

Scientific Miscellany

IODINE, TREATED WATER, A STEEL FOR RAPID WORKING SPRAYED ON COLORS FOR LAMPS, A LAND OF FORD TEETH, A TINY TELEPHONE, THE ELECTRIC FARM, LOCOMOTIVE EVOLUTION, ELECTRICALLY LIGHTED LIFEBOATS, A BIG STEEL CRYSTAL.

Goler, an enlargement of the thyroid gland of the throat, is attributed to a deficiency of iodine, in which this organ requires in minute quantity. In the neighborhood of the sea the air contains much more iodine than inland, and in North America goiter prevails around the Great Lakes, in the St. Lawrence valley, and in the St. Northwest, where this element does not find its way into the atmosphere. It is stated that in Rochester and Detroit 7 school children out of every 100 have goiter, while the disease is noted in many women consulting physicians. Switzerland, which has much iodine, has recently begun putting a little iodine into all table salt.

It is believed that adding a little iodine to the Rochester water supply will be a better plan for this city. Dr. Goler health officer, estimates that 5,000 of a gram in each gallon of water as iodine of soda will entirely prevent the disease. The iodine in Rochester's water has been increased from one part in a billion to 20 parts, and is to be raised to 50 parts.

A new British steel, claimed to permit machinery at 25 to 33 per cent greater speed than others and to withstand a deeper cut has been designed especially for use in automatic machines and capstan lathes, where high speed production is desirable. It takes a smooth finish, which high cutting speed improves. The special properties are said to be due to 0.69 to 0.12 per cent of sulphur and phosphorus, carefully kept from separating the constituents including about 0.1 per cent of carbon, 0.03 of silica, and 0.6 of manganese.

Lamp bulbs colored red, blue, green, or yellow by spraying are claimed to be more satisfactory than others. The coating is weather-proof, does not fade, and is more uniform in color than the colored glass, on account of the variations in the thickness and density of the individual bulbs.

People reputed to enjoy immunity from the northern malarial fever in Porto Santo, an island of the Madeira Archipelago, with a population of nearly 3,000. On a recent visit, Dr. M. C. Graham examined 600 natives, finding 28 cases of dental caries, but all except 7 of the persons affected came from Madeira, and only 2 of the 7 had the tooth-mark characteristic of those born in Porto Santo. This peculiar sign is a slight yellow mark on the upper incisors. It appears to be due to the water of the island, which is highly mineralized with chlorides, carbonates and sulphates. The main food dependence of the inhabitants is maize boiled with lard, fish and onions being added occasionally. The food is eaten cold, animal fats except lard are absent, and no milk or green vegetables are used, or foods requiring grinding or mastication. It is thought that exemption from cancer may be explained by the simple food habits. Diarrhoea and intestinal troubles are notably absent also, but this may be accounted for by the germicidal action of the water. Pulmonary disease is common.

The smallest telephone yet produced is a German device intended especially for persons who are hard of hearing. It is about an inch long, and with the open end inserted in the ear, it is held in place by its peculiar shape, without requiring the use of a strap. Being so small it is stated to be impracticable to use a metal diaphragm of the ordinary type. In place of this a fine membrane of specially prepared skin is used, and is fitted to serve effectively. The thin elements adjustable for clearness, is claimed to receive spoken words and other sounds with great distinctness.

More than 165 uses of electricity on the farm have become known to R. Borlase Matthews, whose book has attracted so much attention. At his own 600-acre place, he has found that the cost of electricity lighting the cow barn was more than paid by the loss of spilled milk produced, and that is electrically lengthening the day for his flock of fowls he has increased his production of eggs during the winter months by as much as 20 per cent at a cost for electricity of about one egg for each bird.

