de Long. This steamer, after braving a thousand perils, eventually sank during a terrific hurricane, previously having broken "team" in two. The whole of her crew escaped, only, however, soon to meet with another disaster. While they were making for the Siberian coast, one of the three ship's boats foundered with all hands, and the other two, in charge of De Long and Commodore Melville respectively, separated, the leader's boat drifting to the shores of the Lena delta, and Melville's reaching a Siberian settlement on the River Lena. Melville and his companions—a party of ten in all—traveled in land, succeeded in procuring assistance, and returned to succor the leader and his party. After many hardships, they reached De Long's last camping place; but, unhappily, they were too late. Thirteen frozen bodies lay half buried in the snow.

STARVING TO DEATH

Intensely tragic, again, was the Greeley expedition. Through the failure of a relief-ship—which was sent in the far away to the north—the three comrades found themselves, at the beginning of the long Polar night, with only forty days' provisions, less than one-fifth the quantity required. One man became so madly ravenous that he actually pilfered from the slender store of rations, and, being ultimately caught red-handed, was condemned to death. "Private Henry will be executed today," wrote Greeley. And he was. When the end was very near a steamer's whistle was heard, and soon afterwards a relief-party burst into the hut in which the survivors lay. Saved—saved from the very jaws of death! Later, August Andree threw away his life in an attempt to reach the North Pole by balloon. He vanished completely. So, too, about fifteen years ago, did a small party which left St. John's under the command of the Swedish naturalists Björning and Kalstenius. Such is in part—the list might easily be extended—the heavy toll which has been exacted from explorers by the frozen North. It illustrates as nothing else can the dangers of the Arctic regions.

HEALING BY ELECTRICITY

Wounds Healed by Electric Fluid. A new use for electricity involving its employment as the handmaiden of surgery is recommended to medical men in the last issue of The Roentgen Ray Archives, a German scientific review. The writer affirms that the healing of wounds, cuts, and laceration, which have become infected through the presence of dirt and other extraneous matter, can often be effected by the application of rays emanating from high-power electrical currents. Wounds of this kind, which include those produced by gunshot and powder explosions, form a large class, often extremely dangerous, owing to the difficulty of securing surgical cleanliness. The present writer points to the successful experiments of Dr. Martin Freund, the German bacteriologist, as evidence that electricity applied under proper conditions will kill the microbes of tetanus, the most dangerous of germs to be feared in these cases. The healing influence of electricity in such wounds is attributed in part to the ozone which is produced through powerful electrical discharges, it being well established that ozone is destructive to noxious bacteria. The writer suggests that electricity itself can be used to heal sores and abscesses caused by Roentgen ray burns, which heretofore have proved extremely difficult to treat successfully.

BOUND TO DO IT

Though talk is cheap, The moral's lost, Some men would talk At any cost. People who set a good example never know what it will hatch out.

Fashion Hints.

SEEN IN PARIS SHOPS.

Wide velvet ribbon will decorate many of the best hats. Cords are to be one of the novelties of the new gowns. Colored embroidery will be used in the newest neckwear. Ribbons have been coming gradually into fashion again as trimmings. The new coat collars are odd and attractive and cut on decided novel lines. The most popular tunic is one that is draped rather than tucked. Linens and gingham are the most comfortable wear for little girls in school. The newest skirts have a deep hip-yoke effect that fits the figure closely. Large collars and deep closings are among the most notable features of autumn coats. The waist for afternoon wear can be made with Dutch round neck or with the high collar. A hat of greenish blue moire has its crown encircled with a wreath of brown leather leaves. One of the most popular waists for dressy wear this season is the model with the bib effect. The star belt is made of dull gold covered with tiny silver sequins in the shape of stars. Velvet belts, cut in the design of flowers, each blossom holding a gem, will be a pretty fashion. The latest whim of the Parisian is carrying the evening gloves in the hand instead of wearing them. The French tailors are making a great effort to give the back of the new coat a small contracted look. For evening wear elaborate gold and silver belts, hand painted, jeweled or embroidered will be popular. While the plain nets are popular, those with the dot and vermilion design are more in style. For evening wear there are huge turbans of white marabout, trimmed with white aigrettes and a rhinestone buckle. Hattings of mammoth dragon flies, huge beetles, and other terrible things are reproduced in iridescent glass. Cloth of silver gives a most effective touch to a turban of black velvet designed for a middle aged woman. Tulle is worn not only as a decoration material for many dresses, but as the trimming and decoration of many others. The transparent effects are in full swing among the silks, gray over pattern blue, green or black over Sevrès blue being lovely. The semi-princess dresses have been in close competition with the princess models since their first introduction, but so far neither has gained the upper hand; both styles are perfectly suitable for dressy gowns.

