

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Ours is an age of exhibitions, and it must be admitted that London's Simple Life and Open Air Exhibition has been rather long in coming. It is, according to reports, a revelation in many respects. A vast quantity of things is shown by manufacturers, packers and merchants, to bring home to the town man the ease and comfort of the simple life, of a return to nature. Everything that ingenuity suggests is at his disposal, whether he wishes to play or rest in the country—in wood, forest, farmhouse, or hunters' log cabin. The variety of canned and other food prepared for him is astonishing. Musical instruments are made for his special benefit, so that even in the remote wilderness he need not deprive himself of the pleasure of song or harmonious sound.

But, as London critics say, it is really the simple life? Does a man who carries with him all sorts of comforts, luxuries and devices "return to nature"? The simple life is an extraordinary complex to the man for whom the exhibition is held. It is also terribly expensive. The true simple life spells hard work and self-denial. However, it is a good thing to go to the country on any terms, either for play or rest. Any movement which takes town people out into the open, which introduces them to grass, trees, brooks, wild flowers, birds, blue skies, hills and mountains is a movement that deserves encouragement, and it contributes to health of body and mind.

No reformer has written more about efficiency, organization, method than H. G. Wells, sociological novelist and former Fabian. But he has dropped his old formula and is ready to jump on those who stick to it. Efficiency, says Wells in disgust, is a bureaucratic catchword. It leads to nothing important. Any quack, any dull routine-ridden incapacity can prate of efficiency. What society needs to-day is a quickened imagination, for its problems are difficult and complex. Keeness, insight, grasp, vision are as essential as efficiency; indeed, without the former no true efficiency is possible.

Mr. Wells is right, but his discovery is Pickwickian. No intelligent person ever preached any other efficiency than the true and real kind. That dull, incompetent bureaucrats cannot give us efficiency in administration is self-evident. The point, however, is that one keen, broad, able organizer can get plenty of "real" efficiency out of a large force of ordinary subordinates. The demand for efficiency is first of all a demand for honest work, for proper organization. It is a protest against sinecures, chair-warming, waste, parasitism, indolence. A few imaginative and enterprising men at the top will, by simple means, accomplish wonders with a force of workers that lack art and imagination. The fact is, efficiency is a safer slogan than imagination, for the latter may result in wild experiments, chaos and demoralization.

SOME FACTS ABOUT MEXICO. Population 15,300,000—Less Than Fifth Avenue Whites.

According to the census of 1911 the population of Mexico numbered 15,300,000, of which less than one-fifth (19 per cent.) were classified as whites, 38 per cent. as Indians, and 43 per cent. as mixed-bloods. There were 37,307 foreign residents, including a few Chinese and Filipinos. Since then the Japanese have acquired an industrial footing in Mexico. For many years the Indians remained in subjection and took no part in the political activities of their native country, but late they have taken more interest in public affairs. The death rate of children among the Indians is estimated at an average of not less than 50 per cent.

The white race is of Spanish descent and has the characteristics common to other Spanish-American peoples. The larger part of the population is to be found in the southern half of the Republic, owing to the arid conditions prevailing in the north. The climate on the coastal plains is unhealthy, although Vera Cruz has a large population. No safe estimate can be made of the half-breed element in Mexico. Educational, industrial and political commercial training and opportunity are apparently working a transformation in a class that was once known chiefly for indolence and criminal instincts, and many of the leaders of modern Mexico have sprung from this race. Settled government and habits, responsibility for the improvement of their condition are developing in them the virtues of the two parent races. The Republic of Mexico is politically divided into 27 States, one Federal and three Territories. The States are generally subdivided into districts and these into municipalities.

Every man is above the average—according to his own belief.

Young Folks

Ralph's Pet. One day Ralph took his dog Jip and went into the forest near by to hunt.

They had not gone far when they heard a low, pitiful sound. Jip wondered what it could be. Jip stopped and listened a few minutes and then started toward the place from which the sound came. Ralph, thinking that someone was in trouble, started to follow Jip. They soon found that it was a little dog that some one had tried to drown, but it had swum to the shore and crawled out on the soft grass.

Ralph said it was so small and he felt very sorry for it, and so he picked it up and carried it home to see if his mother would let him keep it.

Ralph, being about 13 years of age, was quite a large boy, which made it very easy for him to carry the little dog.

When they reached home Ralph's mother said he might keep it to be a playmate and a guard for his little sister Alice. She thought it was very nice, and they soon grew up to love each other very dearly.

