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INSECTS AND DISEASE.

One of the most remarkable of the discoveries of medical experts has been the relation between insects and disease. First came the mosquito.

Then the fly, and now comes the flea. Altogether it has been another proof of that very old and equally trite saying: "It's the little things in this world that count."

The mosquito was found to be the great germ carrier of malaria and yellow fever germs. The fly was found to be a disseminator of typhoid, tuberculosis, diphtheria and other bacteria. But to the rat and the flea is now given the palm as the carrier of the plague germs—the most deadly and insidious of all.

It is greatly to the credit of the United States that the Marine Hospital and United States Public Health Corps have traced the disease to its lair and are now waging war on it in San Francisco.

This is the same plague of biblical times—the plague which Levy mentions that carried off whole tribes and people and the terrible plague of London in the seventeenth century. This is the plague which has attacked Manila, Seattle, San Francisco since its start in 1894 in celestial China.

The plague is no indiscriminator of persons, places or climates. Human beings may get it in three ways. By inhalations of dried excretions of plague victims, by eating contaminated food, and third by the bite of the rat—flea or even the flea blood crushed against human skin.

Hence the problem which San Francisco has now is to get rid of the fleas and rats.

This has necessitated vast sums of money in the tearing down of old wharves, old store houses and floors—and making them rat proof.

Concrete warehouses, concrete wharves, concrete floors, gutters, pavements.

The work is not yet over nor will it ever be over. For as long as there are rats aboard ships there will be danger from fresh infection.

Now is the danger confined to San Francisco. The plague rats infect grain and other exportations so that these are disseminated all over the country.

And we of the Mississippi Valley are not immune.

The plague is a back yard disease. Every city has its back yard. The plague can be built out of existence even though it has levied tribute before history began to record its ravages.

The rat and the flea are undesirables—but they can be exterminated.

THE BIG A.

In his new book called "Heretics," Gilbert Chesterton advances the somewhat novel theory that the so called yellow press is not yellow but a very dull gray.

"I speak in no affected contrariety, but in the simplicity of a genuine personal impression, when I say that this journalism offends as not being sensational or violent enough. The real vice is not that it is startling, but that it is quite insupportably tame. The whole object is to keep carefully along a certain level of the expected and commonplace; it may be low, it must take care also to be flat. Never by any chance is there any of that real plebian pungency which can be heard from the ordinary cabman in the ordinary street.

This journalism does not merely fail to exaggerate life—it positively underestimates it; and it has to do so because it is intended for the faint and languid recreation of men whom the fierceness of modern human life has fatigued."

Whatever anyone may say about it, it will be a hard blow to Mr. Hearst after all his efforts to find that he has failed to stir any more than a passing interest in the "faint and languid" breast of Mr. Chesterton. But what will the unsuspecting public say to Gilbert's assertion that scarce heads are not used to scare?

For Poor Richard was one of the most practical philosophers.

tic alphabet in teaching children to spell. The nursery authorities do not use an A as big as a horseshoe in order to make the child jump; on the contrary, they use it to put the child at his ease, to make things smoother and more evident."

But some of the readers of the Hearst papers have somehow gotten the idea that the heads some times had that very utilitarian use of filling up space.

INDIANA, THE DOUBTFUL.

It is often said of Indiana, that every man in its borders is either a politician or an orator. At the same time, it is well known that when Chairman Hitchcock asked how many of the states had political organizations worthy of the name, he was told "One—Indiana."

And in the final analysis all this means what everybody has known for years, that Indiana is a doubtful state. There would be little need other than the last election to prove this. But those who remember the stirring years of the early sixties and the late fifties and the terrific dual which went on when the state seemed on the verge of joining the South, must concede that the state inherited its doubtful proclivities naturally.

After the war things settled back for a time until 1876, when it went democratic by five thousand, only to break out again in 1884 with a difference of only six thousand votes for the presidency and in 1888 a difference of only two thousand. It was democratic in 1884 and republican in 1888. Four years later it switched democratic again, with a plurality of seven thousand. Since then it has been counted by forgetful persons as a republican state.

But look at the blamed thing now. A republican president, one republican senator—a democrat about to be selected, a democratic governor with a variegated state ticket depending on the official count and a wrecked republican list of congressmen.

And call it safe! Just as safe as a faro game. What means all this?

It simply indicates that Indians are of such diverse sorts that no dependence can be placed on them to vote a given way. There has been a solid democratic backbone in the state since before the war and a little stronger republican population. Between these two extremes lies the floating vote which is to a large extent made up of the class of people who are the reading public.

It has been fashionable in political circles to be an independent voter in Indiana longer than in any other state in the union. Even from the days of the "mugwumps," it has been so.

That is the reason why both the democratic and republican party lay such store on their poll books and that accounts for the order of Hitchcock to the other states—go and do likewise. Politics never reaches such a fever heat in other states as in Indiana. Can any one imagine Pennsylvania calmly turning up a republican majority year after year and getting excited about it?

Can it be that Indiana coquets in this fickle manner for the attention which must be given her? It would seem so.

THE FRANKLIN UNION.

