

Torrance Herald

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Mentally Crippled Babies Increasing, Ayers Expert

THE time has come when the public must turn its attention and sympathies from children with crippled bodies to those with crippled minds, says Commissioner Bird S. Coler of the New York City department of public welfare...

No one has to be an alarmist to realize that this problem grows constantly more serious. The widely quoted army intelligence tests, applied to our enlisted men in the recent war, showed that of the million and a half examined among the young men called to the colors 50 per cent were under the mental age of 13 years.

While these tests were probably not too carefully conducted and are possibly as inaccurate as has been charged, the deviation from fact is surely not great enough to give us any reassurance. Even if more careful tests were to reduce the percentage of mental deficient to one-fifth we should still have one man in every ten under the standard of adolescent mental development.

If one child in every ten showed the more obvious kind of defects which occur in the bodily structure, the public would not long be blind to the gravity of the situation.

A number of causes are recognized among neurologists. The stress and speed of modern life is known to cause a good deal of neurasthenia among women. Neurasthenia means deranged glands, and women who suffer from this complaint are known to bear unsound and often defective children.

Also, it is one of the accepted doctrines of modern science that women seldom have the strength to engage in economic life and at the same time bear children. Our clinic shows that many defectives are born among poor mothers, and especially to newly arrived foreign mothers who are either upset because of changed environment or are forced to go out and earn their livelihoods while they are carrying children.

A great many criminals of the defective or mentally deficient class come into the world in this way, and we are now forced to believe that this disturbance in the mother is the cause of the large number of criminals among first generation foreigners.

There is an unwholesome tendency on the part of women to regard motherhood more and more lightly, and other things—such as money, luxury and social advancement—more and more seriously. The result is more and more weak and defective children. The menace cannot be exaggerated.

Artist, 84, Spurs Millions Gives Paintings to France

FAILING eyesight may bring to a close the career of the great French painter, Claude Monet, who at the age of 84 continues to paint every day. Monet is still strong and hearty; only his eyesight, he declares, prevents him from working as much as ever.

The great French painter was born in Paris November 14, 1840. In his youth he met with a great struggle when he began experimenting with broken color and painting atmospheric effects according to the science of light and shade. He was the first man to paint real sunlight, and his method has been imitated ever since by followers of the impressionistic school of landscape painting.

A few years ago an American offered Monet \$3,000,000 for the 30 paintings he made of his garden. The offer was refused, the great man instead presenting the entire collection to the French nation. A museum specially to house this gift is now being built. Today Claude Monet brings a bigger price than the work of any other living painter in France, and one may possibly say, in the world.

Monet lives in complete retirement in his beautiful home at Giverny, near Paris, jealously guarding his domain from the intrusion of all reporters, critics and photographers. The only people admitted to his sanctuary are his few intimate friends, among whom are illuminin, the painter, and Georges Clemenceau, the statesman.

THE COP KNEW

It was in the days when Germany was an empire and folk had to be careful what they said, lest they be accused of treason. A carpenter, says Israel Zangwill, as in a crowd waiting to see the emperor pass. The man had an excellent position, but he was uneasy because he had promised to meet a conceited young other-in-law, and the brother-in-law had not arrived.

"Will the jackanapes never come!" cried the carpenter, angrily. A policeman promptly arrested him. "But I was speaking of my brother-in-law!" gasped the carpenter, terrified. "You said 'jackanapes'; you must have meant the 'peror,'" replied the policeman, and marched the man off.

And Who After Mussolini? Former 'Traitor,' Probably

FORMER Premier Giovanni Giolitti, mentioned in the news as the probable successor to Mussolini as Italy's premier, was one time branded a traitor and forced to flee from Rome.

Giolitti emerged from the retirement in which he lived during the war, to become premier. He had opposed Italy's entrance into the struggle and it was thought that this would end his political career forever. But not long after the signing of the treaty of Versailles he was again in favor, and in 1921 he was asked to form a cabinet.

Born of parents in a comparatively humble station in Cavour, Piedmont, 81 years ago, Giolitti started life as a clerk in the government service. Early in life he was called into political service, and for several decades he has represented the political district of Dronero (in the province of Cuneo) in the Italian Chamber of Deputies. In 1891 he proclaimed the right of the laboring classes to strike.

He has been one of the foremost political leaders of Europe for more than thirty years, and in his constructive policies has been compared with Gladstone, Bismarck and Cavour.

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HOW'S YOUR HEALTH?

By Dr. W. F. Thompson

Better to bear The pain or ache Than succumb to The dope we take.

Accurately diagnosed is half cured. Too often the mortality table rests on the dining table.

Under the tipping system it costs ten dollars a month to wear a hat in Chicago.

Oh, we grunt and we're grouchy, But our greatest of sins Is picking our pimples With poisonous pins.

Clean milk cuts the infant mortality, and a low infant mortality rate means increased longevity.

The victim of venereal disease who marries against the advice of his physician commits a crime for which there is no adequate punishment.

If the same amount of publicity given to cancer and tuberculosis could be given to the venereal diseases there would be fewer victims of these diseases.

It's now the time to treat hay fever. Ere the ragweed pollen blows; If we wait until September You'll be busy with your nose.

Some day we will know the cause and cure for cancer. A scientist will make that discovery and give it to the world, just as other great discoveries have been made and given. Quacks take, but never give.

P is for pimples And poisonous pins, For these are the points Where the peril begins.

Where the sun shines the doctor doesn't.

While the appendix of one man is worth no more than the appendix of another, the life of one man is sometimes worth more than the life of another—commercially speaking, of course.

The ability to swim well is no longer an accomplishment but an obligation.

If we employ plenty of pure water, internally and externally, we'll live eternally.

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