

COUNTRY AIR AND VOICES.

Some of the City Has Much to Do with Deterioration of Vocal Powers.

Did you ever notice how quietly the countryman will speak and how harsh in contrast sounds the voice of the city man?

There were no difference in dress, in the color of the skin, no other line to mark off the city folk from the folk of the countryside.

There need we travel far to find the reason for this difference. The human voice finds an enemy which is working ceaselessly against it in the activities of the city.

DISEASE IS VERY COSTLY.

Have Intelligently Framed Might Prove of Great Value to This Country.

A careful calculation of the cost of malarial fever in Texas alone is estimated by Dr. Waldert to be at least \$2,000,000 a year.

The public however—at least its lawmakers—cannot be brought to realize the economic of such economy.

It is this financial aspect, unfortunately, that must be emphasized, and which is not enough, and loudly enough repeated, may at least bring about some effective and practical law-making on the part of our legislative bodies.

Send a pamphlet sent and repeatedly sent to every voter should in time establish competent public health officers and thereby lessen the morbidity rate by three-fourths.

ARE TROUBLESOME PESTS.

Seeding Dogs of Fleas Is a Task That Cannot Be Accomplished.

Did you ever undertake to keep a dog free from fleas, not a winning little toy dog, but a normal dog that runs about in the grass and leads a dog's life?

One day furnished specimens for the next generation of fleas, the most perfect specimens I have ever seen.

This is a condition, not a theory, as Mr. Cleveland used to say. No matter how great your sympathy for the dog may be, you can't help him.

The best way is to let the dog and the flea fight it out among themselves.

GAMBLING GAME IN CUBA.

Played with a Ball, and Is Very Exciting, But the Bets Are the Main Thing.

Henry C. Gause of this city, who accompanied the congressional party to Havana on its recent trip, says a Washington letter in the Boston Transcript, gives the account of the new gambling game of the island.

"A-r-r-r-r, A-r-r-r-r, A-r-r-r-r" is a crescendo and diminuendo like the sound of waves on a beach, the audience at the ball in Havana accompanies the "click" of the ball as it flies from racket to wall and wall to racket, with a steady volume of sound, topped with tumultuous breakers of shouts at the termination of each rally.

On three sides are blank and blackened walls, on the remaining side of the parabolic room are rows of seats at the level of the playing floor and above these are tiers of stalls, and finally the upper balconies of boxes.

Tremendous activity, a steadiness of eye and muscle that no amateur can hope to equal, dexterity that only those who have played pelton on childhood can hope to imitate, evoke an interest on the part of the spectators which is intense.

It is not the professional skill of the winners that occasions the rush of the spectators at the close of each game or "partido," but a desire to be early at the window where the bets are cashed.

The public however—at least its lawmakers—cannot be brought to realize the economic of such economy. Money is hoarded for "banking" purposes, public works of a political character and a hundred or next to nothing for stopping the greatest loss to the community that from disease.

Send a pamphlet sent and repeatedly sent to every voter should in time establish competent public health officers and thereby lessen the morbidity rate by three-fourths.

Send a pamphlet sent and repeatedly sent to every voter should in time establish competent public health officers and thereby lessen the morbidity rate by three-fourths.

Send a pamphlet sent and repeatedly sent to every voter should in time establish competent public health officers and thereby lessen the morbidity rate by three-fourths.

Send a pamphlet sent and repeatedly sent to every voter should in time establish competent public health officers and thereby lessen the morbidity rate by three-fourths.

Send a pamphlet sent and repeatedly sent to every voter should in time establish competent public health officers and thereby lessen the morbidity rate by three-fourths.

Send a pamphlet sent and repeatedly sent to every voter should in time establish competent public health officers and thereby lessen the morbidity rate by three-fourths.

SOME FORMS OF BEGGING.

Two, Once Familiar, Now Seldom Heard and One That Is Perennial.

"There are fashions in begging, no doubt," said Mr. Binkinton according to the New York Sun, "just as there are in all things. They come and go."

"Mister I don't want any money, not a cent but I'm hungry. I want something to eat. Take me to some restaurant and give me something to eat. Don't give me the money, you pay for it yourself. Only give me something to eat."

"The theory of the inventor of this form of begging was that first it would appeal by its apparent sincerity, and, secondly, that the person thus asked for a meal would have time to turn aside from his business to take the beggar to a restaurant, and so if he were impressed would give the beggar money, which, of course, was what the beggar wanted.

"This form of begging was very popular and successful for a time. It even came to have quite a literature. There was for instance, the story of the hardy and able man who held up with this appeal, dragged the beggar to a restaurant, and there compelled him to eat, standing over him with a club and, though the beggar had already eaten four breakfasts, forcing him to keep on eating until he begged for mercy.

