

Local Authorities Thoroughly AT WORK ON EVERY STREET

Worked Up Over the Cholera Scare.

The Highway Department Purifying

and Cleaning the City.

BLOCK CLUBS ARE SUGGESTED.

Colocel Roberts Writes the Mayor About

The combined efforts of the city's officers

are working wonders in the sanitation of the

the streets, alleys and sewers were con-

cerned. There are now at this work, and

have been for the past three days, 375 men.

Part of this force labors at night, so that

there can be no intermission in the effort to

with, and their men are helping in the

sanitary movement. 'Nearly all the street

work and are lending a hand to sanitation.

day at cleaning out that notoriously filthy

place, the "Yellow Row," on Second ave-

nue, and Greenough street nearby. An-

other force worked the streets, alleys and

sewers in the Seventh and Eighth wards.

Some good work was done in the courts and

alleys around Webster avenue and Wash-

the slimy deposit there was washed away. Pushing the Work.

the same as the city streets and cleaned thor-

comes when it is thought cholera danger

By Sunday they will be in the pink of condition, and we will keep them so. There

are a number of courts and alleys occupied

by a filthy class of people which look as if

oughly when necessary.

Yesterday one large force of men put in the

Street Cleaning.

were quoted against it. Nothing definite was done on this point. It was learned yesterday that the bear trap at the dam had been opened, allowing the slimy green water to pass off the surface. The superin-ALLEGED EFFECT ON RUSSIAN OIL and employes and of the people themselves tendent of the dam says this is all that is necessary. By opening the dam, he says, there would be more danger of disease than if it is left elements municipality. Superintendent Andrews, of the Street Department, said last night that if it is left closed.

by Sunday Pittsburg would be as clean as it would be possible to make it, in so far as SUGGESTIONS TO THE MAYOR.

Colonel T. r. Roberts Writes a Warning About the Flith and Disease-Breeding Matter Ender the Pavements-How Sewers Are Finshed,

keep out the expected cholera scourge, and Colonel Thomas P. Roberts yesterday the work is being carried on in all wrote Mayor Gourley, offering to His Honor sections of the city. Superintendent some valuable hints and suggestions. Among McKnight, of Schenley Park, and other things, the Colonel says: Superintendent Paisley, of Highland, have

Right upon our principal business streets, judging from the exhalations arising from each reduced their forces of men in the parks to what they can barely get along the manholes in the subways, there must be many of them needing attention. Sometimes these places are stuffed full of old boxes sweepings, rubbish, etc., and where they are sweepings, rubbish, etc., and where they are in such condition as to be inaccessible to a critical examination. I think they should be sprinkled liberally with fresh ground lime to take up the dampness, and then they should be funisated with burning suppur. Where there are leaks from the street gut-ter keeping the walls wet, they should be, I think, plastered with Portland coment and stand, (mized in equal parts.) Those cellars which are extra warm from the heat from steau boilers require special care, warmth and dampness together forming a perfect seed bed for the propagation of disease germs. repairmen have been taken away from that

