

PROGRESS of the WORLD

SOME THINGS THE BUSY WORKER IS DOING FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CIVILIZATION

Make Boy a Genius

Super Training, Says Sidis, Will Produce Race of Mental Giants.

HOW BOY WONDER GREW UP

Father of Twelve-Year-Old Harvard Student Whose Amazing Precocity Has Startled Educators, Tells of His Training.

We are drifting into national degeneracy. We are becoming a crowd of well drilled, well disciplined, commonplace individuals, with strong Philistine habits and notions of general inferiority. We have clever business men, cunning artisans, resourceful politicians, adroit leaders of new cults, but no artists, no scientists, no philosophers, no statesmen, no genuine talent, and no true genius.

Boris Sidis, one of the leading psychologists of the times, says we are blind to the barbaric evils of our environment—in fact, he calls us bat blind, stock blind, mole blind, and one blind.

In his essay, "Philistine and Genius," recently published, Sidis appeals to the fathers and mothers of the country to wake up to these evils of the times, to strive for the education of genius, and not the training of philistines. As the father of William James Sidis, the twelve-year-old boy student of Harvard whose amazing precocity has startled staid educators all over the world over, he is peculiarly qualified to speak with authority on systems of education, since he claims that the boy's remarkable development is not in the least due to heredity or abnormality, but is entirely a result of careful training. Here is what he says of him:

"As fathers and mothers, it may interest you to learn of one of those boys who were brought up in the love and enjoyment of knowledge for its own sake. At the age of twelve, when their children of his age are hardly able to spell and read, and drag a miserable mental existence at the pron strings of some antiquated school dame, the boy is intensely enjoying courses in the highest branches of mathematics and astronomy at one of our foremost universities. The lad and the Odysseus are known to him by heart, and he is deeply interested in the advanced work of classical philology. He is able to read Herodotus, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, Lucian and other Greek writers with the same ease and ease as our schoolboy reads 'Robinson Crusoe,' or the productions of Cooper and Henty.

"The boy has a fair understanding of comparative philology and mythology. He is well versed in logic, ancient history, American history, and as a general insight into our politics and into the groundwork of our constitution. At the same time he is of

an extremely happy disposition, brimming over with humor and fun. His physical condition is splendid, his cheeks glow with health."

At the time that the Sidis boy, then eleven years old, gave his lecture on "Four Dimensional Bodies" before Harvard's Mathematical club, when seventy-five erudite professors gaped at the youngster in knickerbockers glibly wrestling with Euclidian theories, his father gave out a few interesting facts about his early training. When the child was but a few months old he was trained to identify the elements of sound by means of alphabet blocks that were held up before him and named, day after day, either by Dr. Sidis or his wife, who co-operated with her husband enthusiastically in all his educational theories. After a time he learned to spell by means of these same blocks, which were formed into words on the floor and the corresponding objects pointed out to him. Thus, before he was two years old he was able to read and spell easily. He was taught to count in much the same manner, and when he was five years old he had devised a method to tell on what day of the week any given date would fall.

Seeing his father operate the typewriter one day, he at once recognized the superiority of this method of ex-

pressing himself over laborious handwriting, and quickly picked up the trick of manipulating it.

The main principles of Dr. Sidis' educational theories are based upon what he calls the law of reserve mental energy—the principle of stored up, dormant, potential, subconscious energy. The ordinary stimuli of life are quite unable to reach this store of unused energy, and even have a tendency to choke it up and strangle it. You may have had the experience yourself, after prolonged mental work, of feeling greatly fatigued; but if necessity required you to keep on working, after a time this feeling of fatigue seemed to pass away. You are then drawing on your reserve mental energy. There is nothing, he affirms, that will prevent the liberation of this reserve energy so much as fixed adaptations, stable habits.

Quaint Wind Mills.

Silos are just coming into favor among dairymen, although the most of the corn-fodder is still shocked in the field until after husking time, and then built into tall, conical stacks, giving the landscape a picturesqueness that is worth seeing.

There are no large rivers and streams on the island of Aquidneck to furnish water power, and the quaint windmills seem artistically situated on the hilltops, as though to embellish the landscape.—Frank P. Fogg in National Magazine.

Helping the Blind

Merchants Provide Means Whereby Sightless People Help Themselves.

PROVES A GREAT SUCCESS

"Blind Section" Where All Blind People in Country Can Send Their Work to Be Sold Is Wonderful Help.

