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CHINESE DOCTORS.

Their Weird Ideas About Disease and Its Remedies.

PUNCH HOLES IN PATIENTS.

To Perform This Operation They Use Eight Different Styles of Needles. Some Two Feet Long, and the Bigger the Punch the Greater the Doctor.

The bigger the needle with which a Chinese doctor punctures his patient the higher the charge, for the bigger the needle the more distinguished is the physician. If the doctor wears a straw hat, that signifies he is a prosperous doctor and his charge is a little more. If he comes in a sedan, the patient must pay for the chair.

Dr. Franz Otto Koch, writing in the Popular Science Monthly, gives a description of the Chinese physician and how he practices.

"The native Chinese doctor is a curiosity," writes Dr. Koch. "He passes no examination; he requires no qualifications; he may have failed in business and set up as a physician. In his new profession he requires little stock in trade, medical instruments being almost unknown.

"Acupuncture, as it is called, is one of the nine branches recognized in medical science among the Chinese. It is of most ancient origin, having been in use from time immemorial. There are 537 markings to be learned. Every square inch on the human surface has its own name, and some relation to the internal parts, purely imaginary, is assigned to it. The user is cautioned against wounding the arteries; hence he must know the position of the blood vessels. By close study of a manikin pierced with holes the Chinese physician learns where to drive his needles. Parts of the body are selected which may be pierced without fatal results. Sometimes heat is applied to the outer end of the needle, and this is called a hot acupuncture, but the needle is never heated before insertion.

"The needle used looks very much like a sewing machine needle, but it is longer and coarser. Some of the Chinese doctors have needles two feet long and are supposed by ardent admirers to be able to drive these instruments entirely through the patient's body. The great size of the needles is in reality intended to represent the greatness of the owner's skill and reputation. The needles used are of eight forms, as follows: The arrowhead, blunt puncturing, spear pointed, fusiform, round, capillary, long and thick. The point of insertion, the depth and direction are all important. The method is usually to drive the needle through the distended skin by a blow from a light mallet.

"If he can get an old book of prescriptions from a retiring practitioner, so much the better for the Chinese doctor. He is now equipped to kill or cure, as chance or his ignorance may dictate. The doctor most entitled to confidence in the sight of his countrymen is the man whose father has been a doctor before him. Confidence in him knows no bounds should his grandfather have followed the same calling. This is not mere fatuous belief in heredity, but is based on the supposed value of old prescription books passed on from grandfather to grandson.

"Fees vary according to the physician's social class and that of his patients and also according to the physician's place of residence. The enormous sum of perhaps 15 American cents or half a dollar at the most may be charged for a visit if the doctor comes in a sedan chair. Of this amount a large proportion goes for the chair. Should the doctor belong to the humbler ranks and come on foot his fee is proportionately less. He assumes a solemn air and owl-like look as he peers out of the semidarkness of a Chinese bedroom through great goggle shaped glasses—two inches across and set in huge uncouth copper frame.

"Most important in diagnosing a case, according to Chinese ideas, is the feeling of the different pulses of the human system. The pulse at each wrist is felt. By thus feeling the pulses the states of a dozen real or imaginary organs are determined. Having thus learned by the pressure at these pulses the seat of the disease, a few questions may be asked, but these are considered scarcely necessary. A prescription sometimes calling for the most horrible and nauseating compounds is prepared in large doses, for the native believes that the larger the dose the more likely it is to prove efficacious. In prescribing for natives the foreign doctors have to give the strictest injunctions that the paper box in which the pills are contained is not to be swallowed.

"The manner in which the Chinese treat their physicians is characteristic. Should a speedy cure not result from the doctor's treatment the patient calls in another. If he does not improve he calls in a third. Thus the medical skill of the whole neighborhood may be drawn upon."

Bound to Have Change.

In the absence of her husband the fascinating young married woman went boating with an old admirer.

"Ah," sighed the old admirer, "if only you had married me instead of Wilkinson."

"Then I should have been with Mr. Wilkinson at this moment instead of you," said the fascinating woman. "How strangely things turn out!"

New York Times.

Where there is much light the shadows are deepest. Goethe

FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY

R. L. CONNOR

Republican Candidate for District Attorney of Yamhill Co.; also nominated by the Progressive Party. (Present incumbent).

During the time I have served as District Attorney for Yamhill County I have honestly endeavored to faithfully perform the duties of the office and to do all within my power to see that the criminal laws of the state are enforced without fear or favor, and carefully look after the interests of the county in all its business matters referred to my office. I will be thankful for your support, and if elected will promise to the voters a continuation of a clean, honest and economical administration.—Paid adv. 5114

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any overweening conceit in his own abilities. Neptune's slaves sought him out especially. The more spotless the linen, the more stylish the necktie, the more fleecy the white dannel suit, the surer was the owner to have the starch literally taken out of him.

Of course not all of the 650 passengers could be initiated with these elaborate ceremonies. Most of those who were enjoying the fun to the utmost, and who were congratulating themselves that they had gone scot free, did not notice some sailors in oilskins climbing the masts directly over their heads. The sailors had a big hose in their hands. While the last victim was being submerged and the boisterous fun was at its height the heavens seemed suddenly to open, and out of a clear tropical sky a tremendous shower poured down upon the heads of all the passengers.

Few escaped a thorough sprinkling. The tables were turned on the hilarious onlookers, and the chief initiates took their turn in laughing at the others. When it was all over, Father Neptune served a bountiful collation, and to each passenger was given an elaborate and beautifully engraved certificate as evidence that he had received his sea christening and that he had the right henceforth to pass freely over the equator.—Rev. Dr. Francis E. Clark in Youth's Companion.