

# REMEDIES FOR BITES and STINGS

By MRS. HENRY SYMES



Camphor and Ammonia for Spiders

I HAD almost said "Insect Bites and Stings"; but the spider, of course, is not an insect, and yet he is one of the worst offenders against the innocent picnicker.

He is easily defeated, however, by a mixture of equal parts of camphor and ammonia, rubbed on the spot he has injured. The place should then be bound with a clean, soft bandage, and the solution left to do its healing work.

Every one who has ever gone black-berrying knows the wood-tick; every devotee of the seashore is only too well acquainted with the sand-tick. Both of these pleasing creatures burrow under the skin, where they lay eggs, increase and multiply. The only way to get rid of them is to immerse the hands and arms as soon as possible in witch hazel or in water to which a little carbolic acid has been added. Sometimes a complete bath in the latter is necessary before the torturing insects are all driven away.

Worst of all summer curses is the ubiquitous mosquito. Even when he is not of the yellow fever or malaria-bearing varieties, he is sufficiently annoying. Only to the peace of mind of the bitten. Burning Japanese incense will keep him away, and so will tobacco smoke, but if he has already come, seen and conquered there are still plenty of remedies.

Menthol dissolved in alcohol and well mixed makes one of these. The solution should be rubbed on the bitten spots. Flour dusted on the skin, moist soap lather allowed to dry on it, honey water (one teaspoonful of honey to a quart of boiling water, used while warm), and even the humble onion rubbed on the irritated place are all well recommended as mosquito cures. Washing the skin in elderberry water is another preventive, as are the leaves of vervain or pennyroyal scattered about the house.

And if you are not afraid of superfluous hair, rub the spots with a cocoa butter stick to which cocaine has been added in the proportion of two



Menthol and Alcohol for Mosquito Bites

parts to one hundred. It will bring instant relief. Finally, there are always oils of lavender and citronella.

The bee is an interesting insect, but an exclusive one, and he resents interference. When he treats you thus cruelly, rub parsley on the sting. Continue the friction for a few minutes, and you will extract the sting and the irritation together. Dropping chloroform on the spot is also a sure remedy. Like many others of the liquids mentioned here, chloroform is a poison, and must be kept in a safe place, out of the reach of children. Ammonia will serve your purpose almost as well, and is often easier to obtain in an emergency.

Venturing too near a wasp's nest brings certain punishment; but here the cure is always close at hand. Simply rub the too inquisitive hand with mud (moistened with water until it is thin and soft) until the irritation and pain disappear.

Two other good remedies for wasp and bee stings are hartshorn and strong soda, with olive oil rubbed on



Rub Parsley on the Bee Sting

the spot after the first application. Often pressure with the small end of a watch key will bring the sting so near the surface of the skin that it can be extracted with the aid of a pair of tweezers.

Of course, the best thing in every case is to prevent rather than to cure the evil. Approach your beehive, for instance, from the back, and arm yourself with gloves and veil when you visit the gentle wasp. Sprinkle your premises lavishly with crude petroleum to kill off the mosquitoes. Never lie flat on the ground—you are only giving an invitation for ants and flies to crawl all over you, into your ears and under your clothing. For, horrible as it sounds, insects do fly into ears, where they must be drowned out by means of sweet oil or deoiled out by a steady light.

The worst of all summer annoyances, however, is the stinging of insects; and if these few well-proved cures can assist in the work of cure and extermination, their mission will be well accomplished.



Mud Defeats the Hungry Wasp

If the invitation is written in the first person, it is always necessary to reply as promptly as possible.

1. A single woman leaves her card for each woman in the house where she is calling. A single man leaves his card for every member of the household. A married woman leaves one of her own cards for every woman and one of her husband's cards for every man in the house. The rule for the married man is the same as for the single man.

2. It is not necessary to thank in either case, but in a sincere manner she may tell him how much she enjoyed and appreciated his kindness.



Exercise and Diet are the Safest Means for One to Use to Reduce Flesh

1. Exercise and diet are the safest means for one to use to reduce flesh. If, however, your health is not very good, you should have your doctor's opinion of the advisability of employing either method.

2. The circulation of your blood is evidently not first class. Gentle massage and the carrying out of your physician's orders will relieve the red condition.

3. The improvement of your hair apply castor oil to the scalp daily. Brush your hair thoroughly every night before retiring. Shampoo the head once a month with pure white soap.



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## BEAUTY QUERIES ANSWERED

Would massage be good for it? If so, how should I do it?  
**ANSWER:** Yes, if you have an excellent tonic which will remove dandruff and prevent the hair from falling. It will not, however, make the hair fluffy. For this you will have to arrange your hair on curlers or plait it.

