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MILWAUKEE, WIS.



SOLD BY

L. S. Honstead

WONDERFUL FACTORY

COMPLICATED PROCESSES CARRIED ON IN MAN'S BODY.

Fourteen Elements Constantly Occupied in the Intricate Work of the Physical System.

You will probably be surprised, said a well-known professor of chemistry, when I tell you that the most beautiful woman or the most intellectual man that ever lived is really nothing more than animated white of egg; and yet it is perfectly true that, if you only knew how to do it, you could take a few hundreds of eggs—you would want, well, over 1,000, by the way—and manufacture a second Shakespeare or a Helen of Troy from them.

Unfortunately—or fortunately, rather—although the materials of which man is composed are common enough, the blending of them to form a living being is far beyond any human powers. But let us just run through the constituents we are made of and see of what very ordinary materials the best and cleverest of us are composed. If we take a 188-pound man and deprive him of gas and carbon there will be only five pounds of him left; while even the least oratorical man that ever lived is five-sixths gas and nothing else. Well may it be said: "We are such stuff as dreams are made of," for truly we are just as insubstantial.

In our subject we shall find no less than 118 pounds of oxygen; he contains as much, in fact, of this "vital gas" as would fill a room 13 feet long, ten feet wide and a shade over ten feet high. If we proceed next to deprive him of his hydrogen he will only lose a little over 15 pounds of his weight by the process, but the gas we procure will fill a room more than twice the size of our oxygen reservoir; for it will be 15 feet square and as nearly as possible 12 feet high, and will have such buoyancy that it could carry our patient up to the clouds.

Another essential gas is nitrogen, of which our man has 64 cubic feet stowed away in his body—sufficient to fill a nice little box four feet long, wide and high. We have now deprived our man of three of his 14 constituents; have liberated gases sufficient to fill a room, roughly, 20 feet square and ten feet high—in which, by the way, you could pack 500 good-sized men—and have reduced his weight by 139 pounds.

There is not much left of him to account for, you see, now that the three gases are eliminated—only 29 pounds, in fact, the weight of an infant—and of this a single other constituent takes the lion's share of 24 pounds. This constituent is carbon, that curious element which takes such widely diverse forms as common coal and the Koh-i-noor, and is not to be despised in the lead pencil. Just as coal keeps our houses warm and gives motive power to the steam engine, so it supplies energy and fuel to the human body.

We have now only five pounds of our man to account for, and this is distributed over nine most useful constituents. Two and a quarter pounds, nearly half of it, consist of calcium, which will be more commonly recognized as lime, and which plays a very important part in the human mechanism; and to this we must add one pound 14 ounces of phosphorus. The remaining constituents of our man only weigh one pound one ounce, and consist of sodium, sulphur, fluorine,

chlorine, magnesium, potassium and silicon; while in weight they range from two to three grains to four and one-half ounces.

Naturally, these 14 elements form combinations in the body in order to discharge their duties properly. Thus oxygen and hydrogen combine to form in our subject 107.5 pounds of water, which serves an infinite number of most necessary and useful offices. The chlorine and sodium unite to form salt, of which we shall find about seven ounces; and the sodium combines with carbon and oxygen to form the "washing soda" which has been called the scavenger of the body, and which fills in its time by playing a useful part in building up our bones.

The body is indeed a most wonderful factory, carrying on a number of useful and complicated processes at the same time. Thus it makes really first-class soap by the hundredweight for its own use, and glycerin, too, as a by-product; it manufactures sugar from starch, and it makes gum, pepsin, alcohol and other products more wonderful still.

Voracious Pike.

A female pike, 32 inches in length, which was caught on Barton Broad, Norfolk, England, some time ago, when opened was found to contain two roach, measuring seven inches and four inches long, respectively; two pieces of wire, each eight inches long; two steel spanners, two keys, which were tied together; a portion of a saw, a fragment of iron, and a piece of a spanner.

Controlling Nature.

Everybody knows that of 14 years natural forces have been wonderfully subjected to man's need. We are dazzled by the spectacular achievements in steam and electricity but are likely to forget the less noisy but no less marvelous conquest of animal and plant life. Horses are swifter, cattle heavier, cows give more milk and sheep have finer fleeces than in days gone by. In plants the transformation is even more marked. People now living can remember when the number of edible fruits and vegetables was far less than at present and even those that could be grown were vastly inferior to those we now have. For example, our parents knew nothing of the tomato except as a curious ornament in the garden. Sweet corn was hardly better than the commonest field soris. All oranges had seeds. Celery was little known and poor in quality. In the flower bed the magnificent pansy has replaced the insignificant heart's ease from which it was developed, and the sweet pea in all its dainty splendor traces its origin to the common garden vegetable.

This progress has been made in spite of the great tendency manifested in all plants and animals to go back to the original type. It is indeed a battle to keep strains pure and up to the standard they have already attained, let alone any im-

provement. The practical results are accomplished by men operating largely for love of the work, like Luther Burbank in California and Eckford in England, as well as by the great seed merchants, D. M. Ferry & Co., of Detroit, Mich., who are not only eternally vigilant to hold what ground has been gained, but have a corps of trained specialists backed by ample means to conduct new experiments. The results of their experience can be found in their 1906 Seed Annual which they will send free to all applicants.

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