SREDNI KOLYMSK PRISON

Another Prison of Horror Discovered in Siberia. The story of an isolated Arctic district in Siberia where a few political exiles are detained was told by Harry de Windt in a lecture at the Travel Exhibition at Olympia, London. The place is Sredni Kolymsk, and its existence is probably known in Russia only to the Russian secret police, who have sole charge of it. "At Sredni Kolymsk," says Mr. de Windt, "I witnessed such scenes of indescribable horror and misery that I cannot even recall them without a shudder. I doubt whether the existence of such a place is known to the Czar." When Mr. de Windt visited the place he and his companions were the only white people not exiles who had ever been there with the exception of a couple of shipwrecked sailors. At Sredni Kolymsk there have been ten suicides in seven years, although no more than a score of political prisoners are there at a time. It is situated well within the Arctic region, at the extreme end of Siberia, 9,000 miles from St. Petersburg. It is the exiles three years to make the journey, and owing to the swamps surrounding it the place can only be approached in winter. The last part of the journey is done by the exiles in reindeer sleighs, with shelter huts every 200 miles. The nearest settlement to this forlorn prison is 470 miles, and the nearest town is thousands of miles away. In a school the children were asked to come prepared with the meaning of the word "bachelor" for the next lesson. This was one little girl's confident definition: "A bachelor is a very happy man." The teacher wanted to know more. How did the child know that? "Father told me so!"

WIFE—AM I, THEN, TO HAVE MY OWN WAY?

Wife—"Am I, then, to have my own way?" Husband—"Certainly, my dove. When we are both agreed you can have your way, and when we differ I'll have mine."

There are...

There are many who will relieve there are permanent cures medicine Pills. They of cases—standing. John Se after many been tried Scale says I suffered all that tin ing medici never got lief. Fin Williams' ing them ble disapp to eat he trace of t endured. perience, Williams' ent cure Dr. Wil People at that good because that is w heart pal raigia. S ailments hood. D Pale Pec cine dea 50 cents 50 from T Co., Bro

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. There are many who will relieve there are permanent cures medicine Pills. They of cases—standing. John Se after many been tried Scale says I suffered all that tin ing medici never got lief. Fin Williams' ing them ble disapp to eat he trace of t endured. perience, Williams' ent cure Dr. Wil People at that good because that is w heart pal raigia. S ailments hood. D Pale Pec cine dea 50 cents 50 from T Co., Bro

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. There are many who will relieve there are permanent cures medicine Pills. They of cases—standing. John Se after many been tried Scale says I suffered all that tin ing medici never got lief. Fin Williams' ing them ble disapp to eat he trace of t endured. perience, Williams' ent cure Dr. Wil People at that good because that is w heart pal raigia. S ailments hood. D Pale Pec cine dea 50 cents 50 from T Co., Bro

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. There are many who will relieve there are permanent cures medicine Pills. They of cases—standing. John Se after many been tried Scale says I suffered all that tin ing medici never got lief. Fin Williams' ing them ble disapp to eat he trace of t endured. perience, Williams' ent cure Dr. Wil People at that good because that is w heart pal raigia. S ailments hood. D Pale Pec cine dea 50 cents 50 from T Co., Bro

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. There are many who will relieve there are permanent cures medicine Pills. They of cases—standing. John Se after many been tried Scale says I suffered all that tin ing medici never got lief. Fin Williams' ing them ble disapp to eat he trace of t endured. perience, Williams' ent cure Dr. Wil People at that good because that is w heart pal raigia. S ailments hood. D Pale Pec cine dea 50 cents 50 from T Co., Bro

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. There are many who will relieve there are permanent cures medicine Pills. They of cases—standing. John Se after many been tried Scale says I suffered all that tin ing medici never got lief. Fin Williams' ing them ble disapp to eat he trace of t endured. perience, Williams' ent cure Dr. Wil People at that good because that is w heart pal raigia. S ailments hood. D Pale Pec cine dea 50 cents 50 from T Co., Bro

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. There are many who will relieve there are permanent cures medicine Pills. They of cases—standing. John Se after many been tried Scale says I suffered all that tin ing medici never got lief. Fin Williams' ing them ble disapp to eat he trace of t endured. perience, Williams' ent cure Dr. Wil People at that good because that is w heart pal raigia. S ailments hood. D Pale Pec cine dea 50 cents 50 from T Co., Bro