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SINGING BOYS OF JENA.

Outgrowth of Age of Bacchantes or Wandering Students.

Hundreds of years ago the streets of Jena and other German towns used to echo to the songs of black robed monks, who went from door to door singing and begging alms. Their example was followed by hands of poor students, known as bacchantes. These bacchantes wandered from one university to another in search of better instruction or better means of support. Such a wandering life was favored by the customs of times when people thought it a virtue to give freely to all persons seeking help, but especially to monks and students.

The bacchantes had with them younger traveling scholars, known as skirmishers, who were to receive instruction in return for certain services. The younger skirmisher had to wait upon his bacchante, beg and even steal for him, and for the most part he was very tyrannically used. But as he was a waif without other protection he had to make the best of matters.

After the reformation in many places these orphan boys, or waifs, were banded into organized choirs, who received pay from churches, but also were assisted by private subscription. It was their duty to sing not only in the churches, but before the houses of their patrons as well. Thus they ceased to be beggars. Martin Luther himself as a boy had been one of these singers, and it was largely due to his influence that the old custom of begging entirely passed away. There is a famous picture of Luther as a singing boy in Eisenach, where his song attracted the attention of the good Frau Cotta, who adopted and educated him.

Nowadays the old custom of the choir boys' singing from house to house is fading away. There are only five other towns beside Jena in the whole German empire where this music can be heard. Once each year the singing boys go to Eisenach and sing before the emperor in the great hall of the historic castle of the Wartburg, where the minnesingers held their music battles.

There are just twenty of the Jena singing boys, five each of the ages eleven, twelve, thirteen and fourteen years. They are orphans, and the only qualifications for the privilege of four years' board and schooling are good character, ability to sing and obedience to the laws of the organization, one of which requires them to sing before the houses of their patrons.—St. Nicholas.

We say without hesitation that DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills are unequalled for weak kidneys, backache, inflammation of the bladder and all urinary disorders. They are anti-septic and act promptly in all cases of weak back, backache, rheumatism and rheumatic pains. Accept no substitute. We sell and recommend them. English Drug Company.

Odd as it may seem, three tongues are required in hitching a span of horses to a wagon.

Simple Remedy for La Grippe. La grippe coughs are dangerous as they frequently develop into pneumonia. Foley's Honey and Tar not only stops the cough but heals and strengthens the lungs so that no serious results need be feared. The genuine Foley's Honey and Tar contains no harmful drugs and is in a yellow package. Refuse substitutes. English Drug Company.

What Mr. Taft Says of the South and the Negro Problem.

From His Inaugural Address.

"I look forward with hope to increasing the already good feeling between the South and the other sections of the country. While the Fifteenth Amendment has not been generally observed in the past, it ought to be observed, and the tendency of Southern legislators today is toward the enactment of electoral qualifications which shall square with that amendment. Of course, the mere adoption of a constitutional law is only one step in the right direction. It must be fairly and justly enforced as well. In time both will come. Hence it is clear to all that the domination of an ignorant, irresponsible element can be prevented by constitutional laws which shall exclude from voting both negroes and whites not having education or other qualifications thought to be necessary for a proper electorate.

"There was a time when North-erners who sympathized with the negro in his necessary struggle for better conditions sought to give him the suffrage as a protection and to enforce its exercise against the prevailing influence of the South. The movement proved to be a failure. What remains is the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution and the right to have statutes of States specifying qualifications for electors subjected to the test of compliance with that amendment. This is a great protection to the negro. It never will be repealed, and it never ought to be repealed.

"If it had not been passed, it might be difficult now to adopt it; but with it in our fundamental law the policy of Southern legislation must and will tend to obey it, and so long as the statutes of the States meet the test of this amendment and are not otherwise in conflict with the Constitution and laws of the United States, it is not the disposition or within the province of the Federal Government to interfere with the regulation by Southern States to their domestic affairs.

"The negroes are now Americans. * * * We are charged with the sacred duty of making their path as smooth and easy as we can. Any recognition of their distinguished men, any appointment to office from among their number, is properly taken as an encouragement and an appreciation of their progress, and this just policy will be pursued.

