

# The Centre Reporter

CENTRE HALL, PA.

### ELECTRICITY AS CURATIVE.

Electricity was formerly the mystic remedy of the quack, but since electrical apparatus has become so essential for X-ray work, more serious attention has been given by regular physicians to the physiological effects of this powerful agent. Among the notable results has been an electrical method of arresting the degeneration of the arteries so common in premature old age. A new announcement is that of Dr. Laborde, a French medical man, who gives details of a method of treating sciatica by tonization with sodium hypophosphite, and shows what appears to be an effective cure for a painful disease. The effects are attributed in this treatment to sulphur oxide from electrolytic decomposition instead of the direct action of the electric current itself. A thick layer of absorbent tissue saturated with a 5 per cent solution of the sodium hypophosphite was covered over a piece of tin as the negative electrode, which was placed on the rear of the thigh over the sciatic nerve. The positive pole, wet with water, was put in contact with the calf of the leg. The patient had been unable to use his legs for ten months, but after ten sittings of forty minutes he could walk a mile and recovery seems to have been complete.

Experiments at the Pasteur Institute in Paris have demonstrated that chickens can thrive without bacteria, though most vertebrates seem to require them. The experiments were made by Doctor Cohendy at the suggestion of Professor Metchnikoff. Doctor Cohendy used a sterilized incubator. He introduced three eggs which were about hatching. He sterilized them on the outside, the air apparatus was carefully filtered and all the food was perfectly sterilized. Several sets of chickens raised in this way were found after six weeks to be too big for the incubator and were taken out and compared with chickens which had been raised in the ordinary way. The tests showed that the incubator chickens were absolutely free of microbes, though after some hours of unsterilized life their digestive tubes contained thousands of them.

Physicians tell us that 65 per cent of the children in the public schools of Boston are physically defective, says the Boston Globe. The trained nurses who attend the pupils have performed good service in correcting temporary defects. Now it is proposed seriously to not only feed the hungry, but to furnish medicated baths for children suffering from skin troubles. It is also urged that more attention should be paid to school clinics by teachers and parents co-operating for that purpose. A wise medical suggestion is made that there should be less competitive work in the schools and that the pupils should be relieved of some studies, home lessons abolished and children promoted or graduated with more regard to their actual mental capacity as shown by their daily efforts.

As the output of real gold was \$500,000,000 in 1911, it seems strange that some men should care to buy the imitation article in bricks, says the Chicago News. But the trouble is that if these men get \$25,000 worth of real gold they have to put up \$25,000 for it; while the alleged \$25,000 of gold bricks can be had for a beggarly \$500.

Nine people were killed in January and nearly forty maimed by automobiles in the streets of New York. In every city of any size a toll of either life or limb is demanded as the price of carelessness or speed mania on the part of motor car drivers. It is time that strict laws guarded the right of way of the pedestrian and put the burden of care on the vehicle. It is a hardship not to be tolerated in these times of law, order and equal rights that the pleasure of a few should exact this toll from the many.

Painting and sculpture are conducive to long life. Yet music kills men young. Schubert, with all his wealth of song, died at 31; Mozart, who danced and laughed his melodies into being, died at 35, the same age as Beethoven; Bizet, the composer of "Carmen," died, like Purcell, at 37; Mendelssohn survived to 33; Chopin, who loved life so well, had done with it at 29, while Weber expired at the age of 40 and Schuman at 46. But Verdi lived and flourished as a nonagenarian.

Russia threatens to retaliate by ceasing to purchase American-made sewing machines. This leaves us helpless. We can't get even by refusing to consume Russian caviar, because our entire supply comes from Sandusky, Ohio.

A Boston social scientist wants women to do the proposing. This will be a terrible strain on the remnant of male chivalry which is left in these prosaic times.

## CLARA BARTON PASSES AWAY

### Head of Red Cross Society Had Been Ill Some Time.

### STRICKEN WITH PNEUMONIA

She Was the Florence Nightingale of America, and Her Noble Life-work Was Recognized Throughout the World.

Washington.—Clara Barton, head of the American Red Cross, died at her home in Glen Echo, Md.

She had been ill for some time and was 91 years old. Last fall her condition was despaired of, but she rallied.

Miss Barton, whose international reputation as a wartime nurse, philanthropist and charity worker has placed her name among those of the greatest women of modern times, was born in Oxford, Mass., in 1821.



