

CHILD SUICIDES GROW

Berlin Critics Say Hard Work is Cause

Socialists, Clergymen and School Critics Attempt to Get at Reason for Self-Sacrifice of Life—Conditions Alarming

Berlin.—Several distressing instances of children's suicides have occurred since the autumn school term began. This has brought on a discussion of the conditions of school and home life and endeavors are being made to trace the causes of that increasing feebleness of the desire to live which is affirmed the 11,000 suicides of 1903 indicate. The statistics of children's self-murder in Saxony show that although only seven persons under 14 committed suicide in 1901-1902 the number rose to 21 in 1903. The suicides of adults in Saxony increased in the same time from 1,388 to 1,427.

The causes of suicide in Germany are regarded as being exceedingly subtle and in the current discussions the personal views on the subject have generally been decided by the observers' opinions on other questions.

The socialists account for the suicides by economic reasons which they say result in making it harder to get subsistence, darken life generally and throw shadows over the lives of the children.

The clerical view is that the absence of faith, the increase of irreligion and the growth of sensual materialism explain the weakening desire for life and that a revival of spiritual aims would lessen suicides by increasing the serenity of living.

Critics of the school systems assert that children are forced too much that they are overstimulated and are given tasks which are impossible for accomplishment for those slightly below the standard of capacity and that punishments, the fear of reproofs and injury to self pride push the child toward suicide, of which he often hears his elders refer to as a refuge.

An instance is given of a 12-year-old boy who had failed to do a Latin exercise properly and was sent home to his father. The boy the moment he entered his father's room shot himself. In identical circumstances another boy threw himself out of a window.

The total number of children's suicides in Germany during 18 years was 747, just under 42 annually.

ARMOR STANDS TEST.

Trials at Indian Head Show Plates for the Tennessee Type of Ships Have Great Resistance.

Washington.—Rear Admiral Mason, chief of the bureau of ordnance, gave out this statement in regard to the armor tests made at the Indian Head proving grounds: "An interesting test took place in continuation of the series of experiments begun last March to determine the resisting power of the Tennessee class of armored cruisers under the attack of projectiles loaded with various kinds of explosives. The six and eight-inch guns were used in the test, the striking velocity of the projectiles being those corresponding to ranges from 1,000 to 5,000 yards. The target was a structure built in exact imitation of the side of the Tennessee, with all decks, bulkheads, etc., complete.

The results were, on the whole, extremely satisfactory as regards the design of the ship. The damage done by the bursting shells was localized within the compartment where the explosion took place, and, while the damage to both personnel and material within the compartment was undoubtedly heavy, a whole would have been intact at the conclusion of the firing.

As a final test a 12-inch shell was exploded within a closed compartment just above the armored deck. The local effect of this was considerable, but the armored deck was not penetrated."

DISASTER IN IRRIGATION.

Engineer Wisner Predicts Destruction of Land in Southern California in Twenty Years.

Detroit.—Disastrous results from irrigation in the Imperial valley of southern California were predicted by George Y. Wisner, of Detroit, an engineer of national reputation and member of the international water ways commission. Mr. Wisner was speaking before the Detroit Engineering society.

Within 20 years thousands of people who have taken up government land in the Imperial valley will be driven out by water. Their homes and fields forming the bottom of an immense inland sea," he said. "The cause of the coming catastrophe will be poor engineering in diverting the course of the Colorado river for irrigation. The stream has cut into the banks of its new course to such an extent that nearly all of the Colorado river flows down into the valley. The engineers realize this danger, but after many frantic efforts have failed to change the course back to its old bed.

Not for 20 years will the evaporation down there be equal to the inflow into the valley. By that time a million acres of the valley, which is 60 to 265 feet below sea level, will be covered by an inland sea."

Triplets Born to Girl Wife. Triplets, whose combined weight is 22 pounds, were born to Mrs. Mary Wright, of Marshalltown, Ill., who weighs but 105 pounds herself and is only 17 years old. The birth of three babies of such weight to such a young and small woman is said to be without precedent in medical annals.

HAS OLDEST WAR SURVIVOR

Denver Also Has Youngest Soldier to Enlist for Service in the Union Army.

