

Child's Eyes

Many Little Causes Lead to Defects

By WELLS ANDREWS, M. D., Chicago

WHY is it that so many children wear glasses nowadays? Is it because their eyes are not as good as were the eyes of the parents? Or is it because more is known about the eye than formerly, or that modern habits and occupations tax vision more severely than in the days of our grandfathers? The enormous and increasing average of spectacled children now to be seen in the streets and shops and in our schools and homes is at last—and none too soon for the gravity of the interest at stake—attracting the parents' attention, the attention which has to be arrested and educated before remedies or reforms can be made widely effective.

City life, with its swift glimpses at short ranges, frequent and abrupt variation of range, its smoke and dust, subjects the eye to more continuous and more complex strain than do the long ranges of view and the serene, breeze-cleaned expanses of the country.

In a pair of normal eyes the leading factors in the visual act are two in number. First, accommodation, by which is meant focusing; second, adjustment, that is, a joint muscular act of the two eyes, controlling the direction of the gaze in order to fix the sight upon a given point. For instance, in looking at this page each eye must focus upon the print in order to see distinctly, and both eyes must be properly adjusted in order to secure single vision.

The main eye trouble from which children suffer is near-sightedness. The near-sighted child is generally at a disadvantage from the start of not being known to be so. The child, therefore, suffers from the jeers of schoolmates and chiding by his teachers for not reading sums readily or correctly from the blackboard. The others can see clearly and the failures of the former are attributed to obstinacy or untruthfulness.

In childhood the eyes should be watched and the tendency to near-sightedness or other defects be promptly and skillfully attended to. We have long been accustomed to taking children for inspection to the dentist; it would be of much greater good were we in the habit of often inquiring into the status of their eyes.

The entrance upon school life in the case of children showing either inherited or acquired near sight should be postponed and they should be taught as far as possible by the ear rather than by the eye and outdoor life and sports requiring distant vision should be encouraged. This course will insure results highly satisfactory. There should be neither study nor reading except by a good light, no reading in cars or other vehicles and the sense of strain or fatigue should be relieved by rest or change of work.

Growing children should, as a rule, do no evening studying. What at the time they might lose of book knowledge will be more than made good to them in the added store of health.

Keeping One's Self in Good Repair

By S. H. STANLEY, Baltimore

When you find that your watch is losing a minute a day, you hasten to have it regulated. If your horse goes lame or your dog gets sick, you seek a remedy at once.

If your friend has a fault you see it and want it corrected.

But, somehow or other, you treat yourself so very differently.

The one thing precious above all others to you that you are especially charged to keep in repair—yourself—you treat with greater indifference than you do your dog.

You habitually do a thousand things that you know injure your health, and that you would not permit your dog to do, and you don't care.

If you find your pulse is a losing a beat or two a minute the fact doesn't worry you half as much as does the loss of a second or two by your watch.

The watch must go at once for repair and regulation, but your pulse—well, maybe that will work itself around all right.

The chances are that you don't very often know whether your pulse is beating or not. You care so little about it.

Once a week, at least, you carefully compare your watch with a chronometer to know that it is right, but you don't ever compare your pulse with anything. Why? Because you don't care as much about your heart as you do about your watch. The watch cost you maybe \$50; the heart cost you nothing. And thus you value them.

Modern Use of Some Latin Words

By MYRLE TYRREL Des Moines, Iowa

The old Roman pronunciation of Cicero was undoubtedly "Kikero," phonetically spelt. In the same way Caesar was pronounced like "Kaiser," the title of the German emperor. Nowadays, however, we use soft c in the pronunciation of the above Latin words unless we are reading Latin. In the former case we Anglicize them.

Both ways are considered correct, as the English and Roman pronunciations are used indiscriminately in reading Latin texts; the latter, however, predominates in such readings.

I never heard of "Tiztero" as a legitimate pronunciation.

