

MAY AID THE LEPERS

NATIONAL HOSPITAL NEEDED TO CARE FOR THEM PROPERLY.

Two Recent Cases Call Attention to the Existence of Plague, But No Provision for Adequate Treatment and Isolation.

Washington. — The agitation in Washington over the Early leprosy case and in Arizona over the case of Mrs. Wardwell is expected by officials of the public health and marine hospital service to lead to a renewed effort to obtain the establishment of a national hospital for the isolation and treatment of leprosy.

An effort to obtain legislation to this end, which was supported by many members of the medical fraternity throughout the country, was made by the public health and marine hospital service in 1905, and a bill for such an institution received favorable reports in both houses of congress.

It failed of passage, however, largely because of objections from localities in which it was contemplated that the leprosy should be treated. The bill did not name any state of territory, but provided that an abandoned military or naval reservation should be used.

It was understood, however, that the authorities had New Mexico in mind as the most desirable location, and the delegate from that territory was not slow in making known the opposition of his constituents.

When legislation is reached again the health bureau will be ready with all the statistics and arguments necessary to win consideration for the bill. The statistics, however, are not very recent, as they do not approach any nearer the present time than 1901.

In that year a commission composed of surgeons connected with the bureau made a thorough investigation of leprosy in the United States, finding that there were 278 cases in the country and that they were scattered through 21 states.

Louisiana had the largest number, or more than half the entire number. California and Florida followed with 24 each, Minnesota with 20 and North Dakota with 16.

The remaining cases were found in Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin.

All of these cases only 72 were isolated. The commission was of the opinion that its report did not cover all cases and the belief was expressed that many of them were hidden.

In presenting its report the commission included the general recommendations of the international leprosy conference for the isolation of cases as the best method to prevent the spread of the disease. It was recommended also that two institutions—one in the north and the other in the south, be established.

In the absence of Surgeon General Wyman, no one connected with the public health service will undertake to say positively that the leprosy bill will be reintroduced, but many incline to the opinion that it will be because of the necessity for protecting the general public and for dealing with leprosy victims in a humanitarian way and also because of the difficulties in having individual states care for them.

FIVE YEAR THIEF A SNAKE. Monster Black Reptile with Fowl is Shot by Farmer's Wife.

York, Pa.—For the past five years John F. Arnold, a farmer of York, New Salem, had been aware that he was being preyed upon by a systematic chicken thief, but everything from a man trap to a rat trap was tried without avail.

The honor of making the capture has fallen to Mrs. Arnold, who discovered the marauder, a blacksnake nine feet and two inches in length, and shot it. The reptile is the largest of its kind ever known to have been actually measured in the county.

Mrs. Arnold came upon the snake in an unguarded moment, as it lay beside a fence busily engaged in swallowing a young fowl. Getting her husband's shotgun, she held it close and discharged both barrels, with the desired effect.

Tired of Being a Woman. Huntington, W. Va.—"Mingo county is no place for a woman, and henceforth I wish to be known as a man."

Dressed in male attire, Miss Mattie Curry, an attractive young woman, startled her friends here by the above announcement. Then she visited a barber shop and had her golden curls shorn and insisted that the barber go over her face with a razor.

Miss Curry is a leader of the younger social set at Hamlin, near here, and is well known in this city. She rode into the city shortly before noon one day recently astride of a spirited horse.

LEAVE FORTUNE TO VILLAGE

Millionaire Bachelors Bequeath Estates to Old-Time Friends.

Saratoga, N. Y.—As the result of an agreement made years ago between Thomas M. and Alexander Gilchrist, two kindly old bachelor brothers, a fortune of more than \$1,000,000 has been distributed among the residents of the little town of Charlton.

Alexander J. Gilchrist has recently followed out the agreement made with his brother four years ago, and left his fortune, together with one of equal size left him by his brother, to the friends and neighbors instead of to some pretentious educational or charitable institution.

According to the village gossip, several years ago the two Gilchristes, well along in years, with more money accumulated by shrewd real estate investments than they could spend in a dozen lifetimes, fell to talking one evening by the fire of their unpretentious country home of how they should leave their wealth. With no near relatives, there was no obvious beneficiary to be decided upon.

"I am going to leave all my money to you, Tom," Alexander is reported to have said.

"Now, that's funny," replied the other. "I have already bequeathed all of mine to you."

"But one of us must die first," reminded Alexander, "and who will the other leave it to?"

