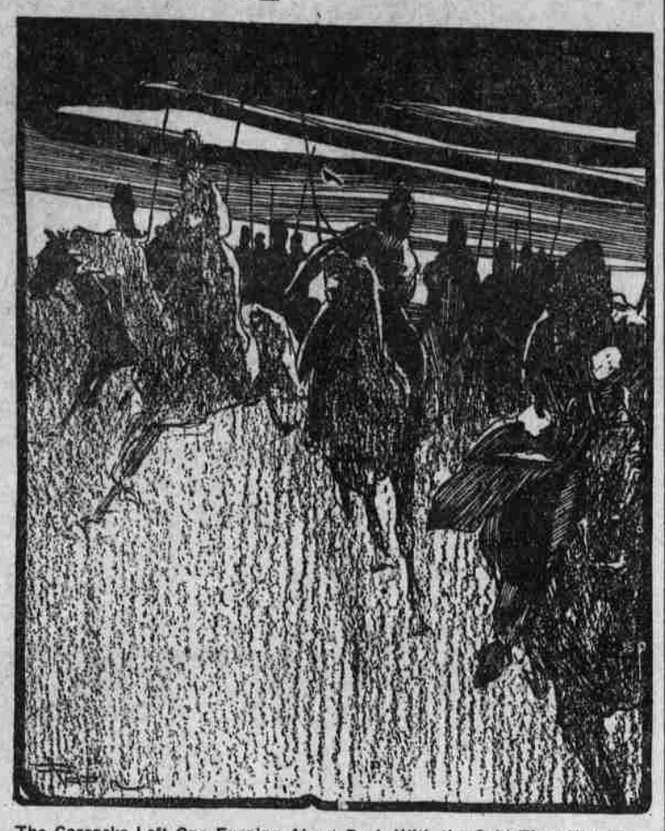
"The Wickedest City in the World"



The Cossacks Left One Evening About Dusk With the Gold They Had Been Assigned to Guard.

IRKUTSK, Siberia.—There is no doubt about it—this is the wickedest city in the world! One would hardly come to Irkutsk for a rest cure. With a population of 120,000 persons crammed into a couple of square miles on a bend in the Angara river, it produces 500 murders a year, with an average of one arrest for each 50 killings. And for each ten arrests there are but five convictions. This is not buncombe; it is a transcription from the city's criminal records. In one day this month there 22 murders and attempted murders within the city limits! Then the few citizens who didn't quite like so much promiscuous murder began to talk of reviving their vigilance committee of other days, but those whose memories harked back a little dissuaded them, writes a correspondent of the New York World.

"The vigilantes are worse than the murderers!" was the burden of their arguments, which were only too true.

A handful of law abiding citizens got up the idea of a vigilance committee not so long ago. The plan was enthusiastically received—by Irkutsk's ex-convict population and the associated thugs themselves. They enrolled by the score, got together a compact organization and volunteered their service. The governor granted them exceptional power—oh, now crime would be stamped out in short order!

Now there is a great deal of defference between an Irkutsk policeman and a western guardian of the peace. The difference is in price; the Irkutsk policeman turns his head the other way for a much smaller sum. But then he only gets $10 a month and he needs the extra money, no matter how little it be.

How Vigilance Committee Worked.

Well, the first thing the new vigilance committee did was to get the police on their side—which was easy. Then began the shooting of rich merchants in broad daylight—they were suspects, you know. Next, under cover of "house-inspection" and "penal confiscation" burglary blossomed forth on every hand. Very soon it took all the power the government commanded to rid Irkutsk of this vigilance committee which was only vigilant for its own best interests.

"Well," says Irkutsk's none too large law abiding population, "they were no worse than the Cossacks," which is strictly true. For example:

A few years ago all the gold mined in eastern Siberia had to pass through the government laboratory at Irkutsk. As a matter of fact only about 40 per cent. of it did. The other 60 per cent. went to the local Chinese "dealers in tea" and journeyed back to the celestial empire in many and devious ways—quite a quantity packed in the corpses of confined Chinamen being returned to the east for burial among their ancestors. In spite of that leakage a considerable quantity of gold managed to find its way into the laboratory, and having been cast into ingots, was stacked up awaiting transportation to Russia and the mint.

