

LIGHT'S EFFECTS ON GERMS
 While It Kills Some, It Transforms Others Into Creatures of a Different Species.

If sunlight destroys bacteria, it is also the active agent in multiplying their species. Such, at least, is the obvious deduction which science is drawing from a recent experiment of Mme. Victor Henry, and it is one that opens up an entirely new field to the bacteriologists.

She had occasion recently to expose some germs of anthrax to the rays from a mercury vapor lamp. As she expected, the treatment proved fatal to most of the subject, but a few of them survived.

The astonishing feature in the case was that the survivors had undergone a radical transformation. They were no longer thin and threadlike. They had become spherical, or nearly so, true cocci, in fact. At the same time, they were radically different from all known spores.

What is more, upon cultivation they did not return to their original form, and when injected into animals produced an entirely new disease.

Mme. Henry is forced to the conclusion that she has developed an entirely new bacterial family, and reasoning from her experience believes that she has hit upon the means by which such families have multiplied. It is her opinion that after long exposure to sunlight, a germ, if not destroyed, undergoes a radical change in form and nature, thus becoming the root of an entirely new species.

ARE USING ROMAN WEAPONS
 Soldiers of Today Employ Almost a Duplicate of Sword Used by Caesar's Legionaries.

If one of Caesar's legionaries who fell in the "pacification" of Gaul could be waked from his long sleep and placed in the trenches, he would find one or two familiar things, even if he failed to recognize the landscape. The appalling racket, the bursting shells, the spectacle of men struck down by invisible agencies of death—these would be new and awesome. But the helmet would have a rather familiar feeling on his brows, and if he took part in a charge he would show himself a most efficient man with the "trench knife."

For this new weapon is just the old Roman broadsword revived and brought down to date. The blade is a bit shorter than that to which the legionary was accustomed—15 inches instead of 18. But the point and edge are keen, the steel is good, the hilt is plain, and the injunction to "thrust at the face" is as sound as ever. With this accustomed weapon in his grip and a cloak over his arm in lieu of shield, Caius of the Tenth legion would be a nasty warrior to meet on the chalk knolls of Champagne.

To Reform Thermometer.
 A sign of progress is a bill introduced by a Pacific coast representative to substitute the Centigrade for the Fahrenheit thermometer in government publications. When Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit nearly 200 years ago devised the scale which bears his name 32 degrees below the freezing point was the lowest temperature he knew, so he called it zero. But his graduation has been displaced in the scientific world almost as completely as his idea of the extreme of cold. Scientists everywhere use the Centigrade scale, and the Fahrenheit is in popular use in English-speaking countries only.

The Centigrade thermometer is graduated in a simple and rational way, the freezing point being marked zero and the boiling point 100. The movement for reform of the thermometer ought to go hand-in-hand with the propaganda for universal adoption of the metric system of weights and measures and for uniform decimal relations of coinage in all nations.—Newark Evening News.

His Shaves Stopped Alimony.
 Unable, he claims, to pay the alimony awarded his wife because of expenses attached to daily shaves, attending the movies nightly and other more or less princely luxuries, George Lawson was arrested by Detective Barnshaw on a bench warrant issued by Vice Chancellor Leaming and sent to the county jail on contempt proceedings.

When his wife brought action for divorce some time ago Lawson strenuously objected to the amount of alimony imposed by the vice chancellor, declaring that he was unable to pay, as he required the ministrations of a barber daily and a seat at the movies to settle his nerves after a day of toil. The vice chancellor told him to buy a safety razor and drop the show passion.—Atlantic City dispatch Philadelphia Record.

SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT WINS
 Oklahoma House Passes Resolution, Which Now Goes to Senate.
 Oklahoma City, Okla.—A joint resolution authorizing the submission of a female suffrage amendment to the state constitution was adopted by the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

The vote was 42 to 15. Should the resolution be adopted by the Senate the amendment would be submitted to the electorate in August.

MOUSE BITE KILLS BABY
 Slight Wound Infects Washington, D. C., Infant With Blood Poisoning—Coroner Warns People.

There are occasional instances where rodents, both the house rat and mouse, have been known to invade the bed or crib occupied by young children, especially infants when left alone sleeping. Such an incident is recorded in the death of William Webster Jackson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William W. Jackson of Washington, whose death is reported in the vital statistics as due to a virulent blood poisoning from the infection of a mouse bite on the child's neck.