"But it may well admit of doubt

whether, in the case of any race, an appointment of one of their number to a local office in a community in which the race feeling is so widespread and acute as to interfere with the ease and facility with which the local government business can be done by the appointee is of sufficient benefit by way of encouragement to the race to outweigh the recurrence and increase of race feeling which such an appointment is likely to engender. Therefore, the executive in recognizing the negro race by appointment must exercise a careful discretion not thereby to do it more harm than good. On the other hand, we must be careful not to encourage the mere pretense of race feeling manufactured in the interest of individual political ambition."

Bryan's Speech on the Night of March 4th.

On the night of March 4th, when the Republicans had finished their celebration of a great triumph, the defeated candidate for the presidency, W. J. Bryan, with other Democrats of national fame, banqueting at Pittsburg, and when his time came to speak on "The Present Hour," Bryan, loudly applauded, launched at once into a resume of the recent campaign and said that before the election he had expected to win, but now instead of being surprised at being defeated he feels more surprised that the Democratic party polled as many votes as it did. Mr. Bryan said he would rather be the defeated candidate of the Democratic party and have the support he received and the votes of the six million people than be President and feel that he owed it to the powers that corrupt.

The speaker referred to the many times he had been called a "dreamer" and told the parable of Joseph, ending with the remark that the dreamer had corn in time of need.

The Lurid Glow of Doom

was seen in the red face, hands and body of the little son of H. M. Adams of Henrietta, Pa. His awful plight from eczema had, for five years, defied all remedies and baffled the best doctors, who said the poisoned blood had affected his lungs and nothing could save him. "But," writes his mother, "seven bottles of Electric Bitters completely cured him." For eruptions, eczema, salt rheum, sores and all blood disorders and rheumatism Electric Bitters is supreme. Only 50c. Guaranteed by English Drug Company.

AVERAGE LIFE JUMPS FROM TWENTY TO FIFTY YEARS.

Did you know that the average length of human life is rapidly increasing, in fact has increased thirty years already and made thus far only a good start? An article in the March number of World's Work tells how it is coming about. Here is a part of the story:

Ten years ago, a university professor with a fine future before him found himself facing possible death through tuberculosis at the very outset of his career. He gave up his professional work for the time and applied himself exclusively to the business of getting well. He sought out the very latest methods for the treatment of the malady, and put them into practice with rare conscientiousness. Before very long, he found himself out of danger but still lacking in the endurance necessary for the performance of his duties. But life was of no value to him without work, and so he set about getting back his working power as systematically as he had before set about saving his life.

But this, he found, was not such a simple matter as merely curing himself of consumption. It involved an exhaustive study of the whole subject of hygiene. However, he went into it. He investigated the subjects of diet and exercise, bathing, rest—all the themes of hygienic science, and all in relation to their effect upon working power—and he religiously applied everything that he learned. The result was that in time he achieved an endurance that more than doubled the working capacity of his best days; but he did more. He made certain discoveries of the very highest value to his work.

This man is Prof. Irving Fisher, head of the Department of Political Economy at Yale—and it is to him that President Roosevelt has entrusted the task of making a report on national vitality to the Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources. This report is now ready.

It should be productive of practical results. The document not only declares that man need no longer remain the prey of inefficiency, disease, and premature death—and that through all recorded history he has been gaining greater and greater control over these things—but it points out specific methods for securing at a bound an im-

provement equal to the achievements of all the centuries that have gone before.

Prof. Fisher's political economy is certainly no "dismal science." He shows that, right down through the ages, man's life has been lengthening and his rate of mortality and disease decreasing. He asserts that the old doctrine that sickness and death must go on forever, claiming relatively the same toll year after year, is outworn and must be discarded. On the contrary, he says, both the length and the strength of man's life are dependent upon definite conditions, and these conditions are within the power of man to control.

