MENACE OF CHEMICAL WARFARE IN THE FUTURE IS OVERRATED, SAYS SCIENTIST

Philadelphia, Pa.—Cities in wars of the future need have no fear of being wiped out by chemical warfare, it was asserted at a meeting of reserve officers of the chemical warfare service of the United States army, held in connection with the American Chemical Society convention.

Fear of chemical warfare weapons more terrible than those used in the world war was unfounded, Col. C. E. Brigham, executive office of the chemical warfare service of the army told the gathering.

"Mustard gas used in the late war," he said, "produced only 29 casualties for each ton used, and of these only one death was caused for every ton and a half used.

Idling automobile motors are costing American motorists $80,000,000 annually, and also fast creating dangerous health conditions in the large cities, delegates to the congress were told.

The menace from carbon monoxide exhaust fumes is assuming serious proportions in the congested traffic centres, Prof. Alexander Silverman head of the Dept. of Chemistry of the University of Pittsburg, told the congress.

Rubber from the guayule shrub offers the United States its most favorable means of meeting the world rubber demands, the society was informed.

A cure for diabetes was the possibility visioned before the Society by Prof. Gabriel Bertrand, director of the Biological Chemical Laboratory of the Pasteur Institute, Paris. He told the division of chemistry of medical products, experiments with nickel and cobalt have produced encouraging results in treatment of the disease. These two metals have been found present in the human body, Prof. Bertrand declared, especially in the pancreas gland.

"We have found that cases of simple diabetes, excluding the consumptive type, may be benefited, sometimes to the extent of the complete suppression of the sugar output," he declared.

NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL AT WORK

Lord Willingdon, who will arrive in Canada to take up the duties of governor-General early in October, is shown above at work in his studio in England. In his younger days he was a famous cricketer.

Old Signal Tower at London Radio Fair

London.—Reproduction of the scene of the first wireless signal sent across the Atlantic, the twenty-fifth anniversary of which will be celebrated Dec. 12, was a feature of the National Radio Exhibition opening at Olympia on Sept. 4, and continuing until Sept. 18. Nearly a quarter of a century ago three dots, representing the Morse letter "S" was radiocast from England to St. Johns, Nfld., and the old barracks on Signal Hill at the latter place has been reproduced in honor of that event.

Two hundred British wireless manufacturers and dealers exhibited latest designs in accessories and new sets. The outstanding tendencies of the latter seem to be simplification of control and better quality of amplification.

Frau's Vacuum Cleaner is Doom of Bee Invaders.

A vacuum cleaner has come in handy as a bee chaser for Frau Minna Liebenow, whose husband, Richard, runs a bakery and confectionery store in the Berlin suburb of Neukoelln. Attracted by the fragrance of the pastry, chocolate, cake and other delicacies, a swarm of bees entered the Liebenow store by an open window and took complete possession of the appetizing eatables on the counter.

Liebenow fled in terror and yelled to his wife, who was cleaning the carpets in the sitting room with a vacuum cleaner. She thought for a moment and then hurried into the store and calmly sucked up the bees, one by one, with the vacuum cleaner.

Queen Victoria's Marble Bathtub for Sale

London.—Queen Victoria's marble bath is for sale. Although it cost more than £550 it can be purchased for £200.

When Sir Robert Peel was Prime Minister he invited Queen Victoria to stay at Drayton Manor, his mansion near Tamworth, and went to enormous expense in making his home fit to receive his royal guest.

He engaged Italian craftsmen to construct a bath cut out of a solid block of white marble. The bath was made five feet seven inches long, and as Queen Victoria's height was generally accepted as being under five feet, she had ample room for her ablutions.

Jewish New Year.

The holy season of the Jews commenced on Sept. 8 and lasts until the evening of Sept. 30. The 8th is Rosh Hashana, or New Year's Day, and the 30th is the Shemini Atzereth, the Feast of the Conclusion. In the Jewish tradition, the Rosh Hashana marks the anniversary of the creation of the world, supposed to have taken place 5,687 years ago. It is a day set apart for introspection and self-examination.

England Will Replace Thousands of Old Milesstones.