MISS CLARA BARTON, Founder and First President of the American National Red Cross Society.

Miss Barton was first elected president of the American Red Cross in 1881, later organizing an American branch in the Red Cross to supply relief in all disasters, attending peace conferences as representative from the United States and taking active interest in relief work in every great disaster of recent years, including the Johnstown flood, Galveston flood, Spanish-American War, Russian famine in 1892, the Sea Islands (S. C.) disaster in 1893, the Armenian massacre in 1896 and others. She retired as president of the Red Cross in 1904.

Miss Barton has been president of the National First Aid Association since 1905, and holds diplomas and decorations from Germany, Baden, Austria, Serbia, Turkey, Armenia, Switzerland, Spain, Russia, Belgium; also a vote of thanks from the citizens of Johnstown, Pa., and the Texas legislature. She is the only woman for whom a G. A. R. post has been named.

Miss Barton is the author of "The History of the Red Cross, America's Relief Expedition to Asia Minor, History of the Red Cross in Peace and War. A Story of the Red Cross, Story of My Childhood, together with many pamphlets, reports, etc."

### PLAGUE AND STARVATION.

#### Distressing Conditions Of Afflicted People in Flood Districts.

Memphis, Tenn.—While the United States engineers at Memphis stated that the conditions had greatly improved in the Memphis flooded district, hundreds are reported dying from starvation and fever at different points between New Madrid, Mo., and Helena, Ark., on the St. Francis Basin.

Women and children at New Madrid are ill with fever. At another point near New Madrid smallpox is reported in a virulent form. Several are sick with fever at Tiptonville, Tenn., and Hickman, Ky., while many are reported starving and dying from exhaustion in the districts near Luxora, Barfield, Proctor and points south as far as Laconia Circle, in Arkansas.

### To Protect a Frontier.

Rome.—General Caneva, commander-in-chief of the Italian Army of occupation in Tripoli, telegraphs that the Italian flag was planted on Bou Chermez, near the Tunisian frontier. The occupation of this place is designed to prevent the passage of contraband over the frontier for the Turkish and Arab forces in the interior of Tripoli. Large forces of Italians are now stationed both at Bou Chermez and Zuana, on the coast.

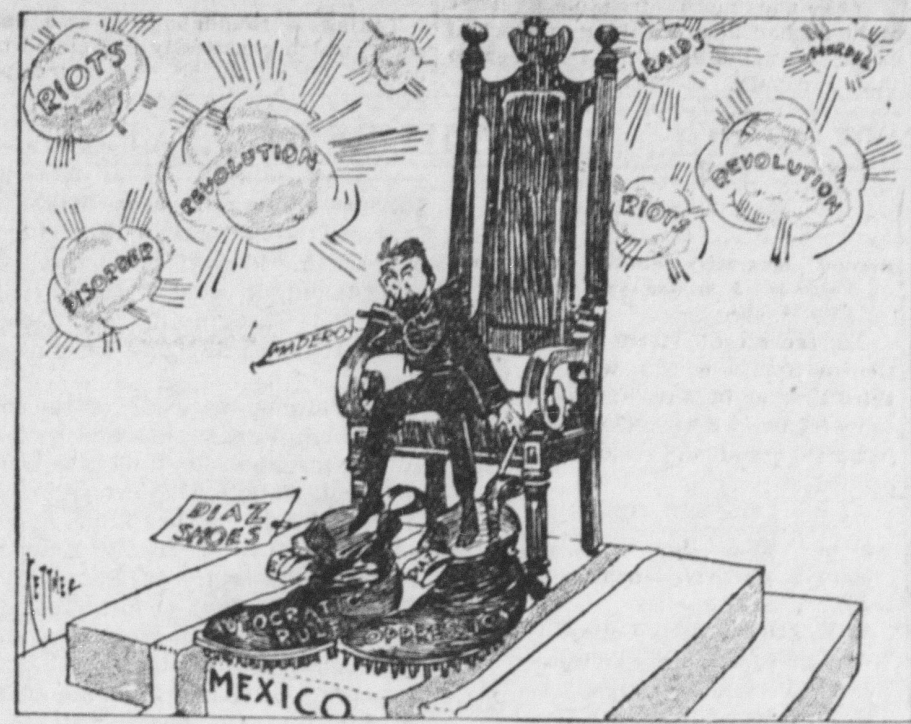
### Chicks and "Hoppers."

