

THE GREATEST FRAUD

The So-Called Drainage Canal Will Be So Known for All Time in History.

It Fails to Purify the Supply of City Drinking Water to Any Extent.

It Does Not Remove the Sewage As It Was Intended to Have Done.

It Merely Drains the Pockets of the Taxpayers and Feeds the Already Fat Contractors.

And Also Furnishes Jobs for the Relatives and Friends of the Sanitary Trustees.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Sanitary Trustees have paid out \$35,000,000 already on the drainage canal; notwithstanding the fact that the so-called drainage canal has been in operation over a year and a half; the city drinking water is more unfit for use to-day than it has ever been. The truth of the matter is that the drainage canal is a great big job, put up to

Rob the tax-payers, Enrich the contractors and furnish soft berths for the relatives and friends of the trustees.

One of the best civil engineers in the West writes as follows on the awful failure of this expensive canal from an engineering standpoint:

To the Editor: Speaking of the so-called drainage channel, "No Contamination" is the heading of an article in the Inter Ocean of recent date. The editorial lays great stress on a report of the Illinois State Board of Health that the sewage of Chicago through the drainage canal does not contaminate the lower Illinois river. One would imagine, upon reading the editorial, that a great, if not a wonderful, discovery had been made, and a result never before accomplished had been attained.

It must be admitted by every fair-minded person that, at the present time, and also during the period preceding the order of the general government reducing the admitted flow from 300,000 or 400,000 to only 200,000 cubic feet per minute, only one-quarter of Chicago's sewage had entered or now enters the misnamed drainage canal, and it is well to bear in mind that the great flow was at the time of and during the most of the investigation referred to in the editorial. It must also be conceded that before this small proportion of sewage reaches the Chicago river it has been diluted at least 60 to 70 per cent.

Is there anything remarkable, under the circumstances, in finding that this one-quarter 60 to 70 per cent diluted sewage, subjected, as claimed at present, to a flow of 200,000 cubic feet of water per minute, previously much greater, and traveling a distance of 161 miles before reaching Peoria, and thence flowing on to the junction with the Mississippi, in all about 322 miles, has been so far diluted as to contain nothing that is contaminating? Possibly the great discovery consists in finding that the one-quarter—probably, however, less than 15 per cent—of highly diluted Chicago sewage, added to the sewage of Peoria and Peoria, with their distilleries and factories, making those cities equal to commercial cities of 200,000 or 250,000 sewage-producing population, and to the sewage of cities, towns, and villages below and above Peoria and Peoria, before reaching the Mississippi, has not succeeded in contaminating the river below (Peoria); and why should it, for if the one-quarter, or 15 per cent, of 60 or 70 per cent already diluted Chicago sewage is not still further diluted in its flow of 161 miles to Peoria, then the cry of dilution by an excessive pouring of water is a fake of the worst kind, and possibly it is—for with the further addition of the remaining Chicago sewage and full flow of lake water allowed by law, may it not result in making the Illinois river the vilest kind of an open sewer, and especially so, as the Illinois river below Peoria and much of the distance above is an exceedingly poor agency for the purification of sewage polluted water.

Chicago is the great sinner, and is bound to come to grief, and this at no distant day. It seems as if the conclusion of the editorial, based upon the report referred to therein, was begging the question to be solved; which is how much water will have to be carried through the drainage canal in order to dilute and free the water from contamination. Will it not need about all the contents of Lake Michigan when the other three-quarters, or 85 per cent, of Chicago sewage is admitted to the river?

Six hundred thousand cubic feet per minute will be a mere bagatelle, and will cut so small a figure for a Chicago of 2,000,000 as sewage-producing actual population 2,000,000 or 7,000,000, and of which the remaining sewage, to some extent at least, is barely 10 per cent diluted; that when the full Chicago sewage is added to the sewage of the towns of the Illinois River valley, the present cry of no contamination will be found to have been prematurely raised.

It is possible, but not correct and truthful, to deduce a calculation that because the present one-quarter, 60 to 70 per cent already diluted sewage is free of contamination—ergo, the entire amount of sewage will likewise be free with the same proportionate flow of water added to a greatly disproportionate increase of sewage. Science, thy name should be charity, drawn as a mantle over the most egregious blunder of the century as a sewage disposal medium.

GORDON H. NOTT.

The success of the grafters on the present Drainage Canal has set the gang wild. It now wants to build canals everywhere.

The North Branch is to be widened. The South Branch is to be widened. A canal is to be built to Evanston. A canal is to be built to Wilmette. A canal is to be built to the Calumet. The Calumet is to be widened. The gang expect to realize fully \$500,000,000 before they are through. Of course, this may bankrupt the citizens, but what of it?