Denver.—Denver can boast of having among its residents the oldest survivor of the civil war, the youngest soldier to enlist in the union army when that great struggle was on, and, to complete the two, the youngest soldier to receive a medal of honor.

The oldest soldier is "Uncle Billy" Taylor, 99 years of age, and still ready to fight for the flag, if needed. J. A. Howland, the youngest to enlist, was only a little past 12 years old when he was accepted for service, and Harry J. Parks was the youngest soldier to receive a medal of honor, being awarded it for distinguished gallantry at the age of 16.

"Uncle Billy" Taylor was born in Scotland and has always been a military man. He joined the British army at the age of 13. Served in the Black Hawk Indian war of 1831-32, and in the Mexican war of 1845, and in the civil war. He is a noted character in Wisconsin, as he lived there 55 years. Two years ago he came to Denver and has lived here ever since, making his home at 815 Colfax avenue.

The youngest soldier, Mr. Howland, lives with his family at No. 1734 Humboldt street. He was a prisoner in Libby prison and has the honor of being the first charter member of the G. A. R. post in Indianapolis. He is the father of Jobyna Howland, the actress and original "Gibson Girl."

Mr. Parks was a member of company A, Ninth New York cavalry; captain of battery A, Colorado volunteer artillery, in the Spanish-American war, and he is a member of the Medal of Honor legion.

BUILD CHURCH IN A DAY.

Congregation Holds Services in the Structure Which They Built the Same Evening.

Kansas City, Mo.—The members of the Armourdale Baptist church built a church in a day and held prayer services in it in the evening at seven o'clock.

The new church is at North street and Euclid avenue in Kansas City, Kan. It was constructed entirely by the members of the church.

The materials were hauled to the ground and early in the morning all the able-bodied members of the church started to work.

"Uncle" Steve Allen, 74 years old, was placed at the head of the workers. When "Uncle Steve" said nail everybody seemed to rise out of the ground. The church is 24x16 feet in dimensions, and will seat 200 people. The building was shingled and ready for use at six o'clock in the evening.

"This church will be known as the Splitting Baptist Mission church," said Mr. Streeter, as he stopped for a few moments to rest. He had been sawing. Three years ago the same congregation built a similar church. When the big flood came the house of worship was wrecked.

The women of the church gave luncheon and dinner to the hard-working laborers. After lunch the women decided to stay and help the men. They carried nails and hammers and encouraged the workers.

WIFE HAS DREAM OF GOLD.

Husband Followed Her Advice and Was Rewarded by Unearthed Wealth.

Bloomington, Ill.—When Frank Clazebrook, of Scott county, bought 42 acres of land on a bluff three-quarters of a mile southwest of Montezuma, Pike county, two years ago, his wife dreamed that she saw specks of gold in water flowing from a spring in the newly acquired property. The dream was a vivid one and she at times would refer to it.

Recently while inspecting the Pike county farm in company with her husband she saw a spring which she declared was almost an exact counterpart of the one in her dreams.

After much effort she persuaded her husband to explore the bluff near the spring, and he was amazed to find traces of gold in paying quantities. A sample of 200 pounds of sand and gravel assayed \$335 a ton.

Clazebrook dug into the bluff to a depth of 75 feet and the dirt assayed was of greater richness. If the entire bluff is as rich his fortune is made.

INDIANS REPLACE HOBOS.

Working in Fields of the West, the Government School Boys Prosper.

Sioux Falls, S. D.—Indians working as harvest hands have been one of the features of the present harvesting and threshing period among the farmers of Moody and adjoining counties, north of Sioux Falls. For several weeks Riggs institute, a government Indian school situated in Moody county, has been supplying the farmers with Indian boys for harvest hands.

Those who have employed them are well pleased with the result of the experiment. Scores of the boys have been employed, and they have, it is believed, permanently displaced the professional hobos, upon whom the farmers heretofore have had to depend. The Indian boys, who during the winter are pupils of the government school, are from 16 to 20 years of age. They receive from \$1.50 to \$2 per day for a period of from six to eight weeks.

Simply Dusting. "Miss Alice Roosevelt," says the Baltimore American, "is sweeping all before her in the east." "Tush! Sweeping! Miss Alice is merely dusting around a bit."

