

A RHEUMATISM CURE

BEE STINGERS, LONG RIDICULED, COMING INTO FAVOR.

The Insects Are Robbed of Their Weapons in an Ingenious Manner by an Experienced Apianist.

For a great many years the homeopaths have been using a remedy for rheumatism known as apis mellifica. This Latin phrase really means honey bee.

They take the stinger of the bee, including the poison sac from which they are able to extract two or three drops of the honey bee poison.

For a great many years the homeopaths have been using this remedy. But the allopathic doctors laughed at the homeopaths for using such a remedy and paid no attention to their claims that it was a good remedy for rheumatism.

But by some accident or inadvertence, some drug dealer has discovered that the bee sting is actually a good remedy for rheumatism. He has said so to his professional brethren, and all at once there is a great market for bee stingers.

William A. Selser, who owns one of the largest bee farms or apiaries in the vicinity of Philadelphia, is acquiring a fortune from extracting the stingers of his honey bees. The doctors are up in arms about the matter and declare that the formic acid obtained from bee stingers is a positive cure for rheumatism.

Mr. Selser has an ingenious way of procuring the bee stings. Knowing that the honey bee hates the odor of rubber, he hangs near the hives a rubber blanket.

In some localities the owners of bees occasionally resort to the antiquated practice of smothering the bees in order to obtain the honey.

In such cases the bee must be induced to sting something that will extract his stinger. As Mr. Selser has done, but the point of the whole matter is the procedure of the allopathic doctors.

HE WOULDN'T BE A JUDGE.

The Attorney Explained Why He Didn't Wish to Don the Ermine.

"I was reading the paper one morning recently that judges are overworked here in the east, and I guess that's true," said a prominent lawyer who was watching a game of billiards in a club recently.

"This article to which I'm referring explained that the duties of a judge were more exacting, if anything, than those of a physician. He has to be on time when court is in session, the soul of punctuality whatever the soul of punctuality may be.

"Now we understand," interrupted a listener, "why you refused a judgeship awhile ago. You're jary and fond of those office hours of yours that stretch from 11:30 to four, with a long luncheon in the middle of them."

"No, you don't understand," continued the lawyer. "That isn't it at all. I declined that appointment for another reason. It's what I call the judicial dignity reason. Here in this section of the country the moment a member of the bar ascends to the bench he feels it incumbent on him to invest himself with a distant air. No matter how good a fellow may be naturally, he is convinced that the proprieties of the profession demand that he shall hold his friends and acquaintances at arms' length. He is civil and courteous enough, of course, but he doesn't mix in. That's the whole story in my case. I thought it over and said to myself, 'How'd you look as a judge playing pin pool every Saturday night and breaking your cue on the floor to battle your opponents?' No, said I, I'm too young. Pin pool and the things that go with it for me. Let somebody else wear the ermine."

Studying Japanese. Fifteen officers of the German army are at present studying Japanese in the Berlin Seminary for Oriental Languages.

HOW THE JAPS BUTTED IN

Breaks Up Wireless Telegraphy Between Port Arthur and Chefoo.

"One matter of complaint in the Japanese charge that Russia has violated Chinese neutrality by operating a wireless telegraph system between Port Arthur and Chefoo attracted a great deal of attention, and promises to figure prominently before The Hague conference when that august body is reconvened," said one of the war correspondents just returned from the east.

The wireless system will certainly play a great part in future warfare, and that is why it will be up to The Hague dignitaries to say just how far the accepted rules of neutrality shall be applied to that new means of communication. But as a matter of fact, owing to the cleverness of the Japs themselves, this particular Port Arthur-Chefoo wireless did not prove of much value to the beleaguered garrison at Port Arthur.

One of the Jap warships passing between two points picked up a wireless message on its own recorder. Being in code, the message could not be read, but it was realized at once that with telegraphic communication between Port Arthur and Chefoo the blockade runners who were carrying supplies to the Russian garrison would be greatly aided in their operations.

EXPLANATIONS IN ORDER.

Scheme to Silence Troublesome Piano Leads to an Interesting Situation.

Slyman asked a few friends to his home for a quiet game of draw the other night. His wife was visiting her mother, relates the New York Times. But all ideas of a quiet game were dispelled by the daughter of a family who had moved into the apartment overhead, three days before, and who had just received the piano from which she had been temporarily separated.

In a few moments the family with the piano was called to the general telephone in the entrance hall of the apartment house. It was answered by the mother. The message ran something like this:

"Hello. Is that the Brownstone Apartment No. 62? Well, this is Dr. Blank, of the health department. The little boy in the apartment under you is very ill. His doctor has ordered absolute quiet. His father says the noise from your piano keeps the child awake. He says you are not disposed to pay attention to his request that the playing should stop. I am sure you do not want to make trouble, or to put me to the necessity of coming over to the apartment to-night. To-morrow I will call. But the playing must cease for to-night. Thank you."

