

THE CAUSE OF BALDNESS

A NEW THEORY THAT BAD BREATHING IS RESPONSIBLE

Poison in Stagnant Air—Decomposed in Unused Part of the Lungs, It Produces Substance Which Kills Hair—Proved on Dogs and Birds.

That baldness is merely a matter of breathing is a theory which has been promulgated by Dr. Delos L. Parker, of Detroit, Mich. Dr. Parker, who is lecturer on materia medica in the Detroit College of Medicine, has made a series of interesting experiments in support of his hypothesis, the results of which he gives at length in the Medical Record.

Dr. Parker believes that air which is drawn into the lungs and allowed to remain in the air cells there is decomposed by the moist warmth of the body, throwing off a poison, "trichotoxin," into the blood, which causes the hair to fall out. The reason why baldness is so much more common among men than among women, he says, is that the habit of wearing corsets forces women to use the upper part of the lungs in breathing, and it is there that the hair poison is chiefly generated.

In order to prove his theory, Dr. Parker had bald headed men exhale their breath into a vessel free from air, and it was transferred into bottle partly filled with water. After permitting it to remain in the bottle long enough to impregnate the water with the hair poison the water was injected under the skin of dogs, hens and pigeons. The result was that the hair of the dogs and the feathers of the hens and pigeons fell out while the injections were continued and grew again when they ceased.

Millions of tiny hollow spaces known as "air cells" occur in the lungs. They vary in size from one two-hundredth to one-seventeenth of an inch in diameter. If they could all be opened and spread out they would cover an area from 100 to 130 times greater than the area of the skin. These air cells are gathered into groups less than an inch in diameter, and each group is connected with the bronchial tubes. Owing to this arrangement air may be taken into and expelled from some of the groups of air cells while it remains motionless or stagnant in others.

When the ribs which enclose the upper portion of the chest are raised and lowered in breathing air is taken into and expelled from every part of the lungs, because all the ribs are connected, and the upper ones cannot be raised without raising the lower ones, thus expanding the entire cavity. Women usually employ this method of breathing, but when the lower ribs are raised it does not follow that the extreme upper ribs must move, too.

Dr. Parker also points out that in ordinary breathing only one-sixth of the air in the lungs is driven out with each breath. The air expelled from the lungs contains very small quantities of organic matter, as well as hydrogen, and marsh gas has been established by research. From birth to death the lungs are never entirely empty of stagnant air containing these substances.

Persons who lead sedentary lives are especially likely to become bald, because lack of exercise reduces the amount of oxygen obtained by the blood and tends to prevent full breathing. The habit of bending over desks, which contracts the upper parts of the lungs and keeps them contracted, has the same effect. In old age baldness becomes quite common because the ribs grow more rigid and are less easily moved.

When Dr. Parker began his experiments he obtained from a middle-aged man who had long been bald, a large bag full of expired air. This was transferred to a bottle partly filled with water, and placed in an incubator, where it was kept for ten days at a temperature of ninety-eight degrees. Injections of the impregnated water were made daily in a fox terrier and a hen. After fourteen injections the dog commenced to lose its hair and the hen its feathers. After fifty-two injections large bare patches were visible on both subjects.

Neither subject showed any signs of disturbed health during the progress of the experiments. The dog played as usual, and seemed to be in good spirits, while the hen continued to lay eggs. Their weight remained unchanged. After the injections ceased a new coat of hair covered the bare patches in the dog and the hen got her feathers back.

Convinced that his theory was correct, Dr. Parker determined to make a new set of experiments, in October of last year. First he obtained the breath of a man who was not bald, then he filled a flask with the breath of a man who was bald, and finally one containing ordinary atmospheric air. All these were placed in the incubator to allow decomposition to take place. In this experiment he used one fox terrier, five hens and five pigeons, all fully grown.

Injections into the dog from the two flasks of expired air, one from a bald man and the other from a man not bald, had the same effect as in the first experiment. Similar treatment of the hens and pigeons was followed by the same results. Only those which were treated with the liquid from the first two flasks were affected.

Dr. Parker concludes from these experiments that when human breath is kept long enough to allow decomposition of the organic matter which it contains to take place it creates a poison which in the blood of certain animals acts upon the hair and similar tissues and has no other effect. Summing up the results of his investigations, Dr. Parker says:

"It seems not unreasonable to conclude that baldness, of the type under

consideration, is caused by an auto-infection in which trichotoxin is taken up by the blood from the air-cells of the lungs, where it has been elaborated during decomposition of organic matter normally present in respired air."