One night while the infant, only two weeks old, was sleeping in his crib beside his mother's bed a mouse crawled into the crib and, biting the baby on the neck, inflicted what was then thought to have been an insignificant wound. A simple application was made to the scratch or wound inflicted by the little rodent, and nothing more was thought of it for the time being. However, the bite resulted in an infection which spread so rapidly that physicians found it impossible to save the child's life. A high fever developed, and the child died.

Coroner J. Ramsay Nevitt, who investigated the case, is satisfied that the child's death was directly traceable to the bite of the mouse. In commenting upon the case he said: "It is a fact widely known among medical men that rats and mice carry disease, and householders should make every effort to rid their houses of them as a matter of personal and public protection. Cats, likewise, are a menace to public health, carrying germs of disease to a marked degree. The extermination of rats and mice should be undertaken by the local and public health service."

OUR GREAT NEW INDUSTRY
 An Unprecedented Demand for High Explosives Developed Trade in Benzol and Toluol.

In response to the unprecedented demand for high explosives a new industry, the recovery of benzol and toluol, suddenly sprang into existence in the United States in 1915. Benzol and toluol, indispensable raw materials from which explosives, dyestuffs and other chemical products are manufactured, are oils similar to gasoline in appearance and smell and are present in the gas that is driven off from coal when it is made into coke. Before the European war the demand in the United States for these products was so small and the price so low that but one company engaged in coke-making sought to recover them on a large scale. Late in 1914 the price of benzol, and particularly toluol, rose to such a point that many other companies began to build plants to recover these oils, which were then being burned with the gas, and by the end of 1915 there were 19 new plants for benzol recovery in operation and others in course of erection. It is estimated that between 8,000,000 and 9,000,000 tons of coal were carbonized in the ovens that furnished the gas from which the oils were recovered.

Small But Useful Dynamo.
 Farmers and others living on the banks of small streams are showing much interest in the new invention of A. G. Watkins of Philadelphia, which is a small waterpower plant floating on the surface of the stream. This generates sufficient power to operate a small dynamo, which will supply the current to light a modern house of moderate size, or do other useful chores around the farm or suburban residence. The plant consists of two triangular floats secured together so that there is a gradually narrowing channel between them. The broad end of this is turned upstream and the narrow end is equipped with a water wheel. The water enters the large opening, and in passing out acts on the wheel, which is in turn geared to a small dynamo.

Origin of Britain's Broad Arrow.
 Now that the broad arrow is so frequently seen on military stores and vehicles it is interesting to recall that we owe this to the government mark to Henry Sidney, master of the ordnance (created earl of Romsey in 1691), who, finding that the government had no distinguishing mark to enable them to identify its property, caused it to be marked with his arms, the "Pheon," or "Broad Arrow," which has ever since been so used.—London Globe.

Silk Culture in Colombia.
 The government of Colombia has just made an appropriation of \$10,000 annually for the encouragement of silk culture in the republic. Experiments are to be made with native plants to see if they can be used in the industry in place of mulberry plants. Silk-spinning machinery imported into Colombia will be exempt from duty for ten years.

Monkey Made Happy.
 Hoolock, a lonesome monkey in the Central park zoo, New York, was miserable until the curator conceived the idea of taking phonographic records of his whining chatter. Now Hoolock listens to his own talk, thinks he has a companion and is perfectly happy.

Angler's Lucky Day.
 Mrs. John Roberts, while fishing from the municipal pier at Hermosa Beach, Cal., caught five different kinds of fish on five hooks at the same time. The fish were mackerel, bass, jack smelt, yellow fin and barracuda.

HAWTERS OF VAST STRENGTH
 Monster Steamers Use Steel Ropes Which It Would Seem Could Withstand Any Power.

After laborious attempts to tow the Thessaloniki into port the Greek liner Patris arrived at New York and her captain reported that three heavy steel hawsers had parted during the effort to save the disabled ship. The lines that parted were 4 1/2-inch hawsers, which means that a strain of 31 tons, or 62,000 pounds, had been exerted before the break.

In general towing and lighter ship work a three-inch steel hawser is the usual line used. This consists of six steel wire strands tightly wound on a central hemp which is soaked in oil, giving a certain pliability. This sort of hawser is also used by some of the steamship lines for permanent moorings. The breaking point of the three-inch steel line is about 23 tons. Its cost is 29 cents a foot.

