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The Bee's Platform

- 1. New Union Passenger Station. 2. Continued improvement of the Nebraska Highways, including the pavement of Main Thoroughfares leading into Omaha with a Brick Surface.

WASTING HAPPINESS.

The more or less worth while human race is ever straining and striving for what it calls success. Its individual atoms watch and wait and plan for their several conceptions of a future state here on earth that will be full of content and plenty.

If a man is prosperous and still fails to find happiness, those of us as yet far from opulence say: "The devil take him if he is not happy now that he is successful, he must be a nut. Give us his wealth, and we'll take care of our happiness."

And so we watch and wait for our happy time to come, forgetting what Bacon says in his essay on "Delays": "For if a man watch too long, it is odds he will fall asleep."

Epictetus says "it is never possible for happiness, and desire for what is not present, to come together," and tells us there is only one way to happiness, which is "not to look toward things which are out of the power of our will."

Then along comes the grim reaper in the guise of an acute infection or some other fatal malady, and carries them off unfinished, with only a glimpse and never an experience of the promised land of happiness they might have occupied for many tranquil, useful and delightful years, if they had utilized their success when utilizing was good.

Efficiency and Character. An eastern doctor, whose long experience gives him authority to speak, expresses the opinion that the tests for mentality now being applied to youth in schools and colleges are producing results not at all reassuring for our civilization.

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ments that serve only to determine the particular capacity of the individual for achievement of definite tasks and with no regard for the building of character.

The point is not a new one, having been frequently discussed by educators and economists, but its final determination does not appear to be in sight yet.

When the city man, cribbed, cabined and confined within walls, or if on the street, surrounded by towering buildings and hurrying throngs, reads of the daily chores of Governor Coolidge, envy rises in his breast.

He is not concerned over collars or ties, shoes or trouser creases, nor any of the so-called refinements of dress. He can wear what he will, even old-fashioned high top boots, and be free to sit down on a dusty bin in the barn, or in the cool grass under a shade tree, with never a thought of unkind consequences.

With tobacco in his old tobacco box, a pole and line, and a can of worms, the deep holes in the creeks promise him sport, and he may ramble as he will over hill and down dale, the long day through, and at sunset sit down to hot biscuits, yellow butter, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, apple butter, fresh pickles, cold butter-milk, cherry preserves, apple pie, and simply gorge himself—and sleep like a baby, in the country. What is a town basement compared with that?

How perverse is human nature! In town it longs for country freedom and fodder. In the country it hankers for the bright lights and elegancies of city life. But of two good lives, one spent on a farm or in a village, and the other in the rush and roar of a big city, who dares say the latter is the better?

On Monday morning a caravan will start from Omaha that is worth watching. It will consist of a number of motor trucks, each carrying a load, and with the sole purpose of demonstrating the utility of this form of transportation. As one of the promoters says, the outfit has nothing to sell the farmers along the way, save an idea.

It is passing strange that such a demonstration should be required at this time, after the automobile has so thoroughly demonstrated its serviceability. But, admitting that such is the case, the caravan will carry a message of emancipation to the farmers. It has been established beyond any question that whatever lowers the cost of transportation from farm to market increases the profits of the producer, as the cost of carriage is taken directly from the selling price of his output.

Good roads and autotrucks afford the easiest and most practical solution of the primary problem of transportation, that of the "short haul." Distances of 100 miles, or even greater, are within the range of the self-propelled freight carrier, and under decent conditions of the roads it has given service as expeditious and in many ways more satisfactory than afforded by the railroads.

The Department of Agriculture is making some remarkable discoveries at Washington in bird life. It seems that "bird study" is an important branch of the activities of agriculture as exemplified by swivel-chair agriculturists on the national payroll.

It must be admitted that there are many "birds of a feather" in office in Washington, and that all of these "birds" might be studied with profit to the taxpayers. But that's to one side. What we wish to call attention to is the following statement from the biological survey's publicity department: A curious discovery, learned from trapping and banding birds, may lower these feathered friends of man in the estimation of many who cite them as models of "mates for life."

