IN CASE OF SHOCK

A Life-Saving Crew to Be Formed by Local Electricians.

MEN MAY BE CAUGHT IN CURRENTS

Cases Where Victims Have Been Brought Back to Life.

RULES FOR EMERGENCIES

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by Local Union, No. 26, of Electrical Workers of this city, to organize a "life-saving crew" for the resuscitation of members of the craft who may be so unfortunate as to receive an electric shock while in the line of duty. Organizations of a similar character are in existence in New York, Chicago and many other large cities, and they have proven to be very useful, the instances being rare, indeed, that they have not been able to restore to life and health a man who has received a shock from a live electric wire.

That a set of rules could be devised by the observance of which the unfortunate victim of electricity could be restored to consciousness, was, until a few months ago, regarded as an impossibility, and the discovery that such could be accomplished was the merest accident. About the time mentioned a lineman in the city of Chicago while at work was caught in a circuit of between 1,800 and 2,000 volts. He was, of course, at once rendered unconscious, and it was believed he was dead, but his fellow workmen, with whom he was unusually popular, determined to bring him back to life if possible. One of the men had read a little about what to do under other emergencies, and he took charge of the case, his associates working under his direction. Note of every step made in the progress of the treatment was taken and the result of the course adopted proving successful, the man being comparatively restored in less than ten minutes. They reported their experience to the local union.

At the suggestion of the union an account of the course of treatment was sent to all the unions of electrical workers in the United States, in order to benefit their fellow-craftsmen as much as possible in case any of them should be called upon to pass through an experience similar to that of the Chicago brother. So life-saving crews were at once organized in many places, the members of which keep them-

To Expand the Lungs.

selves fully posted on the rules, and they are instantly ready when notified that an electrician has been shocked to do all in their power to relieve him. It is claimed that if these rules are strictly followed and promptly carried into effect there is no case where the victim of the current cannot be brought back to consciousness in from six to ten minutes, and eventually to health, unless the brain be roasted or the lungs carbonized.

An Electrician's Opinion.

A prominent electrician of this city, in talking on this matter to a Star reporter, said: "There is no man that can say positively that a man is killed outright by an electric shock, as has been proven during the last month in the case of President Sherman of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and Mr. Grover, both of Rochester, N. Y., each of whom received a voltage of between 1,800 and 2,000, which is much greater than is used at electrocutions of murderers at Sing Sing and Auburn. Both men recovered. There are men living today who, by being caught in both arc light and alternating currents, have received greater shocks than have ever been used for officially putting a man to death. There is in this city today a man who a few years ago was caught in a 60-light circuit, each lamp having a voltage of 45, or an aggregate of 2,700 volts, and his experience, as related by himself, was as follows:

"'A second after I was caught I became unconscious, and in another second I realized my condition, but was powerless to help myself. I saw fire of a greenish hue flying from my nose and mouth for some time, and could taste copper for weeks thereafter.'"

A second case was that of a man in Baltimore who was caught in a 3,000 volts alternating current while working on the top of a ladder about a mile from the power station. By the carelessness of a man in

Back With the Elbows.

the lighting station, he was thrown into the middle of the street. An alarm was sounded by the police, and as quickly as possible the man was removed to a hospital. He was restored to consciousness in a few moments after his arrival at the hospital, but it was found that the pliers which he held in his right hand, and the wire in his left, had burned each hand to a crisp as deep as the bone. The unfortunate man was made a cripple for life, and his hands have been utterly useless to him since the accident, but the company by which he was employed has pensioned him for life.

They Dread a Repetition.

This man said that when he was shocked it seemed to him as though some one had struck him in the head with a bar of iron, and he knew no more until he regained consciousness at the hospital, where he was amazed to find the doctors standing over him. Both these men have declared that not for a million dollars would they be willing to repeat their experience, even if they had a guarantee that they would come out of the ordeal as fortunately as they did before.

The rules which are generally posted in all places where electricity is handled as a commercial agent are as follows:

"In cases of apparent death from an

Pulling the Tongue.

electric shock no time should be lost to induce artificial respiration. The body must be placed upon the back. A roll, made of a coat, or anything else convenient (rolled, not folded), is placed under the shoulders, and must be sufficiently large to so prop up the spine as to drop the head backward. The operator should kneel behind the head of the subject, facing him, grasp the elbows and draw them well over the head, so as to bring them almost together above it, and hold them there for two or three seconds, as can be seen in figure 1.