The largest of steel towing lines is the one six inches in circumference, the breaking strain of which is 54 tons, or 108,000 pounds. Because of the weight of this line and the difficulty of handling it the 4 1/2-inch hawser is the one mostly used for heavy towing.

In bulk the biggest hawsers used in an American port were those on the Hamburg-American liners Vaterland and Imperator. For permanent moorings these great liners used 24-inch hemp hawsers besides smaller lines of steel wire and hemp.

MADE A QUICK RECOVERY
 Elevator Man Fainted When Leg Was Crushed, but Soon Got Back on Job—It Was Cork.

When the doors of the service elevator at the Alexandria closed unexpectedly just as Joe Brousett was starting the machine it jammed his leg, mashing it fearfully. Brousett fainted. Fortunately the elevator stopped without dragging him.

"Doc" Bassett, superintendent of service, called an ambulance and hurried Brousett to his home. He appeared dazed. A physician was called. Mr. Bassett returned to the hotel and put a new man on the elevator.

Three hours later he entered the elevator and was astounded to see Brousett operating it. For a moment he thought it was a ghost, but Brousett assured him that everything was all right.

"You see, that was a cork leg that got smashed," he said. "The accident brought back so vividly my original accident that I fainted and only came to by the time I reached home. Then I put on my reserve leg and came back to work."—Los Angeles Times.

Grand Duke's Playful Way.
 The Grand Duke Nicholas is not a man who talks, but he has a playful way with him at times, according to the story told by Julius West in "Soldiers of the Czar." Some time ago, during an inspection, the grand duke was standing next to the emperor, a few yards away from a group of generals. He ordered General Ruskky, then in command of the forces in that region, to step forward. The grand duke next ordered a private soldier to come forward and hack off the general's epaulettes. "We can imagine," says Mr. West, "the dismay of the other generals as the soldier obeyed."


"Now cut mine off," was the next order. The soldier did so. "Now put them on his shoulders."

It was the grand duke's playful little way of promoting Ruskky to the rank of adjutant general, the highest in the Russian army.


New Indigestible Dish.
 Did you ever eat a knish? No. Then you have missed a good attack of indigestion and perhaps the undertaker. A knish is something like a dumpling, only infinitely more so. It is made up of dough, chopped potatoes, onions, cheese, kasha, butter, eggs "and other cereals," weighs a ton or less and costs five cents, normally. Since it became a war baby it costs four cents under certain conditions. It is the great piece de resistance on New York's eastside. Every store sells knishes, and the competition is so great that some of the merchants are giving coupons to buyers. A certain number of these coupons entitles the holder to a certificate and a hack to Bellevue with ten knishes.

Gains Four Pounds in Three Hours.
 Raymond Tilton, twenty-one years old, performed the unusual feat of gaining four pounds of weight in less than three hours in order to become a soldier in the United States army, reports the Cincinnati Chronicle. Tilton, whose parents live in Richmond, Ky., desired to join the infantry, and he tipped the scale at 123 pounds, being three pounds shy. He was notified that the government is strict in regard to this matter, and was told to return when he acquired the necessary avoirdupois. Tilton invested in a 35-cent meal and imbibed freely of water. Then it was found that he had gained four pounds, one more than the government required. He was accepted.

What We Wish to Know.
 An aged Frenchman, who has worked out a system for forecasting the weather, claims we are to have a succession of twenty-six very severe winters, commencing with the present one. If he can tell us how long the European war is to last, however, it will be of greater interest.—Oshkosh Northwestern.



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Foregone Conclusion.
 Teacher—If a farmer sold 1,470 bushels of wheat for \$1.17 a bushel what would he get? Boy—An automobile.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Trouble teaches men how much there is in manhood.—Beecher.

Plumbing.
Good Health and Good Plumbing GO TOGETHER.
 When you have dripping steam pipes, leaky water-fixture, foul sewerage, or escaping gas, you can't have good health. The air you breathe is poisonous; your system becomes poisoned and invalidism is sure to come.

SANITARY PLUMBING
 is the kind we do. It's the only kind you ought to have. We don't trust this work to boys. Our workmen are Skilled Mechanics, no better anywhere. Our

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Dry Goods, Etc.

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