CURRENT TOPICS.

The earthquake expert, [illegible] attention has been [illegible] conditions which accompany [illegible] of the earth's crust [illegible]. He points out [illegible] of the earth grows [illegible] and foldings of [illegible] larger, and each [illegible] epoch should be [illegible] formations [illegible] which pre[illegible] fracturing, disc[illegible] neglected regions [illegible] freedom for the [illegible] which [illegible] would [illegible] It is in Japan that [illegible] most diligent [illegible] science Ja[illegible] has a thou[illegible] and spends [illegible] Italy, Germany, [illegible] seismogra[illegible] by the instrumen[illegible] association fifty [illegible] established. [illegible] and the [illegible] earthquakes which [illegible] are clearly re[illegible] Prof. Milne's [illegible] has enab[illegible] every year poor [illegible] is racked from [illegible] while the slight [illegible] by these [illegible] the larger [illegible] destruction is [illegible] where but [illegible] in the beds [illegible] deposited deserts [illegible] in the [illegible] part of the [illegible] generally [illegible] has shown [illegible] connection be[illegible] earthquakes and [illegible] of rocks [illegible] produced faults [illegible] these old [illegible] movements still con[illegible]

THE POULTRY YARD.

[illegible] as the chicks weigh a pound [illegible] and sold at half the mother [illegible] taken away if she has not [illegible] her brood and com[illegible] ing. This is a critical time [illegible] chick's life, as the young[illegible] ly to run from coop to coop [illegible] the warmth [illegible]

[illegible] to move them to larger [illegible] in which they have [illegible] for, but usually it will [illegible] satisfactory to leave [illegible] coop until they are [illegible] the mother hen. [illegible] to keep them from crowd[illegible] a few coops. This crowd[illegible] the cause of weak and [illegible] chicks. If the chicks [illegible] examined after they are [illegible] from coop to coop [illegible] examination to make [illegible] from your hand [illegible] the high temperature [illegible] understand why [illegible] dangerous. Also [illegible] for the chicks to [illegible] that are fed [illegible] prevent this, [illegible] feeding so that [illegible] will be the first [illegible] of each day, [illegible] they do not sleep [illegible] well cause them [illegible] in nest and cold [illegible] warm. This [illegible] the saturated [illegible] when they go out [illegible] they are ready [illegible] their appetites [illegible] meals also on [illegible] the drying [illegible]

[illegible] of the [illegible] Wanderers Fair [illegible] the magic [illegible] summed, remar[illegible] Enjoy the Land, an[illegible] Please all parts tha[illegible] inside of it, an[illegible] the Regulator tha[illegible] This may seem [illegible] but we have see[illegible] had the filth [illegible] or far are still were starti[illegible] We have seen th[illegible] the trays through th[illegible] the sun and air [illegible] there with la[illegible] and [illegible] heater cared for, [illegible] the shelter cared for in [illegible] have good results [illegible] little piece [illegible] in sections packe[illegible] inside to save [illegible] which will [illegible] the mouth [illegible] cover and [illegible] Lincoln [illegible] man in his [illegible] at present [illegible] from 880 to [illegible] difficulties [illegible] nothing from [illegible]

[illegible] of year when the [illegible] chicks to do [illegible] good and dam[illegible] the chick. If the [illegible] and dry, many of [illegible] length of comfort [illegible] chicks to [illegible] can be [illegible] in an open house [illegible] water [illegible] from two [illegible] need help [illegible] Nothing is better [illegible] kept [illegible] good keep [illegible] which a man may [illegible] manner, wings [illegible] and the almost [illegible] of the head and [illegible] When his stage [illegible] sudden [illegible] dead. So [illegible] between [illegible] the light, so [illegible] and often [illegible] using the [illegible] sharp-eyed [illegible] very soon [illegible] in that direc[illegible] most difficult part [illegible] exposed to drive [illegible] may seem to be [illegible] hunter must [illegible] them, and [illegible] that he may [illegible] favorable op[illegible] having to [illegible] highest move[illegible] are secured by [illegible] lock and [illegible] is nearly in[illegible] many cases [illegible] destructive to [illegible]

[illegible] ASSAULT A GHOST.

[illegible] Germany it Brings Imprisonment to the Ghost Objects.