"And there was the story of the beggar told by himself in a beggar's joint of how in one short afternoon he had been compelled by seven slinky givers to eat in quick succession seven meals of doughnuts and sinkers. Thus the stories ran. I had one actual experience of my own.

"I'm no judge of beggars, I frankly confess. I can't always tell by any means whether a beggar is worthy of not. But once, when this form of begging was common, I met a tall, slim young man who stopped me and said to me, 'Mister, I'm hungry, can't you give me something to eat?'

"I thought he must have been 17 days in an open boat without food, or something of that sort, but certainly he was of tubular construction inside, hollow all the way down, for his storage capacity was something stupendous.

"Another fashion in begging that in a more limited way and for a briefer time prevailed and which also was celebrated in its day was that which consisted in asking a man not for food, but for money for a drink.

"Mister I don't want any money, but I don't want anything to eat, I only had about a dollar and a half with me. His check was \$1.25, but I never begged him in the money.

"This supposed frankness of this request, of its pure call or both combined, amused some people and was offensive to some. It did not generally commend itself and it has now fallen practically into disuse.

"The perennial form of begging is that which consists in asking for charity to get from the Battery to Harlem or from Harlem to the Battery, the way he wants to go depending on where the beggar is at the moment of asking. Once I said to a man in Harlem, who had told me that he wanted to get to the Battery, but he hadn't got any money.

"Then why to thunder, don't you walk?" "Cause I got to get there at 11 o'clock," he says, "or I lose my job."

"BEAUTIFUL" FILIPINO LIAR.

American Soldier's Story Illustrates a Peculiar Trait of Native Character.

Lieut. Arthur Pottion, of the Fourteenth United States Cavalry, stationed at Camp Overton, Mindanao, P. I., sends this story to the New York Times to illustrate the peculiar trait of lying pertaining to the Filipino character, and, incidentally, the extent to which they will carry it on occasions.

"While stationed at Paqui, P. I., Luzon, in the early part of 1900," he writes, "we were doing all we could to bring in the refractory natives who were still out in that district, such as giving them and their families medical attendance and supplying them with medicines, etc. One morning I heard a devil of a row in the hospital, which was directly in the rear of my quarters.

"Upon investigating I found that a native had come to the hospital that morning, and in bad Spanish informed the steward he was suffering greatly from dobe fever, which is very prevalent thereabout, and wanted to get something for it. The steward, used to handling such cases, handed him a beer bottle of corrosive sublimate, and in his best pigeon Spanish told him to use it externally.

"In about 30 minutes he returned to the hospital on the jump, wild eyed and excited, rushed up to the steward, and wanted to know what would happen if he drank it. The steward gave him a pitying look and asked in border Spanish if he 'bebered' it (drank it), to which Mr. 'hombré' nodded assent and replied in mixed Tagalog and Spanish that he had done the whole bottle; whereupon the steward told him he'd better purchase his box overcoat and make arrangements with the town band which is even more important than the corpse on these festive occasions. But he sent a man for the surgeon, and two lusty soldiers were called in and proceeded to fill 'little brown brother' with hot water, whites of eggs and a few other home remedies, together with a thumping, as Mr. 'Taun' roared the hot water.

"Resistance was short, however, as the soldiers entered into the spirit of the occasion with heavy glee which was the noise I heard.

"I met the surgeon going in at the same time, and he explained matters, and said he'd question the native himself and find out the quantity he'd imbibed. Mr. 'Brown Brother' still maintained he'd drunk it all, and for conversation became impossible, as Mr. 'hombré' began to get sudden cramps in fact, became very sick, and as a matter of fact didn't care whether school kept or not, judging from his looks. After the attack had subsided a bit, and nothing particularly dangerous had been brought to the top, he was again questioned by the surgeon, and after one or two futile attempts at evasion finally admitted that he hadn't taken it at all, but had given it to his wife, who drank it.

"She was subsequently found by a file of the guard, neatly done for."

GAME IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Birds in Great Numbers and Variety Afford the Hunter Opportunity for Sport.

"The Philippine forest and jungle are full of game, not less than 85 species of game birds living within gunshot in different parts, and there are 47 species of birds of prey, of which 22 are peculiar to them, writes William E. Curtis in the Chicago Record-Herald.

"In size they vary from a tiny falcon, no bigger than a sparrow, to an immense eagle called 'the monkey catcher' because its favorite occupation is to swoop down and snatch innocent monkeys out of the trees. There are five species of eatable ducks of excellent flesh and flavor, 35 species of pigeons and partridges, quail, snipe and other equally valuable food birds, with 21 species of parrots and paroquets. The bird called a 'swift,' known to ornithologists as the Collocalia Troglodytes, which constructs the nests so highly prized by the Chinese for food, are quite plentiful, and in several of the islands large numbers of natives are engaged in gathering the nests, that are worth more than their weight in gold, and shipping them over to Chinese mandarins. They are made of sea moss cemented together by a gelatinous secretion from the salivary glands of the birds, and are usually hidden in the hollows of steep cliffs along the seashore. The business of hunting them is dangerous but profitable.