After several night watchmen at the institution had died sudden deaths the authorities began to perceive the coincidence and appointed a force of Cossacks to come in each evening to guard the treasure. All went well for a time. Then one dark night the Cossack guards drank a glass of hot "chai," lighted their cigarettes, turned up their overcoat collars and disappeared, with every single ingot of gold on the premises. Since then Cossacks have been looked upon in Irkutsk minds in the same way as vigilance committees are regarded.

Discouraging Burglars.

For the last year the city has had a street-lighting system, but the residential thoroughfares a stone's throw from the main shopping streets are left in pitchy darkness. When there is nothing better doing the adventurous element of the population passes the evening in the quieter streets, beating up belated householders returning from carousals in the restaurants after an unwise degree of internal lubrication and trying ground-floor windows. Not infrequently, as you are passing down one of these streets late at night, you'll be startled by an explosion over your head and the whistle of spreading bird-shot past your ears. Timid householders, without any objection being raised by the police, fire a shotgun from the window before turning in to bed, to show lurking burglars that there is a gun in the house.

The policing is done partly by municipal, partly by private patrolmen, the latter employed by property owners. The private patrolmen deserve an honored place in the annals of twentieth century philosophy. The American idea of a night patrolman is a keen-eyed, stealthy, gum-shoe man in blue, leaving what the Chinese euphoniously term "the piecee stealee men' to play first and then taking the trick. The Irkutsk patrolman, with the high-souled idea of warning prospective burglars of his approach and causing them to abstain from sinning, makes the night hideous by perpetually clattering a powerful wooden rattle. He grasps it firmly in the hand and parades the streets, whirling it round and round at every few paces. Lying half asleep in the early hours of the morning you might imagine yourself in a Pittsburg boiler factory.

Ex-Convicts as Servants.

Many of the servants here are ex-convicts who decided to settle down in the east. For instance, that tall, portly head waiter with the restless eye and the big bifurcated Slavonic beard, who will be recollected by the traveler who has visited the Hotel Rossia at Tomsk, slew his wife and her friend and has served a long term of imprisonment in a barracks of the frozen north. Three murderers are on the waiting staff of the Hotel Central here in Irkutsk, and one in our very hotel, the Metropole.

Irkutsk is pretty gay at nights now, but the citizens look back enviously to the zenith of its career to the days of the recent Japanese war. Then champagne and wines were often cautiously transported free of freight charges from St. Petersburg and Moscow in steel cars labelled "Powder"—cars militant with painted imperial eagles and Cossack guards. At Irkutsk the powder cars were shunted off along the barrack sidings and found a final resting place at the end of the rails entering the officers' mess store shed in the barracks west of the big girder bridge over the Irkut river. A colonel of one regiment openly boasted in the Metropole restaurant the other night that more champagne was drunk in Irkutsk in one month during the Japanese war than is sold on Broadway, New York, in half a year.

The fun at Irkutsk starts at midnight; the city is as dead as a Sunday an hour before. Then the moving-picture shows, of which there are three to a block on the Boisholskaia, spin off their last films and the officers and mining engineers—for all the world goes to moving picture shows in the towns of Siberia—crowd into the restaurants.

Gay Life at Night.

You enter a pair of swinging doors, kick off your felt snow boots, hand your furs to an attendant, and pass into a long room thronged with diners, gay with the uniform of the garrison, and women in smart Parisian costumes. At the far end is a small stage on which a score of girls in a minimum of skirt and a maximum of smile go through fatuous double shuffles and dances executed with a degree of incompetency that would bring a blush to the damask cheek of a Bowery soubrette. A turn finished, the performers or singers skip down to mingle with the audience, scattering around the tables and ordering the costliest fruits and rarest wines that the management surpasses itself in providing. Gay music, crude vaudeville—crude, but going with a genuine verve and snap which is lacked by many a better show—fine fare after the unspeakable desolation of the frozen Siberia wilds, keeps up until dawn.