Efficiency in railway transportation has been of very slow growth, and in a British Association paper, Col. E. Brien drew attention to the fact that the steam locomotive is in principle unchanged since its invention was perfected in 1825. Improvement has been in quality of material and method of manufacture, even superheating was applied by Trevithick to a locomotive boiler in 1825. Through such improvement the average speed of British main line passenger trains has increased from 30 to 50 miles per hour, the weight of the train behind the draw-bar, from 100 to 600 tons, the weight of locomotive, from 50 to 147 tons, heating surface and grate area of boiler, from 880 and 15 square feet to 3,400 and 41; and the working pressure, from 12 to 225 pounds per square inch. The most radical innovation in rail transportation has been the application of electric power. Considering the prospect of main-line electrification in Great Britain, it is found that the maximum thermal efficiency of the steam locomotive is not more than 4 per cent, and that of the electric locomotive from coal-pile to the bar is about 11 per cent. A general electrification of an average section of busy main-line might be expected to reduce coal consumption at least two-thirds. This difference, however, is offset by the cost of delivering the current, making the fuel expense about equal. Economies and advantages of operation favor the electric locomotive, especially in congested areas, but the enormous expenditure necessary on many branch lines indicates that at present only certain sections can be considered for electrification.

An electric lighting equipment for ships life-boats includes an 8 candlepower bulb for each end of the boat. The lamps are protected by glass gloves and were shields, and can be raised above the boat's sides to throw the light over the sea. A float automatically switches on the current the boat is launched. An accumulator or dry-cell battery gives current from two full nights or intermittent use over a longer period.

A steel crystal described by J. G. Primrose was 19 inches long, weighing 3 pounds, and was broken out of the pipe of a 50-ton ingot of mild open-hearth steel. A steel crystal reported about a quarter of a century ago by a Russian professor was over 15 inches long.

ETIQUETTE

MANNERISMS

Don't tuck your feet under a chair, and be careful never to turn them inwards, an unconscious posture with many.

Don't swing the arms and stride along when walking; neither is it graceful to toddle or trip. Keep the back straight and the shoulders back; round-shouldered attitude too soon becomes habitual.

Break yourself of the habit of pinching your lips, pulling your ears, pushing your fingers through your hair, or any of the unnecessary and generally unconscious little tricks in. They are all very ugly and foolish.

Don't gesticulate with your hands, however dramatic the tale you have to tell. Only a Frenchwoman can imbue such movements with fascinating charm.

Don't pat your vis-a-vis on the arm to emphasize a point, and refrain from absent-mindedly fidgeting with the buttons of your friends and clothing they wear while you are talking to them.

Avoid lolling or negligent attitudes; the effect is more often that of gaucheness than grace, while the inelegant habit of crossing the legs is one which very few women can accomplish without an ungainly appearance.

INTRODUCTIONS

When a man is introduced to a woman it is for her to offer her hand if she wishes to shake hands. But if the man makes the move to do so it is rude of her to ignore it, just as it is rude to repel any offer of friendship.

As a rule, a woman does not shake hands with a man upon meeting him if he is an entire stranger.

Give polite attention when a stranger is presented and try to catch the name, but on failing to do this, ask to have it repeated and make an effort to remember it.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding announcements are sent out the day after the wedding or as soon after that as possible. There is no obligation to send a wedding present on receipt of an announcement. A visiting card with best wishes for happiness, or a note, is usually sent.

GIVING AN INVITATION

When you give an invitation verbally be explicit as to date and time. Don't tell people that you will be delighted to see them "any day." That doesn't mean much. A definite invitation is much more of a compliment and is valued accordingly. Also, guests invited in a free and easy manner to come at any time may turn up at some appalling inconvenient time, when with all the good will in the world your welcome may not be as cordial as you would wish it to be.

In an invitation is given formally let it be known whether the occasion is to be quite informal or not. It isn't fair to let guests arrive in garb unsuited to the occasion, just because they did not understand.