After reading of this remarkable "discovery" we are wondering if the extensive libraries of the Department of Agriculture contain a good history of marriage and marriage customs, or of Prof. Fiske's "Excursions of an Evolutionist." If so, both those books will disclose to certain department writers their abysmal ignorance of facts about birds, known for a generation or more, and possibly protect them from future public humiliations arising from their amazing lack of information.

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Fair Play for the Foreign Born

Arthur Woods, Former Police Commissioner, New York City, in July Forum.

I am not at all sure but that one of the most recent ways in which American citizenship may now be on trial is with reference to those who are not citizens, with reference to the alien, the foreign born. We keep hearing the expression "Americanize the foreign born," and we cannot help wondering what is going to become of the poor fellow if everything that is planned in the way of Americanization is done to him.

It is not a mechanical process, this business of making a foreigner a good citizen. The war showed that it was not a mechanical process. I suppose in every regiment of our army, of every battalion, there were not merely foreign born, but there were foreign born who could not speak English. These men fought. They fought loyally. They fought well. They were amenable to discipline. They acted the part of Americans as well as people could act it—these men who were not citizens, who did not speak our language, who very likely did not know what it was all about.

We hear, too, of the effort to make the foreign born learn something about the constitution and the Declaration of Independence. There is a movement on hand to put a copy of the constitution into every family in the country. I don't believe you are going to make a good citizen by jamming the constitution down his throat.

There is no royal road to Americanizing the foreigner. You cannot give him a pill and have him wake up an American. You cannot make an American by teaching him the language or teaching him some of our great state papers. What we want to do is not simply to take him by the hand and make him a citizen, it is to make him a good citizen. That is our object. No democracy can go on as it should unless the majority of the people are good citizens.

The hired force that can do more than any other to give the alien the right idea about this country, is the police force. The alien does not know much about the president, and cabinet, and senators, and representatives, and supreme courts, and things. He does know that pretty tough-looking official in blue uniform with brass buttons who sometimes walks up and down the street, but is more often in a comfortable, stationary post. He knows him. He knows he represents the officialdom of the country. It was not in New York on the East Side in New York, which is the place where most aliens at any rate for a while, that the policeman on beat went to the alien his idea of the whole officialdom of the American government.

These immigrants have perfectly good civilizations of their own. They have manners and customs which are just as dear to them as ours are to us. They come here as a rule with a wholly friendly feeling toward this country. They want to leave come if they had not that feeling. They are ready to learn. They are eager to learn. They don't like much the idea, the word, of being Americanized. It looks as if a superior, patronizing race had set out to show them its ways, on the theory that they were tired, and disloyal, and ashamed of their own ways. They resent that attitude.

I spoke a moment ago of the treatment for the people who defiantly break our laws. The full force of the law must be invoked against these people. Those are a small group. There is a larger class who believe in making changes in our government, but who have failed to do it by observing the rules of the game. Probably the most wholesome thing in our whole scheme of government is the fact that it permits change, that it permits of growth. I have thought recently that no matter how wild the revolutionist may be, he need not despair at his failure to accomplish his ends, if he has a remedy by lawful means that were used to put through the 18th amendment to the constitution. Any minority has a right to go ahead and try to make itself into a majority. Uneasy minorities are good things for a plethoric, comfortable majority to have to deal with. The rights of the minority must be regarded by the majority. It is a test of citizenship to accord to inconvenient minorities their full rights.

Try Ice. The Hungarian punishment of 25 strokes on the feet for protesting against the war. That stimulates circulation. We want men to have "cold feet."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Why Ears Are Hidden. You can always tell if a peach is painted by comparing her complexion with her ears. This is confidential.—Texas North Star. Consider the Source. How can you expect to buy a cigar for 5 cents with vegetables as high as they are?—Nashville Tennessean.

How to Keep Well

By Dr. W. A. EVANS

Questions concerning hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, submitted to Dr. Evans by readers of The Bee, will be answered personally, subject to space limitations, where stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnoses or prescribe for individual cases. Address letters in care of The Bee.

