

Don't Overheat the House.

As the city health department points out, this is the season when diseases of the respiratory tract are to be expected. Diphtheria and pneumonia are spreading. It is a time for the exercise of care in the matter of keeping the feet dry and of wearing proper clothing.

There is one very fruitful source of throat and lung trouble which is worth especial notice. That is the overheating of schools, residences and offices. Nine houses in ten are kept at a temperature which invites throat trouble. The same thing can be said of most offices and public halls and churches. As soon as there is a faint chill in the air steam is turned on or furnaces fired up and people sizzle in an atmosphere heated to 80 degrees or thereabouts.

Such a temperature is an invitation to the bacilli which make trouble in the air passages. It congests the mucous membrane and prepares a field for the operations of the microbes which produce pneumonia, diphtheria and kindred diseases. Those microorganisms are innocuous so long as the tissues are in a normal condition. It is only when the linings of the air passages are irritated and inflamed by excessive artificial heat or other cause that they produce disease.

Few "bad colds" are the result of low temperatures. They almost invariably occur as the sequence of perspiration—sensible or insensible—suddenly checked. A man wearing his winter clothing will sit in an office heated to a temperature of 75 or 80 degrees. He will perspire more or less inevitably. Then he will go out on the street to cool off and he will throw open his coat, and the next morning he has a "cold" without knowing how he got it. If his throat is inflamed he may have tonsillitis or he may go down with pneumonia.

The fault is not with the low temperature outside, but with the high temperature indoors. People should regulate the indoor heat to the weight of their winter clothing just as they adjust the weight of their clothing to encounter the lower outdoor temperature of autumn and winter. In that way they will avoid many "colds" and minimize the peril of more dangerous respiratory disorders.—Chicago Chronicle.

Officially Declared Allies.

After the persistent denials of imperialistic officials and their political upholders that Admiral Dewey ever treated the Filipinos as allies, it is rather surprising to see the government's attorneys submit a brief to the United States supreme court in which they declare quite the contrary to be true. This remarkable reversal of the government's policy is caused by the necessity of trying to keep Admiral Dewey and his officers and men from collecting the prize money claimed by them because of the seizure after the battle of Manila of a number of Filipino canoes and flatboats.

This is the language of the government's brief:

"As soon as the present libellant's force was able to land and establish itself on shore it entered into friendly relations with the Filipinos and provided them with arms for offensive and defensive operations against the Spaniards. To treat some of the Filipinos as friends and allies and to treat others of them as enemies merely be-

cause they happened to be in the possession of small craft which might be of use to the United States was certainly not a consistent course of action and should not be upheld by a court."

Neither is it a consistent course of action, for that matter, for the government to deny, as it has on all previous occasions, that the Filipinos were received as allies by Dewey, and later to declare that they were treated "as friends and allies." A supreme court decision, in accordance with the government's latest contention, would hardly please the champions of imperialism.—Philadelphia North American (rep.).

Pertinent Questions.

Says the Journal and Tribune of Knoxville: "The labor leaders never go on a strike; they always manage to hold on to their jobs." How about the trust officials? Do they ever reduce their salaries for the benefit of the stockholders as long as labor can be held down for that purpose?—Memphis News.

The Humor of Things That Happen.

It was Soame Jennings, as Lord Macaulay observed in one of his essays, curiously opined that one of the greatest joys of the angels and the blessed in Paradise would be derived from their sense of humor in observing the puppet show here below, with the vain perplexities of men and women and their needless apprehensions through ignorance of future events.

While it is impossible for men to attain to this oddly enough imagined humorous enjoyment of angels, there are funny things continually happening in current events which, if they were all gathered together, might serve to supply a comic journal in which the jokes would all be true.

As an example of the humor of jokes that are true, take the story of the old man whom Algernon West found having a fit as he climbed up a hill near his house in London. "Hi mostly 'as fits climbing hup a 'ill," the old man explained. Mr. West congratulated him on his journey homeward being mainly downhill. "Hi halways pitches on my 'ead going down 'ill," the old man lamented. He had been out in that hilly country all day for a day's pleasuring.

The journey to Santiago of Vereschagin, the Russian painter, to study the foliage of a red-leaved tree for his battle picture of San Juan Hill is a funny thing when it is considered that he has painted Colonel Theodore Roosevelt in command of Rough Riders and regulars as well. It is much like the picture in Senator Lodge's committee room of Senator Lodge addressing the senate with sublime eloquence on the occasion of the passing of the appropriation for the Spanish war, which the Congressional Record shows went through without debate.

The consultation of President Benjamin Ide Wheeler, of the University of California, by the citizens of Los Alamos, on the occasion of the recent earthquake in their city, is a funny thing. President Wheeler is a professor, not of geology, but of Greek, and is the author of an excellent history of Alexander the Great.

These are but a few instances of the amusing things that happen out of which a comic journal might be made.—Houston Post.

Public Claims on Coal.