To Induce Respiration.

"The operator should then carry the elbows down to the sides and front of the chest, firmly compressing it by throwing his weight upon the elbows, as in figure 2.

"After two or three seconds the arms should be again carried above the head, and the same maneuver should be repeated at the rate of fifteen or sixteen times a minute. This manipulation stimulates respiration in the following manner: When the arms are extended over the head the chest walls are expanded, just as in inspiration, and if the throat is clear the air will rush into the lungs. When the arms are brought down to the sides of the chest, compressing it, the air is expelled just as in expiration.

"The operator must appreciate the fact that the manipulation must be executed with methodical deliberation, just as described, and never hurriedly nor half-heartedly. To grasp the arms and move them rapidly up and down like a pump-handle is both absurd and absolutely useless.

"In addition to this the tongue must be drawn out to free the throat. An assistant should take the tongue, held by a cloth or handkerchief to prevent slipping, and draw it forcibly out during the act of inspiration, or when the arms are extended above the head, and when the chest is compressed it may be allowed to recede. An illustration of how this can be done can be seen in figure 3.

"This rhythmical traction upon the tongue is in itself an excellent stimulant of respiration. It acts not only by freeing the throat of the tongue, which may fall back and obstruct breathing, but also by reflex irritation, through the fraenum or bridle under the tongue being drawn forcibly against the lower teeth."

AS TO MAN'S MEANNESS.

A Southerner Who Was Lacking in the Traditionary Traits of That Section.

"I have been all over the country," remarked a gray-haired Mississippian, "and have had more or less to do with men of all sections, but the meanest man I ever knew lived in Tennessee."

"Recently?" inquired a Star reporter.

"No, years ago; in slavery times. I had heard about the kind of a chap he was, including the fact that he was worth a hundred thousand dollars, but I thought most of it was the usual gossip one can always hear about rich folks when they are a little 'near.' When I took my turn at a deal with him, however, I found that the half had not been told me. My experience was this: I was living at that time in his neighborhood, and, among the blacks we had as house servants, was a girl that had become so obstreperous that my wife insisted on selling her. She was worth $1,200, and a buyer had offered me that for her, but my wife wouldn't listen to her being sold to a buyer and the trade was off. But old man Muggins, let us call him, had heard of my wanting to sell her, and he came to see about it. My wife told him she wanted the girl to get into good hands and was willing to get less for her if she knew she was to have a good home. The old man said he had just the place for her on a farm he had up the country and he needed a woman there to cook for his hands, and that he would guarantee good treatment and a steady home. He was so nice about it and showed such an interest in the girl's welfare that my wife let the old man have her for $800, and he took her away with him the next day. Two days later my wife met him and told him that she felt so bad about sending the girl away and was so afraid that she would not be comfortable in her new place that she had fixed up a lot of bedclothes and a bedstead, with some other little odds and ends, for her use and would send them over to the old gentleman's house to be sent to the girl. He was just as nice about this as he was about the other, agreeing to send the stuff to her at once, and again assuring my wife that the girl would be well cared for. By this time my wife was glad she had sold the girl, and she couldn't be too loud in her praises of Mr. Muggins. Three or four weeks later I made a discovery, and then our feelings underwent a change with reference to our neighbor."

"Had he treated the girl badly?" asked The Star man.

"Well," hesitated the talker, "I don't know what you would call it exactly, but it was this way: As soon as he got the girl from us for $800 he had hurried her off to the buyer and sold her to him at $1,200, making a clean four hundred, and then when he got hold of the stuff my wife had sent to him to send the girl, I'm a goat, if he didn't sell that, too, to a second-hand furniture dealer for $4 and soak it away with his other savings. Now, what do you think of that?" and the old gentleman's face shone red.

"Is he dead?"

"Yes, and he died ten years sooner than he might have, if he hadn't worried himself to death because he couldn't take his money with him to the grave."

A Suspicious Death.

James S. Cool, an undertaker of Bay City, Mich., died suddenly Thursday evening, under circumstances that have induced Coroner Cone to make an investigation. Cool was over seventy years of age, and a widower. He had fallen in love with a pretty girl of twenty-two years, and they were soon to be married. Cool's family bitterly opposed the match.