In the sixteenth century, the average length of human life in European countries was between eighteen and twenty years. Today, it is between forty and fifty years. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when hygiene and sanitary science had not yet been born, the rate of increase was about four years per century. During the first half of the nineteenth century, when those sciences were taking their first uncertain steps, the rate of increase was extended to nine years per century. During the latter half of the nineteenth century, when they had attained a fairly robust growth, the rate of increase practically doubled. At the present time, in Germany, where hygiene and sanitation have been highly developed and wisely applied, the rate of increase is twenty-seven years per century; while in India, where practically nothing has been done along these lines, there has been no increase at all.

And, as man's life has lengthened, his death rate has fallen. In the seventeenth century, the mortality rate of London was 50 persons per 1,000 of population. Today, it is 15 per 1,000 of population. Within a century, Vienna has reduced its death rate from 60 to 23 per 1,000 of population. In the year 1700, the mortality rate of Boston was 34 per 1,000. Today, it is 19. Within a century, London, Berlin, and Munich have all cut their death rates about in half. And there are other figures—all tending to demonstrate that, just exactly in proportion to the extent and thoroughness with which hygiene and sanitation have been applied, men's lives have lengthened and become more secure from disease.

In Sweden, the home of the famous Ling system of gymnastics, where physical training forms a part of the education of every child,

the average length of life is 50 years for men and 53 for women—the highest in the world. In India, where hygiene and sanitation are unknown or unapplied, it is 23 for men and 24 for women—the lowest in the world. In the United States, where a growing appreciation of the value of these sciences contends with the nerve destroying pace of the strenuous life, the average lifetime is 44 for men and 46 for women. As might be expected, the death rate is lowest in the Scandinavian countries, only 13.5 to 14.1 per 1,000 of population; and highest in India, 42.3 per 1,000 of population; with the United States holding the relatively high position of 16.5.

Furthermore, it is shown that the mortality rate is high in the cities, low in the country; high for the poor, low for the rich; high for the black, low for the white; high for laborers, low for professionals—in short, high wherever conditions of life are bad, and low wherever conditions of life are good.

And disease as well as mortality is decreasing. The grim plagues that used to stalk through the medieval cities, moving down thousands at a stroke, are no more. Yellow fever, which in 1793 carried off one-tenth of the population of Philadelphia within six and a half weeks, is practically banished from the country. Smallpox, that used to claim a periodical tribute of thousands, has practically disappeared wherever vaccination has been introduced. And every other epidemic disease is decreasing year by year.

The conclusion is inevitable. If advances such as this have been made by the haphazard, unorganized application of the little knowledge of the past, what may not be accomplished by a widespread and systematic application of the rich and specialized knowledge of the present? Cleanliness alone, says Professor Fisher—clean air, clean water, clean milk, clean food—will come near to wiping out the diseases that now claim the greatest tribute of deaths. In terms of money, he estimates that the United States could save annually at least one billion dollars now lost through deaths that need not occur, and at least half a billion dollars through sickness that could easily be prevented. And this does not take into consideration the incalculable sums that are now lost to the nation through preventable minor ailments and undue fatigue—a drain upon national resources that



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is probably several times greater than the economic loss through acute disease.

These figures represent the conservative estimate of a conservative political economist. Professor Fisher believes they might easily be several times greater. The annual loss through tuberculosis alone, in actual earnings, in potential earnings cut off by death, and in expenses of sickness and death, amounts in the United States to a billion dollars annually. The annual cost of typhoid is estimated at three hundred and fifty million dollars, and that of malaria at one hundred million dollars. It is said that the hook worm disease, the chief source of economic waste to the South, mules South Carolina annually of thirty million dollars.

All this can be prevented. What has already been done proves it. The mortality rate from tuberculosis has been falling steadily ever since the campaign against it was inaugurated. The typhoid mortality in Munich fell from 291 per 100,000 of population, in 1856, to 100 per 100,000 of population in 1887; a reduction of 97 per cent. obtained when the old cesspools were filled up and pure water was brought to the city from a distance. In Lawrence, Mass., the introduction of a water filter reduced the number of typhoid deaths from 105, in 1892, to 22 in 1896. The number of cases of typhoid on record in Pittsburg in October of 1907 was 638. During the ensuing year, the new filtering plant was put into operation. The number of cases on record in October of 1908 was 96. And Professor Fisher says that, with the assistance of Mr. Scott McNutt, he has recently proved the correctness of Hazen's

