

SNAKES AND SNAKE-POISON.

Secretion of the Venom. How It Is Ejected and Its Peculiar Effects.

Dr. George E. Lamb, in the Glasgow Medical Journal, outlines verbally the mechanism with which poisonous snakes do their work. Originally their fangs look like other teeth, but by degrees a vertical furrow on the front becomes inclosed like a tube by the adjacent ridges. While the mouth is shut and when no attempt is made to bite, the fangs fold inward and lie along the roof of the mouth. The poison glands are located like salivary glands in the throat. They are so enclosed in muscle that when the serpent brings his jaws together forcibly they press on the gland and squeeze out the juice. Simultaneously the fangs are brought to an erect position by a rather complicated action.

The amount of poison produced by a cobra, the most dreaded of all Indian snakes, is equivalent to between a three thousandth and five thousandth of their own weight. The maximum quantity, about 300 milligrammes, is enough to kill 5,000 rats. The horse is particularly susceptible to the poison, but the author has been unable to corroborate the statement of Calcutta that the fatal dose, weight for weight, increases as the animals increase in size. Fresh liquid poison is straw colored. Cobra venom is clear. That of the daboia, another Indian serpent, has usually a small quantity of undissolved suspended matter. The percentage of water is about 72. All snake venoms are almost pure solutions of proteins, and contain little else except a trace of organic salts. A small quantity of organic acid and coloring matter.

The method by which snake venom acts upon the system of either man or beast is also discussed by Dr. Lamb. Cobra poison acts directly on the central nervous system, there is no preliminary stage of excitement, and once the stricken animal is completely paralyzed, the breathing still going on, the saliva trickling. Finally, the respiratory centers become involved, slight general convulsive movements, due to the accumulation of carbon dioxide in the system, take place, and death ensues. The heart continues to beat for from 20 minutes to half an hour after the breathing has stopped. Daboia poison acts mainly, if not entirely, on the circulatory apparatus.

WOMAN WHO COULD SHOOT.

Demonstrated Her Skill with the Rifle Without Having to Hurt Anybody.

A story told in the New York Evening Post, a wife of a factor of the Hudson Bay trading company shows that ability to do a thing well sometimes makes the actual doing unnecessary. The woman had been brought up in the post, where her father was chief factor, and like all the children and women, had learned to use firearms with ease and accuracy.

"My father and the men had gone away to a conference with the Indians, who had been hostile for some time," she says. "They had left orders not to open the gates of the fort."

It was a blistering day and the water in the stocks grew warm. So it was suggested that some one go to the river and get a fish. My aunt agreed to go, and marched out alone with a pail in one hand and a rifle in the other.

"We stood behind the loopholes of the closed gate, saw her disappear down the bank, come up again with a dripping pail of fresh water, and set it down as if to rest. She had barely picked it up again when she stopped abruptly, gazing straight at the high grasses on the right of the path between herself and the fort. All eyes at the loopholes turned in that direction, too, and there, stealing through the grasses with their war feathers and war paint on, we saw two young moccasin warriors plainly bent on mischief. They evidently knew that the men were all out and only women in the fort.

"We could not possibly shoot in my aunt's defense without great risk of hitting her. If we unfurled the gate, one of the Indians could easily have forced an entrance while the other stopped her.

"But my aunt, instead of rushing in, set down the pail. She looked again where the Indians had now risen boldly up directly under a solitary tree.

"On the topmost branch of that tree sat a 'whisky-jack'—a bird of the jay family which is common round camps in the northern woods. Quick as a flash she aimed her rifle, 'picked off' that jay as coolly as if she had been at target practice, and then, as calmly lifting the pail of water, came slowly to the gate, where we received her with open arms.

"As for the Indians—well, there was a flourish of grassy shoulders through the long grass and the two braves had disappeared.

Noted Scotch Duke.

The duke of Buccleuch is one of six men who own between them one-sixth of all Scotland, and there are customs still preserved on his estate dating back to King Alfred. It was the father of the present duke who rode at a breakfast pace from Bath to Longleat to apologize to Lady Charlotte Thyne, whom he had only just left, for having forgotten to propose to her. —London News.

As Explained.

Mrs. Enpeck: I don't see why married men should want to join a club. Enpeck—Oh, that's easily explained. Money loves company, you know. —Chicago Daily News.

FEMINE FASHIONS.