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GRANITE CUTTERS

Their Local Union Nearly Half a Century Old.

STEADILY SUCCESSFUL FROM THE START

Higher Wages and Less Hours of Work Obtained.

OBJECTS OF THE ORDER

The Washington Branch of the Granite Cutters' National Union has the unusual honor of carrying on its rolls the name of every member of the craft within its jurisdiction. It was organized almost half a century ago, but was not affiliated with the national body until 1878, and after it had been in existence for thirty-one years. From the latter date its officers have labored assiduously for the upbuilding of the order, and to secure the maximum rate of wages that it was possible to obtain, and in 1880 it secured the rate of $2.50 for ten hours per day.

Many of the members were, however, not satisfied either with this scale of wages or the hours, and they continued to agitate the subject of more pay and less hours. In 1882 their demand for $3 pay for a day of nine hours was granted. The pay and hours continued at these figures for the ensuing four years, but in 1886, after a lockout for six weeks, they succeeded in getting from their employers a concession of $3.20 per day of eight hours, and this scale has prevailed ever since, the men not seeing their way clear to ask for any increase of pay. It is a well-known fact that the granite workers of the eastern states, especially those of New England, work for much less wages than are obtained in this section of the country, and this state of affairs operates to the disadvantage of the Washington workmen.

Cordial Understanding With Employers.

There is, however, the best of feeling between the employers and the members of the union, and on two or three occasions when differences of opinion relative to minor matters have arisen, everything has been adjusted to the satisfaction of all concerned, without the least difficulty. At this time the men feel that they would like to have more pay, if such a thing were possible, but they also feel that, taking all things into consideration, it would be entirely out of place to ask their employers.

The officers of the Washington branch are Peter C. Kelly, president; James E. Bittenbender, vice president; William Silver, corresponding and recording secretary; John Bennett, financial secretary, and Charles Bastable, treasurer.

Sketches of the Officers.

President Kelly is a native of Washington, D. C., where he was born about forty-two years ago. He learned his trade here and at Richmond, Va., in the latter city having been engaged in cutting the granite used in the construction of the State, War and Navy building.

Vice President Bittenbender was born in Pennsylvania and has been a resident of the District for about five years.

Secretary Silver is a native of Scotland. He came to Washington in 1880 and for the last eleven years has, at intervals, occupied his present position in the branch.

Financial Secretary Bennett is a native of Washington, learned his trade here and for the last twenty-five years has been employed in various local yards.

Treasurer Bastable is a native of Washington, having been born here about sixty-five years ago. He has been engaged in some of the most important work ever constructed in the city, having been employed on the Senate and House extensions to the Capitol, the Treasury building, previous to the war, Washington monument, etc. He is not engaged in active work at present, but is regarded as a reliable and trusty official of the union.

The Washington branch is affiliated with a great organization whose ramifications extend throughout the entire country and which is known as the Granite Cutters' National Union.

The Objects of the Order.

The Granite Cutters' National Union was organized because it was believed that "in union there is strength" and that in the formation of such a body—embracing every granite cutter in the country—lay their only hope of receiving an equivalent for their labor sufficient to maintain them in comparative independence and respectability, to procure the means with which to educate their children and qualify them to play their part in the world's drama. It was found that single handed they could do nothing, but they were confident that united there could be no power of wrong they could not openly defy. The members believe that there is not and that there cannot be any good reason why their employers should not pay them a fair price for their labor, and they are firmly convinced that if the profits of the business of the latter are not sufficient to remunerate them for the trouble of doing business the consumer should make up the balance.

In speaking of this matter to a Star reporter a prominent granite cutter of this city said: "The stereotyped argument of the employers in every attempt to reduce wages is that their large expenses and small profits will not warrant the present prices for labor; therefore those just able to live now must be content with less hereafter.

The Reply to the Argument.

"In answer, we maintain that the expenses are not unreasonable, and the profits are large, and in the aggregate great; there is no good reason why we should not receive a fair equivalent for our labor. A small reduction seriously diminishes the scanty means of the operative, and puts a large sum in the employer's pocket. And yet some of the manufacturers would appear charitable before the world.