BANKS GROW FAST.

COUNTRY'S INSTITUTIONS GAIN GREAT STRENGTH.

Figures Compiled by Comptroller of Currency Show Enormous Increase in Deposits Throughout the United States.

Washington.—Complete returns from all the country's national banks, compiled by the comptroller of the currency, show that in the past year the resources of these institutions have increased \$497,000,000 and individual deposits \$362,500,000. Of these stupendous gains the middle west contributes more than 30 per cent. of the increase in resources and about 25 per cent. of the increase in individual deposits.

No surer index of the unparalleled prosperity of the present time can be found than this showing of the national banks. These institutions are increasing in numbers at the rate of one daily. During the year ending with the last bank call, August 25, the number reporting to the comptroller of the currency grew from 5,412 to 5,557, a gain of 345, and applications for new charters are constantly on the increase. In the increase in new institutions the west again takes the lead.

Illinois national banking institutions stand at the head in the middle west group of states. They show a gain of \$9,500,000 for the past year in general resources, of which amount Chicago alone contributes more than \$2,250,000 and the rest of the state \$13,250,000. Of the \$18,333,000 increase in individual deposits the Chicago banks gained about \$7,000,000 and those in the state the rest.

Comptroller of the Currency Ridgely said that the present condition of the national banks of the country not only shows a record breaking prosperity, but indicates that the growth will be even greater in the next year.

"The only items that show any decrease," said Mr. Ridgely, "are specie and government deposits. As a matter of fact, the decrease in specie is insignificant, being less than \$10,000,000 out of \$500,000,000 for the year. In the last period the amount of cash held by the banks has increased, and the coming year will undoubtedly show a tremendous gain in this item.

"The withdrawal of large amounts of cash from the banks by the government to meet payments is but a reflection of the deficiency in the income of the United States during the last fiscal year.

"No part of the country makes so fine a showing as the middle west. In the next few months this section will undoubtedly make an even greater showing, when the crops have been marketed and the farmers' money finds its way to the banks. The applications for new national banks from the middle west are larger in number than from any other section."

MONUMENT FOR A HORSE.

Prominent New York Woman Would Erect Shaft to Thoroughbred Equine, Once Prize Winner.

New York.—When Miss Anna Colgate, who is prominent here in society, returns from Europe she will have a stone monument erected over the grave of a thoroughbred horse, of which she was very fond. The horse was a blue ribbon winner in his day and a great pet of his Colgate family.

The animal's halcyon days were over ten years ago, and he was put out to pasture on the farm of Eugene Ely, at Holmville, N. J., to end his existence. Miss Colgate made inquiries regularly as to how the old horse was getting along.

A few days ago Ely informed her that the horse had become so old that he could no longer eat, and that it would be a merciful act to put him out of his misery. Miss Colgate cabled instructions that the horse should be shot, which was done.

A mound was erected to mark the spot where the horse was buried in the field where he had spent his last days. Later that will be surmounted by a tombstone, on which will be inscribed the animal's name, pedigree and performances.

DEVoured QUEER ARTICLES

Indiana Lunatic Eats Everything—Drinks Carabolic Acid in Its Order and Dies.

Fort Wayne, Ind.—At the state school for the feeble-minded was an inmate, Benjamin Martin, upon whose body a post-mortem has just been held. Martin's propensity was, when not watched, to chew or drink and swallow anything that he could put into his mouth, and this led him into drinking carabolic acid. The post-mortem revealed that the boy had reached an advanced stage of diabetes, but in his stomach was a half of the humorous page of the Sunday issue of a Chicago daily paper. The nurse was discharged by Superintendent Carroll, although there were mitigating circumstances. Her attention was called away by the fact that another boy had been seized by an epileptic attack, and while ministering to him she placed the bottle containing carabolic acid, which had been used for disinfecting purposes, on the window sill.

Benjamin Martin seized the opportunity to drink the acid. The rules had to be enforced for the sake of discipline, and the nurse had to suffer for her moment's carelessness.

Clogs Progress. One of the college professors declares that the self-made man clogs progress. It might be added that the self-made man doesn't stand very high in the estimation of his sophomore son, either.