Graham, Mo.—After hatching chickens in an incubator Allen McNeal hatched a swarm of grasshoppers in the same incubator to feed the young spring fries.

### Another Boiler Explodes.

East Hartford, Conn.—The explosion of a boiler in the mill of the Henry Cairns Lumber Company set fire to the plant, and before the blaze was under control 15 houses had been destroyed with a loss of \$200,000.

## SEVERAL SIZES TOO LARGE



### AMERICAN SLAIN IN MEXICO

#### Had Lain Concealed in a House Until Hunger Forced Him to Surrender—His Father is a Prominent Lawyer.

El Paso, Tex.—An American newspaper man, who returned from Parral with 184 American and other foreign refugees from the battle-swept district, brought news of the execution of Thomas Fountain, of Las Cruces, N. M., by the rebels.

Fountain was captain of a federal gun under Gen. Pancho Villa.

When Villa retreated last week Fountain removed parts of the piece and concealed himself in a private residence. The occupants were ignorant that they had a guest in a part of the house seldom visited.

On Monday he was compelled to show the rebels where he had secreted the missing parts of his rapid firer, was tried by court martial and condemned to death, apparently for having disabled the gun.

American residents made every effort to obtain a modification of the sentence, but without avail. Finally American Consul Letcher, at Chihuahua, sent to General Salazar what is believed to have been an appeal from Washington that his life be spared. In delivering the message to a messenger the consul remarked: "This is the last resort."

In Mexico they have recourse to what is known as the "Law of Flight" under which a prisoner who has been condemned, but where there exists a doubt as to the legality of the sentence, is allowed his freedom within certain limits. The prisoner knows that his fate is sealed. Even if he does not walk a step, from some unexpected quarter the fatal bullet will come, and the report will be made that he was shot while "in flight."

It was thus in Fountain's case. He told the correspondent that there was no hope, but strolled about the streets waiting for death. When his body was brought in it contained four bullet wounds, made by shots fired from behind.

### WILL RETURN TO WASHINGTON.



Dr. Wu Ting-fang, Who Has Been Nominated For His Old Post As Chinese Minister To Washington By the New President Of the Chinese Republic.

### PHYSICIANS SUED.

#### Patient Says They Sewed a Sponge Inside Abdomen.

New York.—Jacob Weiss brought suit in the Supreme Court for \$10,000 damages against two physicians—Otto Kilani and Herman Fischer—for sewing a sponge inside his abdomen after an operation. Weiss says he carried the sponge in his abdomen from January 14, 1911, when he was discharged from the German Hospital as cured of hernia, until June 17, 1911.

### ORDERS \$10,000,000 STEAMER.

#### North German Lloyd To Eclipse Monster Washington.

New York.—A new \$10,000,000 steamship, larger and more luxurious even than the monster George Washington, was ordered by the North German Lloyd, according to a cable received by the general agents of the company, Oelrichs & Co. The contract calls for the completion of the vessel by August, 1914.

## MAJOR-GENERAL FRED GRANT DEAD

### Attack of Diabetes, According to Physicians, the Cause.

### SON OF A FAMOUS GENERAL

#### Commander Of the Department Of the East Had Been Ill For Some Time—His Death a Profound Surprise.

New York.—Maj.-Gen. Frederick D. Grant, son of the famous general of the Civil War and himself commander of the Department of the East, died at the Hotel Buckingham, in this city.



MAJ. GEN. FREDERICK D. GRANT.

Rumors have been in circulation for weeks that he was afflicted with cancer of the tongue, the same malady which took the life of his father. But the cause of death given out is diabetes. It proves that he and the mysterious patient at St. Luke's Hospital were identical.

According to the best information obtainable, General Grant was operated upon at St. Luke's by Dr. Robert Abbe six weeks ago and two weeks later was treated with radium.

Every effort was made to conceal the fact that he was under treatment, on account of the unassuming and modest nature of the distinguished soldier, who disliked to be the subject of public comment. Every officer of the Department of the East headquarters at Governor's Island was enjoined to secrecy and so considerable had their commander always been of them that the request of the General was observed in every particular and systematic denials were made of the alarming reports concerning his health.

The General made a brave fight for his life, and for a portion of the day he even attended to some of his correspondence. Although the evidence was overwhelming that the General was in St. Luke's Hospital, diplomatic denials of his presence there were made.

