

TYPHOID FEVER AND HOW WE GET IT

Every Year In Stokes County Many Lives are Lost From this Wholly Preventable Disease--The Common House Fly a Great Spreader of the Malady.

(Continued from last week.)

As flies originate in filth, they naturally carry it wherever they go. Filth is the native element of germ life, especially of those germs that cause disease; so flies, in going from their filthy breeding places to the habitations of man, carry to his food the germs of disease. House-flies are especially fitted for the carrying of germs, as their bodies and legs are plentifully covered with hairs and bristles. Indeed, a fly carries germs as naturally as a dog carries fleas. It would be hard to find a receptacle better fitted for the transporting of germs. To prove that germs are carried by flies, careful bacteriological examinations have been made showing that as high as 100,000 disease germs have been found on the body of a single fly. A fly so infected with germs scatters them wherever it goes and leaves a trail of disease in its wake. Think of such a fly falling into the milk pitcher, or lighting on the baby's bottle, or crawling over your meat and bread! Is it any wonder that hot weather or fly-time is the season of the greatest prevalence of germ diseases?

Neither is it only the germs carried by their hairy bodies that are a source of danger, but fly-specks frequently have the living germs of disease in them. There is not the slightest doubt that there are few more active spreaders of disease than flies.

The fact that tuberculosis or consumption has become so prevalent as to be known as the Great White Plague is undoubtedly due in a large measure to the active agency of flies in carrying the germs of the disease to the food of well people. The sputum (spit) of a consumptive person is simply swarming with the germs of the dread disease. Flies pounce into this spit, draw it into their bodies through their sucking mouth parts, and speed off with it sticking to their hairy legs and bodies. Alighting on food in market or store or kitchen, they leave a trail of these most deadly germs wherever they touch. As flies cannot take food in solid form, they eject a saliva from their sucking tubes to soften and dissolve any solid food they feed upon. In this way the disease germs taken in from the spit of the consumptive are transferred from the body of the fly to human food. Is it any wonder, then, that consumption is the great scourge that carries off one-quarter of the adult population of our entire country? If consumptives are cleanly in their habits and do not use open spittoons, but expectorate in

special receptacles that are disinfected or burned, there is little or no danger from them and flies cannot carry the deadly germs.

The disease that is more than any other is spread by flies is typhoid fever. This is owing to the fact that the infectious material by which the disease is spread is present in the excrement of persons suffering from the disease. As flies are always found breeding in the deposits of open privies, they come in contact with and carry the germs with which the stools are infected. It is well known that persons having typhoid fever will give off the germs in evacuations of the bowels for a few weeks before they are taken down with the disease, and also for the first few weeks of convalescence. This fact very greatly lengthens the period during which infection may occur and multiplies the danger of its being spread by flies. Thus typhoid fever patients might be using open privies and evacuating typhoid germs long before they were aware of the disease and before disinfection of the stools were considered necessary.

After leaving their breeding places in open privies, flies go to the nearest place where they may feed. This is usually the kitchen of the dwelling to which the privy belongs or near-by homes, stores or markets. Through the medium of flies the connection between the faeces of fever patients in open privies and the food supplies of well persons is a very direct and rapid route. It has been emphatically stated that the only way a second case of typhoid fever can occur is that the germs from the intestine of the sick person be carried to the intestine of a well person. The open privy with its festering filth and swarming flies and the unscreened dwelling are the all too certain means of effecting the transfer.

In the history of sanitary science scores of cases are on record where outbreaks of typhoid were directly traceable to flies. Indeed, it has been so conclusively proved that flies carry and spread typhoid fever germs, that it has been suggested by Dr. L. O. Howard of Washington that the house-fly be known in future as the typhoid fly. The house-fly is not the only one that carries typhoid infections, however, as many authentic cases are on record where blue-bottle, flesh or blow flies have transmitted to cold meat or other food the bacilli which in turn were sources of infection to whole families.

