

CANCER CURE COMING

Medical Authorities Sure Remedy Will Be Found.

Published statements with regard to the medical discoveries, chiefly in connection with X-rays and radium, follow one another with such rapidity that it is difficult to follow them with precision.

The deepest interest is naturally centered on the achievements of those who are trying to work their way to the discovery of a cure for cancer, which, as a cause of death, ranks in this country second only to phthisis, says a London report.

The results of a series of experiments in Great Britain and on the continent are certainly such as to arouse hopes among the expert investigators that they are at least on the right track. It would be rash and unjustifiable to say more.

That false hopes are being constantly induced by premature announcements of supposedly infallible cures is undeniable. Such a claim was made recently by the newspapers as a result of the experiments of eminent bacteriologists who have been engaged entirely in the last six months in research work at the laboratory of the Royal College of Surgeons, under the auspices of the cancer-research fund.

Dr. Murray and Bashford, who were among those appointed investigators, refuse to give confirmation to the story. Nothing, they declare, is being expected by the committee, and consequently much research has taken place with respect to incipient cancer in lower animals, yet the causes of these animals are often of an entirely different nature from those in man.

The cancer cure, said one of the physicians, will never be discovered by any man. When it is found it will be by the continuous efforts of every one engaged. One little clue leads to another, and nobody hides anything or tries to hide anything from his colleagues. It must be noted, too, that there is not the slightest intimation in the report presented at the annual meeting of the cancer research fund that any definite results from the experiments are likely.

Prof. Duguet, an eminent Paris physician and professor in the French Academy of Medicine, declares that the experiments hitherto made have revealed nothing on which to base scientific treatment.

"We are still groping in the dark," he says. "With regard to the reported cures by the X-rays. My long experience in the largest hospitals in Paris has made me most skeptical. Believe me, these cures are not definite."

The Middlesex hospital in London is the pioneer in cancer research in Great Britain. It receives suggestions for cures in all parts of the world weekly. Many are given fair trials, but hitherto without success. The Middlesex hospital doctors authorize the positive statement that while they do not claim to have effected anything like a cure by means of the X-rays and Pinson light treatments, yet suffering from cancer has been relieved.

Edison's experience of ill effects from prolonged exposure to the X-rays is no new thing in the London hospitals, where it has long been found that the demonstrators who are daily in the presence of the rays are liable to epithelioma, a malignant growth of the skin which is nearly allied to cancer.

Two workers in the radiograph department of the London hospitals are known on an enforced vacation with their hands injured, but this is not a common experience. One precaution taken in some of the continental hospitals is that of employing a leaden screen when taking radiographs, so that only the necessary surface shall be exposed to the rays.

This plan, it is thought by the English physicians, is not necessary, and the suggestion that the operators wear leaden mittens is thought to be impossible, as they would probably destroy the medical properties of the rays.

When Ticking Chimpanzees.

It has been observed that if the famed dog is taken back to the wild state, he loses his voice. These "barking voices" are produced in the animal throat in a way similar to human language, but are not "voices" proper, nor "languages" proper, and yet they are full of psychological expression, and reveal the animal's psychic states. It is noted, a chimpanzee in the amphit, the touch produced a grin on the face similar to that of a man under like circumstances. He also emits laughter-like sounds. The same is the case with the orang-outang. The gorilla utters the growl when angry, just like men. We often observe in apes a complete change in the facial muscles when something is going to happen, be it agreeable or disagreeable. It is so also with the child. In cases there is evidently the same connection between the facial muscles and vocal muscles as in man. London Answers.

Sweetening to Excess.

A sweet tooth is the south of Scotland which has evidently found that the way of sweet language doesn't add to the amount of play, has passed the following letter:

"Any member swearing to excess may be expelled." I have not heard whether the club committee have arrived at a decision of moderate swearing. The attempt to find one to meet all cases is likely to result in language both "patriotic and free."—Glasgow Times.

POPES OF LOWLY ORIGIN.

A Number of the Most Eminent Had Poor Educational Attainments. Three Jewish.

Many of the popes have sprung from low origin. Alexander V. (1409) was a beggar boy. Benedict XII. was the son of a baker; Sixtus IV. (1471) was the son of a fisherman; Sixtus V. (1585), whose name was Felix Peretti, was a pig driver at Montalto and attracted the attention of a French monk, who educated him, says a London paper. He rose to be bishop of Formosa, then after to be cardinal, and was then elevated to the papal throne and celebrated his reign by erecting some of the finest buildings in Rome. Nathaniel Hawthorne, writing of his tomb in the grand old church of St. Maria Maggiore, says: "If anything can still the spectator to silence and awaken him to great recollections, it is the monument of this astonishing man who as a child herded swine, and as a man commanded kings, and filled Rome with so many works that from every side his name, like an echo, rings upon the traveler's ears."