"GOO-GOO EYES" DEFINED.

Court Declares Forbidden Any Contortion of Optics for Purpose of Attracting Attention of Female.

Houston, Tex.—Judge John Kirlicks of the corporation court, has determined the legal meaning of the term "goo-goo eyes," as used in the famous anti-firing ordinance of Houston. The opinion was delivered upon the conviction of John McPaul, charged with violation of the ordinance. The opinion follows:

"By the term 'goo-goo eyes' is meant any contortion, unusual movement, or any fixed unusual attitude of the eyes, providing the said contortion, unusual movement or unusual fixed attitude is made with the intent of attracting, alluring or conjuring the attention of any woman or female, as the said ordinance recites. It will be noted that such eyes, if made at an infant in arms, provided it is of the gentler sex, is unlawful upon the streets of the city.

"The 'intent' is the point upon which the main construction must be placed. A stare is a 'goo-goo' if it is committed with intent; a wink accompanied by intent is a 'goo-goo,' likewise the cocking of an eye, ogling, making wide eyes—all come within the broad sweep of the term 'goo-goo,' if accompanied by intent.

"The meat of the nut is intent. Without it no person is guilty of the crime of 'goo-gooing.' The preponderance of evidence must be upon the prosecution. From the acts of the person making the unusual movements or maintaining the unusual attitude of the eyes are his intentions to be determined."

DOG'S NAME IN DIRECTORY

Occupation Given as Watchman—Man Learns the Truth Upon Trying to Hire Him.

Utica, N. Y.—"Robert Badgero, watchman, 39 West street," is the way it read in the Utica city directory, and the woman who responded to the bell call told the man at the door that "Bob" was in.

"I'd like to see him," remarked the caller, for he was in search of a watchman for his establishment.

"Here Bob, here Bob," called the woman and a lively bull terrier rushed into the hall.

And then the woman laughed, for the Robert Badgero in the directory was none other than "Bob," the mascot of the Utica & Mohawk Valley Railway company, who had been listed in the directory as "watchman" because that's just what he was.

Bob is probably the only dog on record who has his name in a city directory. He is the property of M. S. Badgero, private secretary to General Manager Allen, of the street railway. Bob is known by all employees of the line and is always a welcome passenger who need pay no fare.

Bob's intelligence is held to be remarkable by employes of the railroad company. He takes frequent trips with them, but always manages to be watchman. A short time ago Bob back home to attend to his duties as went to Rome with the company's claim agent and became strayed there. When the claim agent reached home Bob was there. He had taken an earlier trolley.

TEACHERS ASK MORE PAY.

Minister of Education Finds Novel Solution of Knotty Question by Appealing to Vanity.

Berlin.—Some time ago a number of German mirror poets, indignant at the miserably inadequate cash reward for their flowers of speech, formed themselves into a union to maintain a minimum rate fixed by themselves.

The German schoolmasters now have made a complaint, particularly the Mecklenburg teachers, who, though they enjoy the title of professor, and are the employes of the government, are the worst paid pedagogues in the fatherland. Their poverty is such that nearly 70 per cent. of them are obliged to eke out a livelihood by taking other positions, such as sexton, organist, and auctioneer.

The minister of education at Mecklenburg has given ear to their complaint and with a true insight into human nature has soiced them without raising their salaries and at their own expense.

A government receipt has been published permitting them on state occasions to wear a brilliant uniform. The coat thereof is a bright blue, with a crimson collar and cuffs embroidered in gold. The coat and waistcoat have gold buttons ornamented with a crown and the initials of the grand duke. The trousers are white, with a broad gold stripe down the sides.

New Town's Name. "Damsite" probably will be the name of a new post office to be established in Texas. When this cognomen first was suggested the department officials were inclined to side-step. Cecil Lyon, republican national committeeman for Texas, at the post office department the other day explained that the locality to be served by the new office was known locally as "Damsite," because engineers were building a large irrigation dam at that point. "We do not mean to be profane," said Col. Lyon. "Some folks make me weary."

Awful Common Here. The beautiful daughter of a Berlin millionaire has eloped with her father's chauffeur. If the Germans insist on adopting American ideas they must expect such little episodes as this.