Yankee Made Scrambled.

A Connecticut firm manufactures scrambled eggs for the Egyptian tourist trade. The little charms are carved and even chipped by machinery, colored in milk to simulate eggs, and shipped in cases to the Muslim dealers at Cairo. The Arabian guides are the chief buyers, many of them being adepts at "sawing" the sands at the base of the pyramids, or about the sacred temples, where they artfully discover these charms before the very eyes of the captive tourist and sell him for an American dollar an article manufactured at a cost of less than a cent per piece, within a stone's throw of his own home.

Education of Filipinos.

The 100 young Filipinos whose arrival at St. Louis has been reported to the bureau of insular affairs at the war department will be placed in educational institutions throughout the United States with the opening of the school season this fall and will go through a four years' course of study. They will spend six weeks at the St. Louis fair.

True Enough.

"Now, then, children," said the teacher, "what is it we want most in this world to make us perfectly happy?"

BATTLE BETWEEN FISHES.

Two Days' Struggle in Which a "Tiger" Shark Is Killed by Smaller Enemy.

A remarkable instance of a large man-eating shark being attacked and killed by a small fish has occurred in the local aquarium, says a recent Honolulu report.

A shark measuring 12 feet in length was caught and placed in the shark pen at the aquarium. It was of the variety known as "tiger," and was an ugly dark gray color. Eight men were necessary to get it from shallow water into the pen, which is 20 feet square and five feet deep.

When the shark was placed in the pen a turtle and some small fish were in the water. Among the fish was one about two feet in length, known as an ulua, which has much sharper teeth than the ordinary fish, but its jaws are not especially large.

For a day after the shark was put into the pen the ulua was kept busy dodging it, but the second day a marked change occurred, and visitors noticed that the two fish were swimming in company. The ulua kept close under the shark's belly. Round and round the tank the pair swam the shark trying to conquer the ulua, as it had all of the other fish, and the ulua trying to remain close to its enemy.

After several days of this skirmishing instead of swimming rapidly around, the shark would suddenly turn and lash the water and take an entirely different course. It was first thought that the creature had become enraged at being confined in such a limited space, but the cause was very different.

From being a helpless, shrinking coward the ulua had turned into a desperate assailant, and was savagely attacking the shark. Apparently the realization that the tender portion of the shark was the belly, and about the gills, the ulua confined its attacks to those parts of its enemy. The little assailant would dart under the big body, seize hold of the flesh near the gills, and bite out small sections. Every time the sharp teeth of the ulua would tear away the shark's flesh the monster would writhe and thrash about in a frantic effort to seize on its assailant, but a stroke of the tail would send the tiny combatant out of harm's way.

Often as the big gray body would rush madly through the water the ulua would snap at the tail or tear away the flesh in other portions of the body. The water was churned up so that neither of the combatants could be seen. The smaller fish always fought close in upon its opponent where it was out of reach of the enormous jaws and close to the vital spots of the shark.

These warfare lasted for two days and two nights. Big holes were made in the shark's body. The flesh about the gills was torn away, and great patches from its belly. The entire lower part of the shark was cut and lacerated by the sharp teeth of its savage little enemy. Repeatedly the shark leaped two-thirds of its length out of the water in a frantic endeavor to escape from its pursuer.

The big fish finally gave up the contest and sought only to escape. The ulua was transferred to another part of the aquarium and the shark left in peace, but the attack by the small fish had so weakened the shark that it died a few days after the ulua was removed.

CONDEMN ABBREVIATION.

Physicians Dislike the Too-Common Practice of People Calling Them "Doc."

"The St. Louis physicians who are making a crusade on the abbreviation 'Doc'—now in such common use—are doing a good thing," said an old physician, and I hope the thing will spread to other sections of the country. 'Doc,' the doctor, has been in use a good long time and has enjoyed a good reputation in the popular estimate. It is much easier to say 'doc' than 'doctor,' and I suppose in this age, when time counts for so much, the difference in the time required to roll the two expressions from the tongue amounts to something, though I am not advised that the St. Louis physicians have objected to the use of 'doc' on the ground of the time wasted in saying 'doctor.'

"The main objection seems to be on the idea that 'doc' is lacking in dignity. 'Doctor' is more dignified than 'doc' from the standpoint of the professional man. Besides, 'doctor' is the correct word. Why should men call a 'doctor' 'doc'? We might as well speak of the 'professor' as 'prof' or say 'pres' for 'president,' 'sec' for 'secretary,' and so on in an indefinite number of other instances. Physicians do not like to be addressed as 'doc.' They have objected to the word from the very beginning of its use, and they will continue to object to it as long as its use is continued.

