

Scientific and Sanitary.

"Evidence is accumulating on every hand," says *Modern Medicine*, "to show that cows' milk is an article of food quite as unsafe for human consumption as cows' meat, and that the time has come when the use of unsterilized milk must be regarded as a hazardous proceeding. The prejudice which has existed against the sterilization of milk is gradually disappearing, and physicians are coming to understand more and more the danger and the disadvantages of the use of raw milk, either by invalids or other human beings."

The nerves of warm-blooded animals, says a writer in *The Popular Science Monthly*, telegraph information to their brains at the rate of about 150 feet per second. When any one puts his hand on hot iron he does not feel it until the nerves have sent the message to the brain, and in the interval his hand has been burned. It is thought that this would not be the case if the nerve-message were transmitted with the intensity and velocity of electricity transmitted over a copper wire to a brain acting with the promptness of a Leyden jar.

A few weeks ago, says *L'Anthropologie*, a well-known professor arrived at the Russian town of Vetebsk for the purpose of making anthropometric studies of the local inhabitants. The measurement of the heads gave rise to the conviction that he was the evil in person affixing his seal so their foreheads, and the more courageous among them resolved to attack him and, if possible, to destroy him. Fortunately, the ispravnik of the district prevented the infuriated peasants from carrying out their intentions, and advised the professor to leave the district with all speed.

Diamonds set in metal have long been used for working hard materials, but they are easily torn out. A new method of setting, which gives excellent results, is described by *L'Album Industriel*. A little block of steel, suitably notched to receive the diamond, is brought to a red heat, the diamond is inserted and it is then passed through a small roll, the diamond being thus firmly imbedded in the block, though projecting slightly beyond its surface. The blocks thus prepared are applied to the tools, such as saws for cutting up hard stone, etc.

THE OLD TIN CAN.

The utilization of the metals in the thousands of tons of tin cans thrown annually into the rubbish heap has long been a dream of the metallurgist. Not only is it desirable to save the tin coating, but this must be done in such a way that the iron plate that it covers is available for soldering, hammering, and all the ordinary metallurgical processes. The problem, as we learn from *Cosmos*, may now be said to be solved, so far as its scientific side is concerned, the only trouble being the collection of a sufficient stock of the cast off cans to make it pay. The Lambotte method, used at the Molonbeck factory at Brussels, changes the tin, by the action of chemicals, into a chlorid, whence the metal is recovered as if from an ore. By a new process, invented by a Frenchman named Deiner, the tin coating is attacked by a mixture of nitrate and sulfate of soda, into a bath of which the cans are plunged, being afterward heated to assist the chemical work. The chemicals do not attack the iron, so it can be utilized as if it had never been tinned. Another process still, invented by T. G. Hunter, destroys the iron, but has the advantage of bringing the tin into the metallic state without any supplementary smelting. The old tinplate is treated with sulfate of copper. This throws down its copper in the metallic state and forms sulfate of tin, but as soon as the iron is laid bare the fickle acid drops its tin, also in the metallic state, and seizes on the iron, transforming it into sulfate of iron. By one or another of these processes the tin from any old scrap heap may be obtained as the pure metal, in a commercially valuable form. If the tin mines of the world should suddenly give out so as to make such a proceeding financially profitable, the rubbish heaps of the suburbs would probably undergo such an overhauling as to put to blush even the enterprising ragpickers. At present, however, it is doubtful whether the process will pay unless the old tin is obtainable easily and in large quantities.

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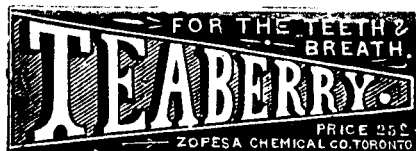
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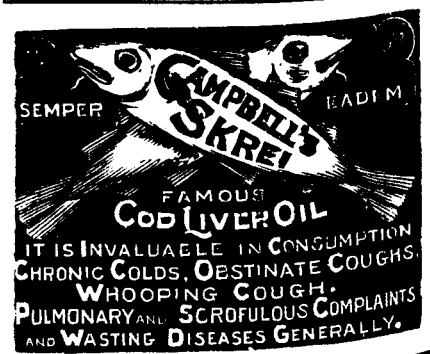
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