

Downers Grove Reporter

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AMERICA FIRST!

WHERE BITES ARE TREATED

Mission Dispensaries Cure Many Africans Who Sustain All Manner of Dangerous Injuries.

Africans go to the mission dispensaries to be cured of bites from all kinds of animals, and a large number of them are cured. The commonest bites are from snakes, say a writer in World Outlook. In Inhambane are 18 to 20 varieties of poisonous snakes, some very deadly, whose bites mean a fight for life. Hyenas kill or carry off hundreds of children each year, and most of those who are rescued have terrible scalp wounds, as the hyena carries a child by the head. Other biting pests of the region are lions, from whom few escape alive; scorpions, very poisonous and fond of getting into beds; hypo flies, large flies that in biting take huge pieces of flesh and cause great swellings; sharks, of which the bay is full. But the most common bite and seemingly the hardest to heal is the human bit. The Africans when they get angry use their teeth to good advantage. There is scarcely a morning that several do not come to the dispensary. One boy had his lower lip bit off, and for him a new lip was made.

CAUSE OF TIRED FEELING

Complaint, Common With Many People Every Morning, Due to Pressure of Too Much Purin.

The familiar condition in which one wakes up in the morning after a good night's rest, with a dry mouth, spirits depressed, feeling tired, aching all over, was explained by Dr. Nathan Rosenwasser of Cleveland in the course of a discussion at a recent meeting of the American Medical Association. He said such a person will go ahead and do a hard day's work and feel better as the hours pass, until in the evening all signs of trouble have gone. Such a person often had severe pains in the abdomen, the muscles of which were extremely sensitive, but the more they were pressed the less sensitive they became.

This condition is not as often believed, due to intestinal toxemia or poisoning of the blood by the products of imperfectly digested food, but to the presence of too much purin in the system.

When the foods that are rich in purin are given up the sufferer rapidly improves. They were never really fatigued; their symptoms being merely a stimulation of fatigue.

As Balzac Depicted Man.

Balzac's object in writing the numerous volumes that succeeded each other with an astounding regularity was to depict man as he presented himself to his view, and in fact, in his works he brings to life again the history of the generation to which he belongs, describing his contemporaries, in particular the humble bourgeois of the middle class, with a most striking exactness.

Cleaning Gift Frames.

Gift frames may be cleaned by washing them with a small sponge moistened with oil of turpentine, the sponge being only sufficient wet to take off the marks. The gliding should not be wiped off, but left to dry without wiping. Varnishing with the best copal varnish is advised for gift frames, as they can then be washed off carefully with a sponge.

Did John Say It?

Some one asked John D. Rockefeller why he was so seldom seen at public dinners. "Well," replied the millionaire, "in the first place I don't eat much, and while you don't have to eat you do have to sit through the speeches. And, to my mind, the average after-dinner speech is like a bicycle wheel—the longer the spoke the greater the tire."

Term "The Public"

What we understand today by the term "the public" did not exist during antiquity, as it presupposes a great number of simultaneous readers of one and the same writings, a condition that could not be realized before the invention of printing. The first book that may be said to have had a public in the sense as now understood was the printed Bible. The essential instrument, however, for the formation of "the public" did not appear until the French Revolution.

COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE NOW ORGANIZED

A convention was held at Wheaton on the 29th day of Dec. 1917, under the auspices of the State Council of Defense of DuPage County at which the following named persons were nominated and declared elected a County Finance Committee: E. H. Hicks, Hinsdale; J. W. Hughes, Downers Grove; V. A. Dieter, Naperville; G. A. Dayton, West Chicago; N. E. Matter, Wheaton.

The Committee held a meeting in Chicago this week and organized electing as its officers E. H. Hicks, chairman and N. E. Matter, secretary.

The duties of this Committee, as defined by the State Council of Defense shall be:

1. To pass upon the merits of all applications for licenses for the collection of money for war relief purposes, and advise the License Bureau of the State Council of Defense.

2. To create a permanent County organization for raising and collecting money for war purposes, which organization and its records shall be available for instant use to provide funds for any purpose approved by the Federal or State Council of Defense; and

3. To keep a permanent record of all subscriptions and gifts from each person in the County.

The Committee recommends that the Red Cross and Y. M. C. A. War Fund, War Campaign Recreation Fund, and K. of C. War Fund be proper organizations through which to solicit war relief in DuPage County.

The Committee further recommends that where not already organized, permanent organizations be immediately established in each community during the period of the war, for the purpose of assisting this Committee in carrying on this work.

Auguste Rodin.

A keener interest in more and more aspects of humanity, a readiness to find more and more kinds of men and women worthy of plastic representation, a preference for expressiveness to traditional beauty, a love of life because it is life—by these tokens we may know Rodin for a modern of the moderns in his day, who made the spirit of his time incarnate in marble and bronze. Like every artist who begins by outraging our love of the familiar, he ended by forcing some of us to revise our definition of beauty, says the New Republic. Even those who most passionately deny that his beauty is beauty can never see quite as they would have seen if Rodin had not lived. He makes them less at ease in presence of the conventionally noble, even when excellent in its kind; reveals a humanity which cannot reach us through the conventionally noble without an effort. These wrappings of nobleness hid something from us. Was it truth?

An Authoritative Opinion.

When does the honeymoon end? Is a question which has been discussed for a good many generations. It would be presumptuous, perhaps, notes the El Paso Times, for us to try to settle it, but just the same we have a strong suspicion that this little sentiment could be prolonged if she, when she hears his footfall, would go to the door and greet him, rather than skid into the kitchen to hurry up a dinner which has languished while she gossiped with the neighbor or bathed the cat.

