

RHEUMATISM

BLOOD FILLED WITH URIC ACID

Rheumatism comes from an excess of uric acid in the blood. This acid circulating through the system acts as an irritant to the different muscles, nerves, bones and tissues of the body, and produces the inflammation and swelling of the joints and the sharp, cutting pains characteristic of the disease. When the blood is overburdened with uric acid it continually grows weaker and more acid, and poorer in nourishing qualities. Then Rheumatism becomes chronic, and not only a painful, but a formidable and dangerous disease. Sometimes the heart is attacked, the general health is affected, and the oils and fluids which lubricate the muscles and joints are destroyed by the acid matter which the blood is constantly depositing in them; the muscles shrink and lose their elasticity, the coating of the joints becomes hard and thick, and often the sufferer is left a hopeless cripple. S. S. S. attacks the disease at its head, goes down into the circulation, and by neutralizing and removing the uric acid from the circulation and building up the thin, acid blood, cures Rheumatism permanently. S. S. S. changes the sour, acid-burdened blood to a rich, healthy stream which quiets the excited nerves, eases the throbbing, painful muscles and joints, and filters out of the system the irritating matter which is causing the pain and inflammation. Begin the use of S. S. S. now and get the cause out of your blood so that the cold and dampness of Winter will not keep you in constant pain and misery. Book on Rheumatism and any medical advice free.

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LONDON TIMES, THE GREATEST OF NEWSPAPERS

The sale of the London Times, although it does not pass entirely out of the hands of the family which had always owned it, is as great an event in England as a change in the administration of the government. The London Times is and always has been the leading newspaper of the world, and, although the lines upon which it has been conducted are very conservative and it has been different in several respects from every other paper, none has ever exercised so powerful an influence in political, social, diplomatic, ecclesiastical, financial and international affairs. For that reason it has been called "The Thunderer." Men have been made famous by the smiles of the Times; men have been ruined because it has frowned upon them. Its favor has been courted by sovereigns, and a political party could have been founded upon its sole support. There are thousands of intelligent people in England who still believe that the editorials in the Times are written by the prime minister of Great Britain and other members of the cabinet, and its money article is still the most powerful agency in the finances of Europe. The integrity and truthfulness of the Times has been seriously impaired during the last twenty years. It received a fearful blow when its attacks upon Parnell, the Irish patriot, were exposed, and it has never been able to recover its prestige. Several subsequent incidents have shaken public confidence in its infallibility and omniscience, but it has survived experiences which would have ruined any other paper, and still is the most important publication in the world.

The earliest newspaper in London was called by the quaint title "News Out of Holland" and was first published May 16, 1619. "The News of the Present Week" was started three years later and was edited by the famous Nathaniel Butler. In 1696 there were nine weekly newspapers and reviews in London, in 1709 there were thirteen, and in that year the first daily newspaper ever published was started and called "The Courant." In 1724 there were three dailies, six weeklies and seven tri-weekly newspapers in London.

The Morning Chronicle was started in 1747 and was edited by William Woodfall until 1789. It was the first paper to report the debates in parliament, and many famous men were connected with it as editors and contributors, including Coleridge and Campbell, the poets; Sheridan, the wit and dramatist; Canning, the statesman, afterward prime minister. Hazlitt was dramatic critic of the Chronicle, and Charles Dickens was for several years a reporter on the staff.

Of the other London papers now living, the Post was started in 1772, and the initial number of the Times was issued on the first of January, 1788, 120 years ago last Wednesday, by John Walter. It was a continuation of a daily called the Universal Register. Since its first number the Times has been, as I have already said, the leading journal of Europe and the most influential and prominent paper in the world. Until recent years it has also been the most progressive; it was the first paper to be printed by steam. In November, 1814, it set up a wonderful press that turned out 1,800 copies an hour and was inspected by all of the crowned heads of Europe. A model of that press is now displayed in South Kensington museum. In 1848 the improvements had been so rapid that the Times presses were able to print 8,000 an hour, and it was not long before encyclopedias that were published fifty years ago or even more recently you will find descriptions of the press and composing rooms and business office, when they were as great objects of interest as St. Paul's or Westminster Abbey.