One hundred and eighteen years ago Benjamin Franklin left the sum of five thousand dollars to the city of Philadelphia to found an industrial school. The building has been lately opened which was paid for by the principal and the interest of the fund left by "Poor Richard," then better known as the celebrated Dr. Franklin."

After a hundred years the fund of five thousand dollars has reached about one-third of a million dollars (which is a commentary on the investment of the money.) The trustees of the fund took the pains to interest Mr. Carnegie in the enterprise with the result that he contributes an amount equal to the sum on hand, with which to furnish an income for the office of these forces. He becomes a slave to the artificial things.

Get out into the open. Man was made to live out of doors. He chooses slow suicide by shutting himself up in a house. He was made to touch the soil, to press the vitalizing currents of the wind, to feel the soothng fall of rain, the press of water on his bare head. He was made so that he could restore his vital forces by familiar contact with the elemental forces. He turns away and refuses the office of these forces. He becomes a slave to the artificial things.

Get out into the open. If only for one hour each day, get out into the open spaces. The touch of primal life will put the thrill of new life into your veins. Feel the shine of the sun in its life giving warmth, the air that is wine to your lungs, the soil that is electric. Get out of the town shade. Pull yourself out of your self made lassitude.

Get out into the open. You are one of Nature's prodigal sons. You are trying to live on the hawks the swine would disdain. Arise and go back home where there is plenty and to spare.

Get out into the open!

Richmond business men, calls attention to the work of the forestry service in this country. Of all the important countries, we have been the last to recognize the importance of our national resources. The forestry service is our youngest service, yet its influence is already beginning to be felt all over the United States where there are any wood lots left.

It is important for those who are in any way affected by the lumber question to come to a realization of what can be done to improve present conditions. All the European countries have drastic laws to prevent forest murder and cutting is only allowed in such cases as will actually improve the forest. Here, on the other hand although a reaction has set in all over the country against cutting (caused by the natural increase in price) cutting has not been done and is not now being done so as to promote the growth of such valuable trees as the ash and other slow growing trees.

It is the mission of the forestry service to tell people how they can cut their mature trees in such fashion as not only to derive immediate permanent profit.

Therefore all those who are interested directly or indirectly in the forest problem (and who is not?) can profit directly by hearing what the Chief Forester has to say.

Good forests are just as important as good roads.

HACKED BOARDER.

Landlady Did Not Like Criticism of Bill of Fare.

Pittsburg, Pa., Nov. 7.—Because he objected to the bill of fare at the boarding house of Mary Lohib, a boarder, was so badly hacked with an ax that he will die. The woman, who is alleged to have wielded the weapon is in jail.

BULL FROG LARGE.

New Castle, Del., Nov. 7.—Rudolph A. Vallette, a rural mail clerk, killed, single handed, a bulldog which weighed more than six pounds. After Vallette had shot it through the head with a rifle bullet, the dog was skinned and cooked. It was so large, however, the family could not eat it all at dinner and what was left was warmed over for supper.

Heart to Heart Talks.

By EDWIN A. NYE.

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GET OUT INTO THE OPEN. You are simply tired out—physically, mentally, if not morally.

Do you know why?

Because you have disobeyed the laws of your nature. You have been living an artificial, not a natural life.

God made the country and man made the town. There is life in what God makes. There is no life in what man makes. There is no life in the town.

LIFE IS OUT OF DOORS.

Only in the open can you find the renewal of the forces of life.

You belong to Nature. She nurses you. She will keep you. But you are always playing truant to her.

Get out into the open.

You are brother to the rock, the soil, the air, the swinging worlds. All these obey the law. You only of all things are disobedient to the law. Is it strange, then, that, being out of harmony, you should lose your balance?

Get out into the open.

Man was made to live out of doors. He chooses slow suicide by shutting himself up in a house. He was made to touch the soil, to press the vitalizing currents of the wind, to feel the soothng fall of rain, the press of water on his bare head.

How, for instance, can you hope to renew the spent forces of electric vitality from the electric forces in the soil when your bare foot never touches the soil? The soil wants to help you, but cannot.

Get out into the open.

Man was made to live out of doors. He chooses slow suicide by shutting himself up in a house. He was made to touch the soil, to press the vitalizing currents of the wind, to feel the soothng fall of rain, the press of water on his bare head.

A concentration among his rivals began to take place, however, one or two ballotts earlier, and the strength of several of them was thrown to Hayes, and he was nominated. Hayes' vote was only 331, as compared with 351 for Blaine. Morton, Conkling, Hartranft and others dropped out and most of their votes went to Hayes, the dark horse, and he was nominated. The Mulligan scandal was used against Blaine in the convention of 1880, in which he was an aspirant for the nomination, and it figured prominently in the canvass of 1884, in which he was Cleveland's opponent. It is altogether probable that this Little Rock and Fort Smith complication turned more than enough votes against Blaine to account for his defeat, for Cleveland's lead in the decisive state of New York was only 1047.

Garfield, who as the dark horse in the fight carried off the prize in the convention of 1880, was beaten on more sides even than Blaine in 1876 or 1884 or Cleveland in 1888; but he was tri-

Get out into the open.