Slyman and his guests played until daylight under the quietest conditions imaginable, and Slyman dropped \$25. Next day when Mrs. Slyman returned, the new neighbor sent her daughter down to inquire if her little boy was better. As Slyman has no boy, explanations were in order when he returned from his office.

The Sooty Lungs of Londoners. Mrs. Ernest Hart tells in the latest number of "The House Beautiful" that the first time she was present at a post-mortem on a patient of a hospital in Paris she exclaimed, on the chest being opened: "Why, the lungs are not black!"

"Ah," remarked the surgeon, "you are accustomed to see the soot-bearded lungs of Londoners." This, she says, was true, for as registrar in her hospital in London it was her duty to examine the lungs of the bodies of patients that came into the post-mortem room. No object person could be more striking and no demonstration more conclusive of the vile atmospheric conditions under which we live in London and other great smoky cities than this comparison of the lungs of Londoners with those of the inhabitants of Paris - Westminster Gazette.

Probably Inherited It. Friend: How do you suppose your baby caught the whooping cough? He hasn't been near any other children.

Mother: He probably inherited it from me. I had it when I was just his age. -Chicago Journal.

Satisfied. Mrs. Fluffy: I wish I had a little hippopotamus for a pet, don't you?

Mrs. Duff: Not much! My husband is an elephant on my hands, that's enough for me! -Detroit Free Press.

TRYING JIU - JITSU.

THE JAPANESE MODE OF WRESTLING IS TAKING HOLD.

Play of Cunning Against Power Which, Unless Heavily Handicapped, Is Won by the Former.

The pretensions of Jiu-Jitsu received a rude shock the other day when a West Point football champion walked off with the operator of the Japanese formula under his arm kicking and clawing like a newly captured Ceylon monkey. The incident, says the New York Times, deprived the oriental practice of a congressional appropriation to provide for instruction in it of our budding men-at-arms.

Looked at from the outside it seems like a science intended to make the little strength of little people a match for the greater strength of bigger ones by the aid of superior subtlety and a superior knowledge of the anatomical and muscular structure of the human body. While the western athlete catching a good body grip might throw his adversary over his head, impressing an outline of his proportions on the sawdust of the competitive field, the eastern one might twist his opponent's arm out of its socket or put him hors du combat by a judicious rap on his funnybone the seat under collision of the most agonizing sensations.

Weak Point Professor of the practice, another at Philadelphia has come off with colors at high mast, being obliged much more successful than he desired or intended. His competitor, also a robust football player, was disabled by a broken rib received in the encounter. The victor put his knee in the small of the back of his adversary and "bent him sharply backward."

THEN HE GREW CALMER.

Rejected Saitor Was Told Something That Made Rejection Easier for Him.

Senator W. A. Elsberg was talking in the capitol at Albany about a certain legislative defeat, relates the New York Tribune. "They took their defeat with resignation," he said. "It was you see, a defeat and made palatable for them I believe in that. I believe in tempering victory with mercy always."

VERY CONSIDERATE JUDGE.

Was Willing to Let Condemned Man Hang at Any Time That Satisfied Him.

Representative Kehoe, of Kentucky, tells of a considerate judge in his state who passed sentence on a man convicted of murder, relates the Philadelphia Public Ledger. The judge said: "Mr. Dodson, the jury says you are guilty of murder, and the law says you are to be hanged. It is my wish that you and all your friends on the river know that it is not I who condemn you; it is the jury and the law, Mr. Dodson. At what time, sir, would you like to be hanged?"

"The prisoner made answer that it was a matter of indifference to him, and that he was prepared to be swung off at any time. The judge continued: "Mr. Dodson, it is a serious matter to be hanged. It can't happen to a man but once in life, unless the rope should break before the neck is broke, and you had better take all the time you can. But since it makes no difference to you, you may hang four weeks from to-day at 12 noon, but you may have a good dinner first."

"AUTOS" IN ASTRONOMY. Motor-Cars Fitted up with Accessories for Taking Observations of New Stars.

In an article in La Nature, M. Touchet tells us that automobiles are now being used by astronomers, and he speaks of the new vehicles as "automobile observatories." It appears that they are being fitted up with all the accessories necessary for astronomers who wish to make a special study of shooting stars.

Balloons have been tried for the observation of these stars, but the results obtained are not satisfactory and it is believed that the automobiles are destined to render great services. In 1903 experiments were made by French astronomers who wished to study the Leonides. MM. Maurice Farman and H. Chretien went by automobile to Anthon-la-Plaine, leaving M. Touchet in the observatory at Chereuse. Since then great improvements have been made in the vehicles themselves and in the means of transporting the accessories.