"We ask," he continued, "is it charitable, is it humane, is it honest, to take from the laborer, who is fed, clothed and lodged too poorly already, a portion of his food and raiment, and deprive his family of the necessaries of life by the common resort—a reduction of his wages? It must not be so. To rescue our trade from the condition to which it has fallen, and raise ourselves to that condition in society to which we as mechanics are justly entitled, and to place ourselves on a foundation sufficiently strong to secure us from further encroachment, and to elevate the moral, social and intellectual condition of every stone worker in the country, is the object of the organization."

Striking as a Last Alternative.

One of the most important features of the organization in its relation to the public is the following: Should the members of any local branch (which are scattered all over the country from Maine to California) seek to alter or better their condition as between employers and employed they must first use their utmost endeavors by correspondence, interviews or a conference, consisting of an equal number of employers and employed, who shall, if possible, come to an amicable arrangement, but, in case no amicable adjustment can be arrived at, and should the branch decide by a two-third vote of the members in good standing present at the meeting that a strike is necessary, then the secretary of the branch shall lay the whole case before the National Union committee, showing the number of members in good and bad standing belonging to the union, the number of non-members in the locality, the state of trade, and all other matters appertaining to the case, also the numbers voting for and against the question, and the National Union committee shall then have power to authorize a deputation of not more than two members in good standing from the nearest point or points available outside the jurisdiction of the branch interested, who, in conjunction with one of the members of the branch in question, shall visit the locality and examine the state of trade and obtain all evidence possible, and report to the National Union committee, which shall immediately lay the whole case before the union, giving the various branches, the branch's application, and the delegates' report, and the various branches shall record their votes for or against granting the branch permission to suspend work not later than their first regular meeting thereafter.

When Wages Are Reduced.

In case of an employer attempting to reduce the established rate of wages, increase the number of hours or infringe on any of the established rights of a branch said branch is to take a vote on the question, and if a two-third vote of the members in good standing present determine to resist the infringement the corresponding secretary shall lay the matter before the National Union committee, showing the number of members in good and bad standing, and the votes for and against the question. The National Union committee must then authorize the appointment of not more than two members in good standing from the nearest point or points available outside the jurisdiction of the branch interested to investigate the matter and forward their statement to the National Union committee, and if, in the opinion of the National Union committee, after due consideration of the branch statement and delegates' report that the members are justified in resisting the reduction, the National Union committee has power to grant the members of the striking branch assistance from the general fund.

Members who shall have suspended work by consent of the National Union are required to report daily at an appointed place of meeting, at such hour as may be agreed upon, and any member neglecting to attend, or attending in an intoxicated condition, is fined a day's pay, but a satisfactory written apology may be received for non-attendance.

Other Rules and Regulations.

All committees of strikes are paid fifty cents per day in addition to the strike pay guaranteed by the National Union. Members on a dispute refusing to accept employment without showing sufficient reason for doing so are compelled to forfeit such sum from their pay as the branch may decide. And should the National Union committee, after a reasonable time has expired, deem it not advisable to continue the struggle, they must lay the case before the union, for it to take such action as it may deem just to all parties interested, and if at any time a reasonable compromise is offered by the opposite side, and should the branch refuse to accept the compromise, then the National Union committee must immediately notify the various branches of the fact, and if, in the judgment of the union, such compromise should be accepted by the branch, the National Union committee must inform the branch at the earliest moment, and if the branch refuses to be governed by the decision of the union, then the National Union committee must not extend any further aid to the branch from the funds of the union, but if the branch desires to protract the struggle it must be done on its own responsibility.

Pecuniary Support of Members.

The National Union guarantees its moral and pecuniary support to all its members in difficulties which may arise between them and their employers sanctioned by the union, but cannot guarantee any stated sum per week; but in case of a dispute legally sanctioned by the union, it shall decide as to the mode of providing for the support of its members thrown out of employment.

No member of the union is considered in good standing on proof being submitted that he has revealed the transactions of the branch or attempted to injure the interests of his brother member or members by undermining him or them, or by any other willful act by which the situation of any member is placed in jeopardy, under a penalty of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars.

One of the most important rules for the government of the organization is that no decisive vote on any question of vital importance shall be taken under excitement, but as after cool and calm deliberation of the pros and cons of the question, a more just decision can be arrived at, officers of branches are required to consult together, and, if necessary, to adjourn any meeting of importance, when, in their judgment, the members are laboring under too much excitement to vote understandingly.

