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Another Superstition Gone The 'Long Road' to the Heart

ONE by one the old superstitions pass. For many centuries heart wounds were regarded as necessarily fatal. Now surgeons know that this vital organ is not outside their legitimate province.

More important than anything that could happen in Hollywood, Palm Beach, Broadway, or any of the other popular centers of news interest, is the modest announcement of the Harvard surgeons, Cutler, Levine and Beck, that certain cases of mitral stenosis, or stricture of the mitral valve of the heart, can be relieved by surgery.

"The road to the heart," says a graphic writer, "is only two or three centimeters in length in a direct line, but it has taken surgery nearly twenty-four hundred years to travel it."

The pioneer into uncharted places usually proceeds at his own peril only; he pays the penalty for failure with his own person. The surgical pioneer, however, literally takes the lives of others in his hand.

Daring, under such circumstances, must be fortified with wisdom and stamina.

It is not to be wondered at, then, that many parts of the body remained untouched so long by the surgeon's hand.

Today no large part of the body remains free from surgical approach. The abdomen, thorax and cranium have already been invaded by the trained surgeon with eminent success in the relief of a variety of maladies. Blood vessel and nerve surgery has been developed to a high degree of skill. Plastic transformations are being made in various parts of the body—every day or so we read in the newspapers that an actress has had her weight cut down 64 pounds on the operating table; a war veteran has had a lost ear replaced; a child has been given a new walking apparatus.

This progress has called not only for great resourcefulness of hand and mind, but also for personal bravery.

So it is in other lines of endeavor. What man most fears is the unknown. The pioneer must be a man of courage. He must defy tradition and forget history. This is particularly true in science.

The improver of natural knowledge absolutely refuses to recognize authority as such. For the scientist, said Huxley, skepticism is the highest of duties; blind faith the one unpardonable sin.

"The man of science has learned to believe in justification, not by faith, but by verification.

"Science commits suicide when it adopts a creed."

This Is Age of Wonders Progress Is Inexorable

By CLARK KINNARD

PROGRESS is inexorable. In the same newspaper we read that geographers, traveling comfortably in automobiles mounted on caterpillar tractors, are charting the Sahara desert, the great unknown, for the first time; that we may now talk across the Atlantic by radio telephone; that quicksilver may be transformed into gold—unprofitably at present, however; that chemists are saying that they expect to bring the human body under their control in the future.

And as to the latter, let us believe them. Nothing is more wonderful than the strides made in the last few years by chemistry. No one can imagine the new marvel practitioners of this science will accomplish. Remember that from a prosaic lump of coal chemists now extract dyes that kings would have fought for in olden times, flavoring extracts, medicines, explosives.

Do not fear that we shall ever lack the necessities of life. The chemists will give them to us when nature fails.

With each step onward the world becomes more "materialistic," to use a popular phrase. The inexplicable is explained. A few more of humanity's one million and one fears vanish.

There are enormous numbers of persons to whom the material world is altogether contemptible; who can see nothing in a handful of garden soil, or a rusty nail, but types of the passive and the corruptible.

To modern science the handful of soil is a factory thronged with swarms of busy workers; the rusty nail is an aggregation of millions of particles, moving with inconceivable velocity in a dance of infinite complexity yet perfect measure, harmonic with like performances throughout the solar system.

Huxley says that if there is good ground for any conclusion, there is such for the belief that the substance of these particles has existed and will exist, that the energy which stirs them has persisted and will persist, WITHOUT ASSIGNABLE LIMIT, either in the past or in the future.

Surely, as Heraclitus said of the kitchen with its pots and pans, "Here also are the gods."

"Little as we have, even yet, learned of the material universe, that little makes for the belief that it is a system of unbroken order and perfect symmetry, of which the form incessantly changes, while the substance and energy are imperishable." That is Huxley's conclusion.

Admiral Fears For Nation Decries U. S. Effeminacy

THAT an unprepared and "effeminized" United States would fall an easy prey to the first virile nation which attacked it was the warning recently sounded by Rear Admiral Bradley A. Fiske, U. S. N., retired.

Smug in its plenty, the naval officer pictured the United States as eyed enviously by Russia, Germany and Japan, who "want what we have." He described those nations as poor and hardy. America, he found, was rich and indolent. He called for an awakening that would stimulate preparedness.

Links Religion and Patriotism

Rear Admiral Fiske, in his address, called attention to the fact that religion and patriotism had ever been intertwined in nations that grew great, and that their decline was concurrent with the recession of religious fervor.

"At the present day," he said, "the nation which exemplifies the most clearly and the most spiritually the intimate relation between patriotism and religion is the nation of Japan. To the Japanese patriotism and religion are inseparably entwined, and both are embodied in the person of the Mikado."

He stressed the need for competition as an impetus to progressive civilization, and, applying this idea to the United States, found this nation surrounded by nations intensely virile, ambitious, intelligent, and poor.

"The three nations," he continued, "which represent this state the most are Germany, Russia and Japan. There are many thousands of extremely good people in this country who live in comfort and enjoy the material benefits which the almost boundless wealth of our country confers upon them, but who fail to realize that the people of Germany, Russia and Japan do not live in such luxurious surroundings and that they cannot be justly blamed if they envy us. They realize that we have obtained it largely by means of war, and they can hardly be blamed if they say to themselves that they can get from us what we have because they are more skilled in war."

Japan's Feeling Toward Us

"To accentuate their quite natural ambition is the profound conviction that they have been treated unjustly by the United States. We do not think so, but they do. Especially do the Japanese feel this, for our action toward them has not only been of a kind harmful to their national interests, but couched in terms they believe to have been made intentionally insulting. Whether they are right or wrong in this matter there is no recognized standard in this poor world of ours by which we can decide. The important point is that they think themselves right, and that the paramount cause of wars has been just that combination of a conflict of interest with a conviction on each side that it is right which now exists between our country and Japan."

