

POOR HUMAN STOCK.

MUCH OF IT COMING INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM ABROAD.

Will Have the Effect of Lowering the Quality of Our National Blood—Significant Statistics.

The facts and figures cited by Representative Adams of Pennsylvania, the other day, in introducing his bill for the regulation of immigration, startingly indicate the extent to which this nation is to use a convenient live stock phrase—being understood, says the New York Tribune, we have literally often remarked upon the circumstance that far less attention is paid to the right culture of the human race than that of animals. Here is further indication of it.

In the last fiscal year, according to the official figures quoted by Mr. Adams, there arrived at American ports 87,646 immigrants. Of these 185,667 were illiterate, being unable either to read or write, and 511,302 had less than \$30 each. That is to say, more than one-fifth of them were illiterate, and about three-fourths of them were on the very verge of pauperism.

That is a very bad showing, in both illiteracy and approximate pauperism. Contrast it with the following, to which while the numbers having less than \$30 each are still in some cases large, they are much smaller than in the above, while the proportion of illiterates is so small as to be insignificant:

Table with 4 columns: Nat., No. immi., Illi., With less than \$30. Rows include Croatia and Slavonia, Slovakia, Poland, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Mexico.

There is a vast difference between taking in an army of Finns, with only one in a hundred, or of Scandinavians, with less than four in a thousand, illiterate, and an army of Croatians and Slavonians, of whom more than one-third, or of South Italians, of whom nearly one-half, are illiterate. There is also a vast difference between taking in such numbers of aliens as can be assimilated and Americanized, and such numbers as cannot be thus dealt with, but actually transform American into semi-alien communities.

The proposal in Mr. Adams' bill is that not more than 80,000 immigrants shall be admitted into the United States in a year from any one country. That would not shut out a single German or Scandinavian or Irishman. It would reduce the number of immigrants from just three countries, Italy, Russia and Austria-Hungary, and those are the very countries from which we are now receiving by far the largest number of illiterates and semi-paupers.

Edwin Arnold as Editor. Sir Edwin Arnold was perhaps the most suave man who ever paced Fleet street. His correspondence must have been enormous, but it never seemed a tax. He hailed a contribution from an acquaintance with thanks on one day, begged forgiveness on the next for a day's inevitable delay in publication, and on the third offered his congratulations. At first sight people thought the friendly manner too good to be true, but Arnold proved true on long trial.

Grateful Remembrance. "Jones is a grateful creature." "How so?" "His wife dined with Smith yesterday and when Jones heard of it, he said he'd never forget it of Smith."—Houston Post.

SEEKING A PULP FOR PAPER.

Rapid Denudation of Suitable Forests Leads Department of Agriculture to Make Experiments.

Experiments in making wood pulp for the manufacture of paper are soon to be begun by the department of agriculture. Secretary Wilson believes this to be a most important matter, because of the fact that the forests of the United States are rapidly being denuded of timber suitable for wood pulp.

Already the experts of the bureau of chemistry, under the direction of Prof. H. W. Wiley, have demonstrated that pulp for paper-making can be made from several other woods than spruce and poplar, and that many plants and shrubs can be successfully used in its manufacture.

The department until now has been hampered in what few experiments it has made because of the lack of funds, but during the last month one of the chemists of the department has been in Maine making an investigation of the methods-in use there. The experiments so far made, while demonstrating that many varieties of trees and shrubs are available for pulp-making, show that these have been raised on such a small scale that their practicability for commercial use is not known.

During the next fiscal year the experiments will be conducted with a view to obtaining all possible information on the subject, and when reports have been obtained efforts will be made to have some pulp manufacturers continue the department's experiments on a larger scale.

MOVE CHURCH FORTY MILES

Methodist Edifice in Kansas Is Hauled Across Prairie by Three Traction Engines.

The odd spectacle of a church moved over the prairies from town to town has been one attracting much attention in the vicinity of Peck, Kan. The Methodist church of Andale has just made the longest journey of any church on record—40 miles—coming over to Peck in the wake of three traction engines hitched tandem. The town of Andale did not need the church and Peck did, so the official boards arranged for a transfer of title, and the problem of moving the property was before them. The railroad agents asked a large sum for freight, and to ship the building that way meant to tear it down and rebuild it. The proposition of taking it overland, laughed at in the beginning, was finally accepted, and the movers secured three of the largest thrashing engines of the county for the purpose.

IS JEALOUS OF OUR NAVY.

Emperor William's Recreations Are Taken Up in Preparing Statistics for Reichstag.

