

DOCTORS REJECT FORMALIN CURE New York Physicians, According to The World, Declare the Discovery to Be a Failure

The widely heralded discovery of formalin as a cure for blood poisoning is now declared by New York physicians to be a failure. Tests which they have made are said to have shown that formalin is only a temporary check to the growth of the germs...

Dr. George F. Shady said yesterday that he regarded the result of the test conducted by Dr. W. H. Park, the bacteriological expert of the Health Department, as confirming his view and that of many others of the profession that the formalin treatment was a failure.

It has gone the way of many other suddenly heralded cures. When it was first announced it struck the medical profession with wonder that such a simple remedy should have so long been overlooked. That had much to do with the scepticism with which it was regarded.

"Science can afford to go slow. Its attitude is judicial and it waits for demonstrated proof."

Dr. Shady enumerated many sensationally advertised cures that had quickly been demonstrated as failures, and said that of many that had been announced in late years he considered the most promising and valuable to be the serum cure for scarlet fever announced by two Berlin physicians.

Dr. Park and Dr. W. A. Payne, both bacteriologists of the Health Department, began experiments soon after the first cure of blood poisoning by Dr. Barrows was announced. Two dozen rabbits were inoculated at the same time with the germ of blood poisoning—the streptococcus germ. An hour later a dozen of the rabbits were subjected to an injection of formalin. In every case save one the dozen rabbits on which formalin had been used died from twelve to twenty-four hours before the others.

The rabbits on which the formalin treatment was tried showed symptoms of temporary relief. It was declared that the result of the experiments showed that while formalin coagulated the bacteria and stopped the blood and seriously impaired the cells. The formalin also lessened the power of resistance to the bacteria.

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NEGRO UNFIT FOR CITIZENSHIP. (Continued From First Page.)

usually runs away, works at odd jobs, arms himself with a razor and pistol, loafs about brothels, drinks and gambles.

In view of the loose family life of the negroes it is not surprising that they should deteriorated physically. The mortality of the negro, especially infant mortality, has steadily risen until it is now from 25 to 300 per cent. higher than that of the whites. The most serious diseases are consumption, pneumonia, typhoid fever and syphilis, all of which are still on the increase.

Professor Harris, a negro of Clark university, Tennessee, has correctly interpreted the cause of this high mortality. He says:

"I am convinced that the sine qua non of a change for the better in the negro's physical condition is a higher social morality. I do not believe that his poverty or his relation to the white people presents any real impediment to his health and physical development. For the causes of the black man's low vitality, his susceptibility to disease, and his enormous death rate, we must look to those social conditions which he creates for himself."

MOTHERS' HIDDEN TOO GREAT. "I have already referred to the social causes of our excessive infant mortality, namely: the frequency with which the partial or the entire maintenance of the household devolves upon the mother, and especially the impaired chance for life which a debarred and immoral parentage bequeaths to childhood."

In the next place, the criminality of the negro has very much increased since his emancipation. Negro crime increased in the south 26 per cent. from 1880 to 1890, and the educated negro is more criminal than the illiterate.

Industrially the greatest drawback to the negro is a disposition to work only long enough to get on a bare subsistence. He works with irregularity and in a slipshod manner. Notwithstanding the accumulations of a few of the better class, the negro per capita wealth is only about \$15, and the race as a whole is far from self-supporting.

For illustration, in Virginia, the white people pay out for negro education, crime and lunatics about \$500,000 more than the entire negro taxes paid in the State. Many occupations formerly open to negroes are now closed. This is chiefly because of his inefficiency, instability, dishonesty and uncleanliness.

CONDITION NORTH EVEN WORSE. The condition of the negro in the north and west, where we should expect it to be the best, is, in fact, even worse. In the north the death rate of the negro is higher than the birth rate, and, but for immigration, the black man would disappear from that section. This is partly due to the climate, partly to more intense competition, and partly to more degraded family life. The negro is about three times more criminal in the north than in the south, and about three and a half times more criminal in the west.

In Chicago the negro is more criminal than in any other city, and his crime in that city has increased three fold in the last twenty-five years. The race prejudice which operates against the negroes in the south also operates against them in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Indianapolis and wherever they exist in considerable numbers. This prejudice consigns them to the slums, where their family life is worse, and where the temptations to vice and crime are the greatest.

