Germs, the Modern Superstition By Dr. E. H. Dresden (Iowa)

DO YOU know that the germ theory has never been proven? And it cannot be proven, either. If it had been proven, it would not be a theory. It has been truly said that "knowledge without evidence is superstition"; and that applies to the germ theory also. It is a leftover superstition of a past age, when man feared that the earth was inhabited with hideous monsters that were hiding everywhere, in the air, in the sea, in the darkness, etc., always ready to jump out and devour him or make life otherwise miserable for him.

Now that we have cast aside this oldtime superstition, we can laugh and say, 'How foolish our ancestors must have been to even believe such fairy tales!' But you can rest assured that it was no laughing matter in those days; these mental monsters were really feared by the entire civilized world and spoken of only with greatest respect. In many lands they were regarded as gods and were worshiped with great reverence, and even human sacrifices were offered up to them.

Now that we have come into this enlightened age, we have discarded the hideous monster superstition for want of positive proof, but we are still just as foolish as our forefathers of old. We have turned from the gigantic monster theory, to the germs, which are so small that we cannot hear, see, feel, smell or taste them. Yet they are just as ferocious as the monsters of old, 'lurking everywhere, ready to attack man and send him to an early grave.' According to the inventors of this preposterous idea, the germ's only aim in life is to make life miserable for man. But fortunately for all of us, it is only an idea.

However, the medical profession have accepted the theory as though it were a proven fact, probably because it is the most profitable part of their repertory. It is needless to say that it was invented by the mighty medical monopoly and that it is now exploited for all that it is worth, by them through the serum trust, not for the benefit of the people's health, however, but for the gain of selfish interests.

Germs do not cause disease as the most of you people have been led to believe. This theory of the cause of disease is very much misunderstood by the masses. It has been advanced by the medical profession. They realize that the average layman knows little or nothing about this subject. Therefore, their opinion, regarded as

authority, has been accepted by the unthinking public. The medical monopoly has the public under absolute control, so that it has been considered next to a mortal sin to contradict them.

There are many reasons to believe the germ theory false. As a matter of fact, germs are often entirely absent from the disease that they are supposed to produce. Take the Klobe-Loeffler bacilli, for instance, which are supposed to cause diphtheria; they are found in but one case out of four. If it was the germ that caused the one case, then what caused the other three?

All germs in their normal state are harmless, and very necessary in the various processes of the body. You can compare the body to your household. If you would allow the garbage to accumulate at your back door, there would soon be a swarm of flies there and it would become a cesspool of foul-smelling filth. You would not say that the flies caused the garbage at your back door, would you? If they did, why is it that when you remove the garbage the flies leave also?

The flies at your garbage pile are the same as the germs in your body: they are scavengers. The garbage is the same as the retention of waste matter in the body, or the cause of the scavengers' being so numerous; in other words, it is the cause of the disease. When the filth in the body has been removed, then the germs have no favorable breeding place and they are again under the control of the blood. Healthy blood is the body's most perfect germicide for all germs.

If we did not fill the body with a lot of junk that we call food, or take more food than the body requires, then there would not be an accumulation of waste matter in the body upon which the germs could thrive. The healthy blood would keep them under control, within the requirements of the body at all times. But if there is a lot of filth to be removed from the body, then there must be more germs to help remove it. Here is just one instance where the body acts with "supreme intelligence", by allowing the blood to tolerate sufficient scavengers or germs to meet the demand for the work to be done.

Therefore you can see for yourself that it is unreasonable to inoculate ourselves with this or that serum to kill the germs, which have been harmless until the body allowed them to be cultivated, to assist it in getting rid of the filth that is accumulating and poisoning the entire system. Killing the germs does not assist nature in any way.

You are only handicapping the body by killing its scavengers. Nature needs no assistance; all it needs is to be let alone, to be given a free hand to work.

Germs of every kind are floating in the air all the time and are constantly entering into the body through various ways, in our breathing, eating, and drinking. One of the worst germ carriers that we have is money; it not only brings us into contact with every kind of germ known to science, but puts the germs directly into the mouth; because we handle paper money many times during the day, then we go to a lunch stand and, without washing the hands, eat a sandwich, germs and all. But, as I have just explained, you don't need to fear germs; your body will take care of them properly, if you have been taking care of it.

Disease is not a something that attacks the body from the outside, nor anything that one can catch, as a good many folks believe. You say that you caught a cold, but you didn't. Colds come from the inside of the body, and not from the outside. A draft or chill only starts them going; it stimulates the body to action. You had all the makings of the cold long before you were exposed to the draft that you are accusing.

Cold air has a stimulating, strengthening and contracting effect upon body tissues. This stimulation arouses the body to action, and that dull feeling, that coughing and running of the nose, is caused by the body's cleaning house, getting rid of the filth that has been carried around in the body for weeks and months.

You may have noticed time and again, after being out with a number of your friends, one of them is afterwards down with a cold, while all the rest of you are well. You were all out together, you were in the same places and in the same drafts together, yet it was only the one of you that got the cold. That would indicate that it is not the draft nor the benevolent germ that is at fault, but that it is the condition of the body. That brings us back to where we started, and shows that it is your own fault, because you alone are responsible for the condition of your body.