a statu onlers require special care, warmen and dampness together forming a perfect seed bed for the propagation of disease germs. Regarding the mouths of the sewers upon the river front, I will cail your attention to the method in vogne with many of the coal operators in the upper parts of deepening or cleaning out their landings. They place a stern wheel steamer above them alking shore, with the wheel down stream. the boat being then made fast the wheels are made to revolve and a powerful current is created. At Walton station I have seen a boat in this way create a powerful shore current which extended down stream for fully 300 yards. Of course while the boat is at work stirring up the foul bottom below a sewer there would arise considerable stench, but this would presently disappear as the boat was made to move down, push-ing the contaminated shore waters more and more out into the stream where there is current enough to carry it away at the mate of at least a mile a day. Some additional current would be given the Monongahele harbor pool for at least one day's time by drawing of some of the water from the pools alove, and President Moor-head will gladly accede to this at the com-pany's expense if the method above proposed promises to be carried out. By these means I think in one day the Monon-gahela river sewers, and shores could be effectually chared with the aid of say two small towboats. The next day the Allegheny shores could be treated in the same manner. I would hesitate to advise doing this after the epidemic had actually reached the city. I know that the Board of Health is well manazed and is energetic, at leas I judge so from my knowledge acquired in that service during the typhoid epidemic on the Southside in 1879, so that with the additional work of the police and other authorities I believe that our city can be put in a first-cises senter condition. ington street inhabited by Italians, Russian Hebrews and other foreigners. The pond on Junilla street, Thirteenth ward, was flushed yesterday, the drop was opened and The Spring and Mulberry alley districts in the Ninth, Tenth and Twelfth wards were given considerable attention, but it will require another day or two to finish them up. Out in Lawrenceville, Bloomfield and the East Eud and on the whole Southside the cleansing process is being pushed ahead vigorously. Although the city does not recognize an alley less than 15 feet wide, regarding such as private alleys and requiring abutting owners to keep them in condition, just now they are treated All this work being done by the city will be continued each day until cold weather will be past. Superintendent Andrews said vesterday: "I don't think the streets of Pittsburg were ever before so clean as now.

been touched within 24 and never hours after they have been cleaned. We attend to them the same as the others, but more frequently. We are following up every case reported to us by the police or Bureau of Health. Where a sewer drop or an alley needs attention, men are put to work cleaning it up at once. The people themselves are doing great work in many instances, but in my observatious I have noticed that the people who should do the most cleaning and disinfecting of their cellars and back yards are doing the least of it. Some of our business men down town should look to their cellars and vaults under the sidewalks. They are just as dangerous as if located in the residence district, and some are in had condition."

No More Fruitful Fields.

The Bloomfield and Hazelwood districts are giving the street department much concern, and it is believed that if the cholera reaches the city it will play have in those sections. Bloomfield is only partially secured. The majority of houses are connected with no sewers at all, and many of the people are still using the water from the old wells in that district. This the authorities especially fear, they say the in the ground around the wells. A large main sewer in Bloomfield is nearly com-pleted, but has not been connected with the properties.

At Hazelwood these conditions exist. There are few sewers. Some of the streets are in a horrible condition, and many of the people seem to pay no attention to sanitation. One of the sanitary inspectors out there vesterday found a ton or more of garbage in the back yard of a wealthy resident, the stench of which was appalling. Vespucius street, Herbert street and Flow-ers avenue have been complained about frequently. When the inspector went out there yesterday he was not surprised that complaints had been made. The streets were reeking with filth, and it is remark-thle that an epidemic has not resulted betore now. Efforts have been made by the Public Works Department several times to Profile Works Department several times to Inve Hazelwood sewered, and ordinances idversion have been introduced in Councils, but each time some of the interested per-sons, through their influence in Councils, have bud the improvements stopped. "They will reap their reward for this if the cholera comes to Pittsburg," said Super-intendent Paislev yesterday. "In a thickly populated district it is worse than folly to output statch a mechanic improvement and

populated district it is worse than folly to oppose such a necessary improvement as newers. No better argument could be ad-vanced for severs than the present danger. It will be a better one if the cholera comes, for it will undoubtedly rage the worst in the unsewered sections. I consider it minimal mediument for a section of the sect criminal negligence for a man owning prop-erty in a populated section to oppose the construction of proper drainage to it."

A General Wail Goes Up.

The Bureau of Health received nearly 200 letters of complaint yesterday. They were mostly from the Southside, Bloomfield and Lawrenceville. Several localities in Law-renceville have been in bad condition, but cleaning is in progress there now. Super-intendent Baker, in speaking of the work being done in the tenement districts, yesterday said:

"I was surprised in going through the foreign colonies of the Seventh and Eighth foreign colonies of the Seventh and Eighth wards to-day to see the way the people have been obeying orders. They are scared and it is well for them. Many of them had cleaned out cellars, whitewashed their rooms. In several places where I did not expect it they had even scrubbed their floors. Many of these people claim they cannot afford to buy lime to whitewash, but will willingly apply it if furnished them. We have purchased a large quanti-ty of good lime and will supply it in such cases rather than bother running after the landfords. landlords.