(Continued on page 7.)

The Great Need Is Education.

Madison, July 18.

Mr. Editor: For the first time in my thirty-nine years of experience, I had a young man the other day to speak disrespectfully to me. As he passed me I asked him a question and received for a reply, "why in the d---" so and so. I simply could not believe my own ears. So I said: What did you say? He repeated the same thing. Thereupon I said: 'Ain't you ashamed of yourself?' when he answered back, "No, I am not." Of course I can't excuse this, as I think there is no excuse for a man treating with so little respect the opposite sex, but there is a reason. What is it? A lack of culture, education and refinement. To my certain knowledge this boy was kept from school on the slightest pretext.

I have been always and more so now an advocate of compulsory education. Some parents are too selfish to give their children the advantage of school within their reach, and besides with the compulsory educational law we should have higher salaries, thereby gaining better teachers, those who will compel children to study and learn.

The girl who teaches only for the money, doing just as little as possible, has no business in the school room. She should be there because she loves the work and because she loves the children. Parents, too, should do their duty. Some of them, I am sorry to say, are hindrances instead of helps to the teachers of their children. I feel sure I should not have had such a nerve racking experience the other day from a college-bred gentleman.

W. R. C.

Democratic Convention.

A convention of the Democratic Party of Stokes County is hereby called to meet in Danbury on Saturday, the 27th day of August, 1910, at 12 o'clock M., for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the House of Representatives, Sheriff, Clerk of the Superior Court, Register of Deeds, Treasurer, three county commissioners, coroner, and to elect delegates to the Senatorial convention for this district, and to transact such other business as may properly come before it. The Dem. Ex. Com., of Stokes county, is hereby called to meet at said time and place.

This July 16th, 1910.
J. H. ELLINGTON,
Chmn. Dem. Ex. Com. Stokes Co.

Protracted Meeting.

A protracted meeting will begin the 5th Sunday in the Methodist new church grounds on the Box Mountain road 3 miles East of Germanton and 5 miles South of Walnut Cove. Hope to see a large crowd out.

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A Resolution.

At a Precinct Republican Primary held in the town of Germanton, Stokes county, N. C., July 16, 1910, we, the undersigned, having been appointed a committee to draft a suitable resolution endorsing the Republican State administration, do respectfully submit the following which is to appear in both The Union Republican, of Winston-Salem, N. C., and The Danbury Reporter, of Danbury, N. C.

1st. Be it resolved that in the campaigns of 1906 and 1908, under the wise and able administration of our State Chairman, Hon. Spencer B. Adams, together with his co-workers, we made great gains each time at the polls, and in 1908 we met with such phenomenal success, as not only to surprise and astonish our enemy, but far surpassing our own most sanguine expectation.

2nd. Whereas we entered that campaign without a single representative in the National Congress, and made a gain of three out of ten, all three of which were considered signal victories, and in our own, the 5th District of North Carolina, even President Taft said was the greatest victory won in the United States.

In addition to the above we cast 115 thousand votes for President Taft.

3rd. Whereas that with a continuation of such leadership it cannot be long 'till the Old North State will be enrolled in the Republican columns.

JNO. W. KURFEES, Com
CHAP BODENHEIMER.

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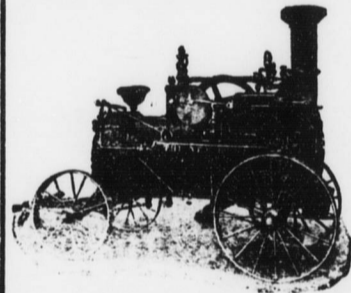
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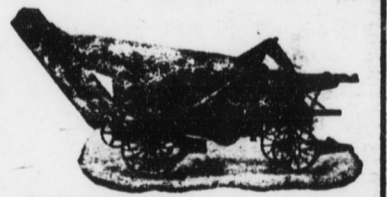
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