Notes of the Modes for the Personal of Those Who Keep Pace with the Latest in Dress.

Some of the prettiest hats are simply trimmed. A picture hat for a young face is of softly tinted green straw trimmed with branches of white lilac. There is a band of green silk gauze, but the lilac forms the only trimmings, reports the New York Post.

Handkerchiefs and stocks to match are shown in the linen stores. Some of these are in pale blues and pinks, and where white predominates in the stock the color is more prominent in the handkerchiefs. This relieves them from matching too closely.

Parasol handles are becoming fantastic. A white silk coaching parasol has a long white handle, with a large green parrot head on the end. The colors are most vivid, and the bird's eyes are bright yellow stones. A black and white parasol has a French poodle, correctly clipped, standing politely on his hind legs, with his front paws drooping, the entire handle being of black wood.

Almost as popular as washable shirt waist suits are the linen and crash—piece walking suits. One of these in heavy white linen has a seven-gored skirt with tucked outside seams, and a three-quarter coat of a simple cut, without revers or collar. Rather elaborate blouses are worn with the suits, a transparent lace-trimmed waist taking away from their severity.

The new silk and linen batistes appear in natural flax colors, in white, and also in tints of pink, blue, cream, etc. Many of the patterns have flowers woven to resemble embroidery; others show delicate lace stripes with warp-printed designs in floral colorings made of silk and linen. Tokyo is one of the newest and most desirable of the silk-and-linen mixtures displayed this season.

Chiffon foulards sheer and light as their name implies, but firm in texture and measuring about a yard in width, are brought out in all the fashionable color blendings, including black and white. They will be used for tucked, flounced and shirred afternoon dresses and shirt waist costumes made up unlined over Princess slips of taffeta or mercerized Tokyo silk.

The "Diana," the "Lady Washington" and the "Quo Vadis" are the names of new kid gloves for spring wear. These come with two and three clasps, with suede or glaze finish, and in colors of white, pearl, mouse gray, tan, brown, olive green and black.

Leather walking boots for the season before us have pliable kidskin tops, patent coltskin foxing and tips and Cuban heels. Button boots in Vicid kid have glaze kid tips, hand-welted soles and military heels. New satin evening shoes made on graceful French lasts have short vamps and Louis XV heels. They are made in black and delicate tints of blue, pink, gray, etc. Firms in the city now take orders for evening footwear of every pattern and color matching gown, delivering the slippers or sandals at short notice.

FOR ANTIQUE SETTINGS.

There is a Fancsy for the Hour Glass Just Now Instead of Clock or Watch.

Despite the prevalence of clocks and watches, sand glasses are now sold. There is a three-minute glass and a regular accompaniment of the egg boilers and egg cookers of rich bronze or copper now popular for table use. Many sand glasses are in favor for dictating the length of time the tea must draw, or the exact number of seconds the cocoa must "steep" after withdrawal from the fire, says the New York Sun.

Many housewives use a sand glass when preparing the sauces for delicate fish dishes, or making dainty omelettes and desserts, apt to spoil in the breath of a second's over-cooking or under-cooking.

The sand glass, is a picturesque table equipment, performing its duties noiselessly and having a romantic time-honored suggestion that chimes in appropriately with the simple antique furnishings now in vogue.

Sand time glasses now find place in sitting rooms and bed chambers and are installed on many desks and dressing tables in fashionable houses. The girl who elects to time her occupations and amusements by the running of the sands is likely to have shoe buckles of quaint pattern, an ancient snuff box got from an antique shop for a jewelry holder, and a colonial souvenir for her neck chain pendant.

Time glasses mounted in oddly decorative porcelain are sold for luxurious desks. Quaint oriental hour glasses are mounted in amber or ebony and some are chisely enameled. Hand-some glasses are made to order set in ivory or mother of pearl, or in the rich woods used for finest wares. The frames of glass for ordinary purposes are of maple, cherry or orange wood.

Not Very Consulting.

Giles—I heard this morning that Knox said I was a perfect idiot. Mrs. Giles—Well, don't you care what he says.

"Why not?"

"Because he's given to exaggerating. I'm sure no one believes you are perfect." —Cincinnati Enquirer.

Out of the Heart's Bitterness.

Bobbs—Scribble has had no less than nine plays rejected. Slobbs—What is he doing now?

"Writing essays on the decline of the drama." —Cleveland Leader.

TO FIGHT DIVORCE.