Urban IV. (1261) was the son of a French cobbler, Adrian VI. was the son of a weaver, Innocent XI. was the son of a shepherd, Innocent the Great was a street gamine and held horses for pennies. In recollection of his earlier days he invited two kings to lead his mule when he rode to his coronation as pope of Rome. Hildebrand, the great orator monk, who became Pope Gregory VII. (1073) was the son of a carpenter from Tuscany and one of the most brilliant statesmen of his age. He practically revolutionized Europe.

There is a tradition that one of the popes, Victor I., who reigned in 193, was a colored man, an Ethiopian. Three of the popes were Jews—St. Peter, St. Clement and Theodorus I., who reigned in 642. Clement was a fellow laborer with St. Paul and was mentioned by him in the third verse of the fourth chapter of the epistle to the Philippians. He was the fourth pope and suffered martyrdom in the year 100. Theodorus was descended from a famous Jewish scholar, who removed to Rome during the occupation of Judaea by the Romans and held a high position.

Several of the popes were laymen, and the election to the pontificate has several times been declined. Martin IV. was a layman and at one time mayor of Rome. Clement IV. was a lawyer and was secretary to St. Louis of France. Innocent VIII. was married and the father of a large family. He did not take orders until after the death of his wife. Adrian II. was elected three times and declined twice. He was 76 years old when he was elected the third time and died at 81. He was a married man and a cardinal deacon. Persons holding that ecclesiastical rank are not pledged to vows of celibacy. He separated from his wife after his election as pope, however, but she and his daughters lived in Rome during his pontificate and saw him frequently.

MANY TOOLS DROPPED.

Workmen on the East River Bridge, New York, Lose Valuable Instruments.

With a series of kerfblinks extending over the three years during which the new East river bridge has been building, nearly \$3,000 worth of tools have fallen from the hands of the workmen into the river. Engineer-in-Charge Robinson makes that estimate, although he says it is quite impossible to tell the exact amount of losses the constructing company has sustained in that way, states a New York exchange.

Dozens of placards posted at various places on the bridge caution the iron workers to use great care in the handling of tools, to avoid dropping them into the river. But despite this many valuable instruments used in the elaborate bridge work have slipped from the hands of those working with them and in a second gone beyond recovery. In many instances it has been when a workman himself has slipped and has let go of the tools he was carrying in order to prevent himself from falling into the river.

With the hundreds of ferryboats, tugs, steamboats, launches, yachts and rowboats that pass under the structure every day it is rather remarkable that but few have been struck by the falling objects. For, besides the tools, countless red-hot iron bolts have been dropped into the stream. The forges in which the small pieces of iron are heated are placed on platforms constructed at intervals on the bridge, and it is necessary for the forger to pick the piece from the furnace with tongs and throw them great distances to riveter's helpers, who catch them in buckets. Many of these are missed, often because the catcher's dangerous position will not permit him to move to capture a flying red-hot bolt that is no longer truly.

Sea People on River Crafts Have Been Injured by Falling Pieces from the Bridge, and Only One Seriously.

She was a young woman on a ferryboat, who was struck in the head by a bar of iron.

A War Incident.

"Let us not say 'I' as I aimed the empire of the Old World," the army advanced upon his hands of followers. At that moment a handful of bombs were thrown in their midst, and an attendant with a white barrow approached them.

STEALERS OF BOOKS.

People Who Purloin Volumes from Public Libraries.

Large Numbers of Books Disappear Every Year in Spite of Perpetual Vigilance of Attendants.

While it may be taken for granted that the great body of readers who frequent any public library are honest both in practice and intention, there will always remain a certain number who are conspicuously the reverse. In all public libraries a large number of volumes disappear during the 12 months of a year; a few of these may have been lost through carelessness while in circulation, but the greater number of them have been stolen, says the Philadelphia Record. The fact being freely admitted in the reports of all librarians, the question naturally arises: Who are the thieves? Do they steal the books in order to sell them, or does their dishonesty arise from a diseased love of literature?