[illegible] Germany, [illegible] vainly to [illegible] at Main[illegible] a ghost. The [illegible] when a fellow [illegible] Bach, if he [illegible] vigil as dire[illegible] a flickering [illegible] Koenig had [illegible] at year dead [illegible] with a revolver and [illegible] a special light and [illegible] where he hailed [illegible] Receiving no reply he [illegible] fired. The wounds [illegible] cry for mercy. The [illegible] a man who, in the [illegible] ancient superstition, burns [illegible] of a certain tree in the [illegible] immunize himself and [illegible] supposed evils.

[illegible] subsequently sentenced to [illegible] imprisonment for wound[illegible] He appealed on the ground [illegible] attacked a spectre and [illegible] an accident that he had [illegible] The judges seem to have [illegible] even a ghost is entitled to [illegible] and the sentence was con[illegible]

[illegible] JAWS.

[illegible] in his book on wild [illegible] the power of the jaws [illegible] crime. Once he had [illegible] the thickness [illegible] wire, completely [illegible] point being [illegible] the shank, and [illegible] compression was [illegible] the crocodile [illegible] live duck which [illegible] the book being [illegible] the wing. On another [illegible] found a fish weighing sev[illegible] lbs. clean through, as if [illegible] knife. This, again was the [illegible] snapping jaws of a croco[illegible] Frenchman, Paul Bert, once [illegible] experiments on the strength of a [illegible] jaws by means of a dyna[illegible] He found that a crocodile [illegible] 20 pounds exerted a force of [illegible] in closing his jaws. The [illegible] enormous jaw power. An [illegible] lever once pushed the bull [illegible] gun into a lion's mouth, and [illegible] of the jaws cracked it as [illegible] had been struck by a sta[illegible]

[illegible] of life in France is now sev[illegible] longer than it used to be six [illegible]

[illegible] BUCK IN AFRICA.

[illegible] for the Pot and Oxen Aid [illegible] in the Hunt.

[illegible] Boers in [illegible] all the [illegible] aided for the [illegible] system of [illegible] of oxen [illegible] from the [illegible] South Africa—has [illegible] the most [illegible] still even [illegible] lam. There [illegible] sober a few [illegible] walks behind [illegible] although he [illegible] the camp [illegible] between [illegible] and often [illegible] using the [illegible] sunned, remar[illegible] Enjoy the Land, an[illegible] Please all parts tha[illegible] inside of it, an[illegible] the Regulator tha[illegible] This may seem [illegible] but we have see[illegible] had the filth [illegible] or far are still were starti[illegible] We have seen th[illegible] the trays through th[illegible] the sun and air [illegible] there with la[illegible] and [illegible] heater cared for, [illegible] the shelter cared for in [illegible] have good results [illegible] little piece [illegible] in sections packe[illegible] inside to save [illegible] which will [illegible] the mouth [illegible] cover and [illegible] Lincoln [illegible] man in his [illegible] at present [illegible] from 880 to [illegible] difficulties [illegible] nothing from [illegible]

[illegible] of year when the [illegible] chicks to do [illegible] good and dam[illegible] the chick. If the [illegible] and dry, many of [illegible] length of comfort [illegible] chicks to [illegible] can be [illegible] in an open house [illegible] water [illegible] from two [illegible] need help [illegible] Nothing is better [illegible] kept [illegible] good keep [illegible] which a man may [illegible] manner, wings [illegible] and the almost [illegible] of the head and [illegible] When his stage [illegible] sudden [illegible] dead. So [illegible] between [illegible] the light, so [illegible] and often [illegible] using the [illegible] sharp-eyed [illegible] very soon [illegible] in that direc[illegible] most difficult part [illegible] exposed to drive [illegible] may seem to be [illegible] hunter must [illegible] them, and [illegible] that he may [illegible] favorable op[illegible] having to [illegible] highest move[illegible] are secured by [illegible] lock and [illegible] is nearly in[illegible] many cases [illegible] destructive to [illegible]

THE BRUTE.

Jackback: "We've got to get rid of [illegible]."

Jackback: "What's the matter [illegible]."

Jackback: "It talks all the time."

Jackback: "Honest, you're the jealous woman I ever saw."

MEETING TEMPTATIONS

A Man Never Overcomes Evil Until He Learns to Loathe It

"Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."—Romans xii., 21.

There are few who would not rather do good than evil, few who do not desire the right way of living; but our difficulty is in summoning the will to walk therein; the problem is not that of determining the right, but that of reaching and realizing it. He makes a great mistake who fails to credit mankind with desires for righteousness.