theorem: that for every life saved from typhoid, two or three lives are saved from other causes. It is estimated that the hook-worm disease could be wiped out in the South forever through the expenditure of between one and two million dollars. It has been wiped out of Porto Rico at a cost of about 50 cents for each person cured. In ten years, England has more than regained the sum spent in fifteen years on sanitary improvements, although that expenditure has amounted to forty-two million dollars annually. General Leonard Wood has said that the discovery of the mosquito as the carrier of the yellow fever germ is saving more lives annually than were lost in the Spanish-American war, and that it is protecting the commercial interests of the world from annual losses exceeding the whole cost of that war. An actuary of a certain life insurance company has estimated that, if all the insurance companies banded together and spent a year on health propaganda, they would save annually eight times that amount.

Stealing and Beating Newspapers.

Noting the theft of two copies of the Charlotte Observer, which cost J. W. Turner, white, the sum of \$13.70, the Statesville Landmark says: "An astonishingly big number of people proceed on the idea that a newspaper costs nothing. They do not hesitate to ask for a copy and sometimes some of this class seem surprised that a charge is made for a single copy of a newspaper. Many a man who will ask for a copy of a newspaper would not think of asking a merchant for a cigar, a yard of cloth or something of similar value, yet a moment's reflection will show that every copy of a paper costs something and the paper is the publisher's stock in trade, the product he manufactures for sale just as the cotton mill makes cloth for sale or any other manufacturing establishment makes an article for sale. Of course many copies are given away cheerfully for advertising purposes, and there is no objection to giving a regular customer an occasional extra copy for good reasons. The remarks herein apply to people who make a habit of beating papers and seem to think there is nothing wrong in so doing."

Near Death in Big Pond.

It was a thrilling experience to Mrs. Ida Soper to face death. "For years a severe lung trouble gave me intense suffering," she writes, "and several times nearly caused my death. All remedies failed and doctors said I was incurable. Then Dr. King's New Discovery brought quick relief and a cure so permanent that I have not been troubled in twelve years." Mrs. Soper lives in Big Pond, Pa. It works wonders in coughs and colds, sore lungs, hemorrhages, la grippe, asthma, croup, whooping cough and all bronchial affections. 50c. and \$1. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by English Drug Company.

Many a man has paid a lawyer \$5 and \$10 for poorer advice than his wife would willingly have given him for nothing.

A Religious Author's Statement. Rev. Joseph H. Fesperman, Salisbury, N. C., who is the author of several books, writes: "For several years I was afflicted with kidney trouble and last winter I was suddenly stricken with a severe pain in my kidneys and was confined to bed eight days unable to get up without assistance. My urine contained a thick white sediment and I passed same frequently day and night. I commenced taking Foley's Kidney Remedy, and the pain gradually abated and finally ceased and my urine became normal. I cheerfully recommend Foley's Kidney Remedy." English Drug Company.

Eight drams make an ounce, but often half that number will make a man a foolish and disreputable spectacle.

This is the most dangerous time of the year to catch cold and the hardest time to cure it. If you should take a cold, a few doses of Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup will act very promptly. Its laxative principle cures the cold by driving it from the system by a gentle but natural action of the bowels. Children especially like Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup, as it tastes so good, nearly like maple sugar. It is sold by English Drug Co.

Johnny looking at the specks on the potatoes asked, "Mamma, are those specks for the potatoes' eyes?"

The best known pills and the best pills made are DeWitt's Little Early Risers. They are small, easy to take, gentle and certain and are sold by English Drug Company.

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BECAUSE it doesn't wash away like mineral fertilizers;
BECAUSE it doesn't give out during the growing season;
BECAUSE it gives up its Nitrogen steadily through growing seasons and leaves none to be wasted by the winter rains;
BECAUSE it puts vegetable matter back into the soil;
BECAUSE it is rich in the richest form of Nitrogen—plant making, life giving Nitrogen;
BECAUSE it is safe, sure, satisfactory;
BECAUSE it is honest and economical;
BECAUSE it is the BEST!

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