A great deal of uncertainty prevails among authorities as to the way the ancient Romans pronounced their words.

It is possible that if Cicero himself were to come to earth and appear in college classrooms he would hardly understand our reading of the Roman classics.

Reason For Using Feminine Pronoun

By CARL C. KOPP

Replying to an inquiry as to why we say "she" so much when referring to a boat, train or vehicle, I beg the right to explain that this comes under a rule to the effect that objects distinguished for their grace, beauty or gentleness are regarded as feminine.

Thus a boat or train would come under the head of grace and gentleness, and is therefore regarded as feminine.

Objects distinguished for their size, power or sublimity are regarded as masculine.

Thus we say "The grizzly bear is the most savage of his race." In this sentence masculine characteristics predominate, showing strength and power, and therefore we use the masculine pronoun.

Some of the pen pushers are trying to revive old favorites. For instance, one writes: "Twinkle, twinkle, little mouse, all about the quiet house; how you scamper in and out; wonder what you are about; I'd find out—but I'm not able up here on the dining table."

Manicure lady opines that girls with long finger nails make the best wives. Probably on the theory that it takes them longer to work their nails off on the general housework.

"Paris is adopting American dances," says a dispatch. Can they really be as bad as all that?

DEATH PENALTY? OR HOW ELSE PUNISH MURDER

By O. F. LEWIS, General Secretary of the Prison Association of New York.

NEW YORK.—Suppose you were governor. You are not a believer in capital punishment, but the people of your state have voted that they want capital punishment. Four murderers are awaiting death at the state penitentiary. Would you commute their sentences to life imprisonment?

Four men had been reprieved by Governor West of Oregon until the state could vote on the specific question of the abolition of capital punishment. When the "No" ballot outnumbered the "Yes" ballots by 20,000, the governor refused to commute the sentences. On the night before the execution, far on the Pacific coast, all night meetings were held to protest against the "murder" of the four Oregon murderers. All over the country people waited with deep concern for the governor's decision.

Now, Governor West is only one of many chief executives of our states who believe that the ancient doctrine of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth is barbarous. I have before me a personal letter from Governor Dix, dated December 10, 1912. He writes:

"I am opposed to capital punishment. It is one of the remnants of the Biblical injunction, 'A life for a life, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, and a hand for a hand.' We have done away with all of these except the 'life for a life,' and believe that society through the process of law should take a life for a life. To my mind the real punishment will come if the capital cases are segregated in a prison by themselves, cut off from the rest of the world, and upon conviction no interference with that sentence shall prevail."

Trying Time for Governor. It is generally known that the days immediately preceding an execution are harrowing days for the conscientious governor. The last futile visits of the relatives to the only person in the world that can save the life of the condemned, the persistent question as to even the bare possibility of innocence, the grave doubt as to whether the state should take life, the dread that the execution may fail to kill speedily; in short, all the horrible details of the deliberate killing of a being that the religions of civilized nations maintain is inhabited by an immortal soul—all these things press upon him.

"Why should I be forced to exercise the prerogative of almighty God?" asks the chief executive. I recently made an exhaustive canvass by letter of the chief executives of the states, the leading warden institutions and distinguished criminologists as to their attitude upon the death sentence and its execution. I wish to present some of the striking answers to that canvass today to the readers of the Sun, for to the citizens of this state will be surely brought, either during the legislative session of 1913 or soon after, the definite question "Should capital punishment be abolished in the state of New York?" First, then, how do some of our governors feel?

Gov. Marshall of Indiana writes:

"I am in favor of the abolition of capital punishment." Gov. Cruce of Oklahoma is opposed to capital punishment for all crimes except criminal assaults on women. "Legal executions," he says, "are absolutely indefensible from the standpoint of Christianity and modern higher civilization. The time will come when legal murders will be as unpopular as midnight assassinations."