England's "lying milestones," some of them nearly as old as England's green-clad, rolling hills, are to be replaced by new mileposts which will tell the truth.

Thousands of the stones, which for centuries were absolutely accurate, are altogether out of date now owing to modern road improvements which have taken short cuts here and there, or changed some of the roads built by the Romans, who made their thoroughfares as the crow flies, straight cross country, and dared anyone to even attempt to interfere.

The Ministry of Transport has decided upon a new standard design for the new posts and has startedd in remeasuring the roadways of the country.

New Paris Umbrellas in Picturesque Colors

Umbrellas are shedding their sombre black in Paris and are becoming quite picturesque in soft blues, delicate pinks, light water-green and "dawn" yellow, colors that were the rage in the "Citizen King's" days.

Umbrellas are covered with taffeta and edged with a broad ribbon striped in the gayest of colors. Their handles may be a crutch of light yellow or a dog's head with a collar set with colored carbuncles, or a pert little monkey with a chain. The Louis Phillippe umbrella has become a formidable rival to the "Tom Thumb" umbrella, which has become smaller than ever.

Research Work Urged in Tropical Diseases.

Men of first-rate scientific promise are being allowed to drift into the over-stocked professions, instead of being encouraged to undertake research work in connection with tropical diseases, in the opinion of Sir Farmer, of the Imperial College of Science, addressing the Empire Universities Congress at Cambridge.

Sir Arthur Shipley, chairman of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, said the tropics were increasingly becoming a great reservoir of food. Whoever could find a cure for the fungus which destroys bananas, he declared, would make an enormous fortune.

Fire!

Last year Canada had over five thousand forest fires burning over an area of nearly two million acres of which 90 per cent. were caused by human agency and carelessness. April 18th to April 24th was Forest Fire Prevention Week in Canada and the United States, but for every serious citizen of both countries, each week of the summer months should be a Fire Prevention Week, in so far as personal responsibility and carefulness can ensure.

Cows Milked in Heart of London's Shopping District

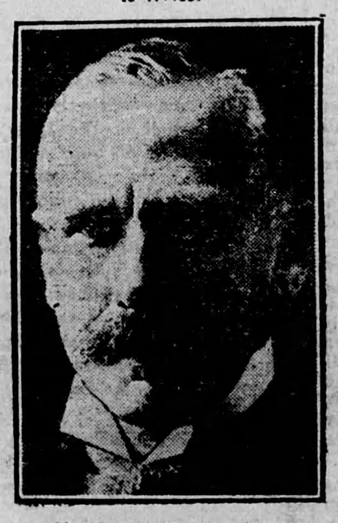
London.—In London's busiest shopping centre ten contented cows are milked twice a day and give 160 quarts of milk. They are housed in a shed in Clipstone Street, Tottenham Court Road, at the back of a dairy not far from Oxford Circus. Charles Porter, Medical Officer of Health for the district, reports that they are "probably very much better looked after than many of their sisters in the country." These city cows never see any green grass during their milk-giving career, and when returned to the country roam about the pasture ill at ease for a day or two.

Archaeologist Hunts Lost River in England

The supposed existence of a "lost" river five miles long, running fifty feet below the surface in Staffordshire Valley, England, is being investigated by George H. Wilson, a prominent archaeologist, who is exploring subterranean passageways in the district.

He has found a waterfall forty feet underground and a lake containing perculiar species of black fish. The object of the explorations is to find an underground stream of Stafford water to supply isolated farms.

Noted Medico Demands "the Right to Write."



Sir Wm. Arbuthnot Lane

The right of British physicians to write articles educating the public in health matters has been raised by the resignation of Sir William Arbuthnot Lane from the British Medical Association, as a protest against preventing such writing. When an article bearing his name, and illustrated with his photograph, appeared on restaurant menus, the medical association ordered the photograph covered with white paper on every copy of the menu.

Good-bye—Hurrah.

Good-bye to the Town—good-bye!
Hurrah! for the sea and the sky!

In the street the flower-girls cry;
In the streets the water-carts ply;
And a fluter, with features awry,
Plays fitfully, "Scots wha hae." . . .