A few years ago a department store in New York undertook to help the blind to help themselves. After discussing methods to obtain the best results it was decided to start a "blind section" where all the blind people in the country could send their work to be sold. Every kind of work from literary efforts to needle and bead work was to be accepted, sold, and the proceeds sent to the maker. The store furnished the space, paid a clerk to wait upon the customers, and the contributors received the entire amount of their sale minus any expense charges that had to be paid. Nothing was charged for the space or the clerk. The effort proved satisfactory and the store still retains its "blind department."

The venture in the east was watched anxiously by the Illinois department for the blind and last fall a Chi-

cago department store became interested in the work. One of the managers was sent to New York to investigate. He returned much impressed, his only criticism being that the clerk in charge was not interested enough in the work. This fault was remedied in the Chicago venture when a woman, who for twelve years had lived with Mrs. Kate Selby, treasurer for the Illinois department of the blind, and the mother of a blind son, was chosen to act as a clerk. It is largely due to their efforts that the new department has met with such success.

Last December a blind department was opened in this store and that month the sales amounted to \$300. Every cent clear, mind, to the unfortunate people of the United States who are deprived of their sight. That is, every cent but a small sum that had been paid out for expressage.

And such a variety of articles as were sent in! Every nook and cranny of the United States seemed to be represented. Industrial homes, schools for the blind, individuals, all sent their donations. The ages of the contributors ranged from 6 to 89.

Bead work, hand work, lace, rag carpets, baskets, brooms, books, poetry, music—everything, in fact, that one could imagine found its way to the blind department. Every color and design conceivable seemed to be among the articles. The baby goods were resplendent and reasonable, for the blind workers mark the value of their own goods. Be it exorbitant or otherwise, the price stands just as it is marked.

Most common of all the work is the bead work, which is easy for the sightless to learn. Every blind person learns bead work while in school. The fine hand work, hemstitching, hemming, and all the other stitches would prove a credit to one with sight, and looking at the perfection of the work it seems impossible to believe that one without the gift of vision could accomplish such exquisite work.

The books, all well written, are numerous. The music is catchy and sweet, although often a strain of pathos appears. But there is little that is not hopeful and joyful, for the blind are said to be the most happy natures.

Thus far the section has done fairly well and the contributors are continuing to send in more "wares" as they receive at the end of each month a check covering the amount received from the sale of their contributions.

LATE INVENTIONS.

A storage battery suspended from the frame supplies the motive power for a new motorcycle.

To keep a motorist's hands warm there has been invented a gauntlet heated by the engine exhaust.

For use with small boats a Wisconsin man has invented a folding anchor, the arms of which lock when it is opened.

German engineers have perfected a machine for weighing locomotives which provides separate scales for each wheel.

A three-pronged gas burner with a long handle, to be connected with a gas jet by tubing, has been invented for igniting fuel in coal ranges.

A balloon which, when deflated, can be packed in its basket and carried on a man's back, has been invented by a French aeronaut.

A fireman's helmet invented in Germany may be connected with a line of hose in such a manner that he can be surrounded by a falling curtain of water.

Lofty Plumage



In spite of the efforts of the Audubon society on this side of the Atlantic, and kindred organizations on the other, there is a very decided return to plumage decorations in the latest fall autumn millinery. And when fickle fashion calls, sense and sentiment have to give way, as is shown in this instance.

In the picture above is seen one of

these latest hats. The feathers are those of the ordinary rooster, shaped and trimmed to a height that is in direct contrast to the broad, low perfection of last year. There is apparently no limit to the lofty altitudes to which these hats may reach. The body of the hat is of bronze-brown velvet, with an upturned brim that rises front and rear.

NEW TRICK IN MILLINERY

Long Strings of Black Velvet Are Seen on Little Bonnets This Season.

"Straws show which way the wind blows." So, also, do the little bonnets of tulle, coquettishly set upon the waved and puffed coiffure and engarlanded with myosotis, and the large tagals lined with felt, that have quite taken the place of almost all other forms of headgear during the last few weeks.

Every one of them have long strings of black velvet which are tied at the side and at the back and have thin long ends floating, or caught with a jeweled pin high over the bust and on the left side.

The "sleeve" string is simply a very long loop of broad velvet ribbon, through which the arm is slipped. It hangs loosely on the left side under the arm.

This new trick in millinery is causing not a little comment regarding its probable popularity, but withal seems to be finding favor in the eyes of the great dictators of styles.

A SPORT'S COAT



This useful coat might well be made in tweed or rough serge. It has the upper part set to the basque under the waist-band, which is of material cut the reverse way, as also are the cuffs and collar.

The cap is of the same material as coat.

Materials required: 2 yards 48 inches wide.

Angora Wool.