Opposition to making Evanston and the north shore towns a part of the sanitary district is finding many adherents among the substantial property owners of the north shore. The claim is made that the engineering difficulties to be overcome in such an undertaking are such that the sanitary district could not afford to do the work and that the purpose of making the north shore towns a part of the district is to increase the revenue of the district in order to complete the work already started. Such a plan, say the irate property owners, would tax the new part of the district without giving any local returns.

"It is a 'grafting' scheme," said Col. Henry M. Kidder of North Evanston. "Why do they go ahead and take measures to get us into the sanitary district before there is any detailed proposition made in regard to what kind of a drainage system is to be provided for us? We want to know what we are to have before we begin paying taxes for it. I feel sure that if such a scheme is ever put through it will be long after the Calumet river district is connected with the sanitary district, and when there is a real need in Evanston for such drainage."

"The dreamers speak of this matter as if it were no more of an undertaking than to run a ditch across a 40-acre field, but I am one of the many who believe that the cost of such a branch would be nearly equal to the cost of the main channel."

Col. Kidder continued:

"It is proposed to run a canal fourteen miles long along the west line of Evanston, starting from the lake at a point in Wilmette, where pumping works are to be situated, to lift the water from the lake to the sewer. The bluff at this point has an average height of thirty feet above the lake level and is battered by the stormiest waves of Lake Michigan. In addition to the constant wearing away of the shore which would make the maintenance of a pumping station there very costly, the bay is frequently filled with anchor ice that would render the operation of the works impossible. A greater difficulty would have to be overcome because of the fact that all of Evanston and the greater part of Wilmette are lower than the sewer would be unless cuts averaging nearly thirty feet in depth were made."

It is further objected by the opponents of the plan that the north branch of the Chicago River overflows with its present drainage at certain seasons, and that it would have to be deepened and widened very materially to accommodate the drainage from the north-shore district.

The idea of a lake-level channel is said to be impracticable, as it would necessitate a cut of over thirty feet for the first two miles and of about twenty feet for the following six miles to bring it to its junction with the river near Bowmanville. At that point the bed of the river is twelve feet above the lake level, and it would be necessary to have pumping works there to lift this sewage into the river.

From the talk at the Monroe, however, all the 'improvements' will be carried out whether the people kick or not.

Nothing pleases a man more than to be seen working around his yard in the evenings.

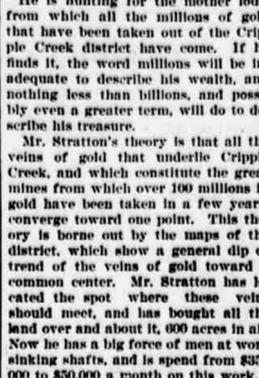
HUNTING FOR A BONANZA.

Millions Being Sunk in Search for the Cripple Creek Mother Lode.

W. S. Stratton, who attained to fame as the owner of the celebrated Independence mine at Cripple Creek, which he discovered and developed, from which he took millions, and which he finally sold for \$11,000,000 in cash, is now at work on a project at Cripple Creek which, if successful, will make him the richest man in the world.

He is hunting for the mother lode, from which all the millions of gold that have been taken out of the Cripple Creek district have come. If he finds it, the world millions will be inadequate to describe his wealth, and nothing less than billions, and possibly even a greater term, will do to describe his treasure.

Mr. Stratton's theory is that all the veins of gold that underlie Cripple Creek, and which constitute the great mines from which over 100 millions in gold have been taken in a few years, converge toward one point. This theory is borne out by the maps of the district, which show a general dip or trend of the veins of gold toward a common center. Mr. Stratton has located the spot where these veins should meet, and has bought all the land over and about it, 600 acres in all. Now he has a big force of men at work sinking shafts, and is spending from \$35,000 to \$50,000 a month on this work.



W. S. STRATTON.

It is a fact beyond dispute, as all the mining men of Cripple Creek know, that practically all the big veins of the Cripple Creek district run into Mr. Stratton's territory. The indications are that many of these veins converge to a common point within his ground. This would indicate that the great mother vein, the center from which the great veins and ore shoots of the district radiate, is directly under the ground owned by Mr. Stratton.

From the shafts being sunk gold ore is being taken, the different veins being followed up as they show themselves.

Japan's First Sleeping Cars.

In spite of its reputation as the most enterprising and progressive of Eastern nations, Japan has been entirely without sleeping cars until the last few months. Their introduction into the land of the Mikado is due to H. Iwasaki, the superintendent of the Sango Railway at Kobe. Mr. Iwasaki has traveled in America, and from the sleeping cars in common use here he drew the plans for the four cars which are all that are at present running in Japan. Since these pioneer cars were put into service they have been at all times profitable and popular, so much so that there is a loud demand that all Japanese roads should be equipped in the same way. Mr. Iwasaki has slightly modified the plan of the usual American sleeper. Each of his four cars contains, for instance, a little dining-room, seating eight, in which meals are served at all hours of the day or night. In interior finish the Japanese cars are said to fairly outdo the barbaric and hideous splendor of their American prototypes. In one way they are a great improvement over anything in this country, in that each upper berth contains windows which admit air and keep out dust.