One of Emperor William's recreations on board the Hohenzollern is work on statistical tables about the natives of Germany, England and the United States. When he returns to Berlin he will present these tables in suitable showcases to the Reichstag. He is particularly anxious to show the people's representatives that, although the growth of the German navy has been accelerated, it must be hastened still more if it is to keep pace with the American navy.

Pigskin Grafted on Woman. By using the skin of a pig two months old the life of Mary Grant, a colored woman of Richmond, Va., has been saved. Some weeks ago the woman was fearfully burned about the body by the explosion of a lamp. Much of her skin was destroyed, and could not be replaced by nature. Efforts were made to get her relatives to supply the necessary outfit for grafting, but they objected. The physician in charge then procured a young white pig, which was chloroformed, and enough of the necessary hide removed and grafted on the woman.

Reason for the Word. The newest long word is super-contradistinguishability. It is thought, says the Chicago Tribune, to be the outgrowth of a demand for a name applicable to some mental malady that shall be as expensive in its way as appendicitis.

ANIMALS AND POISON

INSTINCT BY WHICH THEY DETECT DANGEROUS WEEDS.

The Sense of Smell Is Nature's Chief Safeguard for Most Species—Some Singular Conditions.

The sense by which animals detect the presence of a poison is mainly that of smell. They seem to have very little sense of taste upon the palate. But carnivorous animals have a kind of "half-way" sense between taste and stomach-ache which very soon tells them when they have taken poison or anything likely to disagree with them, and nature has kindly arranged that they can get rid of it by the throat with very great ease. An extraordinary instance of this was quoted in the Country Gentleman recently. A Scotch keeper had a retriever which he had taught to fetch any object which he left behind. One day on the moors in the spring he found that he had left his knife at a place where he had been sitting on the grass, and the dog galloped back to the place, and, finding the knife, concluded that that was what he was to fetch, and picked it up.

So much at least seems certain from the sequel, for when the dog arrived he had not got the knife, and also looked somewhat ashamed. The keeper tried to send him back again, but he would not go. He went back himself, taking the dog with him. No knife was there, and it was certain that had it been dropped the dog would have picked it up. It then flashed across his mind that the dog, in running up the hill with the object in his mouth, had swallowed the knife. Unfortunately, as it apparently was not uncomfortable, the retriever showed no signs of wishing to do other than digest it, which, as it was a valuable dog, the keeper was most unwilling to risk. So took a handful of salt, clapped it into the dog's mouth, and held it tight for a minute, and after one or two coughs the knife made its appearance. The dog was, of course, trying to get rid of the salt, out of the knife.

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Wolves, tigers, leopards and other carnivora are difficult to poison because of the power which they have of rapidly getting rid of the drug. Lions, on the other hand, are very frequently poisoned, as they eat voraciously and quickly, more like a dog than any other large feline. It is said that a good many lion skins, especially those brought back by foreign counts and others from Somaliland before the regrettable misunderstandings between the whites and the blacks had begun in that region famous for large game, were obtained by the unorthodox method of poisoning carcasses and leaving them for the lions to devour. Cattle, which have less than four stomachs, are hopelessly poisoned if once they have swallowed a dose, whether in a toxic plant or otherwise. It is this curious arrangement of their interiors which makes it such a difficult matter to give cattle medicine at all.

In common with human beings, animals seem to be affected by poison in certain forms when in a particular condition of health. At other times they can eat the same plant or shrub with impunity. In certain states of health a man can eat pork, lobsters, cockles, scallops and other somewhat risky foods without bad effects. At other times the same edibles would produce on him the effect of ptomaine poisoning. Two persons may eat of the same food at the same time, and while one is perfectly well afterward, the other may become violently ill. The curious cases of yew poisoning among cattle or horses seem to be somewhat analogous. They will sometimes browse on shoots of yew and take no harm whatever. At other times they are obviously made very ill, or die from eating the leaves. They have been found dead with the yew fresh and undigested in their stomachs. Where poisonous plants are present in any great numbers in herbage it seems quite impossible to prevent cattle from eating them. The "poison yew" of parts of the Transvaal has a particularly bad reputation caused by plants—one of which is said to be a species of tulip—which comes into leaf in the spring.

New Way to Color Silk.

French scientists have discovered by experiments that silkworms may be made to produce cocoons of almost any desired colors. As the ordinary white, yellow or green was known to vary with the food, this was colored artificially, and worms eating dyed privet leaves yielded cocoons of corresponding red, blue, or other color. Plants have been similarly colored by food, some blue French beans exhibited in London a few years ago seeming to have resulted from a chemical peculiarity of the soil.

Boundary in Question.

