

The Farmington Enterprise

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EDITORIALS

Defining A Friend

(St. Clair County Press)

In my scrapbook I have a definition of friendship that I would like to share with you. I don't know who wrote it, but whoever did so wrote words that strike a responsive cord in my heart, and I think you'll like them, too.

"What is a friend?" "I will tell you, it is a person with whom you dare to be yourself. Your soul can go naked with him. He seems to ask of you to put on nothing, only to be what you are. He does not want you to be better or worse."

"When you are with him you feel as a prisoner feels who has been declared innocent. You do not have to be on your guard. You can say what you think, so long as it is genuinely you. He understands those contradictions in your nature that lead others to misjudge you."

"With him you breathe freely. You can take off your coat and loosen your collar. You can avow your little vanities and receive advice, and without his criticism, your meanness and absurdities, and in opening them up to him they are lost, dissolved on the white ocean of his loyalty. He understands. You do not have to be careful."

"You can abuse him, neglect him, tolerate him. Best of all, you can keep still with him. It makes no matter. He likes you. He is like fire that purges all you do. He is like water that cleanses all that you say. He is like wine that warms you to the bone. He understands."

"You can weep with him, and laugh with him. Through and underneath it all he sees, knows, and loves you."

"A friend, I repeat, is one with whom you dare to be yourself."

Lengthening The Life Span

(Ionia County News)

Fascinating as ever is the study of how to lengthen the normal span of life. Medieval alchemists pestered over brews and mixtures in a vain search for some magic concoction to perpetuate youth. But their art is a far cry from the highly developed science of modern research. Fatasticking study and the microscope have been the tools of modern medical men in actually increasing the number of years a normal individual may expect to live.

The path of medical progress has been influenced mightily by the discovery of microbes. Few before Pasteur believed that disease was caused by living microscopic organisms. None before him were able to prove the theory. Since Pasteur's time, however, innumerable germs have been isolated and studied with the result that many once-prevalent diseases which robbed man of his strength, often of life itself, occur infrequently.

Even the tiny, deadly tubercle bacillus has been made visible by powerful microscope lens. Koch's discovery in 1882 of the germ causing tuberculosis stands as one of the greatest scientific achievements of all time. Tuberculosis, one of the worst plagues ever to prey upon human beings, is still a serious menace. That its death toll has been cut in half is due mainly to years of study and research by tuberculosis experts and to Christmas seal activities of anti-tuberculosis associations.

In battling with death, medical science is winning a decisive victory. Methods for controlling communicable diseases have been perfected; sufficient knowledge is available to enable people to take precautions against ill health. With the layman, the medical man, and the public health worker co-operating in trying to lessen the number of premature deaths caused by disease, life expectancy each year is being materially increased.

Honesty and Health

(Exchange)

Just how true to yourself are you when you give yourself a high health rating? The regular pumping of your heart may lead you to believe that your circulatory system is functioning perfectly. You may conclude that your lungs are in good condition because they supply you with sufficient oxygen. But have you taken into consideration the unnoticeable changes that occur constantly throughout your body, some of which may be injurious? Do you know the exact state of your health?

If all physical disorders were accompanied by a pain or an ache, fewer of us would "put off until tomorrow" the family doctor's

routine examination. But some of our greatest disease enemies—tuberculosis, for example—work slowly and quietly.

When tuberculosis first attacks the delicate lung tissues, there are no symptoms, says the Michigan Tuberculosis Association. Later on, it may warn you by unexplained fatigue, loss of appetite, loss of weight, and a persistent cough. Any of these signs should send you scurrying to your family medical advisor. By means of the simple, but effective "tuberculin test," he can make certain whether or not tuberculosis germs have ever entered your body. Your doctor is your friend. He will be glad to examine you for tuberculosis before warning signals appear.

Daylight Saving

(Christian Science Monitor)

Americans about this time of year recall the popular song of yesteryear: "When it's nighttime in Italy, it's Wednesday over here. It's because of the clocks. Or not because of the clocks, but because of the Americans. But not all the Americans. In Britain it would be because of the British. But, it would appear, not because of all the British."

It appears that "summer time"—or daylight-saving time—is still making some adherents to win in Britain. Kipling's "Village That Voted The Light Was Flat" has a companion, equally convincing, in the Sussex hamlet of Ebernoy, which has lately come into the news as the home of several stand-patters who stoutly refuse to put their clocks ahead.