It is a funny thing about a draft. In the summertime we call it a breeze and we welcome it. We will go out of our way to find one, or will

spend lots of money for electric fans to make a breeze for us, but in the wintertime we call that same breeze a draft and we shun it, for fear that we will catch a cold.

As a matter of fact, this fear of the air in the winter causes many a person's cold, but not as you might think, not because of anything that they 'caught'. Through fear of the air they don't use enough of it, they breathe less air than the body requires to burn up the food they eat, and at the same time they are eating much heavier food. The result is that the unburned food decays and forms toxic poisons that are absorbed by the blood, to be carried through the entire system.

When more has been accumulated than can be carried by the blood stream, it is stored where the least resistance is offered until the body can find more time to eliminate the waste. The parts of least resistance are always attacked first. These are the mucous membranes of such organs as the nose, throat, lungs, bowels, urinary canal, etc.; also diseased or inflamed tissues.

If you have an open sore, it may settle there and keep the sore from healing as long as this poisoned condition exists. Or it may settle in some weak, overworked organ. This organ or the sore, or wherever this waste material settles, will now become a favorable breeding place for the germs that are always present in the body, and may eventually cause suffering; by this it is possible to make a diagnosis. So you can see that these once harmless germs, when given a favorable medium to thrive upon, are now capable of inciting disease that is already in progress.

Take the sore as an example. The germs are not keeping the sore from healing, they are only feeding on the dead tissues and cells that must be removed before the sore can heal. Germs do not attack healthy tissues in the body: they only remove the waste; they are only doing the work for which they were created.

It is a known fact, which was first brought out during the Civil War, and again during the World War, that in many cases where wounded soldiers were left lying on the battlefield for days, without even first aid treatment, and their wounds became infected with germs and maggots, they recovered more quickly than those who had the best medical treatments.

Chronic bone diseases (osteomyelitis or nec-

rosis) that have baffled the best medical minds in the world for many years, patients who have been mutilated by one operation after another to remove the decayed part of the bone, always without any permanent relief, have been completely cured in less than six weeks. The wound healed up permanently without the use of any antiseptics whatever; no drainage tubes were used. The germs and maggots did the work that all the science of medicine was unable to do.

These facts alone go to show that germs are benevolent creatures and that the fear of them has no foundation. There are many other cases that contradict the germ theory, but they are too well known and need not be repeated in detail here, as the most of you already know of Dr. Thomas Powell, known as 'the germ eater', and of the futile attempts of Dr. Waite to inoculate Colonel Peck in order to produce disease. Then there is Dr. John B. Fraser, the Canadian germ theorist and experimenter. There are many others, all with like results.

They all proved that the germs are not the spreaders of disease, not the dangerous creatures that the masses have been led to believe they were. It isn't the germ that needs so much watching: it's your knife and fork that you must keep an eye on. Your knife and fork can give you more diseases than all the germs put together.

The Chabal Method of Filtration By Dr. Francisco Vaniente T. (Colombia)

HAVE glad tidings for you, and for those who hate chlorine and alum in aqueducts.

In the newspaper Science et Industrie, of Paris, No. 175, there is an article about filtration and sterilization of drinking water which announces the new method of the engineer Enry Chabal, which excludes alum, chlorine, javelization and verdunization.

Chabal's method of filtration not only clarifies the water, but sterilizes it also, due exclusively to the action of the oxygen, light, and a vital concurrence promoted in the water by biologic phenomenon during the time of filtration, without using alum, chlorine or other poisonous substances. All the hygienists in France endorse Chabal's method, saying that water which contains alum and chlorine is not a natural water for drinking purposes.

In his process the chemical, physical and bacteriological purification of water is simplified in one process, mainly oxidation in a prolonged contact with the air, and some biological phenomena.

This is glad tidings for us, because there is now no excuse to use poisonous substances in aqueducts.

This must be made known to the American people through your interesting Golden Age.

Diversion of Wealth

PEFERRING to the diversion of wealth into wrong channels and wrong hands, Stephen Bell, in Commerce and Finance, said:

There is a surprising number of people who realize this, yet hesitate to avow it because of the powerful interests that would be aroused in opposition and the "disturbance to business" which they fear would follow. Disturbance there would undoubtedly be, but it may be doubted if it would be much if any greater than the disturbances we now suffer periodically. Moreover, it would be the final disturbance. With the world's earnings and income equitably distributed there need be no fear of further crises arising from

"overproduction" or "underconsumption", and, moreover, the fear that civilization may be overthrown by an eruption of war or Bolshevism would evaporate also. When we recall that no true reform has ever damaged any proper and honest interest, but on the contrary has benefited them all, it is clear that all the world would be better off if all our economic maladjustments were adjusted to the requirements of right-eousness.

That is a nice way of telling Big Business that it has been and is dishonest. And that is the truth, and everybody knows it; so why hesitate to tell it?