The circulation of the Times has never been very large. In 1850, according to the encyclopedias, it had 28,000 subscribers, and from what I heard in London two years ago it cannot have very many more than that number now. In 1862 it printed an edition of 70,000 copies, containing an account of the funeral of the duke of Wellington, which was the largest edition ever issued by a newspaper up to that time. In 1863 it printed 135,000 copies of an edition containing a description of the marriage ceremonies of King Edward VII, then prince of Wales, and the Princess Alexandra of Denmark. That was high-water mark for newspaper circulation in those days. But it was soon after surpassed by the New York Herald's edition containing an account of the battle of Gettysburg.

Before the Parnell exposures the Times had a circulation of 50,000 or 60,000, which ran up to 75,000 or 80,000 on special occasions. But since then its subscription lists have been growing smaller and smaller and its earnings less and less, while the other London newspapers were coining money and printing six times as many papers. One reason for this falling off is the high price of the Times, which has been maintained at six cents a copy until today, while rival newspapers were selling for two cents.

The advertising patronage of the Times has also been falling off gradually as its circulation has gone down, and this is explained by advertising experts on the theory that the merchants realized that the classes of people who read the Times are not subject to influence by advertisements. Hence the "classified ads" were very few in number and it was patronized only by first-class mercantile establishments, book publishers, real estate agents, brokers, bankers and other financial operators. Its revenue became so much reduced that the Times has resorted to various outside schemes to increase its circulation. It has handled encyclopedias and atlases, it has published special editions and supplements to attract the patronage of the different professions, and it employed a Philadelphia promoter to conduct a sensational book sale which demoralized the entire book trade of England.

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Nevertheless, it has continued upon its old-fashioned, conservative way, publishing enormous blanket sheets, containing verbatim reports of the proceedings of parliament and the political speeches made by its favorites in public life. It is said that every word that has been uttered in the British parliament for more than a hundred years has been published in the London Times, and that is probably true. The government has official reporters in both the house of lords and the house of commons, and their stenographic accounts of proceedings are printed every morning in a publication similar to the Congressional Record and called "Parliamentary Debates." But a limited edition is printed and the public is compelled to get its account of parliamentary proceedings from the Times.

The Times has maintained the best staff of correspondents in foreign countries of any newspaper in the world, the most intelligent, experienced and competent news gatherers and publicists, and they have invariably enjoyed greater advantages for knowing what is going on than the representatives of any other paper. The prime ministers and other public men of Europe will send for the correspondent of the Times when they would refuse to receive the representatives of other papers, and will give him information that the local newspaper men cannot obtain. The public men of England, in the church, in the cabinet, the parliament and in financial circles, will furnish information to the Times in preference to any other paper, and for a century its editorials have frequently been written by prime ministers and their associates when the gentlemen had ideas which they wished to bring before the people. That does not happen so often nowadays, as was formerly the case, but a Times reporter always has precedence still, and when an Englishman is aggrieved at anything he writes a letter to the Times and expects whatever is wrong to be corrected.

The Times has never passed out of the control of the Walter family. The original John Walter, who founded the paper, conducted it for fifty-nine years and then died, one of the most influential men in Europe, in 1847. The property was left exclusively to his son of the same name, who had been associated in the management for many years and who was a member of parliament. The second John Walter remained at the head of the business until 1884, when his son, Arthur F. Walter, inherited it and has since been nominally the editor-in-chief and controlling influence, although the financial necessities of the paper and the necessity of improving the plant and introducing modern ideas have compelled the Walter family to part with a portion of their interest. George E. Buckton has been the editor-in-chief for twenty-seven years and Moberly Bell has been the business manager for about the same time. Arthur Walter has a number of sons, but they have never taken an active part either in the editorial work or business management.

It is announced that Arthur Walter will continue as chairman of the board of directors of a limited company, which has purchased the property, and that he and the other members of his family retain considerable interest. According to the dispatches from London, C. Arthur Pearson, owner of the Daily Express, the morning and evening Standard and the St. James Gazette, has obtained control. Associated with him is Sir Alexander Henderson, a liberal unionist member of parliament and chairman of the board of directors of the Great Central Railway. Mr. Pearson and Mr. Henderson are both advocates of a protective tariff for England, and they have purchased the Times for the purpose of promoting that doctrine. Mr. Pearson is an intimate personal friend of Joseph Chamberlain the leader of the protective tariff party in England, who once called him "the greatest hustler I have ever seen outside of America." The Times has been an advocate of fiscal reform, as they call it over there, in a mild way, and has lost a great deal of its patronage and circulation on that account, because the classes of people who have been its most consistent supporters are free traders by inheritance. W. E. Curtis in Chicago Record-Herald.

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