Here, too, the sons of Uncle Sam keep the old flag flying. Last year there were, for instance, the young Harvard graduate of a burg in the north of Pennsylvania and his friend the clergyman's son. They sojourned here for three hectic weeks, spending $25,000 in our hotel during that time. The Harvard man disbursed $1,000 in one day, and another day had $2,500 stolen from his person. The parson's son always kept, and showed good sense in keeping, a loaded Browning in one hip pocket, but he spoiled this display of prudence by keeping a wad of 20,000 rubles ($10,000) in the other, to clinch by the ready money lure any rich bargain in mines that he might chance to run across.

The management of the Metropole must have a curious admixture of interest and thankfulness for us Americans. The last Yankee staying here was a professional "ossified man;" and the manager is informing all the guests this week, much to their fascination, that one of us is Wilbur Wright's brother. We hoped to extend a good interview to a reporter of the "Sibir," giving the latest news of our native Dayton, O., on the morning of our departure—not before, as there

Irkutsk Night Watchman.

is a local club of students of aeronautics, some tactless unit of a deputation from which might recollect that Orville has a beautiful mustache, a facial adornment which cannot be numbered among our charms.

Cold Storage in Europe.

Many of the European cities are following the example of America as regards cold storage plants. Paris is one of the centers where such questions are now being promoted, and the Refrigeration society is endeavoring to bring such questions before engineers and manufacturers. Not long since there has been built a large cold storage plant in the suburbs of Paris and lying on the North Railroad. It is designed to store home products which are to be exported as well as foreign products brought in by rail to be consumed in the city. There are now eleven cold storage chambers in operation. A convenient system is the use of an automobile wagon with freezing compartments which plies between the city and the storage-house. It carries the products to the sellers in town, and also takes back the unsold products for storage. —Scientific American.

Tips to Travelers.

Take a candle in your bag and a box of safety matches. When they are wanted you will be glad they were put in. The space required for them is small. A passenger on a steamer that was wrecked had a small candle which enabled her to collect some of her most valuable possessions when the lights went out after the collision.

Carry a few pens in your bag if you do not use a fountain pen. You will find that it is worth while, as the pens provided at some hotels, and other public places, are often so bad that it is impossible to use them with any satisfaction.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Acts directly and peculiarly on the blood; purifies, enriches and revitalizes it, and in this way builds up the whole system. Take it. Get it today.

In usual liquid form or in chocolate coated tablets called **Sarsatabs.**

Constipation Vanishes Forever

Prompt Relief—Permanent Cure

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS never fail. Purely vegetable — act surely but gently on the liver. Stop after dinner distress—cure indigestion, improve the complexion, brighten the eyes.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE.

Genuine must bear Signature

Brent Good

Eat for the Fun of It.

According to Mr. Herbert W. Fisher in World's Work food is of no use to us unless we enjoy it. Mr. Fisher does not, however, recommend us to be gluttons. He says the less we eat the more pleasure we shall get. The principle is that if we eat little we shall taste much. And the taste of food, not the amount, is, after all, the lure of it.

IN AGONY WITH ITCHING

"About four years ago I broke out with sores on my arms like boils. After two months they were all over my body, some coming, and some going away. In about six months the boils quit, but my arms, neck and body broke out with an itching, burning rash. It would burn and itch, and come out in pimples like grains of wheat. I was in a terrible condition; I could not sleep or rest. Parts of my flesh were raw, and I could scarcely bear my clothes on. I could not lie in bed in any position and rest. In about a year the sores extended down to my feet. Then I suffered agony with the burning, itching sores. I could hardly walk and for a long time I could not put on socks.

"All this time I was trying everything I could hear of, and had the skill of three doctors. They said it was eczema. I got no benefit from all this. I was nearly worn out, and had given up in despair of ever being cured when I was advised by a friend to try Cuticura Remedies. I purchased Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Resolvent, and used exactly as directed. I used the Cuticura Remedies constantly for four months, and nothing else, and was perfectly cured. It is now a year, and I have not had the least bit since. I am ready to praise the Cuticura Remedies at any time. (Signed) E. L. Cate, Exile, Ky., Nov. 10, 1910.

Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. 21, K, Boston.

Varyng Prices of Lobsters.

Lovers of lobster ought to get a lot of comfort out of a recent paragraph in the famous old Kennebec Journal, which says that the crustaceans are "dirt cheap." However, the Journal adds, "they are not as low in price as in the old days, when they sold six for 25 cents, but the price has fallen to 16 cents a pound, which is decidedly different from the figures that were being quoted early in the spring. Then they were being bought alive for 50 cents a pound from the fishermen, and the price in Boston and New York soared to 80 cents a pound, and, in some cases, beyond."

TRAINED NURSE SPEAKS.

Has Found Doan's Kidney Pills Invaluable.

Mrs. Emeline Green, nurse, Osage, Iowa, says: "I have nursed many cases of terrible kidney disorders and have found Doan's Kidney Pills the best remedy for such troubles. In confinement when it is so necessary to have the kidneys in good condition, Doan's Kidney Pills are in a class alone. They are splendid also for backache, dizziness, bloating, retention and other kidney and bladder troubles."

Remember the name—Doan's.

For sale by druggists and general storekeepers everywhere. Price 50c. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Personal.

Garrulous Barber—As the sayin' goes, "There's always room at the top."

Sensitive Customer—How dare you refer to my baldness!

Work is not a man's punishment; it is his reward and his strength, his glory and his pleasure.—George Sand.

The man who thinks he knows it all never gets much of a chance to tell it.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

Every time a child shows you its toy bank it's your ante.

Lewis' Single Binder, straight 5c—many smokers prefer them to 10c cigars.

Girl chums are almost as thick as a fat man.

50,000 NEEDED TO HARVEST WESTERN CANADA'S CROP

Will Take 160,000 Altogether to Take Care of Yield of Prairie Provinces.

One hundred and sixty-two thousand farm hands will be required this year to harvest the grain crops of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Of this number the local help will provide about 112,000, which will leave about 50,000 extra farm hands. There is, therefore, a great demand for this class of laborers in all parts of Western Canada. In order to meet the requirements it has been arranged to grant very low railway rates from all boundary points reached by Canadian railways. In order to secure these rates it will be necessary for you to call on one of the following authorized agents of the Canadian government: M. V. McInnes, 176 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Michigan; C. A. Laurier, Marquette, Michigan; J. S. Crawford, Syracuse, N. Y.; Thos. Hetherington, Room 202, 73 Tremont Street, Boston, Mass.; H. M. Williams, 413 Gardner Bldg., Toledo, Ohio; Geo. Aird, 216 Traction-Terminal Bldg., Indianapolis, Indiana; C. J. Broughton, Room 412 Merchants' Loan & Trust Bldg., Chicago, Ill.; Geo. A. Hall, 2nd Floor, 125 Second Street, Milwaukee, Wis.; E. T. Holmes, 315 Jackson Street, St. Paul, Minn.; Chas. Pilling, Clifford Block, Grand Forks, N. D.; J. M. MacLachlan, Box 197, Watertown, S. D.; W. V. Bennett, Room 4, Bee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.; W. H. Rogers, 125 West 9th Street, Kansas City, Mo.; Benj. Davies, Room 6, Dunn Block, Great Falls, Montana; J. B. Carbonneau, Jr., 217 Main Street, Biddeford, Me.; J. N. Grieve, Auditorium Building, Spokane, Wash.

This will give to intending harvest laborers a splendid opportunity to look over the magnificent wheat fields of Western Canada and will give them the best evidence that can be secured of the splendid character of that country from the farmer's standpoint. There will be at least 200,000,000 bushels of wheat harvested within the area of the three provinces above named this year and it is expected that the yield will run from 15 to 25 bushels per acre. Many farmers, this year, will net, as a result of their labors, as much as $8 to $10 per acre and many of them will deposit as profits as much as $8,000 to $10,000.