The coal sharks are about to discover that they have public obligations to fulfill. They have been proceeding on the supposition that the ownership and conduct of their business are entirely and unconditionally their own affair. This opinion shows ignorance of existing laws relating to quasi-public service. Even in a more limited

and less vitally necessary business like that of running grain elevators the United States supreme court sustained the validity of an Illinois statute regulating the service given and fixing the prices. The supreme court stated the main principle as follows: "Property does become clothed with a public interest when used in a manner to make it of public consequence and affect the community at large. When, therefore, one devotes his property to a use in which the public has an interest he in effect grants to the public an interest in that use and must submit to be controlled by the public for the common good to the extent of the interest he has thus created." The court said that the statute simply extended a well known principle of law to meet a new development of commercial progress.

Winter is near at hand. An arctic wave may sweep down upon the country before the close of the present month. Coal is a public and private necessity. It is essential to life and its lack for a single day might be murderous. The coal operators, in order to pile up huge profits, have allowed the season to drift by without action. They have not viewed the situation as involving a public responsibility or calamity. They have merely looked forward to marking up the price of all fuel to any figure they choose to exact. It is not yet clear how the rights of the public will be enforced, but their vigorous assertion is now unavoidable. A conspiracy to fill the land with suffering for the sake of obtaining a fivefold or tenfold profit is a terribly grave offense against society. The people must protect themselves and those in authority must guide their steps within the law. Nothing more outrageous has ever been seen in any form of public business than the cold-blooded indifference with which the coal operators have planned and waited for the existing conditions. They knew what would happen and hoped that it would mean a vast store of gold for them, though entailing misery and want on millions. If the remedy applied should be a severe and permanent warning to the organized sharks the people of the United States will be thankful in a high degree.—Ex.

Bogus Labor Paper.

A new weapon has been introduced in the operators' fight upon the miners—a rather insidious sort of weapon, a kind of "confidence man's jimmy," meant to pry into the hold the strike leaders have on the confidence of the miners. The new weapon is an alleged newspaper called the International Reform Labor Leader.

No. 1, vol. 1, is an eight-page publication dated from New York "October, 1892," and has the sub-title of "A Journal for Thinking Leaders of All Classes." The price is 5 cents, but so far as can be found all are sample copies distributed free in the mining regions. In fact, thousands of copies have been strewn throughout the anthracite region with the evident intention of weakening the confidence of the miners. The same article and paragraphs are repeated in all the languages spoken in the anthracite region.

The first page of the International Reform Labor Leader is filled with editorial paragraphs under the heading "Thought on Mitchell." Here are some of the "thoughts":

"Does Mitchell really play poker and lose large stakes at the gaming table occasionally? They say he does; we don't know."

"Is it right that your wives and children should go half naked, sick and hungry, while your leaders live like gentlemen of leisure?"

"Settle the strike by going back to work and joining the new labor reform movement. . . . If money is to be spent for drink and the like all the fun there is in it (is) for yourself. It is

poor policy to get loafers to spend your money that way for you."

"Has it ever occurred to you that there may be more truth than poetry in the oft-repeated rumor that Mitchell gets from the soft coal operators a fixed sum of money on every ton of coal mined by them as long as the strike continues? That would be a good business deal, would it not, with prices booming as they now are?"

One of the four cartoons in the new "labor" paper represents four men enjoying an automobile ride and puffing cigars, while in the background miners' wives and children pick coal from the culm dumps. A second cartoon is labeled "Contrast." One-half depicts three happy looking men sitting at wine and cigars and the other shows a bare and cheerless miner's home. The cartoon on the last page represents the strike leaders ambling toward buildings ostentatiously labeled "gin mills" and "gambling dens." Nothing in the publication reveals who the publishers are and no office address is given.—Pittsburg Ditspatch.

Strike Your Gait.

Some men have splendid fortune in the midst of all the strife
Which we must needs engage in as we work our way through life.
While some of us are plodding, others often pass us by
And leave us toiling onward, while to greet success they fly.
We marvel their good fortune and the race thus quickly run—
The treasures they have gathered and the prizes they have won.
And yet we often notice that the man who strikes his gait
And holds it to the finish, always gets there soon or late.

Though some caprice of fortune yields great plenty to your friend,
Give little thought to envy. Run the race unto the end.
The race is not the running for what profit has the soul
That, starting with rare fleetness, fails at last to reach the goal?
The laurel wreath is waiting for the man who nobly tries,
Though he may finish second to the one who wins the prize.
How often do we notice that the man who strikes his gait
And holds it to the finish, always gets there soon or late.

Success will follow effort made by all along the way
As surely as the shadows yield to lances of the day.
Some may achieve it quickly through some happy circumstance,
While others toil and struggle ere they note its smiling glance.
For aye success is waiting with rewards that seemeth sweet
For those who make haste slowly and for others who are fleet.
And hence it is we notice that the man who strikes his gait
And holds it to the finish, always gets there soon or late.

—St. Joseph Gazette.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

North American reindeer usually select an old doe for their leader.

The puffin is the most punctual of birds in the matter of its annual migration.

Thousands of caribou, or North American reindeer, are to be found in Newfoundland.

Newfoundland caribou make two annual migrations—south in the fall and north in the spring.

The most familiar examples of migrant birds are swallows, swifts, white-ears, plovers and curlews.

Warm feet have much to do with white hands. When feet are habitually cold the hands are always red or blue.

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