California's Ebony Forest. It is believed that ebony will thrive in certain parts of California, and some trees from northern Mexico will be planted in Butte county as an experiment.

HOG'S SENSE OF HEARING.

Its Keenness Is Demonstrated When an Acorn Drops from a Tree.

"Hogs have a much keener sense of hearing than most people seem to think," said a man from the country, reports the New Orleans Times-Democrat. "They can see well and at a considerable distance, but the nose and eyes of the hogs must give first place to the ears."

"This is so, no doubt, because hearing is probably the most useful of the senses of the hog life, particularly at the season of the year when the hog in the wild state must rely upon the fruitage of trees, in the main, for food. Even with this advantage, it is frequently a fierce race to see which hog can get there first. It would be interesting to know just how a hog can hear an acorn fall. It is remarkable how quickly they become cognizant of the fact that an acorn has been blown from its outer shell, and is tumbling toward the ground, and he seems to catch the sound quicker when he knows a competitor is near who will run him a race for the nut. I have witnessed some fierce and interesting races between hogs, with an acorn as the stake."

"Put a hog within 20 yards of an oak and in nine cases out of ten he will be within a few feet of where the acorn strikes the ground, another fact which argues the superiority of the hog's hearing. He can apparently tell pretty well by the sound where the acorn will fall, and he will rarely miss it more than a few feet."

CITY FURNISHES DENTISTS.

Municipal Tooth Doctors Are Maintained in Many Towns in Germany.

Municipal dentists are appointed and paid for by many of the large towns and cities of Germany. In Strasbourg, for example, says the New York Tribune, 2,666 children were examined last year, 699 teeth were filled and 2,912 extracted. The method of work is simple. The teacher brings his class to the dentist, who examines each mouth quickly and marks on a card each child has brought whether treatment is necessary. If so, the child must come again on a certain day.

Russia is also joining in the movement, and has already fitted up nine such institutions in St. Petersburg. And why not, or rather, why so late in coming, one might ask. If it is true that, generally speaking, good teeth are necessary to good health and long life, and if, also, a large and growing proportion of citizens have not good teeth, then it follows that the fact is one of public concern. Is it not, for instance, of as much importance to the community that workmen should have good masticating and digesting powers, as that there should be \$20,000,000 city halls, public parks, exhibitions, etc.? This little, or large, realization of preventive medicine has so far got into our American minds that we have ordered the soldier's teeth to be attended to and his government service by so much enhanced. But the soldier is at last paid by the civil worker, and as to his teeth and service we are entirely indifferent.

TRIALS OF PAYING TELLER.

Is Expected to Redeem Counterfeit Money and Pass on Rare Coins.

"If the paying teller of a bank never cashed a check or hit a tap in the ordinary course of business he could still earn a fat salary," said the cashier of one of the city's biggest money depositories. "It's come to such a pass that my legitimate business is the smallest of my worries. I am, in brief, the victim of the men women and children who think they have discovered bonanzas in rare and valuable coins."

"I doubt if one person out of 500 knows anything about what coins have any value above their face, but nearly everybody is continually on the watch for something of the sort that looks promising. Any coin more than 20 years old comes in for minute inspection many times a day, passing out of circulation for a brief space at frequent intervals until its possessor for the time being gets a chance to bring it in here to me."

The paying teller passed in his lament long enough to tell an old gentleman that \$20 Confederate bills were worth about ten cents a peck, then resumed:

"The V nickel without the word 'cents' is another much sought after coin, worth just five cents. This is the small boy's pet. There has long been a rumor flying about in urchinhood to the effect that V nickels are really five-dollar gold pieces, only the mint made a mistake and cast several bushels of them in the wrong metal. This mishap, however, is not supposed to impair their value, as the government is thought to be very anxious to recover them, and will cheerfully pay five dollars for each delivered to me. Another old-time favorite is the nickel cent, as well as the silver half-dime and the two-cent piece."

"But this is not all. There seems to be an exciting belief among certain classes that I am legally bound to issue good money for all counterfeit, plugged or mutilated money. These same people imagine that I have some sort of a stand-in somewhere, where I can get good, hard, shiny American money and give it to them for any foreign specimens they may guilelessly accept. They go away with the notion that I am swindling them when I refuse to make good."

Facts in the Case. "Say, mister," said a tattooed tramp, "can't you stake me to a drink? I'm de victim uv er washout!"

"Victim of a washout?" echoed the portly citizen in evident surprise.

"Dat's wot," rejoined the tramp. "Honest, I ain't had nuttin' but water drink for more'n ten days." -N. Y. Times.

Real Heroism. "Wasn't it brave of Chollice to rescue that child from drowning in the creek?"

"Brave? The water wasn't more than four feet deep anywhere, and Chollice knew it."