The wide publicity that has been given to the excellent crop that is being raised in central Alberta and southern Alberta, central Saskatchewan and southern Saskatchewan, and also in Manitoba, will increase the price of lands in these three provinces from $3 to $5 per acre and the man who was fortunate enough to secure lands at from $12 to $20 per acre will have reason for gratification that he exercised sufficient forethought to invest, while the man who was fortunate enough to secure a homestead of 160 acres free will also have a greater reason to feel pleased.

Notwithstanding the great addition to the acreage this year over last and the large crop that will be ready for harvest there is no reason to become alarmed that the harvest will not be reaped successfully. There will be a great demand for these low rates during the next couple of months; be sure to make your application to any of the agents above mentioned that may be in your territory at as early a date as possible. Harvesting will commence about the 25th of July and continue for five or six weeks, when threshing will begin and there will be plenty of work until November.

Even love may ripen into friendship.

For Your Enjoyment

Here's an individual among drinks—a beverage that fairly snaps with delicious goodness and refreshing wholesomeness.

Coca-Cola

has more to it than mere wetness or sweetness—it's vigorous, full of life. You'll enjoy it from the first sip to the last drop and afterwards.

DELICIOUS — REFRESHING THIRST-QUENCHING

THE COCA-COLA CO., Atlanta, Ga.

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Whenever you see an Arrow think of Coca-Cola

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OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Established 1853

Capital - -	$ 500,000.00
Surplus - - -	1,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	400,000.00
Deposits - -	10,000,000.00

We invite the accounts of Individuals, Firms and Corporations, and pay interest on deposits. 2% on daily balances over $500. 3% on six months time deposits. 4% on twelve months time deposits.

"Oh, you can never fool my Ma,
I know just what she'll say,
That that's as much like Faultless Starch,
As night-time is like day."

FAULTLESS STARCH

FREE with Each 10c Package—An Interesting Book for Children

Libby's

Sliced Dried Beef

Old Hickory Smoked

Highest Quality Finest Flavor

In sealed glass jars at your grocers

Ask for Libby's

50,000 Men Wanted in Western Canada

200 Million Bushels Wheat to be Harvested

Harvest Help in Great Demand

Reports from the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta (Western Canada) indicate one of the best crops ever raised on the continent. To harvest this crop will require at least 50,000 harvesters.

Low Rates Will be Given on All Canadian Roads

Excursions are run daily and full particulars will be given on application to the following authorized Canadian Government Agent. The rates are made to apply to all who wish to take advantage of them for the purpose of inspecting the grain fields of Western Canada, and the wonderful opportunities there offered for those who wish to invest, and also those who wish to take up actual farm life.

Apply at once to

W. H. Rogers, 125 W. Ninth St., Kansas City, Mo.
C. J. Broughton, 412 Merchants L. & T. Building, Chicago

LIVE STOCK AND MISCELLANEOUS **ELECTROTYPES** In great variety for sale at the lowest prices by WESTERN NEWSPAPER UNION, 521W. Adams St., Chicago

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MILLIONS of FAMILIES are using SYRUP of FIGS and ELIXIR of SENNA

FOR COLDS AND HEADACHES, INDIGESTION AND SOUR STOMACH, GAS AND FERMENTATION, CONSTIPATION AND BILIOUSNESS, WITH MOST SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

NOTE THE NAME
CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
IN THE CIRCLE
ON EVERY PACKAGE OF THE GENUINE

THE WONDERFUL POPULARITY OF THE GENUINE SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA HAS LED UNSCRUPULOUS MANUFACTURERS TO OFFER IMITATIONS, IN ORDER TO MAKE A LARGER PROFIT AT THE EXPENSE OF THEIR CUSTOMERS. IF A DEALER ASKS WHICH SIZE YOU WISH, OR WHAT MAKE YOU WISH, WHEN YOU ASK FOR SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA, HE IS PREPARING TO DECEIVE YOU. TELL HIM THAT YOU WISH THE GENUINE, MANUFACTURED BY THE CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. ALL RELIABLE DRUGGISTS KNOW THAT THERE IS BUT ONE GENUINE AND THAT IT IS MANUFACTURED BY THE CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. ONLY

NOTE THE NAME
CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

PRINTED STRAIGHT ACROSS, NEAR THE BOTTOM, AND IN THE CIRCLE, NEAR THE TOP OF EVERY PACKAGE, OF THE GENUINE. ONE SIZE ONLY. FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS. REGULAR PRICE 50¢ PER BOTTLE.