The crusade began in St. Louis against 'doc' is a good one, and it ought to spread to every section of the country where physicians exist. We are doctors, if you think, and the term 'doc' is not only a misfit, but it is offensive. I sincerely hope its use will soon be discontinued.

SEEDING BY MACHINERY.

Branch of the Raisin Industry That Is Young But Already Very Vigorous.

Sixty per cent. of the California grape crop is turned into seeded raisins, the output of one company alone for the year 1903 being 5,500 cartons in Fresno alone, where most of the seeding is done.

There are seven large plants for the handling of the product, employing 1,500 persons. And yet the seeded raisin industry is only 12 years old. This was started by H. A. Craft, who describes the seeding machinery in an article contributed to the Home Science Magazine. Says this writer:

"The seeding is done entirely by machinery. The original raisin seeding machine was a New York invention, but it has been improved upon by California inventors, until now it does its work with almost absolute thoroughness. And it is an interesting fact that in the process of seeding now in vogue, the raisin is not touched by human hands from the time that it arrives from the packing house until it is confined in its one-pound cartons ready for shipment to the market.

"If it understood that the entire process of converting the grape into a raisin is not performed at the seeding plants, the preliminary work is done at the packing houses situated all throughout the vineyards. At the packing houses the raisins are dried, stemmed, as far as the larger stems are concerned, graded and packed in rough boxes for shipment to the seeding plants. From outside points these boxed raisins are shipped to the seeding plants by the railroad.

"At the seeding plants the raisins are dumped from these rough boxes and are then 'processed' to use a technical term, preparatory to seeding. First the raisins are subjected to a dry temperature of 140 degrees F. after which they are chilled, and after being subjected to the latter process they become as hard and dry as a bean. Then they are in shape to go through the final process of stemming, which takes off the lower stem remaining on the raisin when it comes from the packing house. The raisins are then put through a rubbing machine, which has the effect to remove the short stem mentioned and leave the raisin in its simple form.

"Then the raisins are subjected to a moist heat of 130 degrees F., which has the effect of making them soft and pliable. Then they are put on the seeding machine, where it passes between a pair of pure rubber rolls, and is then impaled upon a roll of small saw, which presses the seed out through the surface of the raisin. The saw roll, with the raisin thus molded, revolves and passes over a flange device, which whisks off the seed leaving the raisin still impaled on the saw roll. The saw roll, still revolving, passes around the seeded raisin, strikes a series of fingers which free the raisin from the roll. The raisins then pass through a system of chutes, and are packed by size in one-pound cartons.

The capacity of the plant at Fresno is 465 tons per day. One house is used solely for 'processing' the raisins, and is a frame structure 100x130 feet on the ground and three stories high. This is connected with another, which has the seeding and packing rooms, the raisins being conveyed from one to the other by an elevator and one by a 25-foot long, 18-inch diameter, beneath a street.

NERVOUSNESS UNKNOWN.

Japanese Women Have None of the Attacks Common to American Systems.

"The women of Japan, in contrast to their counterparts in this country, have long been noted for their perfect poise and self-possession. The question arises whether would not a similar condition exist in the instances of our supposed American tourists. Patient physicians guaranteed to cure nervousness in its many forms have little to say in Japan. The meaning of the term 'nervous prostration' is unknown. Japanese physicians are rarely rich, says a London paper of affairs, has been made by a returned traveler. 'To begin with,' says he, 'there is never any change in fashions as the Japanese woman has no worries at all on that score. Then housekeeping is greatly simplified, so the Japanese housewife is hurt by none of the jars and frets that rag the nerves and prematurely age her western sister. The Japanese house has no parades, no dust traps in the shape of superfluous ornaments. People all put off their shoes on entering the house, so no mud or dirt are brought in. Japanese women have no heartburnings over such prizes and bridge stakes. They never have to compose kind papers on subjects concerning which they know nothing. They never sit up nights planning how they may outshine their rivals in dress or some social affair. They do not have their brains with schemes for marrying their daughters to rich foreigners. They never have to give eight-course dinners with two-course pocketbooks. They live simple, happy, peaceful, domestic lives, and live them long."

"While we should be sorry to see American women transfer their lives to the narrow sphere of the Japanese, there is no doubt that three-fourths of their nervous worry is caused by trying to be too much. Simplicity is the keynote of sanity and health, and American men as well as women may well profit by the example of the happy Japanese.

"That Was the Trouble. 'Oh, you may spur me, but I shall not remember I shall not always be a clerk at nine dollars a week. Marie. That's just the trouble. You may lose your job at any time—Chicago Daily News.

"Largest Order. The largest order of merit in the world is the French Legion of Honor which has over half a million members.