And over the rooftops nigh
Comes a waft like a dream of the May;
And a lady-bird lit on my lie;
And a cock-chafer came with the tray:
And a butterfly (no one knows why)
Mistook my Aunt's cap for a spray;
And "next door" and "over the way"
The neighbors take wing and fly:—
Hurrah for the sea and the sky! . . .

And even Miss Morgan Lefay
Is flitting—to far Packham Rye;
And my Grocer has gone—in a "Shay,"
And my Tailor has gone—in a "Fly";—
Good-bye to the Town!—good-bye!

And it's O for the sea and the sky!
And it's O for the boat and the bay!
For the white foam whirling by,
And the sharp, salt edge of the spray!
For the wharf where the black nets fry,
And the wrack and the oarweed sway!
For the stroll when the moon is high
To the nook by the Flag-house gray!

So Phillis, the fawn-footed, hie
For a hansom. Ere close of the day
Between us a "world" must lie,—
Good-bye to the Town!—Good-bye!
Hurrah! for the sea and the sky!

—Austin Dobson.

Something a Little Smaller.

A town girl who had married a well-to-do countryman was asked by her husband whether she would like to have a cow of her own, so that the household could have its own supply of fresh milk. She agreed willingly, and the couple went to a fare to purchase a cow.

The farmer, who was, perhaps, less truthful than the majority of his kind, told them that his cow was far superior to any other that had ever lived. As to her milking capacity she gave ten quarts a day.

The bride performed a rapid calculation and said to her husband:

"We can never use all that milk. We don't need such a big cow. Why not buy a calf?"

Silk From Sea-Shells.

Two Berlin scientists, Dr. R. O. Herzog and Dr. G. Keinike, claim to have made artificial silk from the heads, claws, and feelers of grasshoppers, wasps, beetles, and locusts, and also from sea-shells.

These insects and the sea-shells contain a substance called chitrin, which can be turned into a gelatine-like mass and worked into a thin film, or forced through tiny holes and thus made into threads.

The threads which are very fine in texture, are strong enough to be woven into cloth.

Canada from Coast to Coast

Halifax, N.S.—Considerable quantities of swordfish are being shipped from Nova Scotia to the Boston market at the present time. This commodity has found a good market in Boston and shipments to that city average around ten to fifteen thousand pounds a day during the shipping season.

Woodstock, N.B.—Investigation of New Brunswick as a suitable centre for an extensive land settlement scheme is the object of a party of financiers, which arrived here recently to inspect the farming section of this district. The party includes the London Manager of the Hudson's Bay Co. Overseas Settlement Ltd., and representatives of two prominent Canadian insurance companies.

Montreal, Que.—The Kipawa mill of the International Paper Co. at Temiskaming, Que., is now devoted entirely to the production of sulphite pulp to be used in the manufacture of rayon. Reduction of rayon prices on June 1 last has stimulated sales to an extent that the demand for raw material has made this step necessary.

Toronto, Ont.—Unofficial estimates prepared by the authorities of the Dept. of Commerce, Washington, forecast an expenditure this year approaching $190,000,000 as the amount that will probably be spent by Americans visiting Canada. This estimate, of course, is only tentative and it is more than likely that the total amount of money left in Canada by Americans this year will exceed the $200,000,000 mark.

Winnipeg, Man.—Farmers constitute the largest automobile-owning class in Western Canada. Of 241,226 cars in the three Prairie Provinces, 156,796 or 65 per cent. are in the hands of farmers, according to a survey by Manitoba Government authorities. Registration of automobiles in Canada at present totals 719,206, or an average of one car to every 11.8 people.

Saskatoon, Sask.—The Robin Hood Flour Milling Co., of Moose Jaw, it is reported, has leased the Interprovincial Flour Mills of Factoria, five miles north of here. The mill, which has a capacity of 800 barrels a day, will be overhauled immediately by the purchasers with a view to starting operations in October.

