

LATEST IN SURGERY

Lengthening of Bones and Mending of Veins.

Most interesting of Advanced Methods Applies to Stimulating of Osseous Growth Artificially by Injecting Formalin.

New York.—Limbs may be lengthened by stimulating the growth of the bones and cut arteries repaired with metal rings something in the manner adopted in joining water mains, according to methods of the new surgery described in the current medical journals.

One of the most interesting of the advanced methods applies to the stimulation of osseous growth artificially by injecting formalin. This is a solution of the gas formaldehyde used as a disinfectant and preservative, and the liquid has been employed not only in its pure state, but in the two per cent solution.

The experiments which have been conducted so far by Dr. E. O. Meisenbach are described by him in the Journal of Orthopedic Surgery, and there is an editorial upon them in the Medical Record of this city. Doctor Meisenbach conducted his experiments on the legs of rabbits, selecting usually the right tibiae and using the best as a control or means of comparing results.

He also availed himself of mechanical means, but the most satisfactory results were obtained with the formalin injections. It is said the introduction of the solution, which also has high antiseptic qualities, stimulates the secretion of lime from the fibrous tissue which covers the cartilage and thus builds up the bone.

If this method should be applied to human beings, it might be of great value, and the medical authorities think such an application of the discovery is far from remote.

It is held that the formalin stimulation may serve as a stepping stone to a new method of treatment in bone cases which have hitherto baffled the skill of surgeons. Bones which have stubborn compound fractures might thus be made to reunite, and limbs, which are abnormally shortened through the arrest of the growth of bone, as is so frequently the case in children after attacks of infantile paralysis, could be lengthened.

The discovery might extend even to the treatment of tuberculosis of the bones and to various diseases which affect the framework of the body. There are numerous cases where persons who have broken arms or legs are crippled permanently even with all the attention which skilled surgery can give, and were it possible to create new bones at the places where it is required many a limp would be avoided.

The modern surgeon, therefore, by taking thought may yet be able to add to the stature of man. The results have been very encouraging, according to the scientific reports, for some of the best of them were obtained by only one injection of the formalin.

Joining of the ends of a parted artery by the use of rings of the metal magnesium is described in the last number of the Journal of the American Medical Association by Drs. V. Leptinasse, G. Carl Fisher and J. Eisenstadt, in an article descriptive of their work in the department of experimental surgery in the Northwestern university medical school. They acknowledge the assistance of Drs. Zeit, Wolf, Violet, Deason and Solomon.

The vessel had been clamped at either side of the cut, and the ends sewed into holes in the magnesium rings. The tissue is secured firmly, and the two fat rings are fitted against each other and bound together by passing silk thread through the holes in the rings. This is only a general description, for there are variations of the success specified.

The rings thus fitting flush against each other and tightly bound together, form a union. The clamps are removed and the blood stream flows as ever through the accustomed channel. The metal of which the rings are made is only slightly acted upon at first by the fluids of the body and the salt. They are thoroughly sterilized before their introduction, either in distilled water or a spring of lake water which is only slightly saline.

For 80 days the rings hold their original shape and at the end of that period they begin to break down and in from 80 to 100 days they have been completely absorbed into the system.

Conclusions the surgeons reach is that the use of these rings makes the operation safe, certain and easy, and brings it well within the skill of the average surgeon. They declare that the operation is applicable in all wounds of the large vessels and that it is possible to remove a short piece of the injured blood vessel, bring the extremities together and then to re-establish circulation by making an end to end union in the simple mechanical manner they have employed.

Cold Snap Kills Game. Lebanon, Conn.—Fox hunters report that thousands of the quail, grouse and pheasants with which this section has been recently stocked have been killed by the recent cold snap. Ten thousand dollars' worth of imported Hungarian pheasants, distributed last year are all gone, and shooting prospects are very poor for another year.

"SPITE" FENCES IN GOTHAM

One 85 Feet High Blankets Windows of 12-Story Building—Serves as a "Fire Stop."