Improvement was perfected in 1892. Improvement has been in quality of material and method of manufacture, even superheating was applied by Trevithick to a locomotive boiler in 1825. Through such improvement the average speed of British main line passenger trains has increased from 30 to 50 miles per hour, the weight of the train behind the draw-bar, from 100 to 600 tons, the weight of locomotive, from 50 to 147 tons, heating surface and grate area of boiler, from 880 and 15 square feet to 3,400 and 41; and the working pressure, from 12 to 225 pounds per square inch. The most radical innovation in rail transportation has been the application of electric power. Considering the prospect of main-line electrification in Great Britain, it is found that the maximum thermal efficiency of the steam locomotive is not more than 4 per cent, and that of the electric locomotive from coal-pile to the bar is about 11 per cent. A general electrification of an average section of busy main-line might be expected to reduce coal consumption at least two-thirds. This difference, however, is offset by the cost of delivering the current, making the fuel expense about equal. Economies and advantages of operation favor the electric locomotive, especially in congested areas, but the enormous expenditure necessary on many branch lines indicates that at present only certain sections can be considered for electrification.

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A little girl drew a picture of a dog and a cat, and showing it to her mother, she explained, "A cat should only have four legs, but I drew it with six so she could run away from the dog."

Advertisement for 'BLACK OXEN' by Gertrude Atherton. The years best book by America's best woman writer. Published by arrangement with Associated First National Pictures, Inc. Watch for the screen version produced by Frank Lloyd with Corinne Griffith as Countess Zattiany.

SYNOPSIS

At a first night performance in New York, Lee Claverling, newspaper columnist, is attracted by a woman a few rows ahead of him, who rises during the entr'acte, turns her back to the stage and through her glasses, she is beautiful in an unusual way and Claverling stares at her, fascinated. In fact, the whole house is staring. Claverling encounters his relative, Dinwiddie, who declares that the woman is the image of Mary Ogden, a society belle of thirty years ago, who lived abroad. They conclude this must be a daughter and Dinwiddie promises to question Judge Trent, Mary Ogden's attorney.

Trent's lips are sealed, whereupon Dinwiddie enlists the services of Mrs. Oglethorpe, a close friend of Mary Ogden's in her youth, who begins her investigations by boldly calling upon the fair unknown at the old Ogden home.

Mr. Dinwiddie, to his surprise, had found no difficulty in persuading her to investigate the mysteries of the Ogden mansion, for she had leapt at once to the conclusion that the friend of her youth was in some way menaced by this presumptuous stranger of the fantastic resemblance. There had been a time when, while indignantly repudiating the stories so prevalent for many years of Count Zattiany's marriage to Countess Zattiany, she had secretly believed and condoned a hoax, only because she had loved her devotedly and known something of her heavy disillusionment, but because the wild secret life the exalted Countess Zattiany was believed to be leading fed her own suppressed longings for romance and adventure. With the passage of years, which had taken their toll of Mary's beauty and fascination, and brought complete disillusionment to herself, she had almost forgotten that old phase; moreover, it was many years since she had visited Europe and correspondence between the two friends, once so intimate, had almost ceased before the war. During that long interval she had heard nothing of her except that she was running a hotel in Buda Pesth, but shortly after the close of the war she had been distressed to learn from a member of one of the various commissions to Vienna that Countess Zattiany was ill in a sanitarium. She had written at once, but received no reply. Now she feared that some adventurist had taken advantage of a superficial resemblance—she dismissed Mr. Dinwiddie's protestations of the exactness of that resemblance as the maudlin ramblings of a weak-witted man playing about among the ghosts of the Ogden fortune. When told that Judge Trent was evidently shielding the woman, her suspicions were redoubled. She had consistently hated Judge Trent for fifty years.

If, on the other hand, the creature were really Mary's daughter—and could prove it—well, she would make up her mind what course to take when she met her. "I'll wait in the library," she announced, and moved majestically down the hall. Then at a sound she paused and glanced toward the stairs which rose on the left, opposite the library. A woman was coming, a woman only an inch or two shorter than herself and no less stately, with auburn hair coiled low on her graceful neck and wearing a loose gown of pale green crepe with a silver girdle.