Though Dr. Parker does not suggest it is possible for any person threatened with baldness to test the theory by habitually breathing with the entire lungs. If Dr. Parker is correct, this expedient ought to stop the falling of the hair.

To Chloroform a Person.
The only way to render a person unconscious by the use of chloroform is in the way practiced by surgeons in the operating room. And this is by no means an easy task. There are several ways of doing it. The chloroform may be dropped on a handkerchief, which is then held over the face at some little distance, or it may be dropped on a sponge, or it may be used in one of the innumerable machines invented for the purpose. But the vapor must be mixed with air before it is breathed. That is the reason the handkerchief or the sponge is held some inches from the face. As a rule, it takes from five to eight minutes to make the person unconscious, and during this time he generally struggles very violently.

It is probable that many of the charges of chloroforming which have been made are false. Sometimes the pretended victim asserts that he has become unconscious immediately. But it has been shown in evidence that the time necessary to bring about this result is at least four or five minutes. Sometimes he says he could not cry out; yet he describes all the circumstances of the administration minutely. Now, the first effect of the chloroform is to produce confusion of the mind, while, on the other hand, the patient can cry out almost up to the last. He becomes mentally confused before he loses the power of speech. These few facts are sufficient perhaps to demonstrate that some charges of possible chloroforming are necessarily untrue.—London Mail.

The Meaning of a Trade-Mark.
In a case recently decided by the United States Supreme Court, covering the trade-mark laws of the country, Chief Justice Miller delivered the opinion, in the course of which he called attention to several salient points. Attention was first called to the early use of the term "trade-mark" and its meaning as a distinctive mark of authenticity, through which the products of particular manufacturers or the vendible commodities of certain merchants may be distinguished from those of others.

A trade-mark may consist of any symbol or any form of words, but as its office is to point out distinctively the origin or ownership of the articles to which it is affixed, it follows that no sign or form of words can be appropriated as a valid trade-mark which, from the nature of the fact conveyed by its primary meaning, others may employ with equal truth, and with equal right for the same purpose. A general rule has been established to the effect that words that do not in and of themselves indicate anything in the nature of origin, manufacture or ownership, but are merely descriptive of the place where an article is manufactured or produced, cannot be monopolized as a trade-mark.

Fitted to His Position.
Sir Henry Poland, a British magistrate noted for his brilliancy, is careless in his dress. Once his family persuaded him to go to Poole and order a fashionable cut suit. To the chagrin of the household Sir Henry looked more outlandish in the new clothes than in his old ones. His brother-in-law went to see Poole about it. "It is not my fault, sir," the tailor assured him. "Every care was taken, but how could we fit a gentleman who would insist upon being measured sitting down?" And the only satisfaction that could be obtained from Sir Harry Poland himself later on was the dry comment: "Well, it's my business, and not yours. I like to be comfortable. I spend three parts of my life sitting down, and I prefer to be measured so."—New York Tribune.

Remarkable Memory Shown by Canaries.
"St. Andrewsberg people know nothing of the canary of the encyclopedia, which can imitate perfectly the nightingale, or even enunciate some words in imitation of the human voice," declares Ida Shaper Hoxie, in telling about St. Andrewsberg, "The Singing Village of Germany," in The Ladies' Home Journal. "The birds of one breed, subjected to the same influences, have songs that vary with the throat muscles and vocal chords of each individual. But so remarkable is the canary memory that a bird bred to a certain song, if removed from the cage in which he has heard it from his parent, when six weeks old, will later, when he himself begins to sing, give the same song though never having heard it in the intervening period."

For Country Holidays.
A few days in the country—away from the clangor of the city and the broiling heat of the pavements—out in the open fields, with nothing in sight above nearer than the sky and everywhere birds and flowers and shady trees and running brooks and growing crops! Who does not long for that now and then, however great the comfort in which he spends his days? And then think what it means to puny children who have had no playground but the street or the alley, whose home is a few narrow rooms in a stuffy block or a cottage on which the summer sun beats blisteringly.—Indianapolis News.

SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIA

How to eradicate mosquitoes is occupying the active brains of the scientists of the world.

Celluloid is manufactured by dissolving nitrocellulose in camphor, that is to say, forming a mixture of nitrocellulose, camphor and alcohol.

In the opinion of Sir Martin Conway, the highest mountain in America is not, as heretofore supposed, Anconima, but Ampato, in Bolivia.