I cannot understand why the young man acted so rudely. No matter what prevented him from keeping his engagement, he should not have failed to send you his apologies. I should hesitate before making engagements, for evidently he is not to be relied upon.  
**Not Acquainted**  
Dear Mrs. Adams:  
Kindly tell me what to do in such a case. A friend and I are walking along the street, and she speaks to a friend whom I do not know. Should I speak to the friend?  
**ANSWER:** If you are not acquainted with your friend's friend, you should not speak until you have had an introduction.

I have been using a mixture of castor oil and oil of lavender for nearly two weeks. The dandruff I had for years is entirely disappeared, but my hair falls out as much as before, for which reason I cannot brush it. What am I to do?  
**ANSWER:** I am glad you are getting rid of the dandruff and I am sure that if you will continue to apply the tonic your hair will stop falling out. You cannot expect too big results at once. Do not brush your hair until it has ceased to fall.

I have a very large nose. How should I reduce it?  
**ANSWER:** Exercise and diet are the safest means for one to use to reduce flesh. If, however, your health is not very good, you should have your doctor's opinion of the advisability of employing either method.

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## ADVICE ON SOCIAL CUSTOMS

*Mrs. Charles Adams*  
most cordially invites her friends to bring to her any social problems and perplexities by letter at any time

### BEING AN OLD MAID

YEARS ago an unmarried woman was looked upon with pity, and with a certain contempt, because in the eyes of that past generation she had made a failure of her life. I am grateful to the present-day progress in all ideas pertaining to women that this opinion is no longer generally held.

If any one of your friends or relatives voice the idea that the "old maid" is an object of pitiable toleration, that person is a few score years behind the times, and should be met with well-deserved contempt.

Women are no longer the clinging, dependent creatures that were the type a half century ago. Today the greater number of our girls and mature women do not look forward marriage as the only avenue of escape from a dependence that is galling to an assertive, proud individual. I will venture to state that the great majority of my readers carry their right to live, to spend and to enjoy a few pleasures of life. In the business world, or in various little byways, women have gone out and have earned money. Marriage is not a necessity, and conditions are far better.

Old maids are no longer ashamed of the fact. I know of one who is truthful about her single state. She said, "I have never been asked to marry, but I am not ashamed."

Another charming woman, bordering on the thirties, has had a number of opportunities to place "Mrs." on her visit-

ing card, but she has an ideal of marriage, and she will not relinquish it. This is the case of many of our unmarried women.

Was it ever suggested to your mind that a few "old maids" love men whom they cannot wed? There are many untold loves, my friends; loves that make the lives of the silent ones nobler and purer; loves that are hidden away under the life of every day and taken out probably in the solitary hours when the "old maids" are alone. There is nothing to be ashamed of there. This kind of an old maid is an admirable creature.

Old maids are rapidly passing away, and I am glad of it. You know, a woman is as young as she feels, and is probably single because she chooses to be.

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## SOLUTIONS TO SOCIAL PROBLEMS

**A Misunderstanding**  
DEAR Mrs. Adams:  
I have been married several years. During the first year of my married life my husband and I had a great misunderstanding with my husband's brother and wife. Since then they have left the city. My husband and his brother have become friends once more. Several months ago my brother-in-law was in the city, and my husband and I met him. He exchanged greetings with my husband, but ignored me. Later I wrote his wife asking her pardon for the misunderstanding, but received no answer. They will visit our city soon. Will you please inform me how to become friendly with them, as I love them both.  
**WORRIED**

Why not make a call on your relatives when they visit your city? A personal interview may help to smooth matters. If they accept your apologies, you might invite them to your home.

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**Addressing Invitations**  
DEAR Mrs. Adams:  
1. What is the correct way of acknowledging invitations to dinners, luncheons, teas, card parties, etc., and the proper way of replying?  
2. What is the correct way of acknowledging invitations to a married couple, both on outside and inside of envelope?  
3. What is the correct way of acknowledging invitations to a single man or woman, and one of her husband's cards for every man in the house. The rule for the married man is the same as for the single man.

1. On the inside envelope is inscribed "Mr. and Mrs. Jones." On the outside envelope is inscribed "Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Jones" and their full address. When addressing the inside envelope sent to a single man or woman the full name is not necessary.

2. The envelope and the letter are addressed to the wife. In the body of the letter the husband may be mentioned.

3. When accepting or declining an invitation to any of the affairs you mention, the reply should be in the same form as the invitation. That is,

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**Deeply in Love**  
To Courageous—As the man has not mentioned the subject of love to you, do not think you should cherish the thought of marrying him. A continuation of the close friendship may develop into love and I feel sure that he would not allow the difference in ages to have any effect whatever.

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**Conduct Not the Best**  
DEAR Mrs. Adams:  
I have been going with a young man who has always proved himself honorable, but a short time ago I was overcome to hear that he was not all that he should be. I have been engaged and unmarried at parties by hints of something which has occurred (referring to him always). I feel that I would lose a good friend if I stopped his attentions. Kindly advise me. I feel that I would lose a good friend if I stopped his attentions. Kindly advise me. I feel that I would lose a good friend if I stopped his attentions. Kindly advise me.