"Well," Tom is said to have replied, "there's plenty of wealthy folks to look after the colleges and such, but I don't know any way that will make me lie more contented in my grave than to give all of the good friends of ours around the village enough to make them sure of bread and butter, and perhaps a little piece of cake now and then."

Thomas M. Gilchrist approved of the idea and the compact was drawn up by which the survivor agreed to distribute the combined fortunes around the little village, with a few bequests to distant cousins and friends of greatest intimacy who had moved away.

WOULD CUT UP CRIMINALS.

Colored Doctor Proposes Substitute for Hanganman's Knot.

New York.—The tenth annual meeting of the National Medical Association, composed of colored physicians and pharmacists, was stirred by the impassioned advocacy of scientific experiments on criminals condemned to death.

Dr. A. M. Brown, surgeon of the Tenth United States cavalry during the war in Cuba and surgeon of the Home hospital in Birmingham, Ala., made the plea for vivisection on human beings. He said that he believes that instead of using the hangman's knot or the electric chair, the government should punish murderers by sentencing the culprits to the operating table.

"Science," said Dr. Brown, "would receive an impetus from these experiments on living tissue. Crime would be lessened by such a penalty, and innocent men and women would derive a true benefit from the expiration of the guilty."

Dr. Brown then denounced "near-great surgeons," who operated with impunity and who threatened the safety of patients who die from mis-treatment. His advanced theories about utilizing criminals on the operating table did not meet with general approval, and the convention was in a tumult for a time.

Dr. H. F. Gamble agreed with Dr. Brown to an extent. The other physicians were unwilling to have the public believe that the surgeon is devoid of human impulses.

TO RAZE CLEVELAND HOME.

Late President's New York Residence Will Be Demolished.

New York.—Workmen will soon begin to tear down the house at 13 West Fifty-first street, the last New York city home of the late Grover Cleveland. The old house is to be replaced with a modern basement residence.

Grover Cleveland, in April, 1892, leased the house from G. C. Benedict, the banker. Mr. Benedict and Mrs. Cleveland were close friends, and the former president and Mrs. Cleveland made frequent excursions in Mr. Benedict's yacht, the Ononda.

Soon after leasing the Benedict house Mr. Cleveland and his family left the city for the summer, and that fall he was elected president of the United States for the second time. After that he had little use for the house, and soon afterward gave it up for the White House.

Andrew Carnegie lived just across the street from Mr. Cleveland's home, which was within a stone's throw of the Vanderbilt houses.

Man Imitates Tackeater. Ware, Mass.—John E. Hoyt of New York city, foreman of a gang of carpenters on a big contract in Ware, after watching a professional circus sword swallower and tackeater apparently swallow a handful of iron as tempted to emulate him.

Dr. J. M. Carmichael removed a number of iron nails from his stomach in Weston Memorial hospital. The operation will be continued in the hope of saving the man's life, though he was dangerously low. Hoyt is 30 years old.

The nails he really swallowed remained in his stomach and caused a high fever. Hoyt has lost 40 pounds.

INDIANS ALL ARTISTS

NATIVES OF ALASKA LEARN EASILY.

Two American Women Teach School in Afognak, Where Pupils Are Catholics Sunday and Aleutians Every Other Day.

Seattle, Wash.—Mrs. C. W. Hammond and her daughter are the teachers in what is perhaps the most interesting school under the Stars and Stripes. They are the teachers appointed by the government to conduct the native school at Afognak, Alaska.

Afognak is but little known to the people of the United States, yet it was the third town started by the Russians in the early part of the last century on the Pacific. It would have little reason to demand even the attention of the government today were it not for the fact that one of the best Indian schools conducted in the territory of Alaska is maintained there.

Afognak is on an island of the same name in southwestern Alaska. Mrs. C. W. Hammond and her daughter have the task of teaching the 51 pupils who are enrolled at the Afognak school and it is not likely that in all the possessions of the United States there is such a variety of color or intelligence among the natives who are being educated.

On one thing the natives, from the Aleuts to the Russian outcasts, are a unit. Everyone is the most devout of Greek Catholics on Sunday. On other days they are simply natives.

It was last year that Mrs. Hammond, who formerly lived at San Juan Island, in this state, was appointed teacher at Afognak. When she arrived there she found a school which had been established 20 years. It was rearranged to conform with modern ideas and in a few weeks Mrs. Hammond will, with her daughter, begin the fall term.

"I enjoy the work," said Mrs. Hammond, "for I find a great study in the natives. It would surprise people to know that of the 51 pupils in the school there is hardly one who does not take naturally to drawing. Why, it is astonishing to find that little tots who are just able to toddle to the school house when furnished with a pencil and paper begin drawing."