"Yes, but that was deep enough to utterly ruin the crease in his trousers." -Stray Stories.

Found Too Much. "That was a great sermon you preached this morning," said the old church warden, "and it was well timed, too."

"Yes," rejoined the parson, with a deep sigh, "I noticed that."

"Noticed what?" asked the puzzled warden.

"That several of the congregation looked at their watches frequently," answered the warden, "with another deep sigh." -Stray Stories.

No Microbes for Him. "Tommy don't you want one of these kisses?" asked his mother, passing the cake basket.

"No, mam," replied Tommie; "I heard sister tell that young man who calls on her that there are microbes in kisses." -Yonkers Statesman.

PRESIDENT AND CALLERS.

Mr. Roosevelt Has a Way of Wading Through the Waiting "Bunch."

One o'clock in the executive office adjoining the white house. Ten men are waiting in the small reception room, for the president has been engaged for an hour or longer with two members of the cabinet. He has an appointment, too, with several friends from a distance for luncheon at the white house. A tall, military man has just entered the reception room when "Big" the door to the president's private office flies open, and Mr. Roosevelt steps out, writes Jackson Tinker in Public Opinion.

"Your name, please?" he exclaims as he comes squarely against the big military man.

"This expression has the same effect on the visitor as 'Attention.' He straightens up, and says, 'I am the deputy chief of constabulary of the Philippine Islands.'"

"Ah!" exclaims the president. "I am glad to see you. But I am fearfully busy and haven't a minute now. I have some ideas about your work over there and I want to see you. When are you going back?"

"I must leave early to-morrow morning for 'Frisco to catch the transport 'back,' is the reply."

"I see. Well, I will not have a minute to-day. We here, you can come back to the white house to-night at 10:30 o'clock. We can have an hour's talk then undisturbed. Come right to the front door and tell them who you are. I will leave word that I am to see you."

"Certainly," says the grim visitor. "Remember, 10:30 to-night," is the president's last word to him.

"How are you?" he exclaims, for now he is grasping the hand of a magazine editor who has been his friend for many years.

"And you?" to a third from the south. "I was going to write to you. I have found you were right about that fellow. He is not the kind of man I want, and he cannot get that appointment."

"Hello! I know what you want?" to another from New York. "You want me to go to that dinner of your club. Now, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be with the boys as you know, but I really cannot go. I have declined 25 invitations to dinners in two days."

Smiling all the time, but decisive and brusque, the president disposes of all ten visitors in ten minutes. Then he goes to luncheon and discusses questions of state or administration policy with his friends, as they dine with him and Mrs. Roosevelt.

ODD BUILDING CONTRACT.

Called for Complete Establishment, Even to Kitchen Ware and Servants.

A short time ago a New York firm took a unusual contract. It agreed to design and build a house, to make and arrange the furniture, to decorate the house and to supply it with maps and bed linen, glassware, china and kitchen utensils. It carried out the contract. It even engaged servants. Dinner was ready to be served when the owner first stepped into the completed house.

The house mentioned had been started by an architect and the usual succession of decorators, furnishers and other purveyors was to follow. But the owner, who was a semi-invalid, turned the whole contract over to this firm. Through plans, drawings and samples were shown to the owner, the whole work was completed without his supervision, for he was absent.

The contract amounted to \$20,000 and the result was entirely satisfactory. Such details as harmonizing the coloring of the china with the tone of the dining-room and attending to the position and color of the pictures were carefully worked out. The cost of this undertaking exactly matched the sum set aside for it.

The same firm moved a bank into temporary headquarters over Sunday by a new building, fitted it with vaults, furniture and furnishings of every kind, even to handstands and pen racks, and moved back the books records and other paraphernalia - again over Sunday - six or 10 days later. The total cost of this contract was \$15,000.

A MOST ACCURATE CLOCK.

Adjusted with Such Precision and Delicacy Variance Is Almost Imperceptible.

In a recent address before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers on "Some Refinements of Mechanical Science" President Ambrose Swasey said: "Every part of the clock down to the minutest detail has been the subject of study and improvement, and they are made and adjusted with such precision and delicacy that in testing them the question is within how small a fraction of a second they will run. Not content with their marvelous performances when under normal conditions, some of the finest astronomical clocks are surrounded by glass or metal cases in which a partial vacuum is maintained, and in order that the cases may not be opened or disturbed the windings are done automatically by means of electricity, the frequency of the winding in some cases being as often as once every minute. These clocks are set up in especially constructed rooms or underground vaults, where they are free from jar or vibration, where the temperature and barometric conditions remain practically constant and where every possible precaution is taken to further minimize the errors of the running rate."

"A clock in the observatory at Berlin has run for several months under these favorable conditions with a rate having a mean error of but fifteen one thousandths of a second per day and a maximum error of thirty-one thousandths of a second per day."

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