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*Purified Sassafras
Licorice Root
Rhubarb Root
Sulphur
Glycerine
Castor Oil*

Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP.

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16 MONTHS OLD
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SCHOOLS IN PORTO RICO

Present Educational Conditions in Uncle Sam's New Possession.

ATTENDANCES FAR BELOW THE AVERAGE

Progress in Educating Indian Youth and What the Results Are—Position of Women in the Colleges of the World.

In a letter to the Chicago Record Tribune, staff correspondent of that paper at San Juan, gives an interesting insight into the educational facilities of Uncle Sam's new possession—Porto Rico. The United States assumes complete dominion over the island today and necessarily the schools come within the scope of its authority. The number, condition and equipment of the schools are therefore a matter of national interest.

At the outset Mr. White states that his information was obtained from Mr. Francis Sabat, a Porto Rican official, graduate of an American college and formerly a resident of Bridgeport, Conn. Mr. White says:

For the administration of the schools the island is divided into two wards, called north and south, respectively. Altogether there are 561 schools, of which 510 are public and the rest are private institutions. Of these 403 are for boys and 148 for girls. Altogether there are in attendance pupils to the number of 27,938, of whom 19,074 are boys and 8,864 are girls. The neglect to take advantage of what schools there are is shown by the fact that according to the last census there are 65,365 boys of school age in the island and 60,330 girls. In 1897 the island spent on its schools a total of 332,367 pesos. The two wards, north and south, have almost the same population and number of schools, so that the amount expended are divided as nearly equally as possible and little jealousy rises on that score.

In the island cabinet, under the autonomous government which was granted by Spain to late to save the colony, there is a minister of education and public works, under whose special care the schools are intended to be. The organization is not a complicated one, for, though strange terms are used in the nomenclature, they are arranged in grades similar to those in this country. There are first the primary schools for children less than five years of age. Next come the auxiliary schools, and then the elementary or grammar grades. The high school is called the superior school. These divisions are pretty well maintained in the cities, but in the country the "rurales" are schools which contain all the grades in one, just as our little district schoolhouse does at home in the north.

Sex in the Schools.

It is an index of many other conditions of the island to know that in the schools there is no association of the sexes, girls and boys being taught in different places altogether. Not only are there no mixed schools, but boys are taught by men and girls by women teachers. The only exception to this is that children under five years go to mixed schools and the teachers of these schools are women.

Children of the poor who are unable to pay the cost of tuition and school books are not charged for either of these. But they are required to bring to the school a certificate from the mayor of the town, stating the conditions as to their means. The school law provides frankly for the two classes under the words "rich" and "poor." I find that 4,868 of the children in school are classified as "los pobres" and consequently do not have to pay for books or tuition. All others pay tuition for their education instead of school taxes, this being the way in which the system is supported.

It is interesting to note that there are three schools for adults—two in the north ward of the island and one in the south ward—with a total attendance of 178.

After the young folk finish the work of the superior schools, which do not carry

them as high as do our high schools by at least two years' work, there remains for them in Porto Rico but one thing higher—the institute. The government supports a collegiate institute in the capital, which, from all I can learn, seems to be a very good school. It gives to its graduates the degree of B. A., but that degree does not mean as much education as it is presumed to mean in American colleges. It would be perhaps a fair comparison to say that it indicates studies about on a level with those of the sophomore year in a college at home. The entering class each year numbers about 100 students and the graduating class, after four years' study, turns out from fifteen to twenty with the degree. But three young women ever have been graduated from the institute, though the courses are open to men and women alike, on equal terms. The three who were graduated were much admired for their persistency for, as my informant put it, "girls do not care much about such things in this island."

The course of study requires that the student shall take one modern language—French, German or English, as he may elect. Most of the graduates whom I met had chosen French and now are regretting the fact that they did not learn English. Among the branches taught are Latin and Greek, chemistry, geology, botany, physics, algebra, geometry and history. The sciences are taught in rather elementary fashion, however, as the institute is not very well provided with laboratory facilities. A tuition fee of 2 1/2 pesos a year for each branch studied is charged in the institute.

College Graduates.