One day when Alice was by the railroad playing the did not see the train coming around the bend, but Trix, her little dog, did. He ran toward her and was just in time to save her life, but he was crushed to death under the wheels of the train. They all felt very sorry, but were glad that the little dog had saved Alice's life.

Ralph went down to the track and brought the poor dog home. He made a little coffin out of a box and buried Trix in a field back of their house where violets and all kinds of wild flowers grew. He found a stone and wrote the little dog's name on it, and the date that it was killed.

Adventures of an Elephant. Some years ago there was a wild beast show in a country place in England, and in the show was a big lady elephant. One morning, while her friends—two sleepy-headed camels—were still in the land of nod, the elephant thought she would go for a walk round the town. She was not going to ask permission either!

So she broke her rope with which she was tied to the shed in which she slept at night, and carefully stepping over the two men who looked after her, and who were hard and fast asleep, she started out on her early morning walk. No one was about in the town, as it was too early, and the first thing the elephant saw was a baker's shop.

As she felt hungry—the early morning air does give one a good appetite—the elephant decided to have a little breakfast to begin with. So she went up to the door of the baker's shop and pressed against it with all her might, and squeezed herself through the doorway, and had a look round the baker's shop.

She soon found any number of nice things to eat, and began her breakfast at once. And what do you think she had? Why she ate twenty pounds of currants, thirteen pounds of raspberry jam, fourteen pounds of almonds, and seven pounds of lemon peel! After this feast the elephant went into the yard close by, and she was dancing round and making a great noise when the two keepers came and marched her back to the show. I should think that a droll story to tell her friends, the two sleepy camels.

A FRENCHMAN'S INVENTION. Wonderful System Demonstrated to British Railway Men. A new and wonderful system which, it is claimed, will revolutionize high-speed traction throughout the world was demonstrated in London recently before a mechanical expert and several of the most important British railway officials. This new system, which is the invention and discovery of a French scientist, Emile Bachelet, has at once elicited an offer of a great railway chief to lay down a special five-mile circuit track in order that the enormous speed claimed for it (300 miles an hour) may be tested.

The system as demonstrated by a model of the largest size, did all that was claimed for it. A speed of 300 miles an hour was attained. The automatic propulsion and stopping of the car were demonstrated. The position of the car at any point during the journey was indicated by an electrical signal, and an almost absolute absence of vibration was obtained.

The train travels through space without visible means of support, either above or below. At a wondrous touch it is away like a flash, devouring distance at a minute, defying all laws of gravity. M. Bachelet's system is made possible by the discovery that the effect of a magnetic coil on certain metals is to repel instead of attract. One of these metals is aluminum, and the effect of magnetic electricity on aluminum is a great factor in working the air train. As soon as the electric influence is set in motion the coils, instead of attracting, can push it away, with the result that it is immediately raised and held suspended in the air clear of the track, the only connection between the car and the track being the brushes used for contact purposes.

Fame and Otherwise. "Every time I see grandfather's sword I want to go to war." "Well?" "But every time I notice grandfather's wooden leg, I cool down."

7. Who is there of you—These words were no doubt addressed to

LATEST PHOTO OF PRINCE AND PRINCESS



NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND CONSORT. This photograph of Prince Alexander of Teck and the Princess of Teck was taken only two weeks ago at Heath. Prince Alexander is saluting the territorial colors at Heath, where the Princess opened the new drill hall of the Flaminge County Territorial Association.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MAY 24.

Lesson VIII. Unprofitable Servants. Luke 17: 1-10. Golden Text, 1 Cor. 1: 31.

Verse 1. Occasions of stumbling—Stumbling means literally "being ensnared or entrapped." Here it refers to the errors in conduct due to the following of unworthy examples.

2. One of these little ones—It is not likely that Jesus meant by these little ones all the disciples, but rather the more inconspicuous ones among his hearers—those young in the faith, or possibly the children of the incident of the children being brought to Christ. But if Jesus referred primarily to the children, his words would also include those not well grounded in the faith, or those who, because of lack of experience and inability to judge between the true and the false, would be easily led astray.

3. If thy brother sin, rebuke him—The sin is not to be passed over unnoticed lest "thou bear sin because of him" (Lev. 19: 17). While one should bear in mind that to rebuke that will help and not embitter the offender must be very wise and tactfully administered. Jesus certainly meant to teach the disciples that Christians should neither be indifferent nor act as if unconcerned in the presence of wrongdoing.

If there is a connection between this verse and the two preceding, it is to be found in the charity which should be manifested toward those who sin against us, in contrast with the province of Bengal in northern India, in which Calcutta is located, affords an important market for educational text books.