Should, at any time, a branch consider it judicious to reduce its hours of labor, or to establish a standard of wages and bill of prices for its government, it must submit the same to the National Union committee for their approval, and the branch must also give employers due notice of its intentions, while the union must sustain the branch in its demands in this particular.

Settlement of Disputes.

Should any dispute take place necessitating an expenditure of money for strikes, etc., the members thrown out of employment are entitled to receive such amount of strike pay as shall be advised by the National Union committee, and approved by the majority of the union, but if the fund of the union is likely to be reduced to $4,000, the National Union committee has power to levy a tax upon all employed members, and on the conclusion of such strikes no money can be paid out of the funds of the union except for funeral claims and the necessary expenses of management until the sum of $10,000 has accumulated in the treasury again. However, in cases of extreme distress to members of the union caused by strikes or lockouts, the National Union committee are authorized to appropriate money to relieve their immediate wants, but the sums so appropriated must not exceed $100.

When a member shall have arrived at the age of fifty-five years, and been for five years in good standing in the union, he is exempt from the payment of all dues except funeral levies, and any member who has been in good standing for six months, who, not being able to obtain employment, but wishing to leave the jurisdiction of the branch to which he belongs, but is unable to do so for lack of funds, is entitled to an advance of $10, in order to aid him to get to a place where he may think he can get work, provided he can get the indorsement of two other members in good standing, but the loan must be paid back at the rate of 25 per cent per week of the borrower's salary.

The affairs of the National Union are in the hands of the National Union committee, one of whose members acts as president.

Success of the Pingree Plan.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Last May considerable vacant property in Orange, N. J., was obtained through the efforts of a number of benevolent people for farming purposes for the unemployed. Those who took advantage of it are beginning to reap the benefit of their labor. Many families who might have had a hard time of it next winter will have something in store for a rainy day. The principal crop raised has been potatoes.

An unusually interesting case is that of a woman whose husband has been ill for a long time. The wife had become the principal support of a large family. When the Pingree plan was broached her young son made application for one of the plots, and began to plant it with potatoes. Before he had finished that part of the work the boy secured a place, and the mother took up and carried on the farming herself. Hers is one of the best crops on the tract, and she has declared her intention of giving a barrel of potatoes to the bureau as a testimonial.

Unexpected Reciprocity.

From Fliegende Blatter.

THE "KRANKEN HAUS"

A Visit to the Greatest Hospital in the World.

VIENNA'S COSMOPOLITAN PATIENTS

The Man Who Performed Seventy Thousand Autopsies.

A SAD SECRET REVEALED

Written Exclusively for The Evening Star.

WHEN I RECALL the three thousand five hundred beds and the outlines of the huge portal of the white building facing upon the Alser Strasse, I realize the herculean task confronting me in attempting to describe even meagerly the world's greatest hospital. That massive pile of bricks and mortar covers an area of more than forty acres, and contains so many beds that were they placed side by side in a straight line, with the proper intervals between each, they would extend over a distance of nearly eight miles. It is entered by a great archway, beneath which myriads of suffering souls have passed, and is the most colossal institution of its kind in existence. Nowhere is there anything to be compared to the Royal and Imperial Hospital of Vienna, which for over a century has maintained its supremacy, and which by a recent appropriation of eighteen millions of florins is to be enlarged to such an extent that there is no fear of a dangerous rival for years to come.

The ground plan of the hospital may be compared to a large meadow which is surrounded on all sides and divided by a series of continuous fences into fields of varying size, every one of which can be made to communicate with the other by lowering a set of bars. Substitute for the fences long rows of white buildings, three and four stories high, and for the bars archways reaching to the windows of the first story, and one obtains a fair idea of the grouping of the structures in the great institution, bearing in mind, however, that with the exception of the ground floor

In the Hospital.

there is no interruption of any kind, and that all the wards communicate with their neighbors, like the confusing passageways of an inextricable labyrinth. The red gable roofs, covered with patches of moss, through which project chimneys of every form and size, contribute to form a pleasing picture. The nine courts are studded with shrubs and flower beds, and are traversed by graveled walks, lined by shady trees, with an arbor here, a statue there, a fountain in still another place, and comfortable benches on every side.