Dr. Sturling Berson, a member of the Meteorological Institute, Berlin, has just completed a balloon ascent, during which he reached a height of 33,500 feet. The lowest recorded temperature was forty degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

The London County Council have recently placed a new float upon the River Thames, driven by liquid fuel. By means of a large burner full steam is raised in a very few minutes. The special type of burner known as the Clarkson, which is utilized, vaporizes the oil, and then mixing the vapor with the air produces an intensely hot flame, which has the additional advantage of being almost smokeless.

"Synthol" is a chemically pure substitute for absolute alcohol. It may be used for every purpose for which alcohol is used except for internal consumption. Being chemically pure it does not have as much odor as absolute alcohol from grain or wood. It is perfectly free from color, is non-irritant to eyes or skin and has ten to fifteen per cent. more solvent power than ordinary alcohol.

During the submerged experiments with the French submarine boat "Narval," especially in those cases where the vessel has remained under water for a prolonged length of time, the crew have suffered from a peculiar sickness. It has been found impossible to account for this curious malady, and the Ministry of Marine has issued a regulation that all men in future required for submarine boats must undergo a rigorous medical examination. The sickness is believed to be due to constitutional causes.

An English scientist some years ago suggested that, in view of the limited supply of nitrogen, unless some methods of procuring it from other sources than the earth were devised, there was danger of the soil ceasing to be productive. For this purpose he proposed that experiments should be made to discover some process of treating the nitrogen in the air so as to make it available for use. It is now announced that this has been done, and that the nitric acid thus produced is absolutely pure and available for all purposes.

The Land of the Gum Chewer.
By far the largest proportion of chewing gum made is for home consumption. America is the land of the gum chewer, but the export trade is growing and the gum habit is invading Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and the South Sea Islands. Only last month a London journal bewailed the rise of the pernicious habit among Britain's sons and daughters, but the manufacturers say that the English trade isn't yet big enough to justify the lamentation or to be taken seriously.

The increasing use of chewing gum in England, just at present, is due to the adoption of the habit by the English soldiers in South Africa. South Africa has for years been one of the best foreign markets for chewing gum, and probably more of the article is used in Johannesburg than in any other foreign town. The English soldiers having experimented with the chewing gum, found it a good thing for nerves and thirst and they are taking the acquired taste home with them.

Fell in Love With a Convict.
Many years ago, when Botany Bay was a convict settlement, a young lady, who was a widow of a wealthy squatter, fell in love with a convict, whose term of punishment had nearly expired, and whom she had observed from time to time tolling with the chain-gang. So infatuated was the widow with the criminal in question that she sent for him directly his discharge was effected, and offered him her hand and heart, together with the supervision of her property. A liberal salary was to accompany the dual position of husband and overseer, and the lucky man naturally assented to the proposition without an instant's delay. The marriage proved a highly successful union, but to the day of the fellow's death, he drew his salary with unerring regularity, and to his credit he said, he earned every penny of it, for he proved an active and intelligent manager in every respect.

The Making of Perfumes.
Millions of flowers yield their petals annually for the making of favorite perfumes. The material for the choicest attar of roses is found in a part of the Balkan Mountains known as the Valley of Roses. Here in the blossoming season scores of square miles of blooming damask roses red den the landscape, and the air is heavy with fragrance. Thousands of peasants are employed to gather the blossoms. More than half the world's supply of attar of roses comes from this valley in central Bulgaria, the damask rose attaining its highest perfection there.

Mother

"My mother was troubled with consumption for many years. At last she was given up to die. Then she tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and was speedily cured."
D. P. Jolly, Avoca, N. Y.

No matter how hard your cough or how long you have had it, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the best thing you can take. It's too risky to wait until you have consumption. If you are coughing today, get a bottle of Cherry Pectoral at once.

Three sizes: 25c., 50c., \$1. All druggists.

Consult your doctor. If he says take it, then do as he says. If he tells you not to take it, then don't take it. He knows. Leave it with him. Write for his name. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

Sick Headache?

Food doesn't digest well? Appetite poor? Bowels constipated? Tongue coated? It's your liver! Ayer's Pills are liver pills; they cure dyspepsia, biliousness.

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Triumphs of Modern Astronomy.