Gov. Pothier of Rhode Island writes that capital punishment was abolished in that state forty years ago, and he is not in favor of its re-establishment. Gov. Burke of North Dakota is opposed to capital punishment, but is not sure that we have arrived at the stage of civilization when we can dispense with it altogether.

Hadley for Capital Punishment. On the other hand, Gov. Hadley of Missouri says that he does not advocate the abolition of capital punishment. "I believe," says the governor, "our Missouri system is the best, which gives to the jury passing upon the question of guilt the right to fix the punishment at death or imprisonment in the penitentiary for life."

And Gov. Baldwin of Connecticut, who personifies the judicial humane severity of attitude toward the criminal class, is firmly of the opinion that capital punishment should not be abolished. He writes as follows: "As you are doubtless aware, it has been abolished in some states in former years where it was found necessary quite soon to reinstate it in order to check the spread of crime. Life imprisonment under modern conditions in respect of the pardoning power and credit for proper behavior is not life imprisonment and is not dreaded as such. Such crimes as murder and rape should be made dreadful, then they will be dreaded and avoided."

Gov. Mann of Virginia finds the death penalty in accordance with Scripture, and finds no movement for its abolition in that state. Gov. Gilchrist of Florida, Gov. Cary of Wyoming, Gov. Hay of Washington and Gov. Osborne

of Michigan are other executives opposed to the abolition of capital punishment. Now where shall we stand on this question? Let us go first for the answer to those men who have dealt with prison populations, men in the service of the state and recognized by the American Prison Association as just and progressive. First, as to those who believe in capital punishment, Warden Sale of the state prison of North Carolina writes as follows: "Persons of criminal tendency, and who would not hesitate to commit high crime, would be less deterred from doing so if they knew that they would only receive a life sentence. I believe that to abolish capital punishment would tend to increase crime."

Sees Need of Severity. "The individual who would steal into the home at midnight or entice the innocent into dens of vice and destroy that which he can't give is unfit to live in any community and should therefore pay the penalty by forfeiting his life. The murderous, dangerous criminal who after his commitment to the prison becomes sullen and morose, refuses to obey rules and regulations and upon whom punishment has to be meted out in order to secure from him a partial obedience to the rules grows under these circumstances worse, becomes desperate and would take any chance to effect his escape, even if it were necessary secretly to take the life of his keeper, for he knows that there is no greater punishment than the life sentence, and hence would not mind committing any crime that would secure to him liberty or revenge for an imaginary wrong. Not only would the lives of keepers be endangered but those of inmates as well."

Some of the many prison officials who fear the evil effects of the abolition of capital punishment write thus: "Fears Increase of Lynchings. M. L. Brown, warden of the West Virginia penitentiary: "Human life would be rendered less secure, and lynchings would increase." Otis Fuller, superintendent of the Michigan reformatory: "I favor capital punishment in extreme cases, especially where murder was committed in attempting highway robbery, burglary, safebreaking, rape and such crimes as that, but I would leave to the majority vote of the jury the infliction of the extreme penalty. There have been many brutal murders in Michigan in the last ten years where it appeared to me that capital punishment was the only legitimate penalty. These murderers may escape and be subsequently pardoned or paroled, and again become menaces to the same society they have outraged."

Governor Dix has recommended the same punishment in lieu of death. Zebulon R. Brockway, for a score of years the head of the Elmira Reformatory, is quoted as having recently said: "I believe that there should be a large, centrally located Federal prison, or a prison under Federal control, in which all life prisoners of the United States should be incarcerated. I believe that the laws should be so framed that the civic life of a murderer could be terminated. This should be accomplished by obliterating their identity. They should be known only by numbers. They should be kept in ignorance of the outside world. They should be allowed to see no visitors and none save Federal inspectors should be allowed to see them. It should not be known when they die."

What then, in summing up the arguments so far, have been the main points raised in favor of capital punishment? Seemingly the following:

1. Death is a greater deterrent than the fear of imprisonment. 2. Our civilization has not progressed to the point where we can give up the restraining power of the most severe penalty.