But how soon and easily are we discouraged. When we would do good we find evil so often present and in such power that at last, becoming convinced that insuperable difficulties lie in the path of virtue, it does not seem worth while to attempt to tread it. The weak-willed are thus baffled before they really begin.

Others struggle on, seeking freedom from sin by stern self-denial, by rigidly excluding from their lives all the long list of things that experience or opinion has pronounced dangerous or evil. Life is given to the effort for negative righteousness. But it may well be questioned whether, either the individual or the race is ever substantially the better for negative righteousness.

The paths to the heights where men ought to tread is not indicated by "Don't" signs only. The significant mistakes we make in our fight against sin is that we put ourselves

SOLELY ON THE DEFENSIVE,

imagining that the only thing we possibly can do is to hold the fort against our foes. But the defensive has everything to lose in defeat and nothing to gain by victory. Temptation must be assailed.

Virtue is something preserved; it is something attained; it is victory. It is not the maintaining of ourselves as we are, but the mounting to what we ought to be. The life that moves on to larger and better being misses the assaults of many otherwise dangerous temptations, for it simply sweeps them before it.

A man never overcomes evil until he learns to loathe it and to deny its right to any place in his life. Antipathy to the base and unworthy is developed in proportion as the appetite for the good and worthy grows. Morality is largely a matter of good taste—that is, the ability to distinguish between that which is elevating and that which is degrading, and the cultivation of the desire for the things helpful.

You are not likely to overcome evil while you are entertaining it in your heart. The sins against which we are helpless are the ones to which we are hospitable. But neither is one likely to reach any worthy ideal by simply emptying the heart of all things evil.

What we need is not so much a smaller number of vices to lament as a larger number of active, aggressive virtues to occupy our energies. He is good who is positively good for something, not he who is innocent of anything. What you really are can never be determined by the most minute enumeration of what you are not. There are too many whose sole conscious virtue lies in what they are not.

CULTIVATE THE VIRTUES

and the vices will take care of themselves. The development of the good is the death of the bad. There is never an hour or a circumstance of life, never so much as a chance passer on the street or a flower by the wayside but that in them we find either good or ill the thought-and potency that helps or binders.

He who fares forth in cheerfulness of heart, seeking to find good and to do good, discovers that the foes he once feared flee before him; some of his temptations turn out to be but illusion, and obstacles once mountain high sink to the plain. Step out daily for better, happier things, and the base and evil will have decreasing power and attraction for you.

Health is not in shutting out disease, but in crowding in vigor, sunshine, cheer, and strength. Health of the heart comes in the same way. Cease to think of sin; seek the good and true, the things kindly and helpful, the thoughts fair and wholesome; set in the heart the ideal of the best of all lives, the life that subdued sin by seeking to serve God and love man, and life shall find the vigor of virtue.

HENRY F. COPE.

THE S. S. LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, AUG. 4.

Lesson V. The Tabernacle. Golden Text: Exod. 40. 34.

THE LESSON WORD STUDIES.

Based on the text of the Revised Version.

The Tabernacle—In its original form the tabernacle was called simply the "tent of meeting," in the sense of being the place where Jehovah met with his people, Israel, and their leader, Moses. This first "tent" was probably similar to other nomad tents made of a camel's hair, only larger and of somewhat superior workmanship. This earliest provisional sanctuary of the Hebrews seems to have had no established ritual and no priesthood. It was pitched outside the camp of Israel and unto it the people went as to an oracle. "And it came to pass that everyone that sought Jehovah went out unto the tent of meeting, which was without the camp." The tabernacle described in Exod. 40 and preceding chapters as constructed by Moses at the command of Jehovah is often called the Sinaitic tabernacle. Its specific Hebrew name, translated "tabernacle" means literally, "dwelling place," that is, of Jehovah, in contrast to the original "tent of meeting" this sanctuary was an elaborate and sumptuous structure, made of most precious materials, and with the greatest skill of expert workmen. It was, moreover, conveniently portable, its parts being fitted together with great ingenuity and care. It is described in detail as to the structure of its various parts, its furniture and decorations. The tabernacle proper, consisting of the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies, was ten cubits high, thirty cubits long, and ten cubits broad—a cubit being equal to about one and one-half feet. Of this structure the Holy of Holies occupied one-third of the space, and was therefore cubical in shape. It was separated from the Holy Place by a veil or curtain. Around the tabernacle proper was "the court of the tabernacle," a space one hundred cubits long and fifty cubits wide. This inclosure was made by means of a curtain wall of fine white linen, five cubits in height and supported by a framework of wooden pillars. There is still another tabernacle mentioned in the Old Testament as having been erected by David at Jerusalem for the reception of the ark. This sanctuary is referred to in 2 Sam. 6, 12, and 2 Chron. 1, and is sometimes called the "Davidic tabernacle," after its distinguished builder.