LETTER TOURS EARTH

LOST MISSIVE CIRCLES GLOBE THREE TIMES.

After a Year's Wandering, Epistle Addressed to United States Soldier Finds Its Owner—Name Upon It Hardly Legible.

Cincinnati.—No better evidence of the efficiency of the United States postal system could be asked for than in the case of a letter which recently halted in the city as if for a rest before resuming its journey.

The letter has traveled a distance exceeding three circuits of the earth. The mission has been nearly a year in its attempt to find a "home," and it bears the appearance of having passed through the Russo-Japanese war. It has traveled approximately 85,000 miles, and both sides of the letter are covered with post-marks and writhing in some places two or three layers deep. It has been in two dead-letter offices, and how it escaped permanent internment is a mystery.

The letter was mailed by Private T. J. Walker, of the Eighteenth infantry, at Tacloban, Leyte Island, P. I., October 14, 1904, and was addressed to Miss M. L. Walker, Jonesboro, Tenn. It was received at its destination on November 30, and was advertised as unclaimed. The postmaster finally sent it to the dead letter office, reaching there December 23. From there it was returned to the writer's address in the Philippines, reaching Manila February 20, 1905. When it was received at the original starting point it was learned that the Eighteenth infantry had returned to the States early in the year, and after passing through the dead letter bureau at Manila, the missive was once more returned to the United States, arriving at Vancouver Barracks March 20.

The regiment had by that time gone on to its station at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and the letter was forwarded to that point. There are two postmarks on the letter bearing that post's name, dated respectively April 7 and June 17. Walker's term of enlistment had previously expired, and he had joined the Fourth infantry in the Philippines.

There was nothing to be done but return the letter to the islands a second time, and it arrived in Manila May 14. By some misunderstanding the letter was returned to Fort Leavenworth, reaching there June 17.

Just what its travels have been since then is not clear, as the letter had become so scratched up as to render postmarks and writhing illegible. At any rate it arrived some days ago at Fort Thomas, just across the river, only to find that the much-sought Walker had departed for Canton, O., with the detachment to guard McKinley's tomb. B. Ross forwarded the much-abused missive to that point, and if nothing has happened to the letter or Walker he has it by this time.

BLIND MAN IS A STUDENT.

Will Typewrite His Notes of Lectures and Prepare His Finished Work in the Same Manner.

Syracuse, N. Y.—John C. Fowler, of Louisville, N. Y., totally blind from infancy, and wholly dependent on himself, has matriculated as a student in Syracuse university in the regular philosophical course, and has entered on his work.

He is 23 years old, and has been graduated from the State institution for the blind at Batavia, N. Y., having earned his way by tuning pianos, which he will continue to do here and in Louisville, as a means of support.

In the lecture courses, Mr. Fowler will take notes in New York point, the writing system for the blind, provided that the noise does not disturb the other members of the class. The written work will be prepared on a typewriter, on which Mr. Fowler has a record of from 35 to 40 words a minute from memory. He will write his examinations on the machine, or take them orally. In mathematics and kindred subjects, Mr. Fowler will do mental work almost entirely. He was specially trained in this at Batavia. He intends to take the regular gymnasium work.

Although living five blocks from the university grounds he already knows the route and goes back and forth without assistance. He is rapidly learning to be equally independent in going about the buildings in which he is to work.

ASK \$106,250,000 FOR LAND

Kosciusko's Descendants Will Present Claim to United States for Chicago Plot Granted Hero.

Berlin.—According to the Berliner Tageblatt, two families named Kosciusko, living at Gnesen, intend bringing claims against the United States government for compensation to the amount of 425,000,000 marks (\$106,250,000).

The Kosciuskos assert that they are descendants of the Polish national hero Kosciusko, who also played a part in the American war of independence. In recognition of his services during the campaign, the American government presented Kosciusko with a plot of land on which Chicago is built at the present day.

This grant, it is stated, was made in the form of an official document, which came into the possession of the present claimants a short time ago as a bequest. Their lawyer has been instructed to present the claim to the American government at an early period.

Both Sides.

A New York girl has had a man put in jail because he admired her. Yet she would probably have despised him if he hadn't turned to look.