Plattery All Too Sincere.

Addressing his students, Dr. Wylie, the professor of medicine in Edinburgh University, adduced an experience of his that is not without its literary moral. He was called one day to see a young man. As he was entering the house the patient's sister exclaimed: "Oh, it's all that horrid book!" Inquiry elicited the fact that the patient's favorite reading was "Sherlock Holmes." The young man was in a very low state, and his tell-tale arm was dotted with hypodermic punctures. His admiration for the most popular of paper detectives had betrayed him into the cocaine habit.—Academy.

Vicious Bilis.

At the return on Saturday of the Leeds engineers, who have been serving in South Africa, the unfamiliar klaki made it difficult to discriminate, and one young lady was a little too hasty. Rushing forward with outstretched arms she threw them around the neck of one of the men and passionately kissed him again and again. Then drawing back her head to gaze at the loved face (as she thought) she recoiled abashed, and exclaiming: "Oh! You're not my brother!" retreated covered with blushes, and was lost in the crowd.—Leeds Mercury.

An Exhausted Resource.

When Mr. Paterson, the Australian war correspondent, was at the Maori-land Hot Lakes, the local Maoris were very anxious to hear all about a war, so by special request he lectured to them. At the end of the discourse the Maoris all began to jabber at once, and the translator turned to Paterson with a beaming smile and said: "There is one thing none of us understand." "What is that?" "If 't' troops so hungry why not eat 't' Boer?"—Sydney Bulletin.

Free Libraries Not Wanted.

Free libraries are not wanted in some parts of London. The three adjoining parishes of Islington, St. Pancras and Marylebone have refused to establish them even where the books were offered as a gift.

NEW HEAD OF SWEDISH NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Sir Adolf Arnold Louis Philander, the new Minister of Marine for Sweden and Norway, has had a distinguished career as a naval officer. He won his knighthood from King Oscar in 1880 on his return from the famous expedition in the Vega, of which ship he was commander, and which bore the celebrated scientist and explorer, Baron



SIR ADOLF PHILANDER.

Nordenskjold, on his voyage of discovery to the northeast passage. Owing to the name of the ship and in memory of his services, the naval officer was given the title of "Philander of Vega." Since that time his promotion in the navy has been rapid, and at the same time well deserved. He is chief aid to the King and one of his royal patron's most intimate and cherished friends. The new minister is derived from an ancient family of Finland, noted in history for upward of three centuries. He entered the navy as a boy, and was early associated with the great Nordenskjold, whom he also accompanied in 1892 on the famous journey to Spitzbergen.

He Is to Build Luxurious Tenement Houses for Boston's Poor.

Edwin Ginn, a prominent real estate owner of Boston, will try an original experiment in tenement houses. He proposes to build several large fire-proof structures in the West End, which will replace the dingy, unsafe, and unhealthy habitations which are now used by the working classes in that part of the city. Mr. Ginn made a careful investigation of the facts before he decided to make



EDWIN GINN.

his experiment. He visited the people living in the tenement districts, counseled them as to the kind of houses they would most desire for the rents they could afford to pay, and then had his architects arrange plans accordingly. Mr. Ginn says that at the present time a man with \$10 a month to spend for rent could not secure a place fit to live in. His new houses will be marvels of comfort, light and luxury compared with the old style now in vogue, and the rents, if anything, will be lower. It is estimated that from 7 to 10 per cent interest will be cleared on these improved tenements.

Photography to the Front.

A well-known photographer recently had his house overhauled. A new skylight was added and alterations were made in the roof.

The men took their time and did not overwork themselves, but this did not prevent the builder from presenting a very long bill.

When the owner of the house expostulated it was explained to him that the men had to be paid for their time, and they had spent several days on the job.

"No wonder," said the photographer; and then he produced a number of snap-shot photographs representing the men on the roof of his house as taken from the attic window of an adjoining building. Some were sitting smoking, some were reading newspapers, and others were lying on their backs.

"Why," said the astonished builder, "these are my men!"

"Exactly so," replied the photographer, "and they are earning my money."

Herbert Spencer.

Herbert Spencer makes the following interesting statement in a letter to the London Times: "During the first twelve years of my literary life every one of my books failed to pay for its paper, print and advertisements, and for many years after failed to pay my small living expenses—every one of them made me the poorer. Nevertheless, the forty millions of people constituting the nation demanded of the impoverished brain-worker five gratis copies of each. There is only one simile occurring to me which at all represents the fact, and that is but a feeble way—Dives asking alms of Lazarus!"

