

Snake Venom Cures Epilepsy Texas Reptiles Furnish Sequence to Years of Experiment for Relief of Dread Malady

Following closely upon the announcement of the discovery of a cure for tuberculosis comes the information that the venom of the rattlesnake has a destiny to fulfill as a cure for epilepsy. The discovery of this use for a deadly poison is credited to Dr. Ralph H. Spangler, whose experiments seem to have proven the benefit of the venom in these cases. The story of this discovery is told by A. St. George Joyce in the Technical World Magazine, and presents an interesting phase of the efforts of science to combat this dread disease.

The explanation of its action is not entirely given, but so far as known it acts upon the blood in such a way as to lengthen the period of coagulation. Blood clotting has been known as the cause of fits, and the discovery of a successful remedy for this condition is in itself of wonderful value. According to the story Dr. Spangler has succeeded in his experiments in increasing the time from two and one-half and three minutes to between five and six, the normal period for coagulation being seven minutes. So far Dr. Spangler has made about 2000 injections in 110 patients, and considers that all of them have been benefited. Cases are recorded in which the frequency of epileptic attacks has been materially reduced. One instance is told of an eleven-year-old school girl who had taken injections of the venom weekly for seven months. At the beginning of the treatment she had three attacks in twenty-four hours. After her treat-

ment she was able to attend school regularly and had suffered only three minor attacks in several months. It is stated that in every case treated there has resulted not only a decrease or complete disappearance of the attacks but a building up of mind and body as well.

The discovery of the effectiveness of this venom came about through accident. Dr. Spangler was experimenting with the substance in the treatment of other diseases when he heard of an alleged cure of a Texas epileptic after a rattlesnake bite. The experiments began and he noticed an appreciable effect upon his patients, the number of attacks decreasing almost at once. The venom is secured from Texas rattlers at considerable danger to the collector. The snakes are usually selected when torpid from heavy feeding, and a leather lasso is thrown about the neck. While one man holds the thong another pricks the mouth open with a spoon or small cup and the pressure of the fangs in the edge of the cup forces the venom from the sacs.

Scarcely less important from a scientific standpoint is the discovery by M. Dissaud of a "cold light" which very nearly approaches the long desired light that the name implies. Science has as yet been unable to produce strong light directly from mechanical power without employing heat, and the discovery of the new light is a step toward that most important end. M. Dissaud applies electrical energy directly to a single point and diffuses the light thus concentrated by means of a lens. It is said an ordinary water faucet will supply sufficient power to operate the light. If this is true two purposes will be served by the new light. Electricity will be brought within the reach of many who cannot now afford to use it for lighting purposes, for the simple use of water from a faucet furnishes the minimum of cheap power. In its replacing of the kerosene lamp in the rural districts it will be a boon to the farmer both from the standpoint of cleanliness and greater convenience. Furthermore, the heat generated by a burning lamp, which is no inconsiderable factor on a hot summer evening, will be done away with.

Fighting With Wooden Bullets

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tution of Midhat Pasha, and it found favor but for a few years. Its author became the subject of its opposers' vengeance and died by the hand of an assassin in his prison cell in 1883.

Prior to this date, when the powers were upon the point of stepping in, the constitution was revived and intervention stayed off. Later the same thing happened, the constitution proving an effective remedy for abuses time after time. Yet its period of existence was always brief. Talk of the partition of Turkey frequently was rife. But the powers found in Abd-ul-Hamid a clever schemer. Germany wanted a railroad in this direction, England in that; privilege was continually being sought by the powers, each with her own peculiar purpose. Abd-ul-Hamid was always ready and played one power against another in such a way as to baffle attempts at reconstruction of the national policy.

In June, 1908, England and Russia were about to step in with a program of reform in Macedonia which they were prepared to enforce if necessary with arms. Then the revolution of Young Turks took place and the constitution of Midhat Pasha was dismantled. Again this forgotten instrument served to stave off intervention. Yet it was soon again forgotten. In 1910 a member of the party of Union and Progress addressed his copatriots and referred to this document. He reminded them that the constitution gave equal rights to Mussulmans, Christians and all citizens, but further stated that such a guarantee was impossible, "for, first of all, the holy law is opposed to it; all our history, the sentiment of hundreds of thousands of true believers is opposed to it." The reaffirmation of the traditional policy of their fathers had its effect, for the soldiers were quick to catch the spirit of this address. The massacres that followed were as terrible as many of the former attacks upon Christians.