They see no reason for getting up earlier, accept no governmental opinion in the matter, and will dress either by the Right, or the Left.

They do not, of course, imagine that they are losing an hour, as was the case with some of their forbears, who, when the calendar was altered, cried: "Give us back our eleven days!" It is rather a conviction that the last word, "the last syllable of recorded time," should lie with the sun, which alone can fix "the blaze of noon."

This is, however, a very small minority; and few others would deny now that the observance of "summer time" is not only an economical practice, but has proved a contribution to the enjoyment of leisure.

The Return of Spring

(Exchange)

All over the Northern Hemisphere the signs of Spring are visible. Soon the North will cross the Equator and we of the upper half of the world will feel the benefit of its rays shining more directly upon us, while our neighbors to the South will be making their preparations for winter. Whether, as some scientists maintain, the axis upon which this sphere which we call Earth revolves was given a tilt by accidentally bumping into a comet, or whether it was by the deliberate plan of the Creator of all things that no part of the globe presents the same angle to the Sun all the year around, no one can doubt that it is a much more satisfactory planet to live on because of the continual change of the seasons.

Only a few undeveloped peoples have ever been able to maintain existence in the regions where the sun is almost overhead all the time. The parts of the Earth where civilization has developed and where man's ingenuity and resourcefulness have achieved their highest triumphs are those north and south of the tropics, where the procession of the seasons lends a constant variety to life and its manifestations.

Laboratory Minded

(Exchange)

Is your doctor laboratory minded? Nowadays laboratory science has scores of new ways to prolong your life. Certain diseases contracted 100 years ago have been reduced to head-ache importance. Instead of accepting that old practice of "take this," find out how much your doctor uses the modern technique of today's medical laboratory. The progress of laboratory medicine is fairly beyond the comprehension of the average layman. You are not expected to know all this detail but your doctor is.

Social progress makes the well-being of all more and more the business of each; it binds all closer and closer together in bonds from which none can escape.

—Henry George.

9 Army Corps Areas Are Linked in One Voice Communication Circuit



General Mallin Craig (left), Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army, listens as Major General J. O. Mauborgne, Chief Signal Officer, talks with and listens to the signal officers and other staff officers at the War Department's nine Corps area headquarters from coast to coast, all of which are linked together on one telephone conference circuit for two-way conversation.

The first occasion in its history on which the War Department in Washington, D. C., was in two-way voice contact with all of its nine Army Corps areas at one and the same time occurred recently when Major General Joseph O. Mauborgne, Chief Signal Officer, conferred with the Signal Officers in the headquarters of all nine Corps areas over a coast-to-coast telephone conference circuit established with the cooperation of the Bell Telephone System for this demonstration of fast intercommunication.

Corps and Headquarters Staffs Attended the Demonstration Included in the conference circuit were the headquarters of the Corps areas at Boston, New York, Baltimore, Atlanta, Columbus, Chicago, Omaha, San Antonio, and San Francisco. The commanding officer and his staff in each area witnessed the demonstration and conversed with

one another and with General Mallin Craig, Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army, who attended in Washington with members of the War Department General Staff.

Conference Circuit Is Recent Bell System Development

The conference circuit used in this demonstration of the speed with which the War Department can communicate with all its major divisions throughout the country is a recent Bell System development in telephony. Special switchboard equipment makes it possible to link together by telephone persons at separate points anywhere in this country and even abroad, so that all may hear and all may join in the conversation. While specially arranged, the conference circuit set up for the War Department was not essentially different from those regularly established to interconnect groups of people for business or social conversation.

Asia First Home of Most of Domesticated Animals

Man has domesticated animals since the earliest days—before he learned to write, for among his earliest records are found drawings and other representations of some of the animals he had taken into his camps and dwelling places.

The continent of Asia seems to have been the place of origin of three-fourths of our domestic animals. Since the first home of man himself is usually also placed there this is not surprising.

It seems probable that all of these animals were first held captive by the early peoples for their food supply and that the other uses for them—for drawing loads, for riding, for giving protection, etc.—occurred to their captors afterward.

It is interesting to note that no new domestic animals have been developed in several thousand years, as far as records show, asserts a writer in the Cleveland Plain Dealer. The llama, the alpaca and the turkey have become known to European peoples within that time, but they had long been in use among the inhabitants of the new world.

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Milton Esberg and Frederick Weddleton, to officials of San Francisco's 1939 Exposition are scouring the country for attractions.

Dr. Joseph W. Norton

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