A National Institution.

The poorer people of Vienna and the inhabitants of not only Austria, but the Baltic and Balkan provinces as well, have been taught to look upon the general hospital of Vienna in case of sickness as the most preferable retreat in Europe. This teaching has come to them from their fathers and forefathers, who have patronized the institution for years and who continually impress upon their children its greatness and importance. With them it is as natural to repair to the "Kranken Haus" when afflicted with disease as it is for one to eat when hungry. It is not to be wondered at, then, that the present hospital, spacious though it be, is inadequate to meet the demands made upon it by these many classes, who are continually reminded of its grandeur, nor is it strange that one beholds so many different races of people congregated about the entrance when gazing from the street through the main portal at the time when the large clock in the belfry of the administration building has struck the four quarters and is striking in a deeper key upon a louder and more sonorous bell the hour of 2. On these occasions, when the gates are thrown open to the visitors and the patients who are not confined to their beds flock around their friends as they enter, the daily life reigning within the hospital is to be studied to the best advantage. If the weather is fair, host and guest (for such in reality are the patients and the visitors) seek seats either in some isolated spot in the extensive grounds or places upon the long row of benches flanking the main walk leading from the first to the second court.

A Cosmopolitan Crowd.

I believe that I speak the truth when I say that the strangest and most diversified set of people upon the globe will be found upon those benches, and promenading before them. The dress of the patients, who are clad in white suits of towel-like material, relieved by narrow red longitudinous stripes, is odd to say the least. Every stitch of clothing of both the men and women is made of this one cloth; likewise the badly-fitting stockings which are worn by the male patients either beneath or on the outside of the trousers. The sheets upon the beds in the wards, the pillow cases, the towels, the napkins and the handkerchiefs are also made of this coarse texture. With few exceptions, the feet of all are covered with rough leather sandals, which flop about the patients, giving them a shuffling gait. There are no buttons on any of the garments, everything being fastened by means of strings. Usually the women go bareheaded; some, however, have their hair done up in bandannas matching their clothes. The men wear blue and white striped caps, and, if the weather be cold, long coats of the same material as their hats, or paletots with hoods, made from rough blanketing similar to that which is used in the wards upon their beds. Jew and Gentile, Turk and Greek, Russian and Italian, American and Englishman, German and Austrian, clergyman and priest, student and soldier, patient and nurse, physician and visitor, merchant and farmer, in short a most cosmopolitan congregation, frequent these long rows of benches. Good fellowship reigns on every side, and no one is offended at the humble peasant who, taking his seat close to one's side, plies his neighbor with questions pertaining to the sickness of his wife or child. Here the students while away the time intervening between the different clinics in jest and laughter, while the patients enjoy the papers and refreshments brought to them from the outside by their friends. The nurses wear long checkered blouses, and may also be seen upon these seats, knitting or reading, and taking their well-earned rest.

The Convalescent Patients.

Such a sight as it is to behold these deformed and maimed individuals who flit about like phantoms, entirely oblivious of those who watch their movements. Every department of the great hospital is represented during this daily promenade. The patients from the surgical clinic are there in great numbers, hobbling about upon crutches, with arms in splints and hands in slings, with bandages upon their heads and steel braces and mechanical devices which are worn to overcome acquired and congenital deformities; likewise a contingent from the skin clinic with faces rendered hideous and repulsive by masks of cloth and powdering of starch, as well as men, women and children with green shields and goggles; and those who breathe through tubes projecting from their necks instead of nature's natural channels; also two lepers who for years have been inmates of the great hospital, and whom no one has deemed necessary to isolate, mingle in the crowd. The Albino with squinting eye is present, and he whose oscillating head knows no rest while unsupported; he, too, who laboriously moves along watching each step as it is placed upon the path, and he with clinched hand whose arm is pressed against his side while his useless limb is dragged and swept over the ground. Likewise he who weeps and laughs, but knows not why, and he who takes delight in showing his friends that needles and pins cause no pain when thrust beneath the surface of the skin. The man with massive jaw whose body continues to grow, although long past the age of maturity, also finds his place in this throng, and the child with wasted limbs and the woman with waxen face and the sage with tottering gait, and hundreds of others who enjoy the buoyancy of the warm sun and stimulation of the wholesome air.

In the Wards.