There was some trouble over the dividing line between the towns of New Hartford and Harwinton in Connecticut until the original survey of the towns, laid out in 1789 by the proprietors, who were taxpayers of Hartford, was found, and this record will be used in making a new survey.

Needed No Preservative.

A grocer in Liverpool, England, was recently fined \$25 and costs for selling marmalade containing over five grains of salicylic acid a pound. The offense was held to be aggravated by the fact that properly made marmalade will keep for years without the addition of a preservative.

Proof Positive.

"I wonder if all men are fools," snapped Mrs. Especk during a domestic tiff the other morning. "Not on your life," replied her husband. "I know a number of men who are bachelors."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

MAKING HER FEEL AT EASE

Everything Said and Done with That Purpose in View—No Doubt About It.

When Mrs. Benson returned from a week spent with her cousin, Mrs. Lombard, she seemed so glad to be at home again, and beamed upon her husband with such radiant content that at last he asked if she had not enjoyed her visit, relates Youth's Companion.

"Why, yes, I had a beautiful time," said Mrs. Benson, thoughtfully. "I wouldn't have you imagine anything else for a minute, but I'll tell you why I'm so glad to get home. I had the feeling that Cousin Dorothea was sort of trying to smooth things for me all the time."

"Now wait a bit," she continued, lifting her hand as Mr. Benson's face took on an indignant expression. "What I mean is this. The day I got there I was looking at her and thinking what a tall, elegant figure she has, and how well her clothes set. But before I had a chance to speak she said, 'Cousin Jane, I shouldn't think you'd mind how stout you grow while you keep such a young face. I only wish I could gain 25 or 30 pounds.'"

"Now you know I'd sort of forgotten how dumpy I am till she spoke. 'And as for clothes,' she went on, 'I hope you won't give yours a thought. New York is the most independent place in the world, and that cashmere dress of yours is just as neat as can be.' Next! 'When we went out to drive in her carriage I was just leaning back, when she said, 'How I should like a ride in your dear old carryall, Jane,' and when I was just catching my breath over the blooms in her conservatory she said: 'They may cost more than marigolds and sweet peas, Jane, but I still love the old flowers, and wish I had strength and time for a flower-garden like yours.'"

"But the cap-sheaf came when she took me to an organ recital! I'd shut my eyes and was leaning back, enjoying every note of that grand music, when Cousin Dorothea put her mouth to my ear. 'It's no better in the sight of the Lord than the sweet old melody you hear every Sunday,' she whispered. 'I came back to earth with a thud and I could hardly keep back a laugh. 'Mercy on us, Dorothea!' I whispered to her. 'Do let me forget the squeak of that melody, if you can.' 'Everything was done for me,' said Mrs. Benson, as she sat looking down at her hands. 'I had a beautiful time, Henry, did you ever notice how my knuckles had grown out? I never did till Dorothea saw me looking at her pretty white fingers one day, and said how much more she admired a hand that bore evidence of a capable life than one that didn't!'"

REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE.

He Was Not Shipwrecked, But Went Ashore on the Island Voluntarily.

The adventures of Selkirk, writes Francis Arnold Collins, in "Robinson Crusoe's Island," in St. Nicholas, differ only in detail from the story of Crusoe. The real Crusoe, as we may call him, was not shipwrecked, but came ashore voluntarily. He was a Scotchman, and landed on the English ship, the "Cinque Ports," a little vessel of but 90-odd tons burden, carrying 18 guns, commanded by Capt. William Dampier, in 1704. Selkirk was the sailing master of the vessel, and, in reality, he had a "falling out" with the captain some time before, and begged to be put ashore. Just what this quarrel may have been is not known, since the account comes from the captain himself. Selkirk lived alone on the island for four years and four months, and was then rescued by Capt. Rogers, of the Duke, and taken to England. Capt. Rogers wrote the original account of Selkirk's adventures, and that we have the true story of this famous romance at first hand.

When Selkirk landed to take possession of his island kingdom he carried few provisions than the Crusoe of the story. A boat from the Cinque Ports brought him to the beach with his seaman's chest and meager possessions, and put him ashore.

As the boat pulled away, Selkirk quickly regretted his act, and begged on his knees to be taken back to the ship. The sailors refused, returning alone, so that the original Crusoe found himself an unwilling prisoner. There was little romance in the situation. His little possessions comprised only some clothes and bedding, a firelock, one pound of powder, some bullets, a hatchet and a knife, a Bible and his mathematical instruments and books. Four years and four months later, when Selkirk—now safely on board the Duke—told the story of his adventures, the misery of those first hours on the island were clear in his memory. As the ship disappeared he sat upon his seaman's chest in utter dejection. He ate nothing for many hours. His greatest fear was that with the coming of the night he would be attacked by wild animals. In his own words: "I went to sleep when I could watch no longer." For a long time he remained in such low spirits that he could eat only at rare intervals. His first food was the flesh of seals and the coarse food picked up along the beach.