Calgary, Alta.—Wheat on farms in Southern Alberta is running more than 40 bushels to the acre on spring plowing and in the late sown crops. A number of farmers in the Granum district, south of here, are getting yields close to 50 bushels to the acre. The earlier ripened grain is not so heavy, but is yielding above 25 bushels and is of good quality. It is stated that the average for the entire province will be more than 20 bushels to the acre, which on a wheat area of 6,500,000 acres, should bring the total yield to at least 120,000,000 bushels.

Victoria, B.C.—During the first six months of this year the mills of British Columbia exported 368,505,343 feet of logs and lumber. This is an increase of 45 per cent. over the quantity exported during the corresponding period of last year.

From the Mouths of Babes.

By asking too many questions five-year-old Paul brought to an abrupt end an automobile ride he was enjoying with his uncle.

Paul was first attracted by a lone sparrow which held the middle of the road until the car seemed almost upon him.

"Did you run over that sparrow?" questioned the youngster.

"Nope, we'd have felt a bump if we had," his uncle assured him.

"Well, did you ever run over a sparrow?"

"Never did."

"Then how do you know you would feel a bump when you run over one?"

The uncle groaned and quickly changed the subject, attempting to turn the tables and place his nephew on the defensive.

"What would you do if this car should stop out here and we couldn't get it started?" he said.

"I'd cut down a tree and make a horse to pull us," Paul decided, glancing at a nearby woods.

"Oh, you can't make a horse out of a tree."

"Sure—diddn't you ever hear of a wooden horse?"

And that's when the uncle turned homeward.

The Achievement.

Jehan, the carver, who for years had plied
His tools on jocund toys for serf and squire,
Felt ere his end a strong and fierce desire
Once—if but once!—to carve the Crucified.

But his accustomed hand his will denied. . . . .
Day-long he labored i na convent-quire;
Then, as night fell, thrust back the proffered hire,
And fled into the dark his shame to hide.

But long, long after did the brethren tell
Of wonders God had worked through that strange road,
How sinners, who all other pleas withstood,
Bowed, like ripe corn, to its majestic spell.

A mirth divine by anguish unsubdued!
A laughter that defied the ranks of hell!

—G. M. Hort.

The common housefly sounds the note F in flying. This means that its wings vibrate 335 times a second. The honey-bee sounds A, implying 440 vibrations a second.

Natural Resources Bulletin.

The transportation of fish has always been an important problem in Canada where the distances between centres of population are considerable. Refrigeration has been the chief method of packing fish for travel, but this is a costly process and requires that coniderable quantities be handled at one time. Leakage from melting ice, the extreme perishability of the product and the need for re-icing and prompt sale, has made this traffic a more or less distasteful business that must be constantly kept separate from dry freight.

The whole problem of handling fish in limited quantities between the producer and consumer is now practically solved by the use of insulating cartons, according to information now available. A concern on Long Island has succeeded in perfecting a simple package that will keep the fish dry and in good condition for travelling and which may be sent either by express or by parcel post, depending on the size. A writer in "Packing and Shipping" (New York) has the following to say of these packages:

"The cartons run in four sizes to carry 12, 20, 30 and 50 lbs., and when filled make unit packages weighing 19, 28, 39 and 60 lbs.

"One unique feature of the shipping carton is the insulation inside. This is in the form of air chambers which are filled with dry sea grass and a top cover of the same kind provided. The edible parts of the fish are wrapped up in 2-lb. packages, in vegetable parchment paper and tied with a ribbon of tying material. No preservative is used.

"The success of this new system is attributed to the fact that by having a hermetically sealed compartment with the commodity pre-cooled, a low temperature is maintained until the box is opened at destination. In fact, it has been found that a fish carton can ride 48 hours without damage to the contents."

Canada is fortunate in possessing vast quantities of suitable insulating sea weed (eelgrass) close to its Atlantic fisheries. Each tide brings in its quota of leaves torn by the tides from vast submerged flats of the growing material. This is gathered by ox teams and hauled out on the gravel beaches to dry, much like hay.

Eelgrass makes an excellent lining for houses, through its ability to prevent the passage of heat and it is excellent as a sound deadener and, in fact, for all purposes that an insulating material is required.

Those who wake up to find themselves famous have not been sleeping on the job.

MUTT AND JEFF—By Bud Fisher.