Verse 2. The first day of the first month—Abib, or Nisan, corresponding to our March-April.

Rear up the tabernacle—Previously prepared in all its parts according to the specific instruction of Jehovah.

3. The ark of the testimony—Elsewhere called the "ark of the covenant," both designations referring to the contents of the ark, namely, the tables of the Decalogue (Exod. 31. 18). The ark was made of acacia wood. It was two and one-half cubits long and one and one-half cubits high and wide, and overlaid with gold both within and without. Its cover was a slab of solid gold with two, emblematic figures of cherubim, and was designated the "mercy seat."

The veil—Made of "blue and purple and scarlet and fine twined linen: with cherubim, the work of skillful workmen," and separating the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place within the tabernacle.

4. Bring in the table—This table of showbread, as all of the other pieces of furniture and the tabernacle itself, had been previously prepared. It, like the other furniture of the sanctuary and the ark itself, was made of acacia wood, being two cubits long, one cubit wide, and one and one-half cubits high. It also was overlaid with gold and richly decorated.

The things that are upon it—Various "vessels . . . dishes . . . spoons . . . bowls . . . flagons . . . of pure gold."

The candlestick—"Of pure gold," having "six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof," making with the central shaft of the lights in all. The cups and decorations of the candlestick, together with the snuffers and snuff dishes, are described fully in Exod. 37. 17-24.

5. The golden altar—The altar of incense—Made of acacia wood, a cubit long, a cubit wide, and two cubits high; described in detail in Exod. 37. 25-29.

6. The altar of burnt offering—This stood in the court just outside the screened entrance to the tabernacle. It was five cubits long, five cubits wide, and three cubits high, overlaid with brass. "The vessels of the altar, the pots, and the shovels, and the basins, the flesh-hooks, and the fire-pans: all the vessels thereof" were made of brass (comp. Exod. 38. 1-8).

7. The laver—A basin used by the officiating priest and made of the bronze mirrors of the women (Exod. 38. 8). We have no Scripture information regarding its exact shape or size; but it is supposed to have been round, and very large, with a shallower basin beneath it, into which the water from the laver ran after having been used.

8. The screen of the gate of the court—The curtain covering the outer entrance to the court of the tabernacle.

9. Anointing oil—Oils were and still are extensively used by Orientals as an article of food, as a medicinal agent, and as a toilet article for the preservation of the skin. An extension of these uses followed naturally to the employment of the finest grades of oil in the ceremonial consecration of persons and things to the special service of God. Thus Kings and priests were anointed for office, and thus on this occasion was the tabernacle with all its furniture and utensils sacredly anointed and thereby forever set apart for divine service.

10. Sanctify—This and several related words, such as "hallow" and "consecrate," all signify, literally, "to set apart," that is, for some sacred purpose of worship or divine service.

12. Wash them with water—A symbolic ceremony of cleansing.

13. Holy garments—These were sacred priestly vestments described in detail in Exod. 29. 5-9.

In verses 14-33, which intervene between our printed lesson passages, the compliance of Moses with the specific directions thus far given are recorded, each part of the tabernacle and article of furniture being again mentioned separately. The ceremonial consecration of Aaron and his sons is also described, as is the bringing of the first burnt offering and meal offering.

34. The cloud—Signifying the presence of Jehovah.

The glory of Jehovah—The light and splendor of his presence.

Filled the tabernacle—Penetrated into it from above and illuminated its every part. This visible presence of Jehovah in the newly erected and consecrated tabernacle was an expression of divine approval on the work of Moses and the people in carrying out the commandments of Jehovah.

36. Throughout all their journeys—That is, until they finally entered the promised land after forty years of wandering in the wilderness. The specific wording of the sentence is one of many indications that the narrative before us is in all probability the work of a writer living at a time considerably later than that in which the events described themselves transpired.