"My God!" exclaimed Mrs. Oglethorpe in a loud imperious voice, as she commanded the Almighty to leap from His throne and fly to her assistance. "Then she leaned heavily on her cane. The lady came quickly down the stairs and made a peremptory signal to the butler. As he disappeared she walked forward more slowly and paused within a few feet of her guest. Her eyebrows were slightly raised, her face impassive. Not even those sharp old eyes staring at her guessed that she had been completely taken by surprise and was inwardly quaking.

Mrs. Oglethorpe could not speak for a moment. The years had dropped from her. She was once more a young woman come to spend the day with her favorite friend

for a moment. She looked speculatively at the indignant old face opposite, then made a vague little gesture toward her hair, and dropped her eyes. "No," she said softly, "Don't—please." She raised her eyes once more and looked straight into Mrs. Oglethorpe's. The two women stood staring at each other for several seconds. Mrs. Oglethorpe's eyes blinked, and she said, "Then she drew herself up in her most impressive manner. "Good day," she said, "Your pardon for the intrusion," and although her voice had trembled she swept majestically down the hall. The willing hostess touched a bell and a footman opened the door.

Three weeks passed. There were almost twice as many first-nights, "Mary Ogden," as Claverling called her for want of the truth, was at each. She never rose in her seat again, and, indeed, seemed to seek inconspicuousness, but she was always in the second or third row of the orchestra, and she wore a different gown on each occasion. As she entered after the curtain down and stole out before it went down for the last time, few but those in the adjacent seats and boxes were edified by any details of those charming creations, although it was noticeable that a beguiling of both sexes was most active in her neighborhood.

For by this time she was "the talk of the town," or of that important and excessively active minded section of Greater New York represented at first-nights. The columnists had commented on her. One had indited ten lines of free verse in her honor, another had soared on the wings of seventeenth century English into a panegyric on her beauty and her halo of mystery. "A poet-dit-wit had clapped her 'The Silent Drama.' 'Judge Trent respects my wishes.' 'Your wishes! You've made a fool of him. But I am Countess Zattiany's oldest friend, and if she has been imposed upon, if she has come to any harm, if you are after her fortune by pretending on the strength of your singular likeness to be her heir, I shall know how to put a stop to it in spite of Judge Trent. I suppose you have never heard of me! My name is Oglethorpe.' 'I have heard of Mrs. Oglethorpe—from Countess Zattiany. But she failed to prepare me for your excessively bad manners.'

"Does it really matter?" And once more Mrs. Oglethorpe started, although the accent was foreign. "Yes, it does matter," she said grimly. "That is what I have come to find out."

"Oh! Again there was a slight lift of the eyebrows. 'I had always heard that Americans were unconventional, but hardly that they carried their independence of the conventions so far as to invade the house of a stranger.' 'I'll not be put off. Are you Mary Zattiany's daughter?' For a second there was an expression of broad amusement on the beautiful cold face opposite, but it passed with a slight shrug of the shoulders. "No," she said evenly. "Then who are you?" "I do not choose to say—at present. Her tone was as arrogant as her interlocutor's and Mrs. Oglethorpe bristled.

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he had attended a party given by one of the most hospitable of the Sophisticates where the unknown cocktail and, where, forgetting his arteries, he had befuddled himself at the generous food, had guarded his tongue. To Claverling he had been unable to extend either hope or information. Mrs. Oglethorpe had turned a bleak and rigid countenance upon the friend of her youth when he had called with an eager ear, and forbidden him to mention the subject to her again.

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he had attended a party given by one of the most hospitable of the Sophisticates where the unknown cocktail and, where, forgetting his arteries, he had befuddled himself at the generous food, had guarded his tongue. To Claverling he had been unable to extend either hope or information. Mrs. Oglethorpe had turned a bleak and rigid countenance upon the friend of her youth when he had called with an eager ear, and forbidden him to mention the subject to her again.

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