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3. Too many chances exist of the murderer's freedom through physical escape, favoritism, parole or pardon. 4. Capital punishment should be reserved at least for the most brutal murders. 5. There is no other adequate penalty.

Against the Death Penalty. Let us now turn to the arguments against the death penalty. Two prominent men in the field of penology and criminology have presented their arguments systematically. First, Warden Wolfel, for many years head of the Minnesota State penitentiary, writes:

"I am and always have been opposed to capital punishment for the following reasons: 1. Because I do not believe that capital punishment is in harmony with and abreast of the best thought of modern civilization. 2. Because it seems wrong for the state in every sense to take what it cannot give. 3. Because human life is the prerogative of Divine Providence. God alone can give it and he alone in his divine wisdom has the right to take it away. 4. Because statistics do not show that capital punishment prevents homicides. 5. Because the whole scheme of punishment should carry with it a chance for repentance and reform, whether the offender is ever released from prison or not."

The leading criminologist in this country is probably Prof. Charles R. Henderson of the University of Chicago. He is the American representative on the International Prison Commission, composed of representatives of all civilized nations. Dr. Henderson puts his reasons thus: "I am opposed to capital punishment because: 1. It too often serves revenge. 2. Not needed for the protection of society. 3. Occasionally is inflicted on the guiltless. 4. Is irreparable. 5. Tends to increase brutality and murder. 6. Diverts attention from preventive policies."

Which brings us to the question, is the murderer the chief factor to consider in the protection of society from crime, is the example of the punished murderer of greater value as a deterrent than the possible reformation of the individual.

Hanging Not a Deterrent. I have a letter from Warden Hoyle of San Quentin prison, California, written recently in which he says: "I think it is generally believed that the death penalty has not materially lessened the number of murders committed in this state. In conclusion I would list the states which on my recent canvass I found were without the death penalty: Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin. From the following states were received reports of agitation toward the abolition of capital punishment: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Massachusetts, Ohio, Oregon, Washington. Where capital punishment has been abolished the general disposition seems to be not to restore it. Where it still exists many states seem well satisfied, many others restless. The great public of the state of New York is the jury. What shall the verdict be? Execution? Perpetual imprisonment? Imprisonment with some hope of pardon or parole?"

Wife's Quandary. Mrs. Eke—My husband got in a temper last night and destroyed my best hat. Mrs. Wye—He did! What are you going to do? Mrs. Eke—I haven't decided yet. Tell me, would you get a new hat or a divorce?—Boston Evening Transcript.

linnet from the sea and deposited it on the deck of a warship. We can stand a good deal, but this story should, we think, have been told by its narrator exclusively to his fellow marines.

Repairing High Monument. A well-known London steeplejack named Larkins has been engaged to repair the monument to the first Duke of Sutherland, on the top of Ben Vraggie (Sutherlandshire), 1,200 feet above the sea. The statue is 33

feet high and is on a column of solid masonry 90 feet high. It takes the men two hours to climb to work, and they have to "down tools" before dusk to allow of a descent in daylight.

Road to Success. There is no road to success but through a clear, strong purpose—nothing can take its place. A purpose underlies character, culture, position, attainment of every sort.—T. T. Munger.

TO BUILD CONCRETE HOTBED

Concise Directions Given for Four-Sash Bed Which Can Be Extended to Any Length.