Professor Newcomb, the astronomer, discussing the advance made in that science during the last century, says that mankind is only beginning to learn something of the truth, and that the greatest victory of the astronomers in the nineteenth century was the determination of the exact motion of the solar system, which is moving in space at the rate of 40,000 miles an hour, but no one can tell whence it came or whither it goeth. Another important improvement is the application of mechanical methods for recording astronomical phenomena. An astronomer of a few years ago was compelled to keep his eyes upon the stars and sketch inaccurately and imperfectly the objects that passed before his vision. The introduction of automatic photography gives him an exact record of every event among the heavenly bodies, although he may see nothing of it himself.

Consolation and Comfort.

Who is it that does not wish to be out in the open air or alive in some field of sport, whether it be with the bat, rod or gun; whether you go coasting over the hills and vales on the wheel or sailing over rough waves or into serene coves, it is all sport, and the springing muscles seem to need it. It is bound to happen that some mishap will occur. This is that we have sprains in abundance. Light sprains, sprains that cripple, sprains that give great pain, sprains that rob us of sleep, but sportsmen of all kinds have come to know that there is nothing better than the old reliable St. Jacobs Oil. Have it with you for use; you may rely on its cure of the worst sprain and restoration to the comforts of life.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

By local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed, it has a swelling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Nine cases out of ten are cured by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surface.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh), that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Circulars sent free. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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The exports of corn for the last fiscal year were \$85,000,000; of wheat \$78,000,000.

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No matter what ails you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. CASCAHETS help nature, cure you without a grip or pain, produce easy natural movements, cost you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. CASCAHETS Candy Cathartic, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet has C.C.C. stamped on it. Beware of imitations.

Germany still imports seventy-five per cent. of her steel pens from England.

FITZ permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. \$2 trial bottle and treats free. Dr. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Phila. Pa.

Mexico boasts 129 libraries and 711 newspapers in various languages.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children's teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

English newspapers report a revival of cock-fighting in England.

Teachers Must Teach.
The teacher must teach more, and know more; he must be a living fountain, not a stagnant pool. He should not be a dealer in desecrated, second-hand knowledge, a mere giver-out and hoarder of lessons. That is the chief and humiliating difference between our secondary teachers and those abroad, who are mostly doctors of philosophy, as they should be. If we could move many university professors to the high school, many high-school teachers to the grammar school and some grammar school teachers, with at least a sprinkling of college graduates, in to the kindergarten, it would do much. In the German and French school the teacher is the one who knows a great deal about his subject and is nearer to original sources, who tells the great truths of the sciences almost like stories, and who does affect the arts and methods of the university professor. Very many secondary teachers are masters and authorities. Here, most of our university pedagogy is a mere device for so influencing high-school principals and teachers as to correlate curricula, in order to corral in students, and little interest is taken in the grammar grades, and none in the kindergarten.

Khedive of Egypt is Musical.
The present Khedive of Egypt is an amateur of music, like Ismail, though his tastes are, fortunately, not so costly. Ismail, as everybody knows, spent large sums on opera, and commissioned Verdi to write "Aida." The present Khedive is satisfied with concerts, and at a recent State performance at Ras-el-din Palace the band played a value which was announced as the composition of His Highness. Percy Betts comments: "Doubtless the Greeks were complimentary." It was Brahms who said: "Speak not disrespectfully of the music of Princes, for thou knowest not who wrote it."

At all seasons of the year 5 o'clock in the morning is the coldest hour of the day.

Easy Come, Easy Go.
The man who creeps along bent over, with his spinal column feeling in a condition to snap like a pipestem at any minute, would readily give a great deal to get out of his dilemma, and yet this is only the commonest form by which lumbago seizes on and twists out of shape the muscles of the back. This is commonly known as backache, a crick in the back, but by whatever name it may be known, and however bad it may be, 10 minutes' vigorous rubbing with St. Jacobs Oil on the afflicted part will drive out the trouble and completely restore it. It is a thing so easily caught, it may be wondered at why there is not more of it, but because it is so easily cured by St. Jacobs Oil may be the very reason that we hear so little of it.

Supreme Court Justices in New York City receive \$7500 a year more than Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States.

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The Paris theatres give away an average of \$600 free tickets daily.

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Great Britain supplies many "Brussels" carpets and small foot rugs to Turkey.

Alaska is Touch With the World.

War Department reports indicate that there will be a great extension of the telegraph service in Alaska this season. Captain William H. Abercrombie, with a large force of men, is constructing the military road from Valdez, on the southern coast to Circle City, on the upper Yukon, near the boundary of the British Northwest Territory. At the same time the military telegraph line is being extended along that route and it is expected that even before the completion of the wagon road the telegraph facilities over the entire distance from the Gulf of Alaska to the Yukon will be in operation.

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