They have fostered and encouraged this trait and there are several of the older children who are really clever. "Music, however, is the one thing that wins them, from the old, gray-haired men and women to the little boys and girls. They love music. They can sing far better than an equal number of country children in the states. They have their favorite instruments, too, mandolins and accordions."

"Do they have phonographs? Why, there is not a popular air that has been sung in the United States in the last ten years that is not common in Afognak within three months after the record is made. I am taking a trunk full of records up with me. And among the records I had a demand for some real classical music."

"So far as the studies go, I cannot say that the natives are anxious to learn English in its higher branches. There are some who are quite well advanced, but there are also many who attend school only by compulsion, although they are very proud of what education they possess after reaching maturity."

"Afognak shows that the white blood must predominate. There are two villages. One is the real native Aleutian town; the other the half caste." I have noticed that any native who has a drop of white blood in his or her veins looks down on the full-blooded native."

There are no white men stationed at Afognak. A few prospectors and hunters call there occasionally, so Mrs. Hammond and her daughter are alone among the natives. They say they get along splendidly with them.

BOY KILLS BIG EAGLE.

Lad Shoots and Wounds Bird, which Turns on Him.

Zion, N. D.—A big bird flew into L. K. Kensing's barnyard, captured a chicken and flew off a distance, where it proceeded to enjoy a holiday feast. A boy noticed the strange-looking visitor, which appeared to him to be an overgrown hawk. Loading up the family gun, the lad went after the intruder, which by this time was picking its teeth with the wishbone, and gave it a charge of shot, which broke its wing.

The boy then attempted to finish the bird by clubbing it to death. The eagle spread out its good wing and attacked him so fiercely with beak and talons that he had to flee for his life. He then loaded the gun and sent in another charge, killing it.

The eagle was taken to Cando and was placed on exhibition at Conyers Bros. hardware store, where it was viewed by hundreds of curious spectators. It was pronounced to be a young bald eagle, one of the largest of its kind and lacked only two inches of seven feet in its spread of wings.

In School 1,760 Days. York, Pa.—After completing a record of school attendance, which her father, Justice of the Peace John A. Kunkel of Lewisberry, this county, says he will match against that of any other girl in the state, Miss Lizzie Kunkel, a miss not yet out of her teens, will herself begin teaching.

Between the ages of six and 17 years Miss Kunkel never missed a single day from any cause, and in this period there were exactly 1,760 school days.

FIVE MONTHS IN PLASTER.

Baby with Double Pro-Natal Dislocation Made Perfect.

Chester, N. Y.—Mary Lascomb, three years old, after undergoing one of the most remarkable operations ever performed in this country, will be discharged from the Crozer hospital in a few days. The child was discovered nearly a year ago by a local physician, who ascertained that she was suffering with a double congenital dislocation of the hip joints, a serious prenatal condition, from which no child has ever recovered thoroughly by other than surgical treatment, and this in many instances has failed, until the famous bloodless method, as demonstrated by Lorenz, became known.

The case of Mary Lascomb was placed in the hands of Dr. D. P. Maddox, who called in consultation Dr. Herbert L. Northrop, dean of the Hahnemann medical college, Philadelphia, and it was decided to adopt the Lorenz method.

The hips and legs were placed in position and kept in a plaster cast for five months, the cast being removed from time to time. Now Mary is able to romp along the concrete floors of the hospital corridors, having been transformed from a hopeless cripple into an active child.

PROFITS FROM OUR FORESTS.

Government Experts Say They Will Yield More Than Germany's.

Washington.—American forests, according to the experts of the department of agriculture, are capable of yielding more wood to the acre, if well handled, than the noted forests of Germany, many of which net their owners from \$250 to \$6 or more per acre annually. Not only are our native forests richer in valuable timber trees, but our climate and soil conditions are more favorable. The trouble is not that our trees do not grow fast enough, but that our ignorance and carelessness have left our woodlands poorly stocked.

The German forester sees to it that his forest is uniform and dense. To grow a full crop of wood, as to grow a full crop of grass or corn, there must be a full stand. Next in importance is the rate of growth of the trees.

The species most grown abroad are Norway spruce, Scotch pine, and silver fir, for soft woods, and beech and oak for hard woods. In German forests of the first quality, Norway spruce attains in 60 years an average diameter of six and four-teenths inches.

TRAP PROVES AID TO THIEVES.

Illuminated Peach Orchard Makes Work of Stripping Trees Easy.