So with this seesawing back and forth between the old regime and the progressives, with a cry for education on the one hand and a cry for its suppression on the other, it is not surprising that Turkey, upon attempting to stem the tide of wrath that manifested itself in the present upheaval, should find her bullets ineffective against the enemy. Should the war drag on with the Young Turks in control, or should the old regime still play for time in the hope that something will turn up to save for Turkey the key to her national integrity, Adrianople, the outcome, though perhaps delayed, cannot but be against the despotism of a race that has failed to keep up with the pace of civilization. For Turkey is fighting with the wooden bullets of her own molding.

A Dry Time.

An old negro tenant approached his landlord one morning, doffed his hat and said:

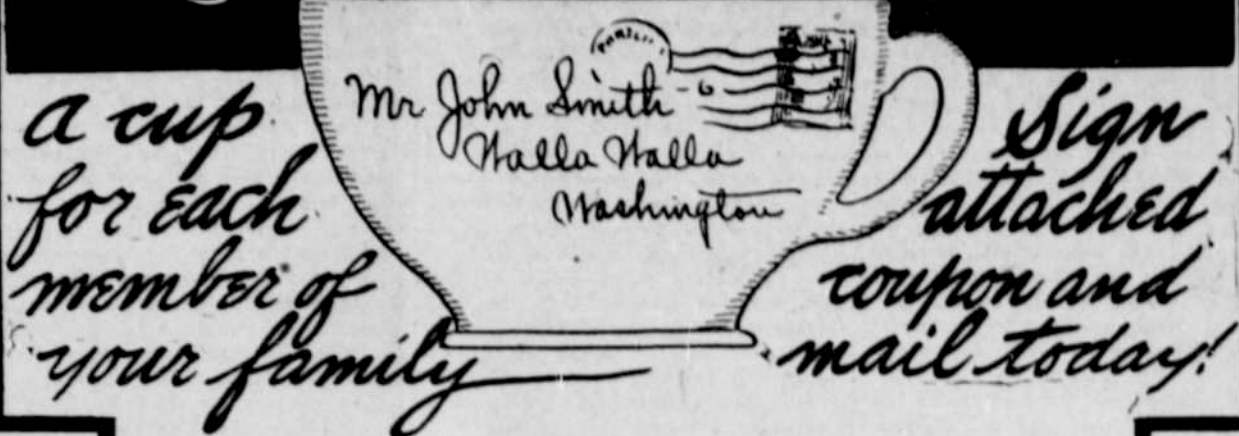
"Boss, yo-all knows dat ole red cow I've been plowin'?" She done wen dry. I lak a little money to git some rations."—Country Gentleman.

CENTRAL AMERICAN GIRL IN CAPITAL



Senora Dona Luz Mendez is in Washington to spend the winter with her father, who is minister to the United States from the Central American republic. The young lady has been staying in Paris for several months and will now reside on fashionable Rhode Island avenue, where the legation is established.

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Immigration Puzzles U. S.

(Continued from page one)

The close quarters of steerage assist in their distribution. The children become inoculated and later mingle with American children in the public schools. What will be the effect upon our public school system, now recognized by every country as the best in the world? With our strict quarantine rules in case of less dangerous diseases we control their spreading. The problem would be far greater with bubonic plague or yellow fever as the subject for quarantine.

The passport system in vogue in this country is the means of considerable fraud practiced by immigrants. Every year a large number of passports to America are issued by embassies in foreign capitals based upon naturalization certificates or certified copies of the same presented by citizens of the respective countries. The ambassador cannot refuse the passport for the evidence of citizenship is before him. A few questions are asked and the paper is signed. Thus thousands of foreigners gain admittance into America upon forged certificates of citizenship. For it is a simple matter to obtain a certified copy of the original certificate in this country. A small fee is paid by the Italian who says he has lost his original and the copy is produced. It is forwarded at once to his countryman in Italy with instructions as to its use and the passport is subsequently issued. So the question of the immigrant's fitness for citizenship is beyond the jurisdiction of the immigration officers at the port of entry, and

thousands of undesirables find entrance in this manner.