Honeymoon in Jail.

At Courbevoie, near Paris, a few days ago, a marriage had just concluded in the mayor's office and the wedding guests were going with the bride and bridegroom to a restaurant for the usual feast when the local superintendent of police appeared. All had to go to the police station where the bridegroom and some of the male guests were formally arrested as burglars. The newly married man was one Sautnier, who belonged to a gang of housebreakers operating in the suburbs of Paris.

TUBERCULOSIS CURE.

VACCINATION WITH BACILLI TRIED AS A PREVENTIVE.

Novel Idea of Italian Scientist May Result in Obtaining an Effective Remedy for the Disease.

It is safe to say that there is no subject in which the general public has a greater and more abiding interest than that bearing on the prevention and cure of tuberculosis. No malady is more prevalent and none more fatal in its ultimate tendencies. The dreadful taint of its hereditary influences has left its trace alike on rich and poor, and there is scarcely a family which has not lost one or more of its members by its direful and relentless ravages. Nothing that has any bearing on this absorbing topic escapes due attention, interest and study, says the New York Herald. The scientists work for new facts, and the victims await results with constantly renewed hope. It is no wonder, then, that the novel view of the Italian expert, Maragliano, that vaccination with tubercle bacilli may prove an effective remedy, will be calculated to renew the discussion of some of the vexed questions connected with one of the problems of the age. His theory is certainly a taking one, and its plausibility appears to be founded on the well-recognized principle of stimulating the natural vital resistance against disease in the exposed individual.

The law of protection against any infectious disease is based on nature's power to resist its poisonous influences. In strong and healthy persons the system manufactures its own antitoxins against the various toxins that may find their way into the circulation. Thus persons are rendered immune against attack. In other words the invading forces are outmatched by those for defense. Scientifically these repellent agencies have very high-sounding names, although the antitoxins, which belong to the group of so-called "antibodies," are familiar enough to the ordinary reader. These antagonistic properties are manufactured in the blood, mostly as new corpuscles, and are calculated to meet given emergencies of disease invasion. It is with the view of reinforcing such protective qualities that Maragliano advises his method of vaccination, and on the same principle of action as that which governs like immunity against small pox.

His method is to prepare cultures of bacilli of varying strength, and by inoculation to produce an overwhelming quantity of counteracting antibodies in the blood of the patient. With a becoming enthusiasm he claims some very remarkable results by his procedure. It only remains now for other experimenters to verify his results in practice. This, according to report, has been done to some extent, and it is to be sincerely hoped that his ingenious theory may be still further substantiated. At all events it seems worthy of more extended trial in test cases, based as it is, on the present accepted views regarding nature's method of throwing off disease.

Although regarding what he calls passive immunity in a person, he is largely predisposed to tubercule, it may be difficult to prove a negative proposition that we may prevent a thing that may never happen, the plausibility of the proposition will at least tend to allay unnecessary anxiety, especially as he claims to have actually produced such results in animals. So far as he has gone along these lines the results have been very promising, but the main issue rests upon the fact of positive cures after the inoculation has been fully developed.

Whether the latter shall be ultimately attested or not, the new remedy can at best be considered not much more than an adjunct to the other well-recognized means at hand. It may help nature in her work, but cannot be expected to supplant her. Fresh air, good nutrition, abundance of sunshine and increased strength gained thereby are, after all, the main elements of disease resistance, and it is eminently proper that such should be the case, as according to the general law of compensation, those things that are of the greatest good to all should have no restriction in their dispensation. Thus, we can the more competently await any new developments in the vaccination theory.

Progressive Japanese Doctors.

"You've seen, of course," said the doctor, "the accounts of how perfect the medical staff of the Japs' army, and indeed in those days original Japanese contributions to medical science are taken as a matter of course; yet it's worthy of note that it was a recognition of the superiority of western medicine that first led the Japanese to study and adopt European life and language and methods. Before the year 1867 the only European language known to the Japanese was Dutch, which was studied by interpreters as a medium for acquaintance with western medical science. Possibly the choice of Dutch was ultimately traced to the influence of Boerhaave, the famous physician of Leyden, from whom, as it happens, Peter the Great took lessons in 1715."—Philadelphia Press.

Ozonization of Milk.