The usual age of students at graduation is 18 or 19 years. If they desire education beyond that they must go abroad for it, as Porto Rico offers nothing more. Spanish universities receive most of those who seek to be physicians or lawyers. Medical degrees from colleges in the United States have not been recognized in the island and do not give the right to practice, which, of course, bars them out. The legal education one would get in an American university would be of little service in practice in Porto Rico as the courts have been organized in conformity with the laws of the United States, and in San Juan the American dentist is at the top as truly as he is in London or Australia. I found two young men who had been graduated in dentistry schools in the north, both of them thoroughly competent and employing the most modern methods. Students of engineering and kindred professions almost all go to the United States for their education and rank high when they return. There has been no false notion here about the excellence of American schools. My friend told the young women of this and some injustice as to their desire for education. Many of them have gone to the United States to attend school and the advantage they have had is recognized frankly among their friends.

The church schools have been included in the foregoing statistics, in which they do not form as large a part as the general impression has it. Roman Catholic sisters teach some of the girls' schools and that is about all. But there is a priests' college for the instruction of candidates for the priesthood. I am told that it has been a frequent practice for young men to enter this institution for the purpose of becoming priests, remain long enough to get their education and leave without entering the ministry. The church does not dominate the schools here as fully as it does in Cuba.

In the other cities of the island they are not so well provided, but here in the capital there is an excellent public library of several thousand volumes, well selected and well arranged, with a good reading room and facilities for consulting the books. It has little recent literature except Spanish and French. But the historical collections are very good in all languages and no doubt the savant who might burrow there scientifically would find in the obscurest shelves some treasure of early Spanish printing or one of the finest editions of famous maps and voyages into the Spanish main, if indeed there were not Caxtons. It is worth the search of some one who has the time and

LIBERAL RELIGION CONGRESS

Committee in Charge Expects it to Be a Brilliant Success.

SOME NOTABLE WORKERS ARE COMING

Men Whose Names Are Famous in Connection with the Movement Will Be in Omaha During the Week.

Charles S. Lohmgren, one of the committee which has been getting it up, is very sanguine over the prospects of a good attendance from the religious thinkers of all parts of the country at the Liberal Congress of Religions, which is to open with a sermon by Rabbi E. G. Hirsch of Chicago, after the addresses of welcome, at the First Congregational church this evening. He expects that everyone on the program will be here. The participants may not begin to arrive before this evening and tomorrow afternoon. Their headquarters will be at the Hotel Dellone while here, save that some of the ministers will be the guests of members of their particular denominations.

Some of the names of those who are to be the city's guests in this important gathering are familiar to the reading public all over the country. Rabbi Hirsch is considered one of the leading Hebrew scholars in America. David Starr Jordan is the president of Leland Stanford, Jr., university in California. He was a member of the Bering Sea commission to settle the seal patrol question. Dr. John Henry Barrows of Chicago was a prominent figure in the world's parliament of religions at the World's fair. After that he went to Hindustan on an expedition from a well known Chicago millionaire to examine into the tenets of Brahmanism, Buddhism, the Vedas and other phases of Hindu metaphysics and ethics, also the workings of the Brahma Samaj (Society of Universal Religion), at Bombay, in the hope of establishing many things in common between the Hindu religions and Christianity. He is an able Presbyterian minister, and is to discuss "Greater America" and this country's mission in Asia. Prof. N. P. Gilman of the Meadville, Pa., Theological seminary, is the editor of "The New World." Sociology is his specialty. Rev. Frank Crane of Chicago was formerly pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church here. Dr. H. W. Thomas of Chicago, the president of the congress, was tried for heresy some years ago, and started an independent church.

The name, "Liberal Congress of Religions," might have created a wrong impression in the mind of the public, thinks Mr. Lohmgren. He wishes it understood that the name means exactly what it says and that it is not to be a "free thinking" affair. Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones of Chicago is familiar to Omaha people, having been here some time ago to preach at the First Methodist Episcopal church, and in the exposition Auditorium. He will be one of the leading spirits of the congress. All shades of Christian, Jewish and rationalist belief are to be represented.

Some Minor Blazes.