Angora wool, ever so beautiful, soft and fleecy, is made up in many attractive forms. A dull green sweater coat is \$22, but it is the loveliest thing of its kind. Unlike all the awkward things that are accustomed to being crowded under coats and make the wearer entirely miserable, this one is soft and pliable, clinging to the figure in nice lines. It has pockets and belt and is finished down the front with small smoked pearl buttons. There are scarves, too, of this fleecy Angora yarn, long and soft and loosely woven, though warm as toast. They come either in pure white or with a purple striped border.

TIMELY TIP ON LINGERIE

Among Prettiest Corset Covers Are Those That Fit into Peplum at Waist.

The busy "bachelor maid," who has no one to look after the little details of her wardrobe, but must attend to them in the bits and edges of time after business hours when she would be glad to stretch out and relax in place of fussing with tapes and ribbons, continues to buy or make her corset covers and "combinations" with beadings or casings at waist and neck edges, in which ribbons must be run if they are to be worn with any comfort.

Yet among the prettiest corset covers of the present day are those that fit into a peplum at the waist line, a narrow insertion or tiny band of folded lawn covering the join and rendering a "draw tape" superfluous, and those that have the fullness at the upper edge gathered daintily, to fit, once and for all, under a similar finishing band to which the lace or embroidery around the neck is joined.

Reference is not made to the close fitting corset cover, which reminds one of a fitted lining. These peplum corset covers have a slight fullness at the waist line, gathered into the band, and almost as much at the upper edges, before finishing, as if the beading were to be used, with baby ribbon to draw it close. And they yield nothing to the other style, either in prettiness of appearance or perfection of finish. Moreover, they quite eliminate all unnecessary "bunching" at the waist line, which advantage, considering the present styles, is recommending them more and more to "those who know."

A Good Hint.

In an emergency, where one has to evolve a "fancy" costume with little time and apparently less material, something very lovely can be made of several of the beautiful evening scarfs, either the spangled ones or plain ones. Nearly every woman will possess a scarf of one kind or another and these can be borrowed, as no damage need be done to them. Over a white dress hang two or more of the silver spangled ones, so that they fall from the shoulders down as far as possible on either side. Then wind others about the hips and around the head, crossing a piece over the forehead and another over the chin and lower part of the face. The eastern effect is graceful and usually very becoming.

White Felt Hats.

Although every one may not accept the fashion for white felt hats in hot weather, it is probable that they will be the first choice as soon as the cool weather comes back. They will make admirable early fall hats, simply trimmed, with a bow of black velvet or taffeta ribbon.

One should not attempt to put anything ornate on them, although it is probable we shall see them trimmed in morning glories, in cherries, in plums, and in small red apples.

The Resourceful Girl.

She is a perfect treasure, and far more necessary for the comfort of a home than a patent carpet sweeper or even a telephone. Her suggestions in an emergency are always sensible and to the point; she does not waste time in moaning and groaning over what can't be helped, and makes the best of whatever material comes to hand.



POULTRY

GOOD QUALITIES OF CAPONS

Although Industry is Growing Rapidly Supply Does Not Begin to Equal the Demand.

(By R. R. SLOCUM.)

A capon is a male chicken bearing the same relation to a cockerel that a steer does to a bull, a barrow to a boar or a wether to a ram. As with other animals of this kind, the disposition of the capon differs materially

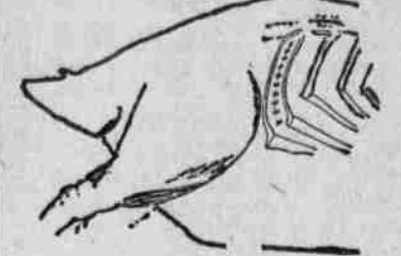


Diagram Showing Where Incision Should Be Made Between Last Two Ribs.

from that of the cockerel. He no longer shows any disposition to fight, is much more quiet and is easy to keep within bounds. The true capon never crows. Along with this change in disposition there is a change in appearance. The comb and wattles cease growing, which causes the head to appear small. The hacker and saddle feathers develop beautifully. Indeed, these feathers and the undeveloped comb and wattles serve to identify the capon and in consequence should never be removed when the bird is dressed for the market.

As a result of the more peaceful disposition, the capon continues to grow and his body develops more uniformly and to a somewhat greater size than is the case with the cockerel of the same age. For a time the cockerel and the capon make about equal development, but in a short time the capon outstrips the cockerel in growth.

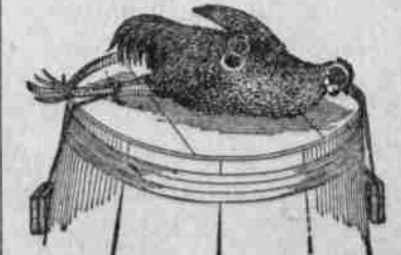
As they do not fight nor worry one another, a large flock of capons may be kept together. Coupled with the better growth is the fact that the capon brings a better price per pound. Cockerels up to 5 months old usually bring from 12 to 18 cents a pound; if held longer than this they are classed as old cocks and do not bring more than 6 to 12 cents a pound.