Shakespeare's Schoolmaster.

In the London Times it was recently stated that Rev. Simon Hunt, B. A., who was Shakespeare's schoolmaster from 1571 to 1577, became a Jesuit on April 72, 1578, and died at Rome as penitentiary (confessor) on June 11, 1595.

Electrified Crops.

Experiments carried out in 1916 on a farm in Dumfries to demonstrate the effect of overhead discharge of electricity on plant growth gave some remarkable results. The tests were carried out on a field of oats, and the electrified area of one acre gave an increased yield of 873 pounds of grain, or 49 per cent, over the two half acres un electrified, while the straw yielded an increase of 88 per cent.

Varieties of Mistletoe.

There are more varieties of mistletoe growing about the world than could be named in a column of newspaper print, but the commonest in America is that which the botanist, Nuttall, named after the Greek fashion, "tree thief," or phoradendron.

Take the Short Route.

When you talk, observes an educator, whether in conversation or in meeting, use short words, of which there are more than there are of long ones, and take the most direct road to your meaning. Your meaning's the same.

What We Are Made Of.

The average human body, besides the carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen of which it is chiefly composed, contains 3 1/2 pounds of lime, 1 pound 11 ounces of phosphorus, 2.28 ounces of potash, 3 1/2 ounces of sodium, 1.85 ounces each of magnesium, sulphur and silica; and about one-sixth of an ounce of iron.

"ALIMONY" COMPANY ON OCEAN TRIP

In order to get the proper effects, the entire "Alimony" company, which is to be seen shortly at the Curtiss Theatre, boarded one of the largest coasting steamers plying between San Diego and Seattle, and started for the former port. It was proposed to show some scenes at sea, in which the trip of "Marjorie Lansing," the "true wife" in the photoplay, to Bermuda is depicted. Director Emmett J. Flynn took about forty people with him. He kept his force out for the greater part of a week. Great things are predicted for this forthcoming production. Miss Josephine Whittell, who played the adventuress, after her work with the "Alimony" company, went to New York to join one of the Cohan shows.

WESTERN NEWS

Mrs. Emerson Stanley, who lived many years in Downers Grove but lately has resided in LaGrange, is in California to spend the winter.

Mrs. Harry Courtright had a pleasant visit with her father and her son and his wife, in Bakersfield last month.

Mr. Elbert Stanley is enjoying his stay in Oakland with his sons. Elburn Stanley is now in the employ of the Standard Oil Co.

Mrs. W. N. Fry returned to San Francisco shortly before Christmas after a prolonged visit with relatives and friends in the Grove and Chicago. En route home she stopped a few days in Los Angeles to see her brother, John E. Huling, and his wife.

On Friday evening, January 4, Mrs. W. S. Carpenter of Oakland entertained a party of former Downers Grove folks. The Carpenter home housed many such happy gatherings. Besides the popular hostess, her daughter Nellie and nephew Mr. Kenneth Hobart, there were present the following persons: Mrs. Emerson Stanley, Mr. Elbert Stanley, Mr. Judson Hobart, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Courtright, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Stanley, Mrs. W. N. Fry and Mr. Elburn Stanley.

Makes Eggs Tell Their Age.

A novel and rapid way whereby to determine the age of an egg has been developed by H. Grossfeld, a French investigator. He has supplemented the usual method by one dependent on specific gravity, notes the Boston Transcript. The existing way whereby to determine the age of eggs is by candling them and taking note of the "mirage" which forms about the yolk. Mr. Grossfeld has determined that specific gravity of normal eggs in the way attributed to Archimedes, and there has been figured out the loss in gravity for each week of keeping. For quick inspection of qualities of eggs, he has devised a form of hydrometer. The egg takes the place of the weighted bulb and the scale indicates the specific gravity and at the same time the age of the egg. A little egg has been arranged to hold the egg and is capable of quick handling. Big eggs and little eggs are subject to errors in the readings, but with eggs in the vicinity of 50 grammes the indication is instantaneous.

Use of Surnames.

The custom of using surnames for Christian names, as exemplified in the cases of Harrison and Mr. Holden, goes back at least three centuries, but the people stuck pretty close to Johns, Edwards and Thomases. In this country we have seen a tendency to use, at baptism, the mother's family name as a middle name for the child. This, no doubt, is leading to more free use of family names as given names. For the most part, however, we are John Henry Smiths.

At a Very Early Date.

An early English visitor to Boston recorded that "you no sooner enter a taphouse than you find a constable at your elbow who prescribes the quantity you may drink." He also mentioned getting for fourpence "a quart of cider spiced and sweetened with sugar."

Rattlesnake's Rattle.

The rattle of the rattlesnake is developed from the single conical scale or epidermal spine, which in most snakes forms the internal tegument of the tail. The bone on which the root of the rattle rests consists of the last caudal vertebra and is covered with a skin which is the beginning of the rattle in young rattlesnakes.

Importance of the Follower.

Not all can be leaders; some must follow, notes a writer. It may be that you are eminently qualified to follow the leadership of some one. If so, follow gracefully. The follower is none the less honorable, none the less important, none the less admired.

How Alaska Got Its Name.

The name Alaska is said to have been given to the whole of that territory by the Russian traders who first reached the island of Unalaska, on the authority of the natives, who declared that to the eastward there was a great land or territory which was called Alayeska. From this the present name of Alaska is derived.

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