This is what one beholds in the different courts. The scene in the long wards with bed after bed filled with patients is something entirely different. There are the patients whose sickness is such that it confines them to the bed, concealing, more or less, their peculiarities. The wards are extremely plain, but, as a rule, quite roomy and always neat. Many have matting upon the floor. A few are tiled, while in others the floors are polished. Between the beds are small tables, each with a still smaller drawer. At the head of each bed, fastened to a rack, is a large blackboard, upon which is painted the number of the bed, the name of the patient, the diet and treatment. Clasps attached to these boards hold in place the fever charts, notes of special observation and written instructions of the staff.

When I first visited the various wards I noticed tags bearing the capital letter "K" tied to the racks. They were only at those beds in which the patients appeared quite sick. I was informed that the letter stood for the German word "kommunion," and that it was intended as a notice to the priests when they made their daily rounds that the patient desired the administration of the last rites. Later, strange to say, in one of the larger wards I saw the letter upon every bed. It was one of those many coincidences which occur in a hospital but once in a lifetime.

A Splendid Diet.

Between the diet of the Vienna Hospital and that of the other institutions of Europe there is no comparison. For the most part, it is in every respect better in quality and quantity. Patients are given their wine and milk almost "ad libitum," and it is the only place upon the continent where there is an extravagance in dealing out meat. After a connection of several years in one department, I can say without hesitation that if I have as good food as was served in this one ward for the balance of my life I will never complain. There are a few exceptions, nevertheless, which are to be attributed to the methods in vogue. There are three divisions, in which the beds vary from 100 to 170, where the patients do not obtain enough to eat, for the reason that these departments are in the hands of men who have absolute control over them, and whose actions are not to be questioned. Economy is practiced by these individuals for the purpose of making a good showing at the end of the fiscal year, but the abuse is remedying itself, for these wards are acquiring an unenviable reputation, and are being shunned.

The Percentage of Cures.

As regards the cures wrought, they are about the same as in America. In the surgical department the record is a little better than ours and in the maternity divisions considerably worse. The hospital receives a gulden a day for the care of every patient who is admitted to its wards. If the patient himself is too poor his employer is compelled to pay the fee, and if it cannot be collected from him the community from which he comes is called upon, and if the community does not pay the city of Vienna assumes the debt. Those patients who are interesting to the staff by reason of their sickness are assigned to wards where their diseases can be studied to the best advantage and where the facilities are good for using them as subjects for the diagnostic studies of the students. When a patient is discharged he is allowed to leave the hospital by himself, if he desires it, and if he is weakened greatly in strength he is taken home either in an ambulance or a large omnibus, which makes its rounds several times during the day.

Few Modern Features.

Vast as the hospital is, there is nothing modern about the whole structure excepting the wards of the late Prof. Billroth, which are modern in every respect. The cooking is done in the kitchen beneath the administration building, and the food is transported from one court to the other in wagons, from whence it is distributed among the different wards. Between the wards there are ante-chambers, in each of which is an old-fashioned stove, upon which enough water can be heated by the nurses to make coffee for the patients, which, by a special privilege, they are allowed to sell to eke out their small pay. They receive but 40 kreutzer a day—less than 17 cents—for their services. Whenever a bath is desired the hot water must be carried by carriers from the ground floor to the third and fourth stories.

For the Benefit of Science.

As death is the last event in life, so is the pathological laboratory of the general hospital in Vienna the last place of conveyance for him or her who has died within its wards. An unviolated rule governing the hospital has been in force for years which allows the remains of no one who dies in the hospital to be transferred until an autopsy is held. The measure has been the greatest possible stimulant for the rendition of correct diagnoses, and there is no man upon that great staff who does not entertain the greatest respect for the pathologist—the final arbiter of everything pertaining to disease. Through these autopsies the truth is revealed. Charlatans are robbed of those laurels which they never have a right to enjoy and title to recognition is conferred upon talent and genius. Medical research is also thereby placed upon a broader and higher plane.

A Tremendous Record.