What Is Future For Radio? Harbord Sees Big Change

TRANSMISSION of photographs over long distances, particularly between America and Europe, was outlined recently by Gen. J. G. Harbord, president of the Radio Corporation of America, as one of the radio developments likely to become a reality in the near future.

He did not limit transmission through the ether to photographs alone, but intimated that it would soon be possible to flash pictures of printed matter across the Atlantic at the speed of sunlight.

"Continuing with a thought of the future," he said, "let me invite your attention to the development in radio photography. Some great strides have been made in this direction in the last year. It is not too much to say that we are on the eve of developments whereby it will be within the realm of possibility to transmit a complete newspaper page from London to New York by means of radio and in a fraction of the time it would take to transmit the entire text of the page either by radio or cable telegraph signals."

Expected Developments

Gen. Harbord then gave a summary of the developments which may be expected in the art of radio. "Transoceanic broadcasting—in short, the realization of international broadcasting," he said, "for purposes of entertainment is not yet in regular operation, but proposals for increasing the power of sending stations so that programs from London, Paris and Berlin may be easily heard in America are being carefully considered. When such a plan is put into practice the value of broadcasting will be greatly increased and one more link of friendship and understanding will be forged between the Old World and the New."

In closing, Gen. Harbord said: "Radio sets now are bought ready made, just as one buys an automobile, a camera or a bicycle. One reason for this is the fact that radio is now universal in its appeal. Outwardly, at least, the modern radio receiver is no longer a complicated device requiring the experience of an expert to operate. It is, instead, an instrument with controls so simple that the veriest novice can operate it at first sight."

Radio's Real Mission

"I wish to emphasize the real mission of radio. We who are engaged in its development do not regard it as a medium or an agency designed to supplant existing methods of communication, or to do something which is now already being done quite effectively and economically by the land telegraph or the land telephone. On the contrary, we are developing radio in the direction of service to be rendered, messages to be carried, voices to be heard, in ways not now possible by existing means—in short, to make the lot of mankind easier and more ample."

DOPING IT OUT

Five-year-old Humphrey was standing in the kitchen with his eyes upon a dish of cakes when his mother came in and found him.

"What are you doing here, Humphrey?" said she. "I was just thinking, mother," replied the youngster. "Thinking? Well, of what were you thinking? I hope you haven't touched those cakes."

"That's what I was thinking about," came the ready answer. "I was wondering whether they were good enough to be whipped for."

Airmen Can Now Control Rain and Eliminate Fog Banks



Man extended his command to the elements when army fliers gave a successful demonstration of the elimination of fog and control of rainfall by means of spraying clouds with electrified sand. An aviator is shown filling up the sand distributor tank before ascending. The process was devised by Dr. E. Francis Warren of Harvard University.

Three In Line For Hughes' Job If He Quits Cabinet

By JOHN T. LEWING Jr. WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—A new departure is promised in the selection of a successor to Charles Evans Hughes as secretary of state. Mr. Hughes' retirement is expected to be only a matter of time. He wants to retire to his private law practice, but it is highly probable that he will be reappointed to the United States Supreme Court bench, which he left in 1915.

This new departure is the appointment of a man who has had actual experience as an ambassador of the United States. The leading candidates for the post, it appears at this time, are George Harvey, editor; Charles Beecher Warren of Detroit, and Atanson B. Houghton of New York. Mr. Harvey, as everyone knows, ought to know, was until recently the American ambassador at the court of St. James. Mr. Warren has been ambassador to Japan and Mexico, and Mr. Houghton is now in Berlin as the American envoy. He formerly was a congressman.

The last several secretaries of state—Messrs. Knox, Bryan, Lansing, Colby, and now Mr. Hughes—did not have any previous experience in handling America's affairs of state.

Without reflecting on the great ability of Mr. Hughes, there is a feeling in Washington that the present position of the United States in foreign affairs demands the presence at the helm in the state department of a man skilled in diplomacy—and not the kind learned in Washington, but in the best of schools, London, Tokyo, Berlin, or Paris.

the chum. "I knew they were wonderful things, but I ain't heard the details before."

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HOW'S YOUR HEALTH? By Dr. W. F. Thompson. Precaution, friend, 's The stuff to take, And not some dope, To cure an ache. A skin overclothed is underventilated. Drink a keg of wine, and you'll have a hogshead. Pay the doctor to keep you well and he'll charge you naught for sickness. And we'll live to be eighty—Or ninety, I guess. If we'll master our palates And shun idleness. When born into this world, our first act is to cry out against its imperfection. The tissues of men and other vertebrates are adjustable to wide ranges of climatic environment. As in the case of extensive burns, death usually follows destruction of one-third or more of the skin surface. How rare is he who ever thinks About the milk his youngster drinks, Or cares a rap, until he sees The statement of the doctor fees. If your city health department functions efficiently, it is a better investment than your fire department. The old country doctor who rode nights to ease our pains and calm our fears is passing. He was our friend and we paid him not. We shall miss him. Estimated in dollars and cents, the value of efficient milk and water supervision would stagger those who attach little importance to such measures. NOW HE KNOWS Young Jake had just returned from the city, and his chum was asking him about his experiences, in particular how he enjoyed eating in an automat restaurant. "How do they work?" the friend asked. "Well, you put your nickel in the watchamacallit and press the thing-umbell, and the doobinkus turns around and gives you your food," exclaimed Jake. "Isn't that marvelous!" echoed

—because in the War of 1812 an inspector of supplies for the United States army was Samuel Wilson, nicknamed "Uncle Sam." The U. S. stamp which he put on boxes was said by jokers to be his own initials. Better lay in some Puretest IODINE

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