It is worth while in this connection to read those portions of the epistle to the Hebrews in which a typical spiritual significance is ascribed to the Mosaic tabernacle. Thus in Heb. 8. 5, that tabernacle is spoken of as a "copy and shadow of the heavenly things"; and in Heb. 9. 11, 12, we read: "But Christ having come a high priest of the good things to come, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is, not of this creation, nor yet through the blood of goats and calves, but through his own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption" (comp. in this connection the entire chapter).

When it comes to rapid transit a train of thought sets the pace.

It is strange how seldom a woman cries at those times when you most expect she is going to.

BABIES IN LONDON BARS

PHASE OF THE DRINK EVIL THAT GIVES ALARM IN ENGLAND.

Movement to Prevent Children from Drinking in Saloons—Alcoholism Among Women.

Physicians by no means agree in regard to the action of alcohol on the human system. In the London Lancet a few weeks ago a number of the best known British physicians published a manifesto, expressing their opinion that in certain circumstances, and when used with due discretion, alcohol was beneficial to man, writes a correspondent.

This statement came somewhat as a bombshell and has given rise to an acrimonious discussion among some of the leaders of the medical world. It may be asserted nevertheless that the trend of scientific opinion is in favor of total abstinence and that the greatest authorities now hold the view that there are few cases of disease in which the employment of alcohol is serviceable.

At any rate, opinions are altogether unanimous that excess of alcohol is injurious to man in the highest degree and that much of the physical and moral degeneration and degradation to which civilized races are subject is due to the abuse of spirit drinking.

Unfortunately Great Britain occupies an unenviable position so far as the consumption of alcoholic beverages is concerned. Perhaps the people of this country are not so greatly addicted to strong drinks as was formerly the case, but the situation in this respect is still melancholy.

The report of Dr. Braithwaite, inspector of inebriate homes for a part of England, which was issued a few weeks ago, affords a striking confirmation of this statement. To such homes are committed for a term of years as a rule for not less than two years, those persons who have shown themselves to be incorrigible drunkards. Individuals, too, who are conscious that they lack the self-control necessary to keep them from drink, can commit themselves to those homes.

THE REPORT OF DR. BRAITHWAITE

testified that drunkenness was lamentably common in Great Britain and that on the whole the vice exhibited few if any signs of decrease. The most pitiful and in many respects the most sinister and ominous part of the report was that, which referred to the female inmates of inebriate homes.

Female inmates at the time the report was issued outnumbered male inmates in the proportion of more than three to one. Further, it was shown that alcoholism began at a much earlier age than formerly and that many of the members of the female sex who had been sent to reformatories were but girls. The fact that it is far more difficult to reclaim a woman from her drunken habits than it is to reclaim a man is too well known to need emphasis here.

Persons who have had considerable experience in the poorer localities of London as well as in the tenement districts of New York and in the workmen's sections of other American cities and who are therefore able to give a comparative opinion in respect to American saloons and British public houses say unhesitatingly that in all respects the saloon on the other side of the Atlantic is superior to the British public house. It is cleaner and it seldom, if ever, presents the grimy appearance which characterizes the ordinary public house in the poorer districts on England's side of the water.

The best time to view the London public house in all its glory, or its shame, is on a Saturday night. Both men and women are then more or less well supplied with money, which a large number of them freely distribute at the particular public houses which they affect. Such a place is crowded to suffocation with a motley and it must be said a generally unclean throng of men and women, and even of boys and girls.

THE SO-CALLED PRIVATE BARS

are a distinctive and a peculiarly objectionable feature of the London public house. The bars are merely narrow boarded partitions opening to a common counter and afford excellent facilities for women to drink, to some extent shielded from the public gaze.

The ventilation of these bars is inadequate, indeed execrable; the heat is very great, as the poor insist that the temperature should be high and proper sanitary arrangements are conspicuous by their absence. The result is that the atmosphere is stuffy and almost suffocating, which combined with the crowded state of the bars is especially conducive to the contracting and the spread of disease.

English women, and perhaps London women more than women in any other part of the country, are probably the only members of their sex in the world who will shamelessly and unblushingly stand at the bar of a public house and drink.

It is not only women of the lower classes, coster girls and factory workers and wives of laborers who drink in public, but those who may be termed certainly respectable women think it no shame to drink and gossip in the public house. In fact, the private bar has come to be generally regarded as a convenient place in which cronies of the female sex may forgather to exchange the local news and scandal, while at the same time they may refresh themselves with the beverage they prefer.