Melville Dewey, who may be regarded as an authority on the subject, has truthfully declared that it is almost impossible to tell a library thief at night. He may hide his dishonesty beneath an exterior as simple as a sapling, or as that of a scholar. A prominent lawyer of Brooklyn, of distinguished appearance and fine manners, made a regular practice of stealing the periodicals in a well-known public library. Being caught at it one day and accused by the librarian, he put on an air of great dignity, hotly declared he was insulted and walked out. But the manager of the library had stolen was found thrown down in the entry, and he never again reappeared in that library. At the New York mercantile library a young woman was discovered leaving the rooms with one book, which she was entitled to in her hand, and five others hidden under her cloak. She proved to belong to a well-to-do family, and was simply able to buy all the books she could need.

The late Dr. William F. Poole, who had charge of the Chicago public library, declared that many derelicts had, as a hobby, stolen books from libraries.

It is not the laws of the country that have found ministers more ready in returning books than any other class of men. He did not intend to reflect on a noble and sacred profession by charging the derelictions of the few upon the many, but he believed the truth about the matter should be told. He had had unpleasant experiences with men of that calling, who, after stealing books from the library, had removed the book plates and library stamp and covered the volumes with heavy paper, carefully pasted down inside the covers. This statement seems to be borne out by the record of the Union theological seminary at New York. In its dealings with ministers and theological students, according to the librarian's report the seminary has lost 1,000 volumes, taken out and not returned. This, of course, included what were charged out, but could not be recovered.

The long history of the Mercantile library of Philadelphia furnishes many strange cases of this form of petty larceny. At a certain period in the somewhat checkered career of this time-honored institution a number of valuable books were mislaid from the shelves, and means were taken to detect the culprit. This led to the discovery that the chief was a physician in the most respectable rank in society, and more than 50 volumes were found upon the shelves of his private library and returned. Other examples of larceny in persons of accepted social position have astonished the courts. One of this library from time to time, by the means of preventing such thefts has not yet been discovered.

It may be gathered from these many cases of library thefts that they are very common that perpetual vigilance is necessary in order to guard the books and that in nearly all cases some form of punishment would be better than pardon. In many cases of detected theft strong appeals are made by the culprit or his friends to save exposure by public proceedings. These appeals are commonly made not so much to avoid the disgrace attached to publicity. It is probably true that in the majority of cases such influence has been strong enough to overcome the determination of the library authorities to let the law take its course. Unfortunately, the consequence of such leniency seems to encourage the extremely lax conception of the sacredness of public property entertained by so many men and women of today.

Race Statistics in New Zealand.

In New South Wales the children under five years old are actually less in number than they were ten years ago, while in some states there are fewer under ten years than in 1891. In New Zealand complaint is made that there are not enough children to fill the schools. Mr. Coghlan notes that the immigration of young married women has fallen off in recent years, yet in 1887 there were in New South Wales 112,247 married women under 45 years, while in 1891 there were 149,211, still the number of children born was about the same in each year, and in Australia and New Zealand there are now annually 20,000 fewer births than would take place had the rate of ten years ago been maintained. N. Y. Tribune.

Same Old Weather Talk.

"What did you and Agnes find to talk about?" asked the chaplain. "The weather," was the demure reply. "I said it looked as if it were going to rain, and he said he had an umbrella and he would like that he might shield me from all the storms of life and that Florida would be a lovely place for a wedding trip. We didn't talk about anything but the weather for half an hour."—Washington Star.

MANY SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS.

Being Built as a Result of an Act of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

Under an act of the legislature of 1891 there is quite an epidemic of soldiers' monuments building throughout the state. The advantages offered by the act are just beginning to be understood and taken advantage of. Every county seat not now provided with a suitable soldiers' monument is pretty certain to have one within a few years, says the Philadelphia Press.

The act in question was prompted by the fact that in a number of counties the effort to raise a sufficient amount of money by private subscription to erect monuments to the dead of the war of the rebellion had failed. Considerable amounts had been contributed in some instances, but not enough, as was the case in Delaware county, where a monument completed at the expense of the county was dedicated a few weeks ago. The project had been in hand many years, and it is doubtful if it would ever have been finished if the county had not been authorized to come to the rescue. In other instances, soldiers' memorials have been incumbered, but the obligation can now be lifted by the county out of the county moneys, and has been in several cases.

Under the terms of the act it is necessary for at least 50 citizens of the county to petition the court of quarter sessions for the erection or completion of a monument or to pay debts heretofore contracted for the erection and construction of such monument. By the court the matter is laid before the grand jury, and if approved by two successive grand juries and the court the county commissioners shall be authorized to pay any and all debts contracted for the erection of a monument, to complete it or erect a new one, and maintain at its own seat a suitable monument to the soldiers and sailors of the rebellion. There is no reason under such a law why any county should long be without a proper memorial to the patriotism and bravery of those who offered their lives for their country.