CC BUTTE

Interest in the Dissection of Butterflies.

A discovery of the greatest importance to zoology, nothing less in fact, than the production of varieties of butterflies simply by the use of changes of temperature of the chrysalides and cocoons, is announced in Nuova Antologia, of Rome. Such experiments are peculiarly interesting in view of the recent work and theories of Prof. Hugo De Vries, of Amsterdam, on the subject of species and variation.

For a long time work in zoology has been centered upon classification, but now the study has become an experimental one, and, in this new road Prof. Standfuss, of Zurich, has obtained some remarkable results. It seems that certain species of butterflies have successive and different generations, the chrysalides of the Vanessa lavana, for example, producing in the spring a butterfly which differs entirely in form and color from the first generation. Now, if we submit the autumn egg to a high temperature, 86 degrees Fahrenheit, the butterfly which is born has the same form and color as the summer insect.

The same result is obtained with the Vanessa urticae, which is found in different forms at the North Cape and in Sardinia. By cooling the air in which the egg, cocoon or chrysalis is placed, there is obtained the northern form of the butterfly, while if we warm the egg or cocoon to 86 degrees Fahrenheit the southern form comes into existence. A splendid experiment is the one which may be performed with the maraone. In this case one need only raise the temperature to obtain the beautiful form of the butterfly which lives in the orient, exposing the chrysalis alternately to temperatures of 40 degrees above zero centigrade and 40 degrees below, we obtain an ancient species, which is no longer in existence. This experiment was made by Standfuss on from 6,900 to 7,000 cocoons and chrysalides, and he succeeded in obtaining the greater portion of the species of the past as well as some of the new species, and this to such a degree that he could clearly demonstrate the effect of heredity.

Not only differences of temperature, however, but also the chemical composition of the air, has its effect on the chrysalis and produces a variation in the development. It is possible simply by changing the chemical composition of the air to change entirely the color of the butterfly.

QUITE BEYOND ENDURANCE

The Simpsons Were Invited to Dine Upon Chickens They Had Fattened.

Mr. Simpson and his wife were crossing the vacant pieces of land which separates their residence from that of the Mitchells, at whose house they had just had dinner, relates Cassell's Journal.

"Most agreeable people," commented Mr. Simpson, genially, "and an excellent dinner."

"Yes," said his wife, but not very enthusiastically.

"Those chickens were perfect," continued Mr. Simpson. "I wonder why we can't get such chickens? Oh, he said he had reared them himself, didn't he?"

"Yes," Mrs. Simpson replied, with awakened spirit; "that was what he said, and it vexed me so much I could hardly keep still."

"Vexed you?"

"Yes, and it would vex you if you had any spirit," returned the lady. "We reared those chickens, James!"

"What do you mean?" asked her husband, in bewilderment. "We've never had a chicken on our place."

"Yes, we have—the Mitchells' chickens have been there since last summer!" retorted Mrs. Simpson. "If it hadn't been for our garden they wouldn't have been half so fine. When everybody was praising them, all I could think of was the garden seeds and vegetables those birds had devoured since they were hatched in the spring! And there Mr. Mitchell sat, and took all those compliments as calmly as if they really belonged to him!"

"I think it was very bad taste," she concluded, with dignity. "It would have been merely decent to have bought chickens when we dined there."

Russia's Unlearned Lesson. No persons are better aware than those who live under free forms of government, either republican, democratic or monarchical, that all the virtues do not necessarily pervade communities liberally governed. But that no other system is possible for peoples, who have arrived at a certain grade of intelligence is proved by experiment; only by some method of representation and self-government can be avoided a condition of cruel repression above and of misery and unrest below. Only thus can humanity work out its own salvation. With Japan following successfully the direction of freedom and progress, it is not in the nature of things that Russia can long linger in the region of nightmare and chaos. The emperor and people of Russia have other lessons than those of war to learn from the emperor and people of Japan.—Century.

The Potato "Gaffer." It is frequently the custom for merchants in Scotland to buy potatoes when in the ground, and to undertake the digging and carting. For this purpose they often send to Ireland for a man called a "gaffer," who takes a gang of young women over to assist, as the Irish women are among the best workers in the field.