The more people in India receive education, the more they will be able to improve their conditions in life, so that every possible sacrifice is made to get an education. There is a special desire in India for employment in government positions, as such positions give fixed income and have special advantages. English education is considered essential for those who wish to have the best success, and a large proportion of the text books are in the English language, although many of the more rudimentary books are translated into native languages.

The most elementary schools for natives in India begin their instruction in vernacular languages and then teach English later on, and finally considerable instruction in many courses may be given in the English language from English textbooks, and in higher education most of the courses may be given from English text books. In some instances, instruction in English is given at the very start. Among the people in the Province of Bengal, where there is by far the largest opportunity of employment by European commercial houses, such as are concentrated at Calcutta, there is an especially keen demand for education from English textbooks. No other city in India contains anything like the number of fairly well-educated English speaking native clerks, typists, etc., as are in Calcutta.

4. Seven times in the day—This number recalls Peter's question, "How oft shall I forgive him?" to which Jesus replied, "Until seven times seven," though the numbers are not to be taken literally. Unlimited forgiveness is meant.

5. Increase our faith—The high standard of Christian character to which Jesus urged his followers no doubt caused them to feel their inadequacies and limitations, and they were impelled to ask again that their faith might be increased.

6. The words of "this verse are closely connected in thought with those of Matt. 17: 20, 21. On that occasion Jesus referred to the removal of a mountain, here to a tree. Matthew connects the saying of Christ with the question of the disciples as to the cause of their inability to cure the epileptic, the meaning in both instances being that seemingly impossible can be accomplished through faith.

A grain of mustard seed—A very small seed (Mark 4: 31). Sycamine—The word translated sycamine means in modern Greek a mulberry tree, but in the Septuagint, or earliest Greek translation of the Bible, this word is used for the fig tree. It seems likely, therefore, that the fig tree is meant here.

Fashion Hints

Flowers Are Everywhere.

Flowers, of the artificial variety, are more and more used as the spring advances. They are used to decorate every imaginable part of the evening frock. Sometimes a band of them outlines the décolleté line of the neck. Sometimes they are used singly and in clusters to hold the skirt and bodice and sleeve drapery in place. Tiny ones, strung together, outline cuffs and wide collars. And they still form one of the standby trimmings for lingerie and negligees.

Colored Linen Frocks. We surely live in a wonderful age. Now we have non-crackable taffeta, waterproof kid gloves and even non-crackable linen. The new wrinkles as the ligens of the past have done. So a linen frock is not such an extravagance as it has heretofore been; for when it has not been often laundered, it has looked too wrinkled and crushed for beauty. A colored linen—indeed, and many colored—linen, choice colored wash materials of all sorts—are shown in the frocks of the spring.

Black Satin Girdles. No matter how much or how little color is used in any one season, black always holds a place, sometimes bigger, sometimes smaller, in the estimation of the dressmaker. This is a season of black frocks. There are black satin and crepe frocks, too, in abundance. This year black satin girdles are used to give character to many of the brightly colored frocks and they are a usual note in wash frocks, both white and colored.

New Parasols. The newest parasols have long handles and from the point of view of convenience, at any rate, this news is welcome. For a long-handled parasol is the easiest to handle.

There are new and fantastic shapes in the parasols of the spring, among which the Japanese shape, which strongly suggests the paper parasol of Japan, is decidedly popular. But the more conservative shapes are quite as popular. Chiffon is used in great deal in the new parasols, and there are artificial flowers and festooned around the edge and fastened on the inside of the parasol. Real lace parasols, too, are made for wear with elaborate frocks. In them the lace is mounted over taffeta or satin of blue, red, green, violet or some other bright color.

Unprofitable servants—Not worthless, but having done only their duty. Queen Eleanor of Bulgaria was praised for her intimate personal acquaintance with the disciples of the schools, hospitals, and other philanthropic institutions of her country. She replied: "I deserve no credit for this. It is my duty." This verse does not reflect God's attitude toward his faithful servants, but rather the attitude we should take toward our service.

The work of the Kingdom cannot be properly done unless we who pray for the coming of that Kingdom are willing to meet its hardest demands in a spirit of heroic patience. It is encouraging to note the increasing number of Christ's followers who exemplify this spirit.

INDIANS STUDYING ENGLISH. The Language is Taught in Many Elementary Schools. In conversation recently with the representative in India of a leading London publishing house it was mentioned that India, and especially the province of Bengal in northern India, in which Calcutta is located, affords an important market for educational text books.

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He Had Enough. Counsel—I'm sorry I couldn't do more for you. Convicted Client—Don't mention it, gov-nor, ain't five years enough?

The Test. "Can I trust you, Smith?" "Guess so. Try me with \$10."

HIDEOUS MONSTER OF WAR

Nothing to be Said in its Defence and Almost Nothing in its Honor

"The grievousness of war."—Isaiah xxi, 15.

It is tolerably evident that humanity is not yet ready to dispense with war, or at least has not yet found the ways and means of doing so. In spite of much talk of peace and much work for peace, the build-up of stupendous armaments upon land and sea still goes on at an unprecedented rate, and every now and then there comes some open conflict which destroys property and life, brings sorrow to unnumbered homes and lays a new burden of poverty upon generations yet unborn. The bitter struggles in the Philippines, the bloody revolutions in China, between Russia and Japan, the hideous cataclysm in the Balkans—these are only the more important of the fights which have been joined since the close of the nineteenth century, which has passed since the birth of Him who was hailed as

The Prince of Peace; and, if present indications count for anything at all, the end is not yet. Still, "the purple testament of blood" is closed, only to be opened afresh!

In spite, however, of the persistence of war in our civilization, it is still as true to-day as it was in the days of the prophets of old that there is absolutely nothing to be said in its defence and almost nothing in its honor. War at bottom is the abdication of brute strength, it is the submission of great questions of right and wrong to the arbitration not of intellect but of force, and the decision of these questions in favor of the party which has not justice but the heaviest battalions on its side. It is the suspension of

the conditions of law and order which have been won and maintained at such a fearful cost, and the re-establishment in their place of the anarchy and violence of barbarism. It is the instant reversion of civilization to the cruel instincts—now so nearly conquered in all other relations of life—which drive two lions to rend and tear one another in some jungle fight, or two dead savages to struggle to the death upon a lonely shore. Nay, worse! In these days of far-flung empires, and complex social machinery, war is the deliberate slaughter of men by men who have

No Quarrel With One Another, and have not even a brute instinct in the settlement of the issues at stake in the conflict. Looked at from any point of view, studied in any relation, described in any terms, war is still at bottom the hideous monster described by Milton.

"Black as night, fierce as ten furies, terrible as hell." That war can be wholly avoided to-day under all circumstances is probably not true. The veneer of civilization is still too thin upon the basic barbarism even of the best of us. But that we should consecrate the best powers of our minds and hearts in this hour and in every hour to the abolishment of this dreadful evil is too plain a duty to need argument. The day is coming when war will be classed with infanticide, cannibalism and torture as one of the outgrown horrors of the benighted past. It is not too early now to dream of this glad day and to labor for its coming.—Rev. John Haynes Holmes.

HEALTH

Rheumatic Fever.

It is not generally recognized that rheumatism is a disease by no means confined to the elderly. As a matter of fact the most frequent sufferers from acute rheumatism and rheumatic fever are children and young persons. The first symptoms, though they may vary a good deal with every case, are very often pains in the limbs, often treated with scant attention as being what are popularly known as growing pains, feverishness, and sore throat. If there is also perspiration, a moist skin that is tender in places when touched, headache, and a slight swelling about the joints, there is little doubt as to the presence of rheumatic fever. This disease has a special importance, because there is always the danger that it may leave a permanent weakness of the heart and joints, and so require the most careful attention. The patient should be put to bed, and always between blankets; flannel night clothes in place of calico are also to be recommended.

Medical advice is most desirable, not because drugs are called for, but because there is always a certain risk of complications which should be comfortably warmed by means of an open fire but also thoroughly ventilated. This must be accomplished without any danger of draught reaching the patient and a windowboard which prevents the lower sash from being shut down into its ordinary place is a good contrivance. A screen round the bed is also useful, as with this projection the room can be very readily aired. The blankets must be changed frequently, hung out of doors, and afterwards dried before a fire. While the fever lasts perspiration is profuse, and is to be encouraged, but the patient should be daily washed with warm water and mild soap to remove it from the skin. This needs to be done quickly and skillfully, under cover of the blanket, so that there may be no risk of the patient getting chilled. A milk diet, without anything in the way of solids, must be adhered to for some time, and in addition barley water may be given liberally to quench the thirst which is the natural result of the free perspiration.—A Physician.

Diet in Old Age. The mere fact of our gradually losing our teeth as we become old should show the necessity of decreasing the quantity of such foods as require mastication. With advancing age the whole digestive apparatus becomes weakened, and the organs are no longer able to deal with large quantities of material. For this reason old people should never eat heavy or abundant meals. The amount of nourishment should be spread out over the day very much as in the case of an infant, who is fed more frequently than an adult, because he can only take a small quantity at a time. Old people really do not require any great amount of food. Unlike the baby, who is growing every day, they are shrinking. They can no longer take much physical exercise, though it is important that what little exercise they can take should be kept up. They cannot work beyond some slight occupation, and therefore they do not need much food for the renewal of tissues. They should have very light, nourishing diet; milk foods are especially suitable, and some of the preparations specially designed for infants will often be found useful. Fruit juice

IS CANCER INFECTIOUS?