Under Pressure.

Soft wood becomes stronger than hard wood under pressure. The case of a block of Oregon pine taken from the middle of an upright which formed a part of the timber support in the Comstock mines for twelve years gives an example of the effect of heavy pressure on wood fiber. It is so hard that it cannot be cut with a knife, and one of its sides is polished from the squeezing of a block of Oregon pine taken from the lower levels of the Comstock has been so compressed by the enormous weight that its density exceeds that of lignum vitae.

WORLD'S QUEEREST NEWSPAPER

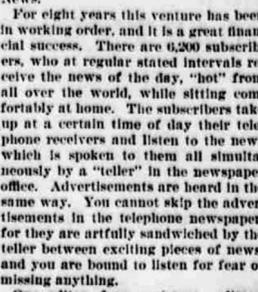
The Telephone Journal of Budapest, and How It is Worked.

Budapest has the most singular newspaper in the world. It is called the "Telefon-Hismond," or "Telephone News."

For eight years this venture has been in working order, and it is a great financial success. There are 6,200 subscribers, who at regular stated intervals receive the news of the day, "hot" from all over the world, while sitting comfortably at home. The subscribers take up at a certain time of day their telephone receivers and listen to the news which is spoken to them all simultaneously by a "teller" in the newspaper office. Advertisements are heard in the same way. You cannot skip the advertisements in the telephone newspaper, for they are artfully sandwiched by the teller between exciting pieces of news, and you are bound to listen for fear of missing anything.

One editor, four assistant editors, nine reporters, and a number of "tellers" compose the staff of the paper. News is collected in the usual way, and is written out by the reporters, passed by the assistant editors, and finally initialed by the editor. Then it is handed in to the "teller," who speaks it over the wires. There are two Sunday "issues," as well as many "editions" during the secular days of the week.

Aggrieved subscribers dissatisfied with the editorial policy of the paper sometimes wish to stop their connection with it, but this is not done easily. In the first place, instruments have been installed in the house, and security given



THE TELEPHONE NEWSPAPER.

en for a year's subscription, and some time must elapse before the receivers can be removed. The subscriber may decline to listen to the news, but the maddening bell will nevertheless continue to ring him up at the customary intervals.

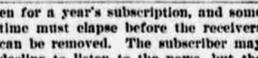
"The penny-in-the-slot system is being tried in connection with the newspaper, so that soon anyone in Budapest will be able to have 'pennyworths' of news doled out to them.

This novel and interesting enterprise was started about eight years ago by Theodore Buschgesch, who had been interested in electricity and had patented some inventions. Mr. Buschgesch died March 10, 1893, and the present efficiency of the paper in all that pertains to its technique is largely due to Mr. Emil von Saveties, who is known on the staff as technical director. His skill and energy have produced great results. The concern is owned by a stock company with a capital of about £50,000.

At first some difficulty was experienced in hearing the news clearly over the telephone—a difficulty which telephone subscribers in other countries experience in ordinary conversation—but a simple invention soon disposed of this obstacle.

Stair-Lift for Passengers.

The moving stairway in the Eastern department stores have ceased to be a wonder to the shoppers and have proved themselves a great convenience and necessity, being always ready to carry passengers without the necessity of waiting for a return trip as in the case of the ordinary elevator. Now comes James M. Dodge of Philadelphia with an improvement on the original moving stairway, with its low treads, the new arrangement taking



ENDLESS STAIRWAY FOR STORE USE.

the form of stairs which are made to rise on the endless chain conveyor. These stairs afford a firm foothold on which the passengers can stand until they reach the upper level. A glance at the picture will show the plan on which the apparatus works, the treads forming automatically at the bottom of the lift by causing the supporting bars to pass into alternate upper and lower slots or guideways, thus bending the conveyor out of a straight line to form the treads and risers. Of course, the moving handrail is also provided to aid the passengers in maintaining their balance.

Rare and Curious Gems.

The rarest and the costliest of gems, though not always esteemed the most beautiful, are pigeon's blood rubies, fine opals, and diamonds that are pure but shed a distinct glow of blue or pink. A very perfect pearl of generous size and lustrous skin, tinted a rarely beautiful golden-green, was valued, un-set, at over three hundred pounds. A faultless green pearl is very rare. A curious stone is the Alexandrite. It is a dark green stone that is polished, cut, and set, very like a fine topaz or amethyst, in large showy rings, surrounded by diamonds. By the light of day the Alexandrite has no special beauty save its fine lustre, but directly a shaft of artificial light strikes the dull stone, deep gleams of red flash out of the green, and under the gas or in the firelight one ignorant of this variety would instantly pronounce it a ruby.

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