MINIATURE PICTURE OF PACKAGE.

SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA IS ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE NEEDS OF LADIES AND CHILDREN, AS IT IS MILD AND PLEASANT, GENTLE AND EFFECTIVE, AND ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM OBJECTIONABLE INGREDIENTS. IT IS EQUALLY BENEFICIAL FOR WOMEN AND FOR MEN, YOUNG AND OLD. FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS. ALWAYS BUY THE GENUINE.

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ABSORBINE

will reduce inflamed, swollen Joints, Bruises, Soft Bunches. Cure Boils, Poll Evil, Quitor, Fistula or any unhealthy sore quickly; pleasant to use; does not blister under bandage or remove the hair, and you can work the horse. $2 per bottle, delivered. Book 7 E free.

ABSORBINE, JR., liniment for mankind. Reduces Painful, Swollen Veins, Goitre, Wens, Strains, Bruises, stops Pain and Inflammation. Price $1.00 per bottle at dealers or delivered. Will tell you more if you write. Manufactured only by

W. F. YOUNG, P. D. F., 310 Temple St., Springfield, Mass.

DAISY FLY KILLER

placed anywhere, attracts and kills all flies. Neat, clean, ornamental, convenient, cheap. Lasts all season. Can't spill or tip over, will not soil or injure anything. Guaranteed effective. Of all dealers or sent prepaid for 25c. HAROLD SOMERS, 150 De Kalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM

Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c. and $1.00 at Druggists

PATENTS Watson E. Coleman, Washington, D.C. Books free. Highest references. Best results.

If afflicted with sore eyes, use **Thompson's Eye Water**

W. N. U., ST. LOUIS, NO. 29-1911.

One-Armed School Teacher

New England Educators Encourage Cripple, Barred From Other Pursuits, to Take Up Teaching.

Stamford, Conn.—Is it worth while for a girl with but one arm, who must be self-supporting, to prepare herself for a career as school teacher? The physical disability shuts her out from typewriting and stenography, dressmaking, millinery and other lines of work. Will it bar her from school teaching?

This question has been put to leading educators in Connecticut and Massachusetts by Stamford persons interested in the girl, whose name has not been made public, and later by the school board of Stamford. The answers, while varying, on the whole are encouraging to the girl to continue.

The question was asked in order to prevent a girl, if it were hopeless, giving the time and money necessary to a high school and normal course of training. One normal school principal wrote that the state board has ruled that it is not proper to put a teacher with striking physical defects in charge of children. Others said it would not be a serious handicap and that children pay little attention to such defects.

Father Loses an Excuse.

"Don't you regret seeing your children growing up to face the responsibilities of the world?"

"Yes," Mr. Bliggins said; "it's a little disappointing to find my boy so big that he is no longer an excuse for my going to the circus."

COLT DISTEMPER

Can be handled very easily. The sick are cured, and all others in same stable, no matter how exposed, kept from having the disease, by using SPOHN'S LIQUID DISTEMPER CURE. Give on the tongue, or in feed. Acts on the blood and expels germs of all forms of distemper. Best remedy ever known for horses in feed. One bottle guaranteed to cure one case. 50c and $1 a bottle; $5 and $9 dozen of druggists and harness dealers, or sent express paid by manufacturers. Get Spohn's book on poultice throats. Our free booklet gives everything. Local agents wanted. Largest selling horse remedy in existence—twelve years.

SPOHN MEDICAL CO., Chemists and Bacteriologists, Goshen, Ind., U. S. A.

Death Lurks In A Weak Heart

If Yours is fluttering or weak, use "RENOVINE." Made by Van Vleet-Mansfield Drug Co., Memphis, Tenn. Price $1.00