Nor is it likely any county which does not now have a monument will fail to take advantage of the opportunity offered. If any has not already done so it is because the exacting act has not become well understood. The finances of a county must be in a desperate condition indeed to compel the authorities to refuse an appeal from old soldiers for a memorial to their departed comrades. It is doubtful if there is a county in the commonwealth in any such straits, and in every instance the expenditure of a reasonable sum for such purposes would certainly have popular approval.

All over the state the work is in progress and in a short time Pennsylvania will have the distinction which no other state enjoys, of having a public memorial to its soldiers and sailors in every county seat. These monuments should be erected under intelligent and artistic direction.

REMARKABLE PROCLAMATION.

Three Million Subjects of the Czar of Russia Forbidden to Carry Arms.

The governor of the Russian province of Kiev, which has been under the control of the Emperor, has issued a remarkable proclamation, which forbids all subjects of the Czar to carry arms or weapons of any description, except those necessary for the police, or for the purpose of the prosecution of criminals.

"I hereby declare," the proclamation reads, "that all subjects of the Czar are forbidden to carry arms or weapons of any description, except those necessary for the police, or for the purpose of the prosecution of criminals. This prohibition shall apply to all subjects of the Czar, and shall be enforced by the police and the courts of law. Any subject who is found to be in violation of this prohibition shall be punished as a criminal."

The proprietors of workshops, factories and other industrial establishments are also persons holding such establishments on lease or as managers, and their foremen are required scrupulously to watch that their men are not made the object of incitement to revolt by the part of revolutionary agents, and they are to report such revolutionary agents to the police and aid in their arrest and in the seizure of anything, such as prohibited pamphlets or books, seditious proclamations, or secret manuscripts that may secure the circulation of reports of any kind of public disturbances, or the sale or in writing, and from circulating without permission of the authorities any kind of collection or letters.

Factories and mines, watchmen of houses are required always to have active assistance in the police, immediately they are called upon to do so. House owners are allowed to engage for these duties only persons whose selection is approved by the police, and they may not dismiss them without informing the latter.

The governor's proclamation also provides for the strengthening and the rigorous regulation of the service of night watchmen. He concludes with the warning that anyone breaking these orders will render himself liable to a fine of 100 rubles (\$170), or to three months imprisonment.

As It Is Written.

Young Lavinia looks over. I would like something in the way of a novel that is really interesting.

Proprietor. Something in the romantic order or something realistic? "Which would you recommend?" "Oh, it's merely a matter of personal taste. In the romantic novel the hero and heroine marry in the last chapter after all their troubles are ended and live happily ever after, while in the realistic they double up in the first chapter and then their troubles begin."—Chicago Daily News.

A HAPPY COMMUNITY.

Island in Chesapeake Bay Where Crime Is Unknown.

Place of Singular Interest and No Little Charm Where Life Has Attained to Almost the Ideal.

One of the oddest of the many odd island communities in the Chesapeake is Tangier. It lies in about water off the coast of Somerset county, the most southerly county of the Maryland eastern shore, about 15 miles from the mainland and midway in the bay at one of its widest points, says the New York Times. Northward lies Tangier sound, and eastward lies Pocomoke sound, broad shallow arms of the bay, teeming with fish, crabs and oysters. Tangier stretches a long, narrow, irregular sand spit with two or three elevations, perhaps 15 or 20 feet above sea level. Those who travel the Chesapeake in passenger steamboats know Tangier only as a low green strip of land with clusters of houses, here standing gaunt and bare, and the sky there half hidden in trees with a church spire peering out a day mark to mariners. So shallow are the waters all about the island that the Chesapeake steamers cannot approach its shores. The islanders accordingly come out to the steamers in light-draught "buggies," and receive and deliver freight and passengers at an irregular polygon of a wharf built upon spiles sunk in a sand spit less than a quarter of an acre in area and almost washed at high tide.

A small little warehouse endures goods and passengers while they await the steamer or transportation to the island. This odd little wharf, set amid the glittering waters of the Chesapeake, always has about it half a dozen tiny craft with raking masts bobbing in the waves while enormous seine reels occupy other sand spits hard by, and canning idlers watch the arrival and departure of the steamer. As the steamer chugs her way back to the deep channel of the bay, the passengers see the islanders loading their light craft with all manner of merchandise and provisions for the island shores nearly a mile away.

