

our civil life, of piracy upon the high seas, of slavery in all our leading communities. Every one of these social institutions has had the support of men's permanent passions, of men's deep impulses. To rid the world of these ancient instruments it has not been necessary to rid the world of men. Nor have we needed to wait until all sinners have been changed to saints. It has been necessary merely that men should be socially progressive, inventive, adventurous. Men have had to cooperate with one another untiringly to change the old habits of their life. New ways of justice and law and order have had to be viewed with hospitality, without a too-tenacious clinging to the cruder and less effective ways.

Human nature plays a double role. It runs with the hare and hunts with the hound. It expresses itself by remaining in the old, by reverting to the old. But it expresses itself no less by leaving the old, by moving to the new. It has not stood as a wall against progress. The advance, the untiring search for more effective institutions of justice, for more effective ways of meeting the rival claims of large groups of men, - these changes also are an utterance of our nature. The deepest forces behind human conduct do not merely oppose civilization; they press us to be more and more civilized/ Human nature resists progress; but in all leading lands it also overcomes its own resistance, its inertia and habits, its own conservatism. Out of our human nature have come the motives, the human instruments and leaders, the intelligence, the insistent urging, which have enriched and strengthened our civil life. And these same great forces, psychology in no wise forbids us to expect, will bring the more favored nations to cooperate in establishing a better institution than war to do the work of war. Three of the Four Horsemen and not two only, we may hope will cease to scourge the world.

APRIL METEORS FOLLOW PATH OF HALLEY'S COMET

Nearly half a century will elapse before Halley's comet will again visit the regions of the earth, but if you look to the northeastern sky about the twenty-ninth of April and see some shooting stars, the chances are that you are observing some of the pieces of this famous comet. As these shooting stars, or meteors, come from a point in the constellation of Aquarius, the water bearer, which rises in the east just before the sun, ambitious persons, starting out on pre-breakfast golf-games, before sunrise, have the best chance of seeing them.

Though these meteors seem to move along paths radiating from a point in Aquarius, near the star "eta Aquarii", they are actually moving in parallel orbits. Just as the rails of a track seem to come together in the distance, the perspective effect makes the meteors seem to come from a certain point, which astronomers call the radiant. The meteors always move along the same general path, and when, in April, the earth crosses it, the shooting stars are seen, giving rise to an unusually large number of meteors in a night, or an actual "meteor shower".

The meteors of the April shower, technically known as the "eta Aquarids," have been observed for many years at the same season, and it has been shown by an American astronomer, Dr. Charles P. Olivier, of the Leander McCormick Observatory at the University of Virginia, that the path through which this shower moves corresponds closely with that of Halley's comet. So in these shooting stars, we apparently have some of the material given off by this famous comet hitting the earth's atmosphere, and then, by friction, becoming incandescent.

Observations of meteors form one branch of astronomy in which the amateur can greatly aid the professional stargazers, for to find the exact path of a meteor, to tell how high it was when it first began to glow and to determine the direction from which it was coming, requires a large number of observations. Dr. Willard J. Fisher, of the Harvard College Observatory, is studying meteors and has received many valuable reports from persons who are not astronomers.

A good way of obtaining an accurate, and permanent, record, is by the use of photography, and the better the camera, and the faster the lens and the plate or film, the more meteors may be caught. At the Harvard Observatory the sky is photographed in sections every clear night, so that hundreds of thousands of plates have been obtained. On many of these Dr. Fisher has found trails of previously unnoticed meteors, but the amateur photographer can in many cases get records just as good.

Though the greatest display is on May 5, the meteors may be seen from April 29 to May 8, and on any of these nights it may pay you to try your hand at photographing meteors with your kodak.

The camera must be on some firm support, as a tripod, and pointed to the north-eastern sky, the lens being opened to the widest extent. Keep the shutter opened for an hour at a time, between changing the film, and note the exact standard times of opening and closing the shutter. The Harvard College Observatory, at Cambridge, Mass., is always glad to get such negatives, because even though they may not seem to show any meteors, the keen eyes of the astronomers may find some. In this way, you may help astronomers to learn more of these bodies which float into the earth's environs from outside space.

MEASLES PREVENTIVE AND CURE NOW ASSURED

Measles will become one of the preventable diseases in the very near future. The latest of medical achievements bids fair to bring this epidemic disease of childhood under partial control at least.

The discovery of a streptococcus that causes measles by Dr. N. S. Ferry and L. W. Fisher of Detroit has been announced by the American Medical Association. This organism produces a soluble toxin that can be used in the production of antitoxin on a large scale. This antitoxin, which consists of horse serum treated with the measles toxin, can be used in both preventive and curative treatment of measles.

The triumph of medical science over diphtheria and scarlet fever, both of which diseases are now capable of being controlled, was accomplished by similar steps and methods.

The new measles discovery is in accord with similar results obtained by Drs. G. F. and Gladys H. Dick in Chicago in 1924 in studies on scarlet fever. It appears, according to medical authorities, that in some of their many forms streptococci are accountable for a variety of diseases, besides being able to induce general blood poisoning.