We referred recently to the concrete hotbeds now built by florists and vegetable growers. The following directions are given for a four-sash bed, which of course could be extended to any length desired. A standard hotbed sash is three by six feet. Lay out the bed six feet eight inches wide by 21 feet 10 inches long. The concrete walls are six inches thick. Dig the foundation trenches two feet six inches deep within the lines given above. Make forms of one-inch lumber to carry the south (front) wall six inches and the north (back) wall 14 inches above ground, says the Rural New Yorker. Forms are not required below ground level. The tops of the end walls slope to the others. Before filling the forms with concrete test the dimensions of the bed by means of the sash. See that the sash lap the forms two inches on all sides. Mix the concrete mushy wet in the proportion of one bag of cement to 2½ cubic feet of sand to five cubic feet of crushed rock, or one bag of cement to five cubic feet of bank-run gravel. Fill the forms without stopping for anything. Tie the walls together at the corners by laying in them old iron rods bent to right an-



Frame Grooved for Sash.

gles. While placing the concrete set ½ inch bolts about two feet apart to hold the wooden top-framing of the bed to the concrete; or make grooves in the top of the concrete for counter-sinking the sash to the level of the walls with an allowance of one-quarter inch for clearance. This can be done by temporarily imbedding in the concrete wooden strips of the necessary dimensions. During this operation, by means of blocks nailed to the strips, make provision for the center bars described below. Remove the strips as soon as the concrete stiffens. Take down the forms after five days. The extra 2½ inches in length of the bed is allowance for the three center bars between the sash. These sash supports are of dressed one-inch stuff, shaped like a capital "T" turned upside down. The length of the stem of the "T" is equal to the thickness of the sash and the top is three inches wide. Sufficient materials for the concrete will be supplied by 14 bags of cement, 1½ cubic yards of sand and 2½ cubic yards of crushed rock; or 14 bags of cement and 2½ yards of pit gravel at a cost of \$10.

PAYS TO FERTILIZE MEADOW

Increase in the Yield of Hay Estimated From Three-Quarters to One-Ton Per Acre.

Several years ago when cutting hay next to a patch of wheat in the same field, i. e., there was no fence between, I noticed that the hay adjoining the wheat was much heavier in widths of a drill than elsewhere, writes F. P. Gerlach in the Michigan Farmer; in fact, there was so much difference that I began to study out the reason, which explained itself simply enough. In drilling the wheat the fall before with 250 pounds of 2:2:2 fertilizer per acre, and running the drill out on the meadow, there would be from two to four feet of meadow fertilized while in going back the drill would not be set in gear until at the edge of the wheat field, consequently every other width of the drill would show a marvelous difference in the grass.

This set me to thinking that it would be a good investment to fertilize meadows, and the following fall I fertilized five acres with the same result, raising the disks and drilling the fertilizer over the top, and since then we have been doing so, and I am satisfied we harvest from three-quarters to one ton of hay per acre more where we use the fertilizer. The fertilizer can be sown late in the fall before the snow covers the ground, or in the early spring.

Alternate Cold and Warmth. Extremes in temperature in a poultry-house should be avoided as far as possible. This was the objection to the old glass-front house which warmed up in the day time, but radiated a corresponding amount of heat at night. The effect is the same as bringing a chicken in out of the cold, letting its comb become tender due to the warm room, and then taking it back into the cold again. Frozen combs are quite often due to rapid extremes in temperature rather than continued cold; for this reason the old glass-front house has given way to the mullin-glass combination and to the open front.

Silos in Winter. Many a stock farmer has thanked his stars on these cold mornings when he fed his stock that he built a silo last summer. Feeding silage under cover is a much pleasanter chore than hauling fodder from snow-covered shocks in windswept fields. A circumstance of this sort is a reminder that farming should be shorn of many of its expensive unnecessary hardships for man and beast.

Egg Yield and the Feed. The egg yield can be controlled by the feed and manner of feeding. When fresh-laid eggs have an offensive odor when broken or cooked, it is time to examine the quality of food the hens are getting. Onions, fish manure piles and the like have a strong tendency to cause a bad smell and flavor in eggs.

Diseased Trees. It is well to remember that the old and diseased trees not only take up valuable space in the orchard, but they are liable to spread disease among the healthy trees, and they always harbor pests that are injurious to the entire orchard.

CARE NEEDED FOR HARNESS

Before Applying Oil Thoroughly Wash and Free It From Sweat and Dirt—Use Ivory Black.