An apparatus used in Germany for purifying milk by ozonization consists of two vessels placed one above the other so that the milk can flow from the upper to the lower vessel in a thin stream. The carbon points of an electric arc light are then arranged one on each side of the stream of falling milk, so that the electric arc is formed in or close to the stream. It is asserted that the ozone engendered by the electric current round the stream is effective in killing all the micro-organisms that the milk may contain.

WATER CURES THE INSANE.

Novel and Successful Treatment of Lunatics in a New York Asylum.

Some 2,500 insane women are under treatment at the Manhattan state hospital on Ward's island in East river. Here the physicians in charge have of late been putting into practice the most novel and revolutionary treatment ever attempted in an institution for the treatment of lunatics. It is a form of water cure, says a recent report.

A lightning apparently irresistible patient, is taken into the bathroom by two attendants and placed in what looks to be an ordinary porcelain bathtub, on which rests a rattice frame. The patient is placed on this, and by a simple process the plastic strips of the frame are lowered until the raft becomes a "rattle" in which the patient rests.

At first there is much kicking and squashing, but the attendants keep a firm hold on the patient and the doctor at the lever and his eye on the thermometer before him. The water in the tub is controlled by this lever and is maintained ordinarily at a temperature of about 99 degrees. Soon the soothing effect of the warm water on the ends of the agitated nerves begins to tell, and the patient grows less violent, and finally lies perfectly calm and content. Soon the patient sleeps.

The length of time during which the patient is left in the tub depends on the character of the disease and the physical condition. Sometimes the subject remains only a few hours, sometimes for days or even weeks. The longest time during which a patient is kept continuously in the tub is between three and four weeks. Day after night the patient swines contentedly in the cradle in the bathroom, takes her meals there, and sleeps there.

Soon the patient has been transformed into a tractable, peaceful being on the road to rapid recovery.

Of course there are many conditions in which the full hot bath cannot be used advantageously. For these there are specialized baths which are equally effective in their way. The six-bath for cataplexies and other forms of mental disturbance is constantly in use, and the hot air cabinet, which is one of the important adjuncts of the hydrotherapeutic system, is substituted for drugs in relieving pain. It has been found quite as efficient, and there are no depressing after effects.

Other accessories of the department are the rain bath, needle bath, warm and cold packs and the Scotch douche. The last is one of the best of the old forms that can be employed. It is regulated from the marble table as are the various baths. The patient stands at a distance of about 12 feet and the doctor, keeping one hand on the lever which controls the cold water and the other on that which controls the water heated to a fixed temperature, turns a stream of jets and then the other. The thermometer in front of him enables him to gauge the temperature accurately, and there is an aneroid by means of which the force is measured.

BACTERIA SOUP FOR RATS.

It Is Used for the Purpose of Exterminating the Destructive Pests in France.

In a long report to the state department, J. H. H. Goway, consultant of the United States at Paris, describes a new method of exterminating rats and mice. The process was devised by the Pasteur Institute and uses a mixture of microbes or bacteria mixed in a solution resembling soup.

Scientists representing the institute recently experimented on a rat of nearly 2,000 acres badly infested with the rodents. The ground was literally perforated with holes, leading to underground passages. The farmers of the vicinity were interested and gave their services to help the scientists. The bacteria were placed on bait in and near the holes all over the region, four tons of bread and nine tons of oats being used as bait.

The results were astounding. Rats and mice were killed in such quantities that their dead bodies became almost as much of a pest as the rodents were when living. Fifteen and 20 rats were frequently found dead in one hole. The scientists estimated that they had killed fully 35 per cent of the rats and mice living in the tract treated.

A field of 2½ acres was selected and 12,484 rat holes were counted. These were closed and two days later it was found that 1,504 had been opened. The bait was used and eight days later only 37 holes had been opened. The chamber of deputies has been asked to pass a law requiring farmers to cooperate to exterminate rats with the bacteria. The government will furnish the material. The cost of culture is about three cents an acre.

Insect Resembles Flower.

Living specimens of a queer insect have lately been shown in Cambridge, England. They were brought from Rangoon by Capt. C. E. Williams. The insect is a species of mantis, and its body and legs are both shaped and colored to resemble a beautiful flower. It feeds on butterflies, and while it is lying in wait for them under a spray of leaves it looks exactly like a blue blossom with a black spot in the center resembling the tube of a corolla. The black part of its body is drawn out into a long green stalk. The resemblance to a flower is perfect, and butterflies and other insects light on it in search of nectar and are immediately seized by its fatal claws.—Philadelphia Record.

Gigantic Loom.

What is said to be the largest loom in the world has been built in Germany for weaving artists' painting cloth. It is capable of weaving felting 48 feet wide.