Strange and lonely seems that low, distant shore to those who have never taken the trouble to visit it, but he that trusts himself to the tender mercies of a fly-bug and actually approaches the island itself finds it a place of singular interest and no little charm. Here on a very small area some of which is scarcely habitable dwell about 1,300 persons, mainly fishermen, and the wives and daughters of fishermen, a hardy race and prosperous among whom real poverty is unknown. The able-bodied men of the place fish for anything that the waters of the Chesapeake yield, especially crabs, clams, crabs and terrapin. There is no slack time with the Tangier islanders, for oysters take the place of crabs and clams take the place of crabs and clams. There is no season when something worth having is not to be taken from Tangier's Pocomoke sound or the waters north or south.

The Tangier islanders are an almost ideal position to get the most of a simple man's life out of life. He does not live in a town, and he does not live in a city. He lives in a place where he can get the most of a simple man's life out of life. He does not live in a town, and he does not live in a city. He lives in a place where he can get the most of a simple man's life out of life.

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African Slave Trade Abolished.

The great slave trade at Kano, the metropolis of Nigeria, Africa, having 500,000 inhabitants, which averaged 100 men and women sold each day, has been abolished by the British, who have extended their authority over it. Three provinces on the Niger were seized because the native chiefs refused to surrender the murderer of a British officer.—N. Y. Sun.

FEW BOGUS SILVER COINS.

The Reason for Scarcity of Counterfeit Dollars Given by Government Detective.

A bank cashier of long experience stated recently that fully one-half of the silver dollars in everyday circulation were counterfeit. He declared that as there was only a little more than 50 cents' worth of silver in a dollar counterfeiters were making them of the exact purity and business of dollars coined by the government. The bank clerk said that the makers were clearing about 25 cents upon each dollar made. This story went the rounds of the newspapers and was believed by most people, says the Kansas City Star.

Thomas R. McManus, the government's secret service operator here, whose business it is to know all about counterfeit money, said: "I read that statement when it was printed. It was too ridiculous for serious attention by experts, but as it was believed by a great many people it might be worth while to say that of every 100 silver dollars in circulation not more than one is a counterfeit with any degree of silver in it. It is true that some men could make a dollar with the same amount of silver in it that the government puts in and make a good profit on it if he could pass it, and many people wonder why it is not done more than it is."

"The reason is very simple. A government coin is stamped out of a set of cold metal. This gives the coin a clearness and sharpness of line that could never be approached in a coin made of molten metal run in a mold. An expert can tell at a glance a coin that has been run in a mold because the metal does not fill out the lines and corners. So, as a first proposition, your successful counterfeit of coins must first set up machinery that would stamp the coin out of cold metal."

"A plan of this kind would cost so many thousands of dollars that no man with that much money would think of investing it in so risky a business. It is practically no 1. The second is that such machinery in operation, if located in a city, would shake the building and be so noisy that it would soon be discovered. It would be out of the question to operate such a plant in the country. Inquisitive people would soon nose out and the government's operators would soon pounce upon it. So, in brief, I've told you why the bank cashier's story was a very silly one. You can add, to give it further effect, that an expert can detect a counterfeit silver coin the moment he sees and touches it."

MONT PELEE'S OBELISK.

Changes in the Crater Which Relieved Earth Destruction on the City of St. Pierre.

Were a wise, reputable person to tell the story about Mont Pelee, which Prof. Angelo Heilprin gave to Philadelphia recently, it would be received with skepticism. This well-known geologist had just returned from a tour of duty at St. Pierre and he declared that he had seen the crater which destroyed the city of St. Pierre, and the New York Tribune. From the crater at the summit, he said, he had been forced upward a distance of 400 feet, and about 200 feet high at the top. A small portion of the mountain, which was observed by Prof. Heilprin, was about 400 feet high, and there was an elevation of 200 feet. At that time, however, the crater was apparently closed, and perhaps was nearly closed. These then were the conditions of the crater at the time of the eruption. The crater was about 400 feet high, and there was an elevation of 200 feet. At that time, however, the crater was apparently closed, and perhaps was nearly closed. These then were the conditions of the crater at the time of the eruption.

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Military Spirit in Canada.

After the war had been pushed, the Canadian press claims as a condition of the military spirit which animates young Canada. The state of New York has a population of nearly 2,000,000, and the entire Dominion of Canada, of its national strength, has an amount of only 1,148,000. Canada, on the other hand, has 1,000 men in a active militia, and thousands of others who have gone through militia training and are now on the retired list. Chicago Chronicle.

Nothing to brag of.

"I've done it. I admire your husband—master of seven languages. Wife: That's nothing. I'm the master of him, with his languages.—Meg's Adorée Blanche.