In New York city there are few houses that a negro can rent. The maxim "one negro house always a negro house" is familiar to all real estate men. Jacob Riis tells us that the landlord draws the color line and "does it with an absence of pretense, a frankness of disposition that is nothing but brutal. Where he permits them to live they go; where he shuts the door they stay out."

The New York Sun says that "white Americans won't work with a black man; neither will foreign laborers. If a negro happens to go into a saloon he has to pay 25 cents for a 10-cent drink, a device which works almost as well as the forbidden one of refusing to serve a negro." In restaurants, too, the waiters say, "We are busy," and the negro may look at his empty plate, if he will, from 6 o'clock until midnight, and the excuse will be the same.

Professor Du Bois (himself a negro), in his book on the "Negroes of Philadelphia" states that "wherever there is a trade, where good negro workmen are comparatively scarce, each union steadfastly refuses to admit negroes and relies on color prejudice to keep up the barrier."

Professor Du Bois recites many instances showing how the negro is discriminated against in the matter of house rent, forcing him to live in the slums and charging him a higher price for the same house than is charged the white man; how he is discriminated against in the trades, in the schools, charities and other lines. He shows also that a less per cent of negroes now own property in Philadelphia than before the war.

CONDITION IN CHICAGO WORSE. In Chicago the economic condition of the negro is worse than in any other part of the country. So the race prejudice is not confined to the south. Booker Washington said in the Atlantic Monthly that when it comes to earning money instead of spending it the negro is better treated in the south. Dr. Parkhurst admits, with admirable frankness, that the north does not like the negro any better than the south. People who live on the outer circle of negro populations are too apt to assume an air of superiority and set themselves up to preach sermons to other people. If we could eliminate sectionalism from this problem it would be much easier solved.

But the question is, What should be done with reference to the conditions I have described? According to the unanimous testimony of the scholars who have investigated the subject, the dark races are not yet fit for free institutions and can only be qualified for them by a slow evolutionary process. European governments are gradually abandoning representative institutions for the dark races of the tropics.

Professor Reinisch writes that "it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that what to some societies is the breath of life becomes to others a deadly poison and that a society in which the individual has not yet developed and left the bonds of clan, cast, or family, would have its morals utterly destroyed and be reduced to calamitous confusion by the introduction of western individualistic institutions."

So in the tropics, as in the southern states, the white man has learned from bitter experience that the black man is not yet fit for the responsibilities of citizenship. So if we aim at the welfare of the negro and not the persecution of the white man we should give our sanction to a suffrage limitation, applicable to both races alike, which shall exclude the riffraff and most degraded classes of negroes from participation in politics.

The ballot has been a "deadly poison" to the vast majority of the race and has done more to accomplish their ruin than all other causes combined, it has only widened the breach between the whites and the blacks, and rendered it impossible for the negro to assimilate the white man's virtues.

Let me assure you that the southern people have no war to wage against the respectable class of negroes. A helping hand is extended to all who aspire to any moral, industrial, or intellectual advancement. As fast as any number of negroes properly qualify themselves for citizenship, the whites will cheerfully admit them to its privileges. In North Carolina at the last election an attempt to defraud a qualified negro of his vote met with prompt and severe condemnation from the press and people. Because of the negro's unfortunate phylogeny his preparation for citizenship is necessarily a slow process. The empirist and impatient reformer only makes the task more difficult, if at all they do not make it impossible.

Our next duty is to give the negro a more practical education. Without closing any avenue to higher education we must make more general that moral and industrial training which is having such notable success at Hampton and Tuskegee. Unless the negro improves his efficiency in the occupations which are now open to him, he has no possible chance for survival in the ever intensifying struggle for existence, and unless the masses can be freed from political fermentation and professional agitation, they will never feel the necessity of improving their industrial and moral life.

Booker Washington is doing more than any other man for the welfare of the negro, and for a good understanding between the races, and between the north and south. In his gospel there is hope for an early turn for the better in the progress of the negro race.

When the negro improves his moral life an efficiency as a laborer the many doors of employment which now close against him, north and south, will open, and he will find an abiding and honorable place in our economic life. LET SECTIONS EXCHANGE TEXTS.

As to lynching I have only time to recommend that the people of the north and the south exchange texts, when preaching on this subject. Let the north and south preach against lynching, and the world shall be wiser.

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