Medora, Ill.—Thieves of epicurean tastes are making merry at the expense of Medora fruit growers, who are at their wit's end for a means of breaking up the thefts of their peaches. Each night the trees are divested of bushels of their fruit and, though the authorities have worked diligently to apprehend the robbers, nothing has resulted. A brilliant scheme suggested itself to Stephen Day, a local Democratic politician. Day, like other fruit growers, has been losing bushel after bushel of peaches from his orchard, and after reasoning it out that thieves feared the light he strung lanterns from one end of the orchard to the other. Instead of keeping robbers away, the light drew them, as it does a swarm of night bugs. When Stephen awoke the next morning the orchard was cleaned, every tree stripped to the branches. He now figures that the light only showed the robbers where the fruit was.

ARRESTED FOR EATING A DOG.

But Pretended "Wild Man" Soon Proved Himself "Home Talent."

Freeland, Pa.—Divested of his chains and paint, John Whitechick, a local character, appeared before Magistrate Malloy and earnestly denied that he had eaten the little pet dog of Mrs. Michael Mollick. The case was the result of a church carnival under the auspices of St. Ann's Catholic parish. One of the "home talent" features was a "Wild Man from Borneo," very hairy and loaded with chains. Mrs. Mollick attended the carnival, and when she missed her dog somebody informed her as a joke that the "wild man" had eaten the animal.

Mrs. Mollick took one good look at the "wild man" and then hurried to Squire Malloy and procured a warrant for the arrest of Daniel O'Donnell and James Gillespie, who were his managers. Only when the "wild man" was exposed as pure home talent was she satisfied that her charge was unfounded. The case was dismissed.

Men on an Auto Axle. Lyon Valley, Pa.—As Henry Radtler drove his auto slowly through here he encountered a flock of hens in the road, and thought he had safely passed all but one, a big, fat fowl, which refused to budge.

Seeing no dead hen behind, he drove on about a mile down the road, and stopped to fix his machine, when, lo! Mrs. Bond was found roosting on the lower end of the front axle, hanging on with toes clutched and feathers ruffled, as if she considered herself enjoying the indisputable prerogative of setting.

Radtler hadn't the nerve or heart to drive her off, and how she finally did dismount he doesn't know, but he never carried just such a passenger before.

CUTE BOY IS BAKER

FOUR-YEAR-OLD LEARNING IN GRANDFATHER'S SHOP.

Makes Bread and Cake—Tiny Fingers Brew Deft in Carrying Out the Most Difficult Tasks.

Pleasantwood, Pa.—Baking good bread and delicious pies is an art, and nowhere more so than among the Pennsylvania Germans, who as a rule are fond of having the best baking obtainable. It is an invariable rule of practically every Pennsylvania German housewife to teach her daughters to cook a first-class meal, to bake a loaf of bread that is not only good in appearance, but palatable when served to the hungry. It is also the rule in many a household to teach the sons the same trick, and among the Berks county rural homes you can find in every township a few little fellows standing every Friday morning at the mother's baking table, learning how to bake bread and cakes.

Not all of these farmers' wives or other residents have time to bake their own bread, but rely upon bakers, who learned the rudiments of good baking from their mothers on Pennsylvania German farms. One such country baker is J. C., a son of the well-known Gottshall family of the Perkiomen Valley, who live next-door neighbors to ex-Gov. Pennypacker.

Grandfather and Grandmother J. C. Gottshall are now teaching the youngest baker in the Keystone state, their only grandchild, Arthur Gottshall Brown, who, at the age of four years, can be found daily in the bakery helping the bakers make bread, cinnamon buns, rolls, biscuits, fancy cakes and many other things. Now the little lad, without being told to do so, will get the flour board and help mix it like the other bakers. He will take the cutting knife, and after the dough has sufficiently risen, will cut off just enough for a certain-sized loaf, throw it upon the scales, weigh it and pare it down to the exact dimensions, and after the bread comes from the oven he will nicely brush the top of each loaf with fat such as is used by the bakers to give the crust a gloss. So well has he learned the bakery tricks that he can tell when there is anything wrong with the bread or cakes. He takes special pride in helping to bake raisin cakes, and all the raisins are carefully placed by his little fingers.

In this bakery, where daily 100 loaves of bread, 100 biscuits and 500 cakes are made, the little lad has gained an insight of processes that may some day make him a famous baker.