Hot ashes thrown into a stove in the rear of 2308 Webster street caused the partial destruction of the structure at noon Sunday. A careless employe with a candle caused a slight blaze at the corner of Gaffney and Gaffney, 321 South Eleventh street, Sunday afternoon.

At the Paxton block and at the lodging house at 1421 Dodge street extinguishing oil lamps caused a fire scare and a turning out of the fire department. No damages at either place.

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FORT OMAHA IS TO BE USED

Government Will Very Likely Rehabilitate the Formerly Populous Post.

ONE RESULT OF GENERAL MILES' VISIT

His Inspection Followed by Instructions to Prepare an Estimate of the Cost of Repairs to Make the Place Habitable.

As a result of the recent visit of General Nelson A. Miles to this city there is a movement on foot to rehabilitate old Fort Omaha and to use it for military purposes. The movement is backed by General Miles, the officers of the Department of the Missouri, and is said to have the hearty support of Assistant Secretary of War Melville John. With this backing army officers believe that the act of congress providing for the sale of the old military post will be suspended, and that before long the regular infantrymen will be again drilling on the beautiful parade grounds of Fort Omaha.

On Saturday morning Assistant Secretary of War Melville John and General Shafter, now stationed by the Second regiment of Nebraska volunteer infantry, General Miles made a visit there Friday and expressed himself as desirous of having the post fitted up for use of the regular army, adding that the prospective increase in the size of the army would make additional posts necessary, and as the government already owned Fort Omaha, it would be more advisable to rehabilitate it than to purchase property for a new post.

General Miles requested the Department of the Missouri to make a thorough inspection of the post and to prepare an estimate of the expense involved in fitting up the post for military uses. The inspection was made on Saturday and Sunday, and the estimate of necessary expenditures prepared and mailed to the War department at Washington yesterday. About \$2,000 will be required to be spent at the post in order to re-open it for military purposes. This estimate provides for the construction of no buildings, although all of the buildings proposed were completed. New roofs for most of the buildings, new floors in all of them, new water boards for the barracks and the cottages and some minor repairs constitute the principal items in the estimate forwarded to Washington at General Miles' request.

He Knows How to Please His Customers.

Mr. Reuben Martin has been in business at Barnitz, Pa., for almost 17 years. He says: "I have never sold a medicine that gave such satisfaction as Chamberlain's. I sell every bottle on a guarantee, but know I take no risk, for my customers come back and praise it. I am often troubled with bowel complaint and would not think of leaving home without a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy."

Work of Sneak Thieves.

Sneak thieves were not very active Saturday and Sunday nights. But five cases of their work were reported to the police.

Mrs. L. C. Lowry of 159 Douglas street lost two musical instruments valued at \$25 and H. F. McGarvie of 514 South Sixteenth street had his clothing stolen.

A C. McClurg & Co. of 1420 Harney street suffered the loss of jewelry trinkets valued at \$31.

Miss Hyde, 1816 Chicago street, had several articles of jewelry valued at \$25 taken from her room. The articles stolen were on a small table near a barred window. The thief rapped the window and thrust his arm through the bars and secured the stuff.

A pink plunk jewel box containing small articles of jewelry valued at \$75 was taken from the room of Mrs. M. E. Patrick, Twenty-fourth and Lake streets, by some noiseless sneak.

Spain's Greatest Need.

Mr. R. P. Alvila of Barcelona, Spain, spends his winters at Aiken, S. C. Weak nerves had caused severe pains in the back of his head. On using Electric Bitters, America's greatest Blood and Nerve Remedy, all pain soon left him. He says this grand medicine is what his country needs. All America knows that it cures liver and kidney troubles, purifies the blood, tones up the stomach, strengthens the nerves, puts vim and vigor and new life into every muscle, nerve and organ of the body. If weak, tired or ailing you need it. Every bottle guaranteed, only 50 cents. Sold by Kuhn & Co. druggists.

Compliments the Second.

One of the nicest compliments that has been tendered to the officers and men of the Second Nebraska regiment since they were called into the service of the government has just appeared in a circular issued by Brigadier General Sumner, commanding

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