You are one of Nature's prodigal sons. You are trying to live on the hawks the swine would disdain. Arise and go back home where there is plenty and to spare.

Get out into the open!

Watched Fifteen Years.

"For fifteen years I have watched the working of Bucklin's Arnica Salve; and it has never failed to cure any sore, boil, ulcer or burn to which it was applied. It has saved us many a doctor bill," says A. F. Hardy, of East Wilton, Maine. 25c at A. G. Lukan & Co. drug store.

"See, here," growled the sour looking patron in the cheap restaurant, "this coffee's cold."

"Dat so?" retorted the polite and intelligent attendant. "Well, dis is a quick lunch joint, so if dis coffee wuz hot yer couldn't drink it in a hurry."

Catholic Standard and Times.

HEARST LETTERS NOT THE FIRST TO PLAY A PART IN NATIONAL POLITICAL CAMPAIGN

William Randolph Hearst is not the first person who exploded bombs in residential campaigns by means of letters in which political leaders figured. Nor did his letters do quite as much destruction as some of those of the past.

Foraker, Haskell and associates who were hit by the disclosures of the New York editor can if they wish, point out many persons who have experienced similar discomfiture and some of them, too, were presidential candidates. In fact ever since the days of the notorious "Baron Roobarb" letters which have dynamite in them have appeared in every second or third residential canvas. Sometimes they have come oftener.

Near the close of the Cleveland-Harrison campaign of 1888 a letter from Lord Sackville, the British minister at Washington, to a person signing himself "Charles F. Murchison," was published which created a stir in democratic and republican headquarters. "Murchison" who pretended to be a former British subject who was now naturalized, asked Lord Sackville which of the two candidates he, as a voter of England ought to vote for in his approaching election. The gullible minister fell into the trap which had been set for him, and responded that a vote for Cleveland would be more advisable for him, as a friend of England, than would a vote for Harrison. This letter was immediately made public, and the republican press and stump speakers hailed it as evidence that England wanted Cleveland to be re-elected. Most of the republicans who made use of this letter in this way supposed at the moment that "Murchison" was a real person, and he actually sought the information which Lord Sackville gave him. The important point, however, so far as there was any importance at all to the correspondence was that Sackville made this disclosure. Many of the republicans therefore called Cleveland the "British candidate" and doubtless he lost some votes on that account.

It is possible, though improbable that this bogus "Murchison" may have turned the scale in New York, in which, out of 1,300,000 votes Harrison's plurality was only 13,000. The result was that poor Sackville was sent out of the country for his indiscretion, and he never received a first class mission afterward.

The Maria Halpin letters were used against Cleveland in the canvass of 1884, but they evidently did not change many votes. They were much more offset by the Mulligan letters, which were used against Blaine. These letters first came up in the canvass of 1876, and defeated Blaine for the nomination in that year. Blaine was by far the most popular of all republican aspirants at that time. Grant was near the end of his term, and intended to step down on the following March 4 and make a tour of the world. The third term movement, which was to take off from shape four years later had not yet received any impetus. The list of aspirants to succeed Grant included Blaine, Morton of Indiana, Bristol, Conkling, Hartranft of Pennsylvania, Hayes of Ohio and one or two others. The chances were at the beginning of 1876 that Blaine would get the nomination on the first ballot. But at a fatal moment for him, the railway disclosures were sprung upon the country. They were in the shape of letters between Blaine and Warren Fisher in connection with the Little Rock and Fort Smith railroad, and these letters fell into the hands of a man named Mulligan who had been a former clerk for Fisher.

Shortly before the meeting of the republican national convention of 1876 the house of representatives of which Blaine was a member, formed a committee to investigate the charges against Blaine, and Blaine coming into possession of the letters made a dramatic defense before the house, which convinced many republicans, as well as democrats, of his innocence, notwithstanding some things which looked strange. Just as the national convention met Blaine had an attack of sunstroke, and then the investigation was dropped. It was believed for the moment that Blaine would die, but he was struggling for moral and political as well as physical life, and soon recovered. Notwithstanding the attacks which were made upon him by his democratic and republican enemies Blaine had a long lead over all his rivals on many ballots. Beginning with a vote of 285 he gradually increased his strength until the seventh and last ballot, when he had 371 votes, 379 being necessary to a choice.

A concentration among his rivals began to take place, however, one or two ballotts earlier, and the strength of several of them was thrown to Hayes, and he was nominated. Hayes' vote on the final ballot, however, was only 334, as compared with 351 for Blaine. Morton, Conkling, Hartranft and others dropped out and most of their votes went to Hayes, and he was nominated. The Mulligan scandal was used against Blaine in the convention of 1880, in which he was an aspirant for the nomination, and it figured prominently in the canvass of 1884, in which he was Cleveland's opponent. It is altogether probable that this Little Rock and Fort Smith complication turned more than enough votes against Blaine to account for his defeat, for Cleveland's lead in the decisive state of New York was only 1047.

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Get out into the open.

You may have pains in the head or be attacked by an overpowering sleepiness in the daytime and wakefulness at night.

You may have aches in the joints, trembling in the