### Elders Son Of U. S. Grant.

Maj.-Gen. Frederick Dent Grant, eldest son of President Ulysses S. Grant, reached that rank in the United States Army on February 8, 1905, less than one year after he assumed command of the Department of the East, with headquarters on Governor's Island, in September of 1906. That command he retained until the illness which caused his death forced him to relinquish his duties and obtain leave of absence.

### WAR ON DEADLY WEAPONS.

#### Even Large Pocketknives Under the Ban in Washington.

Washington.—Citizens of this town who carry any deadly weapons hereafter will be liable to penitentiary sentence and fine, or both, by the terms of a bill passed in the House. Any Washingtonian who has a pocket-knife with a blade more than three inches long comes within the provisions.

## GETS DIVORCE FROM HIS SISTER-WIFE

### Knew Not Their Relationship at Time of Marriage.

### PARENTS OF TWO CHILDREN

#### Upon the Advice Of Judge Lueders, Of Cincinnati, the Couple Come Into Court and Explain Their Honest Mistake.

Cincinnati.—A strange story, which resulted in John P. Ruch, Jr., aged 22 years, being divorced from his sister, Helen Hoffman Ruch, 24, was related in the Insolvency Court here. The half-brother and half-sister were married October 25, 1910, neither at the time knowing of the blood relationship between them. The discovery of the relationship was disclosed a few weeks ago and the action for a divorce followed.

It was explained to the court that the mistake had been possible because of the fact that the mother, for a private reason, had hidden from the children the fact that they were brother and sister, allowing them to believe that the girl was only an adopted child.

The husband was given the custody of the two children.

The petition for divorce, filed by the husband, was upon the formal ground of neglect. The divorce was granted upon that ground for the purpose of protecting the young couple, so far as possible, in the record. The father and mother of the young couple were not in court when the hearing was held.

The relationship of the Ruchs was disclosed to the young husband and wife by Judge W. Lueders, of the Probate Court, a few weeks ago in the presence of their mother, Mrs. John P. Ruch. Neighbors of the Ruch family informed Judge Lueders that they believed the couple were half-brother and half-sister. He learned after investigation that the two had grown up together under the belief that the girl was only an adopted daughter of Mrs. Ruch. The youngest of their children is only a few weeks old. In securing the marriage license Ruch gave the young woman's name as Helen Hoffman.

"This young man came to the probate court in 1910 and secured a license to marry this young woman who, it since has been discovered, is his sister," said Judge Lueders to the court. "That was before the recent law was passed requiring both applicants for a marriage license to personally appear."

"The young man gave his name, age and address properly. He gave the young woman's name as Helen Hoffman and told her age and address. I am informed—in fact, I have investigated the matter carefully and feel certain that he did not know at that time that this young woman is his sister. The discovery was not made until a comparatively short time ago. I had them in my office and we tried to arrive at some solution for the problem presented. They have two children."

"They still love each other and love their children. I explained to them that although they might be able to keep the secret for years there will come a time as surely as anything human can be certain, when some one will have discovered it and it will be exposed possibly in their declining years. Or if the disclosure were to come not until after their death it would be left as a heritage to their children. Now they can come into court, honestly to explain an honest mistake and do the only thing in their power to rectify that mistake."

### Left \$5 To Husband.

New York.—Mrs. Louise Remsen, who died on March 26, 1912, left a will disposing of her \$5,500 estate, in which she bequeathed \$5 to her husband, to be paid in one hundred installments of five cents each. She gave the residue of her estate to her son, Carl, of this city. Harold Remsen, the husband, lives at No. 8 East Sixty-second street. His wife lived and died at No. 405 East One Hundred and Twenty-second street. She bequeathed \$1,000 each to her sister and brother and Degnon Nielson, a friend in Copenhagen.

### A "Pauper" Leaves \$10,000.

Johnstown, Pa.—Joseph Campalzo, an aged recluse, died here, and the undertaker, examining the effects, found \$10,000 in cash, stocks and other securities. Campalzo, known as "Old Joe," was believed to be in poverty.

### Firm For Two-Cent Rate.

Chicago.—Representatives of railroads affiliated with the Central Passenger Association have reaffirmed their decision to grant nothing less than two cents a mile for convention fares during the coming summer. Among the conventions affected by the two-cent rate are the Republican National Convention, in Chicago, and the Democratic National Convention, in Baltimore.