There are two reasons, then, why it is better to caponize surplus cockerels than to raise them for market as such: (1) There is an increase in weight, and (2) the price per pound is materially increased.

Yet in many localities where especially fine poultry is raised, while capons usually sell for a somewhat better price the difference is not great. In fact, for the Boston market many capons are picked clean and sold as "South Shore roosters." Hence it will be seen that the profit in capons must depend to a great extent upon local conditions.

In selecting the breed best suited for caponizing, several factors must be taken into consideration. Large capons bring the best prices. Consequently the breed should be large. It does not pay to caponize small fowls. Yellow legs and skin, as in other classes of poultry, are most popular.

The Plymouth Rocks, Light Brahmas, Cochins, Indian Games, Langshans and Wyandottes are all recommended by different producers, as are also various crosses of these. The Brahmas and Cochins possess good size. By some the Brahmas are claimed to be difficult to operate upon; by others this is denied. The Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes are somewhat smaller, but sell readily and possess the advantage of yellow skin and legs. The Langshan is large and is easily operated upon. The Indian Game is probably the most useful as a cross upon some one of the



Method of Securing Fowl; Also Spreader in Place.

other breeds, thereby improving the breast meat without materially reducing the size of the fowl. In Massachusetts the Brahma was formerly the most popular breed for this purpose, because of the demand for large birds for roasters. Later, crosses between the Light Brahma and the Barded or White Plymouth Rock became quite popular, while at present the pure Barded and White Plymouth Rocks are also considered suitable and are widely used.

Prevents Indigestion.

Charcoal is very effective in preventing indigestion, which is a common ailment among poultry of all kinds and of all ages, and as is very well known by all who are in the business, indigestion is one of the forerunners of poultry diseases.

Brazil Aids Workmen

IMPORTANT LAW ENACTED TO GIVE THEM CHEAP HOMES.

Government Grants Land on Graded Rentals and Will Loan Construction Funds and Provide Plans for the Houses.

Recently enacted legislation favoring the construction and maintenance of cheap homes for workmen in Rio de Janeiro has just been promulgated by the president of Brazil. The principal features of the new law are exemption from payment of import duties on material for use in construction; authorization to the municipal government to exempt contractors from the payment of municipal taxes for a period of not less than 15 years; a specified percentage earning to determine the rental to be collected from tenants; the grant of available land owned by the federal government not necessary for other purposes, to be used for building sites, and authorization to the executive to loan building companies funds from the national savings institution for the purposes cited.

Building companies to receive these special favors must contract with the municipality to insure the exemption from all municipal taxes on the transfer of land, construction, holding and transfer of houses built thereon. Houses must be built on sites approved by the government as being hygienic and on streets not less than 30 meters wide or eventually to be enlarged to that minimum. Provision must be made for sewerage, water and light connections, and each house must be so constructed as to have an independent entrance.

The government will draw plans for the construction of the houses, making provision for different styles and sizes and specifying the kind and amount of material to be used, the total cost of same and the maximum

price at which the respective houses are to pay in rentals.

No house may be built for less than \$1,625, and in no case may the annual rent charged exceed 15 per cent. of the cost of construction and price paid for building lot. The building company must oblige itself to sell, either for cash or on an installment plan, any house which a tenant may wish to purchase, at a price not to exceed 10 per cent. in excess of the original cost. The concessionaire must issue provisional title to any tenant proposing to buy a home, taking as security a life insurance policy issued to the tenant by a company recognized by the government as competent, the amount of the policy not to exceed the official valuation of the property.—Consular Reports.

No Chance for "Cold Feet."

By means of electricity it is now proposed to make the carpet, the Persian rug, or the tiger's pelt as warm in winter as the latter was while worn by the tiger. In Germany the experiment is now being tried of wiring the floor covering so as to heat the carpet or rug and do away with cold floors. A patent has been taken out for running wires through the carpet in parallel lines in such a way that an ordinary lighting current can be run through the wires. The conductor becomes warm and heats the carpet. The heat in large carpets can be controlled as desired and the carpet will remain warm for two or three hours after the current is turned off. A small foot rug can be heated and taken for comfort during a carriage ride.

The wiring of carpets for this purpose is new, but patents have been issued before for passing wires or wire gauze through compartments in table covers, carpets, and other coverings for lighting purposes.

Not Evenly Distributed.

One fool in a family ought to be enough, but it seldom happens that way.