It goes without saying that women who drink must neglect their children and home duties. Unlike the man, who often has perforce to keep sober for fear of losing his work, the woman is under no supervision. She may neglect and starve her children and in many instances not be interfered with. The degeneration of the British race, concerning which so much is heard now-a-days, is due to city life and the vices which such life brings in its train, and among these aims

DRINKING AMONG WOMEN

is conspicuous.

For a long time little or no notice was taken by the lay or the medical press or by medical men of the increasing habit of public drinking by British women. Now and then an outspoken person would declaim against the evil, but his voice was as one "crying in the wilderness." It seemed as if people were afraid and ashamed to lay bare such a blot, and the subject was ignored.

Latterly the question has become so serious that it has absolutely thrust itself upon the attention of public and scientific men. The latest phase of the matter has been a series of articles by G. R. Sims contributed to the London Tribune.

The articles of Mr. Sims were written in popular style, somewhat sensational, maybe, but achieved their object. Widespread notice was aroused, and the ultimate result was that a meeting was convened, at which were present the chief members of the medical profession and men drawn from public life and the learned professions.

The point dealt with at this meeting and in the articles of Mr. Sims was that infantile mortality was immensely increased by the custom among the poorer classes of British society of mothers taking infants in arms into public houses and actually giving these little ones strong drink. As Sir Lauder Brunton, one of the best known London physicians, said at the meeting:

"My experience as physician at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, reaching over several hundred thousand cases, has shown me that the ordinary rule which obtains is: Mother, a bit and sup; baby, a bit and sup, and generally the sup consists of gin and water. It must be quite evident that this process of slow poisoning destroys the child, and would say body and mind were it not that very often the body is destroyed before the mind has time to develop."

The meeting decided that steps should be taken to introduce legislation to prevent children, and especially infants in arms,

FROM ENTERING A PUBLIC HOUSE.

It is a satisfactory sign that public opinion in England has so far been aroused as to clamor for legal methods to put an end to children entering public houses. Unfortunately the evil will be only scotched, not killed. So long as the custom continues to prevail of women drinking in public houses, just so long will the harmful effects of the habit be exhibited in the rising generation.

A writer in the London Lancet of about a year ago put the situation in a nutshell when he said: "The drunken woman whose duties are supposed to be domestic is a particular curse to the community, because she has not the check upon her that is applied in the case of a man by the ordinary discipline of labor, and because her children suffer in an appalling way physically and morally."

The assertion may be made that drunkenness is common among a certain part of the female population of London and of other large British cities, and that this form of drinking is almost the greatest curse which exists in Great Britain. Although the theory is no longer held that the alcoholic taint can be transmitted from parents to children, yet it is known that the children of drunken parents are invariably of a high strung, nervous, neurotic disposition, predisposed to the use of alcohol and peculiarly susceptible to its injurious action.

The hopeful phase of the situation is that the leaders of thought in all the professions in England have become alive to the menace involved in the drinking habits of some British women and will use their best efforts to stop the evil.

DEADLIER TORPEDOES.

New Projectile Under Consideration by Germany.

The torpedo service of the German navy, which is extraordinarily proficient, is about to undergo an improvement which, experts believe, will make that arm the most powerful in the world. By increasing the size of both torpedoes and tubes the velocity of these projectiles will be increased by fully five knots.

All the new warships under construction—including the "Dreadnoughts," the giant cruisers, and the turbine torpedo-boats—will be fitted with the torpedoes and tubes, the diameter of which will be raised from the standard of 17¾ inches, now in use in these navies, to 19¾ inches, and which will be lengthened in proportion.

The decision was taken at a secret meeting of the high officers in the construction division of the Admiralty, held at Kiel last week, under the Presidency of the Naval Secretary, Admiral von Tirpitz.

It was the opinion of the majority of the experts that increase in speed of the German torpedoes, which they regarded as necessary, could be accomplished only by radical alterations in the size of the torpedo propeller and its live apparatus. As the older German ships carry 13¾ inch and the newer 17¾ inch torpedoes, it was objected that the introduction of the 19¾ inch weapon would necessitate the fleet going into action with three different sizes of torpedoes. But it was determined that the overwhelming superiority afforded by the new type far outweighs this advantage.

THE DIET OF CONSUMPTIVES.

Overfeeding Recommended — Proper Digestion Must be Assured.

