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Round the Capital

Information and Gossip Picked Up Here and There in Washington.

Husky Babies Is Aim of Uncle Sam



WASHINGTON.—Uncle Sam wants to raise a new brand of babies, one that shall be of beef and brawn, nerve and muscle. And he has set about it in a businesslike way.

In the first place, the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture, under the direction of Harvey H. Wiley, will find out what foods now prepared for infants are really foods. If it is discovered that they are not foods at all, but cracked bran and canned mustard poultices there will be trouble.

After the results of the inquiry is concluded mothers will be sent lists of foods proper for the use of babies.

From physicians, manufacturers, and specialists in children's diseases there will be collected data tending to show the causes which render children ill, and then they will be asked to give information, based on their years of experience, which will advise the proper sort of nourishment and treatment for children, not only to avoid disease, but to build better babies.

Dr. Wiley believes that in a few years he will see the results of his

experiments in a race of husky young giants, to whom sickness and ill health will be a rarity. To first remove the cause for illness and then replace poor food with good will be the aim of the experiment, and the results are expected to be evident in the human machine thus constructed.

The movement is the result of numerous inquiries from parents and others who have suggested that there might be a possibility of impurities in children's foods. For a time experiments on a small scale have been carried on, but it has been made apparent to Dr. Wiley that a more extensive investigation into the subject will not only reveal the fact that there are impurities in the foods now offered on the market, but will show a way to bring about better conditions of health for children generally.

Dr. Wiley believes that the manufacturers will have the matter as much at heart as will the bureau of chemistry, and for this reason he is asking each maker of babies' foods to make a report not only on the kinds of foods sold by him, but what he would deem a proper food.

It is from the physicians, however, that the best information is expected because of their intimate dealings with actual conditions.

In connection with the inquiry a special investigation will be made into foods for the use of invalids and that used in hospitals in the treatment of the sick.

Capital to Get a Thorough Cleansing



THIS town is to be subjected to one of the most thorough housecleaning operations that have ever been performed hereabouts, and it is the belief of those who will have the job in charge that the old town will be quite a decent and sweet smelling place to live in after the cleaning process has been completed.

Those of Uncle Sam's sanitary corps who make a specialty of sanitary problems will be given a free hand, with instructions to go as far as they like.

The reason for so much activity on the part of those interested in the health of the good citizens of Washington is a report in the Canal Zone Record which shows that while the average of temperature and humidity in the zone and Washington are about

the same, the death rate in the zone, the difference in population considered, is considerably less than here.

Sanitary experts express themselves as being shocked at the conditions existing here, and in many other American cities, after what has been accomplished under most discouraging conditions on the Isthmus of Panama. They say that there is absolutely no excuse for the prevalence of such conditions, and so far as Washington is concerned, a determined effort will be made to eliminate them.

Government bacteriologists, chemists and experts in other branches of science are now investigating the conditions prevailing in many hotels and restaurants, among them some of the best in the city, and it is said that a number of warrants will be issued for the arrest of some of the proprietors of these establishments. The housecleaning is to be general and thorough; the nation's capital will be turned inside out, stood on its end, and turned upside down, and the scraping, dusting, spraying and touching up it will receive will be a surprise to the natives.

Women Like Rural Mail Delivery Field



POSITIONS as rural carriers are not supposed to be attractive to women, and the postoffice department does not encourage their employment as such, but an increasing number are invading the rural delivery field. Some are regular carriers.

Assistant Postmaster General De Graw is authority for the statement that when women obtain places as rural carriers they invariably accept cheerfully the hardships that accompany the work in bad conditions of road and weather.

An example of this enthusiasm is shown in a report received at the department of the case of Miss Lenna Sennot, who is the substitute carrier

on a 26-mile route in one of the New England states. Miss Sennot has held the position for three years, and although the route is a long one and is thickly wooded in some sections, Miss Sennot says she has no fear in driving over the route alone. She carries no weapon of defense, but considers that she is able to take care of herself.

When asked what induced her to enter the service, Miss Sennot said that one day, about three years ago, the regular carrier told her he was unable to find a substitute, and jokingly asked her if she would like to substitute for him.

"I told him I would like to be his assistant or substitute," said Miss Sennot, "providing he had horses that had some life. He agreed he had good horses, so I was sworn in as his substitute."

"No, I have never been afraid, because there is nothing to fear. I have every one wearing a smile, and for that reason I believe I have their good will."

Ex-Envoy Sold Horse to Leave Country



THAT Mehmed Ali Bey, deposed Turkish minister, was compelled to leave with Homer Davenport, the horse loving cartoonist, his prize Arabian steed in order to obtain funds with which to leave America. Is the story made public here by a friend of the fleeing minister.

Furthermore, it is stated that this final sacrifice came only after the minister had vainly appealed to a wealthy New York cigarette manufacturer for a loan of \$2,000, who a few months before had been presented with a mate to the Davenport horse at the suggestion of Mundji Bey, consul general at New York.

When Mehmed Ali Bey reached this country a year ago he brought with him two Arabian horses valued at \$10,000 each. One of the Schinasi brothers, wealthy cigarette manufacturers of New York, is said to have expressed a willingness to buy one of them for \$12,000. Mehmed Ali Bey

laughed at the offer. Arabian horses are not so easy to obtain in America. Soon after the minister reached Washington Mundji Bey, according to the story told by the chagrined minister afterward, suggested that he make a gift of the horse to the New Yorker, and the gift was made.

A few days ago Mehmed Ali received his recall. He was stranded. Naturally the thought of a loan from the New York cigarette manufacturer occurred to him.

"Lend me \$2,000 until I see my father, who, as you know, is wealthy," he wrote.

"Had I known that your horse had a string tied to it I should never have accepted it," came the startling reply.

"If you wish the horse back I will return it to you," continued the curt missive.

Desperate and incensed, the minister said "Return it." There came no reply, it is said.

"Go and get my Arabian horse from Schinasi," Mehmed Ali Bey wrote to Davenport. The cartoonist went, but came back without the horse. Thoroughly outdone, the stranded minister decided to turn over to Davenport the remaining horse of the pair, for he had to have money. He got it and left America via Canada.

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