First thoroughly wash the harness to free it from sweat and dirt. Perhaps the easiest way to accomplish this is to take the harness to pieces and soak it over night in strong soap-suds, having the water as warm as is comfortable to hold the hand in when the harness is first put in. If too hot it will scald the leather.

When taken out in the morning, most of the dirt is gone, and a little rubbing with a coarse rag will remove the spots that did not soak off. Neatsfoot oil is, in the long run, the cheapest oil for oiling leather of any kind, and especially harness, as it is exposed to the action of dirt, sweat and very often is out in the rain.

If the harness is not very dry, a half gallon of oil will be enough for an ordinary set of double harness, though sometimes harness is so dry that a gallon would be none too much. A nickel's worth of ivory black will give a color and polish to the leather if it be mixed well with the oil before using. Be sure to get ivory-black and not lamp-black, as the latter rubs off badly.

Have the oil warm, and as you take the straps out of the water, run them a few times through the oil, wipe off with a rag and hang up to dry. If not then soft enough, repeat the operation. Treat your harness in this way, and it looks like new, and if it is oiled about three times a year it will outlast three or four sets that never receive any oil. It is an old saying that "five oilings equal a new harness."

DYNAMO OF COUNTRY HOUSE

Electric Power for Lighting, Heating and Cooking Derived From an Ordinary Automobile.

The electric power for lighting, heating and cooking in a country house situated a few miles out of London, England, is derived from an automobile without interfering in any way with the regular use of the car. The dynamo is mounted on the floor of the garage, and the automobile engine is belted to it in the manner shown, says the Popular Mechanics. During the time the engine is driving the dynamo, the bonnet is removed so as to keep the engine as cool as possible.

As the amount of energy used in the house is considerable, a comparatively large battery of 200 ampere-hours



Automobile Driving Dynamo.

capacity is used. The electric cooking apparatus comprises a range having a large oven, and several table cookers; several electric heaters have been installed, about thirty electric lights are operated, a lathe and two or three other machines are driven in the tool house, and the power is also to be used for pumping water and for lawn mowing.

Preparations for Market. French poulters use considerable care in preparing carcasses for market. In fact, they are experts in that line. They know not only how to stuff fowls to get a plumper carcass, but they whiten and mold and manipulate the fowl after killing until it looks almost good enough to be eaten without further preparation.

American markets might not yet appreciate so much care and attention to the appearance of dressed fowls, but it is well known that carcasses prepared with the greatest care by American methods always bring the best prices.

Marketing the Product. In marketing pork, like in marketing the rest of the farm products, there are often good reasons for selling on foot and allowing the various middlemen to do the distributing even if they do take good-sized toll. But many farmers are so situated that they can and do reach the consumer directly, and if they possess any "get up" can make good money by selling directly to the consumer. There are many dairymen who market their butter directly and as the fall approaches start marketing pork.

Gestation Period of Ewes.

The gestation period of the ewe, or the time she carries her lambs, is between 145 and 150 days on the average. Ewes bred in the middle of October are due to lamb in the middle of March—a good time for lambs to come if good shelter is available. If shelter is poor, however, it is better for the lambs to come the last of March. A tried ram is of great value in insuring the time for the lambs to arrive. It is a great disappointment to have lambs coming for a period of six weeks.

Storing Ice Safely. To stack up ice for spring use, lay a floor twelve feet square of rails; cover with a foot of straw, and build a stack of large square blocks ten feet high. Fill spaces between cakes with pounded ice; make a fence two feet outside the pile and all around it; stuff the space between the ice and fence with straw, put on a single pitch roof, and you have a supply for several months. Use from the top only.

Sheep on Rough Lands. Some rough \$15 to \$20 land in the eastern states is being stocked with western sheep. The east produces but a small share of its meat and prospects are good for mutton prices that will give to the grower a fair profit. If dogs do not become troublesome these lands should show good returns to investors who understand the business.