Yet the United States government is waking up to the seriousness of the problem. The immigration bill, upon which Congress will pass during the present session, provides for a more rigid examination of undesirables at the port of entry. One important provision calls for a literacy test that compels ability to read at least thirty words of some language or dialect. Liberal as this provision is, it is an improvement over the former. It is assumed that a person who can read this much can learn to read the English language. Our schools, with their compulsory education doctrines, will take care of the younger generations if the provision is properly enforced.

Much discussion prevailed over the merits and demerits of the proposed

Land Opening

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character clause in the bill, which was eventually stricken out. The clause provided for the presentation at the port of entry of a character certificate from the home government. But this provision would have worked to deprive us of the more desirable immigrants, for in Russia, for instance, every Jew is considered undesirable, although many of them are worthy of the best this country affords. Russia could, by an exercise of the character certificate power, withhold those who would make good citizens and issue certificates of character to those whom she did not care to retain. There is, nevertheless, a fallacy in our system of handling immigrants in that we have prevention of the assembling of forthrightly given for restraining undesirables at the port of embarkation.

The bill further provides for internal immigration offices with a view to a distribution of immigration to the farming districts of the country and a no power of elimination except at the port of entry. There is very little foreigners in the large centers of population in the Atlantic regions. The opening up of the Panama canal will go a long way toward settling the distribution question, for at present the Pacific coast gets only the Chinese, Japanese and Hindus.

Medical men in Europe are watching with professional curiosity this flood of low-class humanity from the densely populated and disease-laden sections of Europe. They freely predict that the effect will very soon show itself in the American people in the form of a plague that will rouse us into action. The United States government is beginning to wake up to the same fear, and the immigration laws are due for radical changes in the very near future.

RECIPES FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

Chicken Salad Filling.
Take cold cooked chicken, rejecting any dry skin or fat, add half as much crisp celery, a little minced onion and some seeded green pepper if on hand; run through food chopper; add enough boiled dressing to form a paste and spread on liberally.

Botted Ham and Egg Filling.
Take equal portions of hard boiled eggs and lean ham; add a few sweet pickles and run through food chopper. Mix quite soft with some thick boiled dressing. This is an economical filling, as it may be spread quite thin if bread is well buttered.

Cake Strips.
Make a little batter of any sort and thin it so that it will pour easily over a buttered tin. Bake in a quick oven. Before it has time to cool off cut in even strips and brush each one over with white of egg and scatter chopped nuts on top. Brown slightly in oven. Lady fingers may be substituted.

Novelty Sandwiches.
Use different kinds of bread and cut with fancy cutters, such as hearts, stars, rounds and crescents; fill with some creamy filling and lay in rows on plates, decorating each with a little beet heart, sprig of parsley or other little figures of red and green peppers or boiled carrots. There are many nice little vegetable cutters in the market that lend themselves well to all kinds of ornamenting. All remnants of bread can be used for puddings, milk toast or dried for crumbing.

Alexander Salad.
Get from the grocer a small round head of lettuce for each person, what are called "seconds," that is, heads of Boston lettuce from which the outer leaves have been removed; these cost about 5 cents. Wash the heads and with a small knife cut a round place in the top of each and then cut down and around until center is removed, leaving a cup; into this put a few halved white grapes, seeds removed, and with them a little grapefruit pulp and cover just before serving with French dressing. Lay each little salad on a dark green lettuce leaf when you serve it.

Grape Juice Sponge.
Soften one tablespoonful of granulated gelatin in one-fourth cup of cold water and dissolve by setting the cup in a dish of hot water, add one cup of grape juice, the juice of one-half a lemon and a generous half cup of sugar; stir until sugar is dissolved, then set in ice water to become chilled. Beat the whites of two eggs dry, then add the grape juice mixture, gradually beating it into the whites with egg beater. When all has been added and mixture will "hold its shape" turn into glasses. Finish with whipped cream, candied violets and strips of angelica, putting on the cream with tube.

PREFERS LEGITIMATE DRAMA



Miss Frances Reeve, who four years ago was playing in the Gaiety Theatre, London's foremost musical comedy house, accepted an offer at the conclusion of her engagement there which brought her to America. Formerly a musical comedy star, Miss Reeve is now appearing in legitimate drama, a change she has never regretted.

The Bread and Butter Question: Thick and Thin Get a Meal—Nearly

By EVANSON



TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK