

SUPERSTITION STILL HAS US

Survey Shows Tradition Has Firm Hold

High school pupils are steeped in superstitious beliefs to a surprising degree, declares Dr. Isaac D. Rawlings, state health director, who bases his opinion upon a survey recently completed by a member of the Illinois State Academy of Science. Ten obsolete, traditional notions, long since exploded and discredited by scientific observation, were put to 1581 pupils in 35 high schools of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee in the form of questions. From 2 to 60 per cent of the pupils expressed a positive belief in the various notions, the faculties of two modern high schools near Chicago requesting that the names of their schools be omitted from publicity in order to avoid embarrassment.

Some Superstitions

"The survey showed," said Dr. Rawlings, that 19 per cent of the pupils believe that a 'mad stone' will prevent hydrophobia if applied to a wound created by the bite of a rabid dog; 26 per cent believe that warts can be removed from the hands through a series of mysterious maneuvers on the part of certain persons called charmers; 60 per cent believe that malaria is caused by drinking stagnant or swampy water contaminated in some mysterious way; 23 per cent believe that a horse hair, when left in a watering trough or swallowed, will be converted into a snake-like, disease producing worm. Other questions related to 'hoop snakes,' the influence of moon on vegetable growth, the comparative number of ribs in man and women, etc.

"Doubtless a number of the pupils still believe in a red flannel undershirt and a string of asafetida about the neck as a preventive of disease, the rabbit foot and horse shoe as good luck charms and the signs of the zodiac as exercising a fateful influence over animal life. These beliefs have come to the youth through the teachings of tradition. Certainly we cannot expect to go very far with individual health promoting measures with those persons whose minds are filled with such primitive notions about cause and effect.

"Meat" for Quacks

"The superstitious and the mentally lazy are the victims upon whom quacks and nostrum vendors fatten. People who expose themselves to the most primary knowledge about biology, chemistry and medicine are too wise to part with good money in return for quackery and "cure-all" nostrum.

"Apparently the remarkable progress already made in the prevention of epidemic diseases has resulted from the application of mass sanitary measures such as the purification of water and milk supplies, efficient sewage disposal, compulsory vaccination and quarantine regulations rather than upon any general and widespread knowledge of preventive medicine. New and greater progress in health promotion depends very largely upon educating the individual to the point where he will take advantage of what medical science already has prepared for him. Certainly there is no place for superstition in applying medical or sanitary knowledge."

Evanston Trims Wilmette Schools in Basketball

The Evanston Junior high school won four games of basketball from the Wilmette schools last Thursday, March 5. The games were played at the Evanston school and were a part of the tournament of the North Shore Grammar School Basketball league.

The heavyweight and the midweight games were the best of the four. In these games the teams were more evenly matched.

The scores for the games are follows:

	Evanston	Wilmette
Midgits	8	7
Featherweights	16	6
Lightweights	14	8
Heavyweights	9	7

"SO THIS IS PARIS"

When Weber and Fields were at the height of their popularity in the days of the famous music hall, an endless number of catch phrases were coined that passed in circulation throughout the country. Most of them have passed out of the language but one little phrase persists. It came out when a chorus girl entered on a set representing a scene in Paris and forgot her lines. She stood for a moment at a loss and then remarked, "So this is Paris!"

It wasn't particularly witty, but it was durable. The result has been that the so-this-is habit of expression has become firmly planted in the American language. Which, according to Carey Wilson, who wrote it, is the reason why his new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer photoplay, is called "So This Is Marriage."

Request Program Plan For Next Organ Concert

A request program is the sixth concert of the North Shore Community series on St. Luke's great organ, Evanston. It will be given Tuesday evening, March 17, at 8 o'clock, by Herbert E. Hyde, dean of the Illinois Chapter American Guild of Organists.

Of the 73 different numbers requested, Mr. Hyde was obliged to choose for his program, only those with several votes. But the list includes a wide variety of music: the Bach "Tocatta and Fugue D Minor," two Schubert transcriptions, a Wagner group, the Chopin "Military Polonaise," Handel's "Largo;" two short descriptive pieces: Bonnet's "Elves" and Liadow's "Musical Snuff-Box;" Mendelssohn's "War March of the Priests," Widor's "Fifth Symphony Finale," and Mr. Hyde's own manuscript "Lullaby." The last received by far the greatest number of votes.

These concerts are free and the public is cordially invited.

America's Utilities Best in World; Says Hoover

"We have evolved the best actual service to the people from utilities that there is in the world," declares Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce.

"Moreover, there is a diffusion of service and use among our people double and treble the proportions to the population of any other country. A larger proportion of our homes have electric lamps, a larger proportion have telephones.

"The wages in our utilities give the highest standard of living and comfort on the earth. If our utilities were dominated by the malign forces that some contend, these things would never have come about."

OPPOSE GASOLINE TAX

The Wilmette Chamber of Commerce this week voted opposition to the tax on gasoline which has been proposed to the state legislature. The local business men were requested to communicate with representatives in the legislature requesting that they vote against the gasoline tax bill when it is presented for adoption.

M'GREGOR'S JOB EASY

Malcolm MacGregor, rising young picture actor, has a role that fits him ideally in "Idle Tongues," the new First National picture adapted from the novel, "Dr. Nye." His part is to make love to Lucille Rickson, and considering Lucille's beauty and charm, Malcolm's job should not have been difficult. In fact, we would have done the work for nothing.

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COUNTY IS BUSY ON FOREST PRESERVE WORK

The recently inaugurated mammoth improvement plan for the Cook County Forest Preserve district is being completed rapidly, according to reports made to President Anton Cermak and members of the County board by Chief Forester Kennicott and associated engineers.

Three long needed junior ski jumps, one at Deer Grove, one at Niles, a third at Beverly Hills and the toboggan slide at Cumming's Tract, Harlem avenue and Lake street, have been completed.

At Salt Creek, the camp shelter, just finished, has aroused so much favorable comment that it will be used as a model for similar structures all over the Forest Preserve. Another shelter of similar caliber has been erected at Palos Park.

Great interest has been shown in the plan for erecting several new tourist camps, and the one at Niles is already 50 per cent completed and will be ready for use early in the spring.

Permits for picnic and parking privileges continue to flood the offices of President Cermak of the County


board, and special clerical forces have been engaged to assist the regular Forest Preserve Permit department in arranging for dates for the new season's outings.

While the great work of improving the dam sites with various shaded stone has been going along steadily,

the most important aspects of these operations must await more favorable weather, as the material cannot be set properly in snowy or slushy ground. However, it is confidently anticipated that all features of the \$35,000 improvement plan will be completed early in May.

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