New York.—Ski-scraper fences may be found on the upper West side and on the upper East side, on Fourth avenue, in the new retail district, and on Fifth avenue, in Millionaire row. How some of them came to be built may be inferred from this story of a citizen of Harlem named Harry Goldstein. He lives at the corner of Manhattan avenue and One Hundred and Nineteenth street, in a low brick house. Directly in back of him a tall flat building rears its bulk skyward. Goldstein conceived a dislike for the tenants in the flat building and for the general appearance of the hulking rear extension itself. Complaints did no good; he could not alter the flat building and he did not want to move. So he built on the rear of his lot a corrugated iron fence, 66 feet high and 13 1/2 feet wide, which effaced the objectionable outlook completely. The fence cost \$300, but it made Goldstein happy. This Harlem fence, with its height of 66 feet, held the record for altitude for three years. It was eclipsed somewhat more than a year ago by the brick fence, or, more properly, wall, 85 feet nine inches high, built by the American Lithographic company around the rear courtyard of its big printing house at the southeast corner of Fourth avenue and Nineteenth street. The wall effectually blankets the windows of the 12-story business building erected on the site of the old Hotel Belvedere, next door.

It is built in the form of a triangle, one side being 50 feet long and the other 24. The wall is of skeleton steel frame construction, anchored to the main south wall of the printing house and filled with a curtain of brickwork a foot thick. It cost \$5,500 to build. The only public explanation given for its erection was that it would serve as a "fire stop."

YOUNG SPINSTERS MAKE VOW

Six San Francisco Maidens, Fearing Divorce, Agree Never to Enter Matrimony.

San Francisco.—Society was surprised the other day by the announcement that six debutantes of last season—Miss Agnes Tillman, Miss Dorothy Van Sicken, Miss Lillian Van Worst, Miss Anna Olney, Miss Marion Davis and Miss Josephine Johnson—had vowed with solemnity, ceremony and seeming sincerity that never would they consent to be shackled with the bonds of marriage.

In a season's whirl they say they have observed that glamor fades and romance passes away; that the prince cuts a sorry figure in a divorce court. The days of chivalry are no more, they sadly assert.

It was on the eve of her debut that one of the social favorites learned of the ways of the matrimonial mart. She chanced to read an attack on the marriage market of society, in which it was set forth that girls were presented like wares to be disposed of as soon as possible, at high figures at first, then at reduced rates to become lower each year until the premium of a dowry may be offered.

MAKE NEW AND CHEAP FUEL

Papyrus Weed is Now Compressed into Briquettes to Replace Coal in Egypt.

Cairo.—The announcement that good fuel can be made out of the raw material of which the ancient Egyptians manufactured their papyrus, strike one as odd. An Anglo-German syndicate has just been formed to compress into briquettes the rank growths of papyrus and other weeds, locally known as "sudd," which cover an area of 35,000 square miles on the Upper Nile and obstruct navigation.

The Sudan government has to maintain a service of dredgers to keep channels open through the morass, and for some 200 miles it is impossible to get fuel of any kind, as the river channel has no banks and the dredgers depend for their coal supply on Khartoum. Coal or coal briquettes at Khartoum cost \$18.50 a ton, while wood is but little cheaper.

Now the obstructing material itself, the sudd, is going to be cut, chopped up and compressed into slabs on the spot at the rate of fifty tons a day. The promoters declare that the sudd fuel, being 35 or 40 per cent cheaper, will almost immediately replace coal on the Nile steamers and the Egyptian railroads.

FINDS OLD WHITTIER POEMS

Samuel T. Rickard Says "Whole Nest" Revealed by Study of Periodical Poet Edited.

Amesbury, Mass.—Samuel T. Rickard, the biographer of John Greenleaf Whittier, and now living in the old Whittier home here, tells of his recent discovery of a "whole nest" of poems by Whittier, never before recognized as his.

In commenting on his study of a volume of the New England Review of 1830-31, Mr. Rickard says: "While it was edited by Whittier, I find much that has escaped me hitherto. I have found a whole nest of poems by Whittier never before recognized as his. The signature was the odd one 'Feramor.' " "I find the 'Feramor' poems are Whittier's, and that he used this signature before and after he became editor of the Review."