Herbert C. Clapp, of Boston, says that diet is a most important factor in the treatment of tuberculosis. A consumptive is much more likely to eat too little than too much. Systematic overfeeding with proper digestion of the food are the accepted remedies. The food must be palatable and well served and the amount must vary with the patient and his circumstances. The outdoor air will enable him to assimilate larger amounts.

Milk and eggs are the best foods to produce fats, which are most necessary to the patient. The author advocates three solid meals a day, with lunches between of milk and eggs, about three quarts of milk and six eggs a day being taken. Fresh meats are especially necessary for these patients, but a mixed diet is undoubtedly the best home. Meat juice is valuable.

Pastry, candy, fried foods and cabbage should be let alone. Alcohol is not advisable, but coffee, tea and chocolate may be taken moderately.

PICTURE CARD CRAZE.

Dying Out, Says the British Postmaster-General.

In making his annual report on the British Postoffice, Mr. Sydney Buxton complained that the revenue had not increased as largely as had been expected. The gross increase for the year had been only £350,000. The absence of a general election during the past year had diminished postal receipts, and so had the changed taste of the public. Once the public bought and posted valentines and Christmas cards. These had practically disappeared, to be followed by picture postcards, and now picture postcards were falling off. He could only hope that a sufficiency of superfluous energy and stray halfpence would soon provide some other purpose that the postoffice could serve. The passage of the street betting act had diminished telegraph receipts, and the large increase in the use of the telephone was cutting into the only profitable part of the telegraph service, that of short-distance telegrams in large towns. Conversations through the telephone seemed to be superseding letters and postcards, threatening to be a serious matter in respect of the sheet-anchor of postal revenue, the penny post.

NATURE IS BEST DOCTOR

LESS FAITH PUT IN DRUGS TO CURE DISEASES NOWADAYS.

Physicians' Efforts Directed in Many Cases to Stimulate the Body's Power of Fighting Disease.

The increase of exact knowledge regarding diseases and their causes has taught physicians that drugs often do more harm than good. Years ago, for instance, all sorts of remedies were administered to consumptives, and nine-tenths of the patients died. Today the medicine is prescribed for consumptives and they recover.

It is the same with pneumonia, typhoid fever and a host of other maladies. The era of sure cures is past, and scientific physicians have learned that the best way to combat most ills is by the indirect method of stimulating the body's natural power of fighting and destroying germs.

It is a rule of nature that human tissues when disturbed or disordered exhibit a strong tendency to return spontaneously to a state of equilibrium. You strike your thumb with a hammer and a painful bruise results, with a discoloration of blood under the skin and some inflammation. The tissues are wounded and many of the flesh cells are broken and die. But in the course of a few days the wreckage is removed and the bruise is there. The dark, wasted blood is absorbed and carried away. The dead cells are carried off, too. The inflammation subsides. New tissue takes the place of that destroyed. The pain disappears and your bruise is healed.

It is the same with more serious maladies. As soon as a germ of tuberculosis or pneumonia enters your body while corpuscles in your blood begin to fight it. If it is but a single germ, making a solitary excursion, it is soon killed. But if, instead of one germ, a million or a hundred million invade your tissues,

THE BATTLE IS MORE STIRRING

and it takes longer for your white corpuscles to do their police work.

But in the end, if your standard is good, they will succeed. To a normal and vigorous man no disease is invariably and necessarily fatal. Even the worst plague may be fought and routed by the white corpuscles. Even such terrible diseases as cancer, leprosy and hydrophobia have been cured in this way.

Of course the germs of some diseases give the white corpuscles and other anti-germ guardians of the body a harder tussle than the germs of other diseases. For example, the bacilli of consumption which cause about one-third of all deaths are comparatively easy to kill and the body usually gets rid of them in a few days.

It would seem extraordinary that of a man dying of a cold in the head but the germs of such diseases as tuberculosis, diphtheria and smallpox are very virulent and it often happens that the white corpuscles in a patient's body are unable to cope with them, despite that patient's desire.

Thus it is apparent that the sickness of a disease may be not the effort the body must exert to get rid of its germs. A common cold in the face usually cures itself within two or three days. That is because the bacillus, which causes people to sneeze, which falls an easy prey to the germ substances in the body. The attack of rheumatic fever lasts for months, even when the patient is in good condition for fighting it, because the germ which causes it is a tough one and puts up a hard fight against the blood.

Nevertheless, the body always has a strong fight and always has the chance of winning, albeit this chance is sometimes

A VERY SMALL ONE.

All that modern medicine can do in most cases, is to keep the patient in good work and to surround him with the most favorable conditions.

A consumptive is ordered to the open air and to feed on fresh eggs in order that his blood may become clear and healthy and so able to wage a successful war against the tubercle bacilli in his lungs. Medicine is ordinarily made to combat the disease directly.

The same thing occurs in the case of pneumonia, typhoid fever, yellow fever and other diseases. The patient well nourished and well nursed, whenever medicine may fail him—by reducing a fever or aiding the removal of waste products that have given. But the main fight is the war on the germs—must be waged by the body itself.

All bodily pains are more or less evanescent. Even a toothache, of itself if you have patience enough to wait, Neuralgia always stops, sooner or later. Even the most terrible pains of such diseases as cancer do not last forever, and so when people attribute that result to the use of whatever remedy happened to be using at the time.

The success of a host of home remedies for colds, fevers, sprains, etc., is based upon this error. A cold is a simple infection of the nasal membrane, and careful observation shows that in a man otherwise healthy it will certain to cure itself within a time. But the victim of a cold invariably demands that "something be done for it" and the result of a host of teas, lemonades, baths, ablutions, pills, etc.

Camomile tea, for instance, is used as a remedy for colds by a great number of persons. Scientific investigation has proved that the only thing in it that in any manner of form or fashion can possibly aid the body in its fight against the cold germs is the hot water. In other words,

A DRINK OF PLAIN HOT WATER

would be just as good a medicine as a drink of camomile tea.

Two other facts help to make the repute of many a home remedy. One is the fact that a good many of the aches and pains which afflict us from time to time are merely warnings of Nature that it is thus possible to cure them by making up one's mind that they are gone.

The second fact is this: That the average layman knows very little about diseases and their outward manifestations and so is prone to mistake a trivial and minor ailment for something more serious. Thus, when the average man feels a pain in his arm he says that he has "a touch of rheumatism." As a matter of fact he has no rheumatism at all, but merely a vagrant muscular pain—something that may be due to any of a score of causes and is certain to disappear of itself in a short time.

Rheumatism is a decidedly serious disease, and when a man contracts it he is good for a long time in bed. But the man who the vagrant pain in his muscle rubs his arm with some [illegible] because the pain is gone the next day he believes [illegible] ment he used [illegible] umatism." [illegible] has made [illegible] belief that he [illegible] other is his [illegible] his pain. [illegible] umatism and [illegible] itself, as [illegible] themselves [illegible] or not.

[illegible] again there is [illegible] exaggerate slight ailments into very [illegible] ones. A man who has been [illegible] fined to his [illegible] of self-curing inflammation in the [illegible] passages says [illegible] that he had a "touch [illegible] pneumonia."

[illegible] reality it is impossible to have a touch of pneumonia. One either has the disease or hasn't it. In the same way laymen often speak of a "touch" of typhoid fever or diphtheria or erysipelas, or dysentery or rheumatism or scarlet fever or any of such diseases as malaria or yellow fever.

No human being ever had a "touch" of malaria. When the phrase is used the layman usually means that he had an attack of influenza or an extraordinary bad cold, with fever and chills, [illegible] man who really has malaria a course of quinine [illegible] and the prescribed course of sweating at the [illegible] joy and [illegible] making himself generally disagreeable.

JAPS CAN STEAL DETFLY

"HONOR AMONG THIEVES" IS ALSO HONORED THERE.

Tokio Gentleman Shared Proceeds — a Boasting Traveller Was Surprised.

Japanese pickpockets are [illegible] generates.

Quite recently a [illegible] having occasion to visit Yokohama, and, upon arriving at the station, found that his purse had been picked. He could be under no [illegible] among from the [illegible] effect the [illegible] and [illegible] him uneasy.

"Yes, I knew [illegible] heard. "If [illegible] even from me. The [illegible] at being [illegible] money in the [illegible] the side, [illegible] hand, [illegible] rated.

GOOD OLD SSIR.

Satisfied that [illegible] money [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] days [illegible] Lew [illegible] and [illegible] Lad [illegible] for the [illegible] Lad [illegible] money, [illegible] pocket [illegible] the [illegible] pocket [illegible] Lad [illegible] money [illegible] pocket [illegible] Lad [illegible] money [illegible] pocket [illegible] Lad [illegible] money