Medical Men Giving Study to New Phase of Problem.

Medical men and sanitation experts are taking a great interest in the problem as to whether a person can become infected with cancer through living in a house in which a cancer victim has lived. For years the question has been a matter of debate and medical literature abounds in references to "cancer houses."

Investigation in England has followed the report of Dr. Armand, who found that in a village of 400 inhabitants in France eleven deaths from cancer occurred in seven years, all being located in the same block.

Three years later there were seventeen cancer patients in these houses. In other parts of France, including Paris, a similar condition was found.

In Great Britain there are numerous "cancer homes." There is a village in the north of England where two successive incumbents have died of cancer.

In a large house in Somerset where a man died of cancer many years ago his wife, his second husband, a member of his family by his first wife, and a housekeeper have since fallen victims.

In another house in Scotland the cancer virus is said to have been passed on to three generations. An experiment was made there by confining mice in a trap. Several of them contracted the disease.

Sir Thomas Oliver, the distinguished physician and writer on medical subjects, declares that the germ theory of cancer is only doubtfully accepted, still it is known that cancer can be conveyed from man to lower animals. Moreover, it is regarded as probable that, just as some persons are particularly susceptible to infectious diseases, so some persons might inherit a peculiar vulnerability of the tissues whereby at a particular age they become liable to cancer.

In his annual report to the insurance institute at Newcastle-on-Tyne Sir Thomas said: "The attention has been drawn to a series of cases in a street not one-tenth of a mile long in a small town. The houses are entirely residential. In the fifteen years from 1883 to 1908 there died from cancer in this street nineteen persons and one dog. In some of the houses there had occurred two or three cases. As in all the cases there was no hereditary history of the disease, the large number of deaths among successive occupants of the houses has suggested that the matter is more than a coincidence."

C. E. Green, another scientist who has studied the subject of cancer, believes that it is largely due to coal fires.

Nairnshire has the highest cancer death rate in Scotland. Mr. Green reported in 1912 that the districts of Nairnshire which were free from cancer were those where peat is burned, not coal. So frequently has he observed this fact that he is disposed to attribute the prevalence of cancer to the combustion of coal rich in sulphur, especially where the houses of the people are on slopes or in hollows.

Will Have Many Reminders. He (in their new home)—Do you know, I can hardly believe that we are really and truly married. She—Glance over these bills, dear, and you'll have no doubt whatever. The setting hen may be a looter, but she delivers the goods.

PEACH CRO

The Field in the

A despatch from St. says: The past two weeks affirmed the repeated expectations that the peach crop of the district will be a large one, notwithstanding the large acreage of young trees which should reach the stage for the first time.

Such well-known growers as Major Hisslow, Salem Muir, and of Niagara township will say that the peach crop is ruined, and that not be five hundred peaches marketed in the Virgil and Niagara. Major Hisscott says that the usual thousands of barrels and many neighbors who grovers will not have of their own use. Messrs. Bernard, James, Aikens, others along the lake

Our London L

The Public Trustee's Remarkable testimony in the recently published annual report of Sir Stowe that persons by express of their will have succeeded in making a will which has been held to be valid. Some 5,000 trusts to more than £10,000,000 and are being administered. This means that the will was not nullified by disinheritance. It is a thing of the past. Ten years ago it was a fact that the public trustee had with the money that had in his hands to administer the wills of his clients, and the public trustee's administration is almost wholly of the public trust. The government stands responsible for the success of this office. Only six years ago, the public trustee had started business with £10,000 and now requires a staff of 100 men, and a number of executors of wills in their own right. The public trustee is the general custodian of funds of all kinds.

Stewart now gets and children, so far as the inheritance of the estate is concerned. The largest estate which he has had to handle was the estate of the late Mr. Stowe, who died in 1884, leaving an estate of £10,000,000. The public trustee is now the general custodian of funds of all kinds.

United Kingdom's Dr. The drink bill of the last year shows a decrease of 10 per cent. in the consumption of alcohol. The public trustee is now the general custodian of funds of all kinds.

A discouraging feature in the consumption of alcohol is the fact that it leads to an increase of crime. The public trustee is now the general custodian of funds of all kinds.

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Swollen