"COLD FEET" SAVES HIS JOB

Practical Joker Foregoes Chance to Laugh When Boss Has Attack of Ill-Temper.

Chicago.—Because a practical joker had "cold feet," occupants of a certain South Side Elevated railroad car missed a good laugh recently, and a department chief in a large business concern went to his home, his composure unruffled and himself none the wiser.

This man had during the day purchased a shining new alarm clock, of which he was proud. He exhibited it to a few of his subordinates about the office, and remarked how he liked to rise with the early bird and watch it capture that traditional worm. The alarm clock would enable him to get up early daily, he insisted.

While the chief was out at luncheon the practical joker conceived the idea of setting the alarm clock, which the owner had neatly wrapped in the box in which it came, for 5:15 p. m., the exact time of day the prospective victim stepped into the elevated train to go to his home. Accordingly the tiny hand upon the dial was set and the springs wound as tightly as they would go. The joker and fellow workers whom he had apprised of the joke snickered among themselves.

Just then the department head, wild-eyed and furious, burst into the room with his hands full of papers. "This bill of sale is all balled up," he cried.

"Trouble," one worker whispered to another.

"Trouble," said the office boy to the stenographer. At this juncture he who had prepared the clock thought of what might happen when the tired man, riding home on the "L," was put to the discomfort of the hidden buzzing and ringing in the box within his overcoat pocket. The moment his "boss" left the room the alleged joker, fearing for the permanency of his own position, crept cautiously to the desk, unwrapped the clock and slipped the "silent" lever into place.

The joker, thanks to his foresight, is still in the employ of the firm.

BIG COST AS DIVORCE CURE

Sir Edward Carson, Noted English Lawyer, Would Make Erring People Pay Dearly.

London.—Sir Edward Carson, K. C., who practiced in Ireland for many years before coming to England, and who was an expert witness before the divorce commission here the other day, expressed the belief that every obstacle should be thrown in the way of those who sought divorce to make it difficult to obtain deuce.

He said it would be a fatal mistake to make the obtaining of divorces easier. He believed a judge should exhaust every effort to induce those seeking divorces to settle their difficulties out of court and to become united.

When Sir Edward was told that working people had not the facilities of the wealthier to obtain divorces, he invariably replied that he would equalize matters if he could by cutting down the facilities of the wealthy.

In Sir Edward's opinion, the damages given in divorce cases are as a rule entirely adequate. He thought it would be a salutary thing if the damages were much heavier. In the case of a man with \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year who coveted another man's wife and took her away from him the damages should not be \$5,000 but \$100,000. This certainly increases the worth of a wife.

When asked if he would not be in favor of leaving the matter of damages to the judge, Sir Edward replied that he thought judges were inclined to be even more parsimonious in such cases than juries.

In reply to a question from a member of the commission the lawyer said he would put the sexes on terms of equality and advance the startling theory that a woman should not be able to divorce her husband for infidelity, because men, on account of the customs of the age, looked upon this matter in a different way from womankind.

TOO HIGH FOR HOBBLE SKIRT

Extra Policemen Are Necessary to Help Women into New Street Cars at Jersey City.

Trenton, N. J.—The "pays-as-you-enter-cars" have high steps, so high in Jersey City that the municipality will have to employ a hundred or so extra policemen to help on board women who wear even a mild form of the hobble skirt, according to a complaint made to the Public Utilities commission. Assemblyman Davidson made the complaint.

"Officer, please assist me," is heard every minute in the busy thoroughfares of Jersey City. The Public Utilities commission will either have to make an order forcing the Public Service corporation to lower the steps or the city will have to make an additional appropriation for "assisting" policemen.

Walsey Relics at Auction. London.—Part of a panel of arras tapestry, which originally belonged to Cardinal Walsey, was sold the other day at auction for \$32,000. The buyer was Captain Lindsay, who often acts as the agent of an American resident in London. His bid overtopped that of the representative of the Victoria and Albert museum, who tried to buy the tapestry for the nation.

QUELLED A MUTINY

Miniature White Elephants Subdued Turbulent Cingalese.

Little Effigies Bought in Calcutta as Souvenirs for "Kiddies" at Home Pacify Savage Little Natives on Ship.

New York.—Two miniature white elephants, purchased in Calcutta for a couple of shillings by William Blake man, a ship's carpenter on board the British freight steamship Parisiana raised that mariner to an important place on board the vessel on the voyage from the Indian port to New York.

"Some of the boys on the ship and I were walking around Calcutta one hot afternoon in July," he said, "and the walk took us through a street where there are a lot of curio dealers. In one of the little stores I saw two elephants, carved out of the wood of a cocoon tree, and I fancied that those two elephants, resembling the white elephants of Siam, would be about as handy a brace of souvenirs for my kiddies at home as anything that I could get in Calcutta. With the two elephants, one under each arm, we went into the street again and on our way to the steamer.

"We noticed that every time we met a little brown Cingalese on the street he would prostrate before us, or along side of us and salaam for all he was worth. We laughed a bit about it, but really thought little about the salaaming, although it did seem a bit queer all the way to the wharf. On the wharf the whole blooming lot of natives fell down as we passed through on the way to the Parisiana.

"It was about a month or so later when we were going through the Indian ocean toward the Red Sea that some trouble broke out among the Cingalese on board because one of our boys had accidentally jostled a bit of muton that hung forward on deck for the native mess. Of course we all know that it is a serious thing for European hands to touch the food of the Mohammedan and we knew that it would be hard to pacify the Cingalese on board after their muton had been spoiled for them through contact with the hands of unbelievers.

"There was a great hullabaloo on the forward deck just as I came out of the forepeak, and the whole pack of brown fellows set upon me as the nearest and handiest man on which to wreak their vengeance. In times like these native chaps are not responsible, practically running amuck, and they swung bars and clubs right and left. I ducked back into the forepeak, intending to get my belongings and make a break for ash-ships, where I would have the protection of the officers, who were armed.

"When I came out again, carrying my two elephants under my arms, the Cingalese made for me again. Then, as they saw the little white elephants they suddenly dropped their bars and clubs and every man of them dropped flat on deck and salaamed as if their lives depended on it. I was lucky enough to remember the salaaming in Calcutta and I flashed the elephants which I had later found out had caused the respect of the city natives during our walk through Calcutta. The native sailors squirmed around and around on their stomachs to make sure that they would face me and the elephants as they salaamed and the rebellion on board the Parisiana was successfully put down without bloodshed.

The two little white elephants remained in a conspicuous place in the main saloon on the freighter in case of further emergency, but their services were not again required on the voyage.

NEW PROJECTILE IS SUCCESS

Tests Made Near Berlin, Germany, Show it Could Set Airships and Balloons Afire.

Berlin.—The trials with the new projectile, apparently fired from a rifle, for use against airships, which were carried out at the experimental institution for hand firearms at Halensee, outside Berlin, are understood to have yielded surprising results. The projectile, which is described as a small shell, set fire to the balloons through which it passed, with results that would have been immediately fatal to any airship in like case.

If the new ammunition should fully justify the claims made for it and should not be ruled out by the Geneva Conventions, it would go far toward rendering the bellicose employment of airships impossible.

MAY LET TOILERS SEE DRAMA

Move Starts in St. Paul for "Ten-Cent Night" at Best Theaters to Benefit Poor.

St. Paul, Minn.—A movement has been begun in St. Paul to enable poor people to visit high grade theaters on certain nights for 10 cents each. Rev. David Morgan is fathering the plan, and conferred with T. B. McCormick, assistant manager of the Grand Opera House.

"My plan," said Mr. Morgan, "is to have the theaters designate some night when they are not ordinarily sold out, and set aside a certain number of reserved seats where working people may see the performances for 10 cents, feeling that they are enjoying the same privileges as those about them."

SLEEPING WITH CLOTHES ON

Physician Declares Custom of Leaving Warm Raiment for Cold Sheets Injurious.

London.—Is it necessary to undress in order to go to bed?

Writing under the pen name of "Lawrence Beesley," a physician, who in his professional capacity of ship's doctor and also on pleasure journeys has traveled over a considerable part of the inhabited globe, is of opinion it is not.

He says: "How often does one hear the remark, 'How tired I am of dressing and undressing, of getting up and going to bed!'"

"I have made the same remark myself, and of late have simplified the minor details of my daily routine considerably.

"Why should we all undress and take off all our clothes every night, with the consequent redressing in the morning? Why?"

"I have lived on board ship and in the tropics, in Canada, and in the desert of Arabia, and I say this, that I have been as healthy and as fit and infinitely more satisfied with life under conditions which practically compelled me to sleep in my clothes—minus boots, coat and collar.

"In so-called civilization, where I live now, I have to remove every 'rag' at night, put on cold pajamas and get into colder sheets, and shiver (during the cold weather) for ten minutes or more, with the knowledge that in the morning I have to dress once again and am supposed to have a bath.

"I cannot for the life of me see why two hot evening baths per week should not be sufficient for anybody—and personally I have quite given up undressing at night, with the exception, as I said before, of boots, collar and coat.

"It is well known that men who 'rough it,' who sleep in their clothes, and who have not the eternal worry of dressing and undressing, of cold baths, cold sheets, starched collars and all the paraphernalia of the 'town man,' are infinitely happier, freer, healthier and stronger than their city brethren.

"Try it. Sleep in your underclothes—flannel shirt and socks; have two hot baths a week and save hours per annum and oceans of bad language.

"I am speaking as a medical man of twenty years' experience.

"I believe many chills are caught by the sudden change from thick, warm flannel clothes to thin pajamas and ice cold sheets, which is the general custom in this country.

"I am further of the opinion that it is not a benefit to the individual to open the pores of the skin by constant bathing or to close them suddenly by rapid changes of surface temperature in a climate such as ours—particularly such as it has been lately."

FIND NEW USE FOR ALCOHOL

Prof. Hill of London Invents Apparatus for Use in Treatment of Pneumonia Cases.

London.—Prof. Leonard Erskine Hill of the London hospital has invented an apparatus for use in the treatment of pneumonia which is expected to prove of great service.

"For some time," says Prof. Hill, "it has been recognized that the best way to supply alcoholic stimulant to the laboring brain in pneumonia is by way of the lungs in the form of vapor. My apparatus arranges for a mixed vapor of oxygen, water and alcohol, to be carried directly to the lungs, whence it reaches the heart from the pulmonary veins. Thence the stimulant is carried directly to the heart muscle itself by the coronary arteries."

Because there is not sufficient undiseased lung tissue left to breathe with, and because the heart thereby fails, the judicious administration of heart stimulants so as to tide the organ over until the lung symptoms subside is the chief point in the treatment.

By using Prof. Hill's apparatus the heart can be reached by a stimulant much more accurately and quickly than if the alcohol were given in the ordinary way.

FIND GEMS IN LUMBER PILE

Rich Chicagoan Buys Sunlawa House, Near Kelson-Tweed—Discovers Jewels in Tin Box.

Edinburgh.—A lumber heap scarcely in the place one would look for jewels, yet such a discovery has been made at Sunlawa House, near Kelson-Tweed, at present occupied by John Clay, the Chicago cattleman.

A dirty, old tin box buried under a lot of rubbish has been unearthed and found to contain a dazzling assortment of jewelry, including valuable rings, watches and necklaces. The find might never have been found had not a dealer in old iron offered to purchase the box for a trifling sum.

About 25 years ago Sunlawa House was partly destroyed by fire, and it is supposed the box was taken from the building and afterwards overlooked.

Stokers Lead in Suicides

London.—Suicides of stoke hold hands are about five times more numerous than those of engine room hands and three times more than among other seamen, according to a board of trade report. One British seaman in every 1,500 loses his life from drink, but only one Lascar in every 21,000.

PERFECT CARCASS OF BEEF

Good Points of Animal Killed at Recent Stock Show at Chicago From Butcher's View.