The four-year-old baker is one of the heartiest lads that roam the streets of Pleasantwood. He never was sick for a minute in his life. He also has a good voice, and has already taken part in Sunday school festivals, singing infant drills, and as his mother, Mrs. Brown, is a fine vocalist he has inherited some of her talent. He is not going to school, but is studying at home, and story books have been so attractive to him that the questions he asks concerning their plots and purposes have often puzzled older ones.

When they were married the husband's hair was a delicate, pale golden color, which went admirably with the drawing room furniture and hangings, then of a cool gray tint. Some time ago the wife remarked the salon a pale, sad green, and every time her husband enters it his straw-colored locks set his wife's nerves on edge.

Appella, tears and fainting fits all failed to induce him to dye his yellow hair, not necessarily aye green, but some tint harmonizing with the furniture, so, in despair, the wife finally petitioned the divorce court to free her from a partner whose artistic offensiveness was making her life one long nightmare.

The case promises to be interesting, especially if the judges order the furniture to be brought into court to see whether the husband's hair really makes such sickening contrasts as the wife claims.

BURGLAR IS CONSIDERATE.

Quickly Leaves House When Told It Contains Sick Woman.

Port Huron, Mich.—A most considerate burglar visited several of the cottages at the beaches at the north end of town early the other day, and although three houses were entered not an article was stolen. It was nearly noon before the three residents knew that they had entertained during the night one of the knights of the jimmie.

At the third house, that of Harry Youngs, the burglar awoke the owner by walking on a loose board near the bed. He placed a pistol at Mr. Young's head, telling him not to make an outcry. Mrs. Young, who had just returned from a hospital in a highly nervous condition, was asleep in an adjoining room.

"My wife is in that room very sick," Young said to the burglar, "and if she is disturbed it might prove fatal. Take what you want and leave quietly."

"I am sorry I did not know that," replied the burglar. "Just remain where you are and I will leave quietly, otherwise there will be trouble." Young told the police that he remained in bed and the burglar went away.

RECALLS FAMOUS ROBBERY.

Ancient Receipt Was for Cash Subsequently Stolen by Road Agents.

Lead, S. D.—While looking over some old papers a day or two ago Jere Fincher found an interesting relic of the days when road agents operated in the west. The relic is an express agent's receipt for the sum of \$5,200. In 1886 Mr. Fincher was stationed at Chadron, Neb., as agent for the Chicago & Northwestern. The Wells-Fargo Express Company had a shipment of government cash for Fort Sniburn to pay the soldiers. The shipment had to be sent from Chadron to the post by stage.

The shipment never reached its destination, for the stage driver was held up and robbed of the cash, which consisted of over \$4,000 in currency and a little more than \$300 in silver coin. The thief was never apprehended, and none of the money was recovered, but the agent's receipt, which went with the shipment, was found, and it is this which now is in possession of the Lead man.

OLDEST OFFICE BOY IS 89.

Keeps 69 Years in One Place and Now Holds Job He Had at the Start.

Trenton, N. J.—Without any special observance to mark the occasion, Samuel Brackett of Trenton, said to be the oldest office boy in the world, reached the age of 89 years the other day. He is employed in the office of the navy works in this city, owned by Mrs. Clark Fisher, and is known as an "herloom" of the family, having been in its employ for the last 69 years. He occupies the same position he did when he first went to work.

"Strict attention to business is the way to succeed in this world," Brackett said. "That is why I did not want a lot of fuss made over my birthday. Some of my friends wanted to arrange a big celebration, but I was afraid it would take my mind and too much of my time from my office duties."

Brackett was a pupil in the Sunday school class of Mark Fisher in 1939 when Mr. Fisher had a large tannery in Portland, Me. As he seemed to be a bright lad, Mr. Fisher put him to work in his office. When his employer moved to Trenton in 1842 and helped to establish the Fisher & Morris navy works "Sammy" accompanied him. Instead of staying in the office he went into the shops.

When advancing years and injuries untended Brackett for arduous toil, the late Capt. Clark Fisher, Mark Fisher's son, wanted to pension him, but as the veteran navy-maker declared he was still able to work he was put in the office.

SEEKS DIVORCE ON ODD PLEA.

Wife Says Husband's Hair Doesn't Harmonize with Furniture.

Paris—It would be difficult to conceive a more harrowing tale of man's callous indifference for woman's finer susceptibilities than one disclosed in an application for divorce just filed before the Paris courts.

The wife who makes the petition has such a delicate and artistic nature that she suffers tortures from the hideous disharmony existing between the color of her drawing room upholstery and the color of her husband's hair. Incredible though it may seem, the husband actually refuses to dye his hair to some less discordant hue.

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