## ALL OVER THE STATE

Coplay.—The Coplay Cement Company, which shut down the latter part of March because of lack of fuel, has resumed operations.

Kutztown.—So scarce have potatoes become right in the Berks potato belt, that farmers pay \$1.50 a bushel for their own use.

Emaus.—Mr. and Mrs. George Weida were painfully hurt when thrown out of a carriage in a runaway on the Shimersville Pike.

Bethlehem.—The Government has taken over Zinzendorf Square, which has been purchased as a site for a new postoffice and public building.

Bangor.—Elmer Ackerman has been elected chief of the Bangor Fire Department and Palmer Cole assistant chief.

Reading.—Allen T. D. Johnson, a farmer of New Berlinville, committed suicide by hanging in his barn. He was sixty-six years old.

Wrightsville.—Falling down a flight of stairs, Mrs. Israel Ferree, of near town, eighty years old, fractured three ribs and may be hurt internally.

Allentown.—Because he moved to a farm in the lower end of Lehigh county, E. H. Scholl resigned as president of the South Allentown Borough Council.

Allentown.—Word has been received from Washington that the committee passed favorably on Congressman Rothermel's bill for a soil survey of Lehigh county at a cost of \$25,000.

Bath.—The borough is arranging for an Old Home Week celebration in August. Rev. J. E. Smith has been elected president of the organization having the event in charge.

Freeland.—John Smith, fourteen years old, of Wilkes-Barre, had both legs and an arm cut off while jumping from a Jersey Central freight train at White Haven.

Joanna.—In the Red Schoolhouse, near here, taught by Annie M. Stauffer, thirty of the pupils have the same name—Stoltzfus—and their fathers are all Amish farmers.

Allentown.—Favorable action was taken by the law department of Allentown to annex the borough of South Allentown, comprising 462 acres, with a population of 1,500 and an assessed valuation of \$500,000.

Bethlehem.—The rafting season on the Delaware River has begun. The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad has at the headwaters a raft of 50,000 ties which it is getting ready to send down the stream.

Sunbury.—While walking along the street near his house here, Herbert Beck, five years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Beck, was bitten in the hand by a mad dog. He was sent to a Pasteur institute for treatment.

South Bethlehem.—Prof. W. S. Landis, of Lehigh University, who is a member of the Bethlehem School Board, has received an offer of a position in Germany at a salary of \$6,000, which it is likely he will accept.

Allentown.—Dr. Noack and Dr. Rider, of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board, addressed the Finance Committee of Allentown Councils and the Board of Health in the interest of an ordinance they introduced for meat and milk inspection.

Allentown.—Robert Carrol, an amateur poultry fancier, thinks he made a bad start because the product of a setting of eggs, guaranteed to be the finest White Wyandottes, for which he paid ten dollars, is a lot of lively little ducks.

Kutztown.—George Rhode, of town, and Seth Kline, of Greenwich township, had a hearing before Alderman Weber, charged with polluting streams. After promising the State Health Department to remedy the cause and paying the costs, they were discharged.

Allentown.—The Allentown Free Library Association, which during the past month received \$14,000 from the citizens of the city to liquidate its debt, held a meeting for organization, at which Dr. George Taylor Ettinger, dean of Muhlenberg College, was elected president.

Bethlehem.—Robert B. Ott, an insurance broker, who is alleged to have pulled a revolver on Deputy Sheriff Henry Reed, of Easton, when the latter attempted to arrest Ott on a court judgment, was found here by Constable Harry Brown and was taken to Easton.

Lebanon.—When David Wenger, of New Fredericksburg, ran to an out-kitchen, to learn the cause of smoke issuing from that place, he found his wife, thirty years old, burning to death, her clothing having caught fire from a stove. She was rescued, but is in a precarious condition.

Allentown.—The Grand Jury in the "poison pie" case, in which John Kulp, of Egypt, accused his wife, Hannah Sneyd Kulp, of attempting to murder him and his whole family, knocked the bottom out of the case by returning not a true bill.

Greensburg.—Awakened by the sound of two revolver shots, Mrs. Ferdinand Salvatore sat up in bed at her house, and glancing at her husband saw he had been shot dead as he slept. The assassin had fired through a window from a ladder placed against the house.