Within this enormous structure, devoted to the special study of disease in the dead, one man, Kundrat by name, is said to have performed 70,000 post-mortems. Incredible as the statement may seem, I believe it to be strictly accurate, for it came to me from a most reliable source. Prof. Kolisko succeeds Kundrat, who died a year or so ago, and it was within his laboratory during the absence of the coroner that I beheld the final chapter of a tragedy. The subject had killed himself, but the reason was not known. They found him dead in his room in a pool of blood, with an old-fashioned flint-lock derringer clinched in his hand. He was a handsome fellow, even in death, with thick, black, wavy hair and eastern features, which stamped him as a well-bred Hungarian. His friends spoke of him as a whole-souled fellow, with the sunniest of dispositions, a student who appeared to enjoy life as it came along from day to day, free from care and anxiety.

The Secret Revealed by the Scalpel.

A motive for the rash act could not be found, and it was believed that the secret would be carried with the body to the grave. The scalpel in the hands of this skilled professor, which cut into the flesh of the suicide, revealed not only the secret, but a pathetic story of unrequited love as well. The whole mystery shrouding the life of that unfortunate student was revealed by the knife.

The bullet had apparently entered his chest, plowing through his lungs, to become lost in the underlying tissue. It was afterward found in a place where it was not looked for—immediately beneath the integument covering the fourth rib. Something far more important than the leaden missile was unearthed, which was lodged close to the spinal column—a piece of paper, folded and refolded into a wad, which, upon being removed and unfolded by the great pathologist, was found to contain the sentence: "Ivan, it cannot be. Marie."

The Note Literally Killed Him.

Is it necessary that I take you back to the room of the suicide; that I point against the wall to the place where the derringer hung suspended; that I tell you of the postman who brought the note; of the lover's despair upon reading the missive; that I remind you that the derringer was loaded from the muzzle by first placing in the powder, then the ball and lastly a wad of paper, which in this case was the note received from the woman whom this student loved above all others, above his books and above his worldly existence? The ball did not kill this man, for it was deflected upon striking the rib, and lodged beneath the skin, but the note pierced his heart and lungs.

JOHN H. METZEROTT.

FAMOUS COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Rev. Erastus Rowley Made Well by Paine's Celery Compound.

As the school year opens attention is directed to the oft-repeated advice of leading educators, warning teachers, parents and scholars against the fearful results of exhaustive brain work among young people.

To thousands of girls and boys, unnerved by the strain of school life, Paine's celery compound (which was first prescribed by America's greatest teacher, Prof. Edward E. Phelps, M.D., LL.D., of Dartmouth College) has been a blessing, making them well and strong, feeding the brain and nerves, and enriching and purifying the blood.

The recent recommendation of Paine's celery compound by Principal Camp of New Haven and the equally outspoken praise of this greatest of remedies by ex-President Cook of the National Teachers' Association are two of the thousands of such testimonials from parents and teachers throughout the country.

Nothing in the world so strengthens the weak, so readily restores lost nerve force, so surely makes the ailing and peevish young woman or growing boy well and cheerful.

And for the aged and infirm the whole world knows its wonderful curative powers. Rev. Erastus Rowley, president of the famous Kentucky Female College, writing to the proprietors of Paine's celery compound, says:

"I was for several years a sick man. My sickness was attended with constipation, with nervousness and insomnia, and the least excitement would cause palpitation of the heart. I have in the last three or four years used several widely advertised preparations. Finally I took Paine's celery compound, and I regard it as superior to all others, especially if used strictly as you direct. By using this I do not suffer from constipation, inability to sleep or from palpitation of the heart as formerly. I am still using Paine's celery compound at times, and shall take pleasure in recommending it to others."

Marriage Stories.

From the New York Ledger.

A Scotch minister has been telling some of his experiences in marrying people, which are rather funny. Sometimes when he has asked a couple to join hands the four join hands all round, as if preparing to sing "Auld Lang Syne." On several occasions, when the question was asked of the bridegroom whether he took this woman for his wife, no reply was returned. He then repeated the question more pointedly, which always brought out the tardy, but cool, response: "Oh, ay!" A common practice after the knot is tied is for the minister to shake hands with the young couple and say: "I wish you much joy." A bridegroom once briskly replied: "The same to you, sir." The minister on one occasion remarked to a middle-aged bride that this was the last time she should sign her maiden name. She coolly replied: "I've signed it lang eneuch, I think!"

"Did you have any trouble with your French when you were in Paris?"

"No; I understood my French well enough, but those measly Parisians didn't. They had all the trouble."—Harper's Bazar.