THE ELUSIVE SCIATICA.

A man suffered for several years from what was generally called sciatica. In his efforts to get relief he took all sorts of medicines from all sorts of doctors. When his doctor was not looking he gave the osteopaths and chiropractors a chance to display their wares. He went to Hot Springs and other bath resorts.

He had a very definite limp, and the affected leg was perceptibly smaller than the fellow. When the tape was applied it was found that the wasting was altogether in the muscles—that in the regions where the bellies of the great muscles lay there was a decrease in circumference of the leg of almost an inch.

He thought he had sciatica, told all inquiring friends his trouble was sciatica, and took about all the sciatica remedies he tried all the sciatica nonmedicine treatments which his friends fired at him. When a man has suffered for a few years from a disorder which seems incurable his willingness to take up with all manner of recommendations with and without blarney is positively immoral—is almost on a par with some other forms of promiscuity.

There are lots of people who suppose they have sciatica who have some other trouble. In fact there are some who say there is no such condition as sciatica, properly speaking; that so-called cases of sciatica, merely are referred pain due to disease in the spinal cord or pressure on the roots of leg nerves or disease of the hip joints or some joint of the pelvis itself; that no treatment of sciatica as such is of any benefit. Treatment to be effective must be directed at the trouble.

Lead Poisoning Symptoms. Mrs. L. M. writes: "Will you advise me about lead poisoning, or what we think it is? My husband has been working in a press room for the last year. It is poorly ventilated and dark, and lead is melted in the same room, and he has been inhaling it. He has been feeling miserably, and the last two months broke out with large itchy eruptions, which do not seem to heal up fast. He quit and went to Arizona, where he is working in a high, dry climate. What would you recommend to drive the poison out? Is he in any immediate danger? He does heavy work, digging concrete, and does not feel bad, only healthily tired. He has a good appetite and sleeps soundly. Would iodide of potassium be a good remedy to drive it out of his system? One doctor told him it was cirrhosis and was very serious. What does that mean."

Harris has shown that a moderate number of printers suffer from some degree of lead poisoning. He was able to find the metal in their arms. Assuming that your husband had lead poisoning, he has hit upon about the best cure. The way to get rid of the mineral is to sweat it out, and doing heavy work in Arizona in summer heats the bill. Sweating in the Arrowhead hot springs or hot sulphur baths at

Glenwood Springs would not be much more beneficial. Sometimes lead stays in the system a long time. Iodide of potassium taken internally helps to get rid of it. The dose should be small. Large doses have been known to cause symptoms of lead poisoning by plowing up too much of the metal.

Have an Examination. Mrs. M. L. writes: "Will you tell me what can be done for an acid stomach? I am very careful of the food I eat and should not suffer from it. Will you tell me what food to eat? For the last three weeks I have had cramps. Do you advise me to see a stomach specialist?"

Stop Giving Purgatives. Mrs. C. C. P. writes: "I have a baby three months old who is very constipated. He is breastfed at regular hours. He is growing, but at times is cross. His bowels never move without medicine, usually an enema. Should he cry as if in pain when I give him an injection? I have given him castoria, cascara aromatic, and a few doses of castor oil. Is there anything I could give him, or anything I could eat? I give him water three times daily. He has had eczema on his face."

You may have ulcer or gallstones or appendicitis. An examination of your abdominal organs should be made. Have Growth Removed. N. Y. Z. writes that she has a flabby, skinny growth on her leg. It causes no pain and is not increasing in size, but it has a stalk and it gets twisted occasionally. What can be done about it? It is of no consequence. Since it gets in the way have it cut off. Stop Giving Purgatives. Mrs. C. C. P. writes: "I have a baby three months old who is very constipated. He is breastfed at regular hours. He is growing, but at times is cross. His bowels never move without medicine, usually an enema. Should he cry as if in pain when I give him an injection? I have given him castoria, cascara aromatic, and a few doses of castor oil. Is there anything I could give him, or anything I could eat? I give him water three times daily. He has had eczema on his face."

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