Chicago.—What is declared to be the most nearly perfect carcass of beef, from the butcher's standpoint, ever bred "since Jacob tended his herds," as an admirer expressed it, was sold at auction following the recent stock show. It was that of the sweepstakes killed beef champion, an 18-month-old steer raised by C. L. Taggart of Washington, Pa.

"That is almost a perfect animal," said A. C. Terry, a Chicago meat expert, as he stood before the carcass. He proceeded to tell why.

"In the first place," said he, "note the weight of the animal. It weighs, dressed, 671 pounds; when alive it weighed only 1,120, an average of 62 1/2 per cent. Many cattle run as low as an average of 50 per cent.

"The best cuts of beef come in the part from here (indicating a point just behind the shoulder) to here (touching the animal in front of the flank). Notice what a proportion of meat there is between those points, compared to the rest of the animal, where the inferior cuts come. There is an unusually large number of choice steaks and cuts in that animal.

Further, is isn't too fat. Fat does not mean good meat necessarily. It is firm, well developed sinews, surrounded by just the right proportion of fat. This carcass, too, has the mottled effect of fat running down into the lean in flecks, that is prized above everything in high-class beef.

"Now, assuming that this is the best beef in the world today, as it should be, the best specimen in an international competition, and assuming, as any stock raiser will admit, that there has been a constant improvement in the quality of cattle since Biblical times, I don't think that it is the slightest exaggeration to say that this animal is the finest the world has ever produced. Certainly, I never saw one to equal it."

WAYS OF KILLING MOSQUITO

Honolulu Man Tells of Experiments in Hawaiian Islands—One Method by Use of Gas.

New York.—Two new methods of exterminating mosquitoes, which have been adopted with great success in Honolulu, have been recommended to the New York health department by Ernest Mott Smith, secretary of the territorial government, who is making his first visit to New York in five years. One of the new methods of combating the mosquito is by the use of gas, while the other is the employment of mosquito fish.

The gas method, according to Mr. Smith, was discovered by accident.

"We started using oil," he says, "but there was complaint that this gummed up the sewage drains, and then our chief sanitary officer hit upon the use of calcium carbide. One day in cleaning out his automobile lamp he threw some of the calcium carbide into an old bucket in which were a lot of embryonic mosquitoes. The next morning he discovered that the wigglers were all dead. He made some experiments and found that calcium carbide was almost as inexpensive as oil and more effective, so since then we have been killing mosquitoes by gas.

"Then we employ mosquito fish. They are little creatures from an inch and a half to two inches long. You can take a jar so black with wigglers that you cannot see through the water and put one of these fish into it, and in half an hour there will not be a single wiggler outside the fish. The fish are as transparent as glass when empty, but after such a meal their bodies are black with the wigglers they have swallowed."

BEASTS ON SPECIAL TRAIN

Will Travel From Hamburg to New Rome Zoo—Giraffe to Exercise on Long Journey.

Rome.—More than two thousand wild animals, bought from Hagenbeck of Hamburg and destined for the new zoological garden here, will be conveyed in special trains from Hamburg soon. The journey will occupy eight or ten days and cages adapted to traveling have been built for many of the beasts.

If the giraffe in the collection was permitted to stand with his head through a hole in the car roof he would be decapitated the moment his train entered the first tunnel. So he will be caged lying down and restrained in that position. But the train will halt occasionally to allow the giraffe to "take exercise."

The work of feeding and caring for the animals on the journey is worrying Hagenbeck, who contracts to deliver them in fine condition. He said here he does not care to undertake such a task again.

The new zoo is said to be the largest in the world. As its special feature jungles have been constructed and safely enclosed; in them, confined only by their limits, the larger beasts will roam.

Biggest Dry Dock in the World.

New York.—New York is to have the largest dry dock in the world. It will be constructed in the Erie basin, Brooklyn, and will be more than 1,000 feet long, sufficient to accommodate the largest steamship ever planned by any builder. It will be used for docking trans-Atlantic steamships in need of emergency repairs.