At the meeting of city officials yesterday morning it was decided to issue 50,000 cir-culars to the people calling for extra-ordinary efforts to ward off oholers. Mayor A pound of fresh dry lime can take up three times its weight in water.

TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.

tion of Block Committees-H. Tells of the Former Efforts of Such an Organization .- An Interesting Latter,

George H. Thurston, of Pittsburg, has decided views on the cholera question. He writes suggesting the organization of block committees, and makes other suggestions of value and interest. The letter is appended: It is evident from the way in which the quarentine regulations on the seaboard are being enforced, that in all probability the cholera germs will obtain entrance into the United States. It is evident that the old adage, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is the initatory step in the profection of Pittsburg from the disease. It is evident that "ounce of pre-vention" is making the city clean, not only on the highways, but on each premise, There is no doubt that while the city authorities are preparing to do this work that it will take so much time under official action, and want of force or money, that the cholera germs, which travel quicker than official action, will get here before we have a clean city. I, therefore, am bold to make the suggestion that in all parts of the city there should be at once organized block committees, who will take charge of their respective blocks and see that they are clean. In connection therewith I suggest that those block committees should be women. Women are the most interested in preserving the city from disease, for it is upon the health and it women need not, nor should not, be a matter of public meeting or of official appointment. There is not a block in the city, or very tew, in which there are not two or three women capable of not only taking charge of this sanitary work, but with execu-tive ability to see it properly done. If those women in each block will call in their neighbors and organize their own block committee and organize their own block in a week be as clean as the best appointed house after the spring cleaning. Men could, of course, do it, but they could not or would not spare from day to day time, and any-way a woman knows more in an hour what is a clean premise, than a man would in a week. being enforced, that in all probability the cholera germs will obtain entrance into the

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Where there was any difficulty, from the character or ignorance of the duellers, the city officials could be called on, and would promptly enforce the sanitary laws. This is only a suggestion, but those who recollect the efficient work the women of this city did during the war, how in all charitable work they not only do it promptly, but efficiently, will see that if the women will take hold personally of the city "house cleaning" that the work will be not only more promptly, but thoroughly done, then by the city authorities alone. As before suid, there is not a block in which there are not women capable of the work, and sil that is needed is that in every block the women shall determine that their block at least shall have no cholera breed-ers in it.

Let the city authorities take charge of the rivers and the streets and the business blocks, giving official recognition and sup-port to the voluntary block committees and retrain from impeding them by official red

port to the voluntary block committees and retrain from impeding them by official red tane. Tersonally I have no fear of the disense. It is evidently the offspring of filth, im-proper living and fear. I was, during the cholera visitation of ISM active in business in the city, and folt no tear nor experienced the least intimation of an attack. I do not now, it the disease is not suffered to become a pestilence from neglect of sanitary pre-cations and prudential living. I do not wish to be understood as suggest-ing the organization of a general committee of woncy, with all the impedimenta of officers, sub-committees, reports, etc., but simply an independent committee in each block acting under such leader or leaders as the dwellers in each block may give charge of the work. It simply means that every woman takes charge of her own premises, without waiting for police protection, and does her work clinertuly under the block com-mittee do theirs contrements or of the block committee, and the block com-mittee to theirs courteensity and neigh-borly, without unneighborly comment or gossip. gossip.

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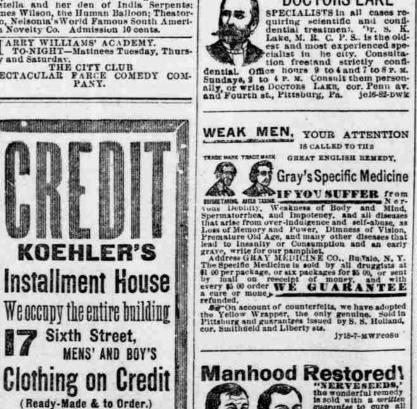
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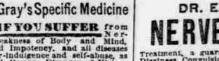
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