New York Ministers Unite to Wage War on Present Day Evil.

Expected That Pastors of All Denominations, Including the Roman Catholic, Will Be Enlisted in the Campaign.

At a secret meeting held recently in New York city, at which leading men from the Protestant Episcopal and Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian churches were present, it was decided to enter upon a vigorous campaign against divorce.

It was in accordance with the decision reached by this meeting that a letter was addressed to Archbishop Farley, of the Roman Catholic Church, asking his cooperation in the movement. Neither temperance, Sabbath breaking, smoking nor gambling has sufficed to bring the Protestant and the Roman Catholic churches upon a common platform, but upon this issue of divorce it has been decided to attempt to bring all religious sects together.

A preliminary conference was held in St. Bartholomew's church. On behalf of the Episcopal church there were present Bishop Doane, of Albany, the bishop of Maryland, and the bishop of Rhode Island, who is also the presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church in America, the Rev. Dr. Greer, the rector of St. Bartholomew's, the Rev. Drs. Fulton and Eccleston, and Messrs. Francis, Lynde, Stetson and Branford. The Presbyterian church was represented by the Rev. William Henry Roberts, the stated clerk of the Presbyterian general assembly; the Rev. Dr. Charles A. Dickie, and the Rev. Drs. McIlvaine, Nicollos, and McLaughlan, Judge Lanning and John E. Parsons, a New York lawyer. For the Methodist church were present Bishop E. G. Andrews, Dr. Kelley and Judge Reynolds.

The Rev. Dr. Roberts, who was elected secretary of the general committee, was directed to communicate with the other denominations to invite them to a further conference. It is to this second conference that Archbishop Farley is invited.

"I believe we are now on the road to accomplish some real results in fighting the divorce evil," said Bishop Andrews. "The divorce evil for the last few years has been eating away at the vitals of the American home. I believe, through such an inter-denominational plan as is here proposed, much can be accomplished. We cannot expect to attack the evil effectively through new laws, either civil or ecclesiastical. We must influence public sentiment. That is what this union of churches proposes to do."

The Rev. William O'Brien, pastor of the Jesuit college, one of the strongest opponents of divorce, addressed the annual meeting of the Manhattanville Pupils' association at the convent of the Sacred Heart a few days ago on this subject.

"Social ostracism," said Father Jardon, "is the only way to meet the divorce question. The church laws have failed to meet it, for you people break them without hesitating when you so desire." The laws of the state have failed also.

Father Hayes, secretary for Archbishop Farley, said: "I know Archbishop Farley is glad to see the Protestant churches preparing to take a firm stand against divorce, but I do not see how he can enter into any conference on the subject except for the purpose of advising adherence to the fixed rule of the Roman Catholic church."

DEFINITION OF A GENTLEMAN.

An English Judge Instructs a Jury on This Point Over Which There Is Much Dispute.

The question as to what constitutes a gentleman came up in a peculiar way in London in a case which was being heard by Justice Darling. One of the counsel characterized a letter offered in evidence as unworthy and improper because it referred to one of the witnesses, a house and sign painter, as a gentleman. Justice Darling, in summing up, took occasion to inject some humor into the proceedings by telling the jury that the Herald's college would say "Man," not "gentleman," unless the grandfather, father or man himself was entitled to wear a coat-of-arms. They would observe, however, that both the learned counsel and himself had addressed them as "gentlemen of the jury." He thought that if they had votes to give away and were in the habit of attending political meetings they must have noticed that the speakers were careful to give them that title. The painter, it appeared, was the possessor of a card. That was not the same as having a coat-of-arms, but there was another thing that went to show that he was a gentleman—he suffered from the gout.

Caught in Street Grates.

A few weeks ago in Leeds, England a certain type of street grate had finally to be condemned and discarded solely because so many women wearing high-heeled boots were caught as in a trap and had either to leave one heel or the whole boot before they could get away. Near one cab rank in Brig-gate no fewer than four ladies were held by the heels in one week, as a corporation official explained to the town council.

A Timely Reminder.

Not that it will do any good to recall it, but do you remember, asks the Chicago Tribune, that 31 persons were killed and 272 injured in the Fourth of July celebrations last year?

WARNING AS TO UNDERWEAR.

Which It May Be Well to Heed as the Weather Begins to Get Warmer.

May is the month when many people change from the heavy underwear of the winter to the light summer weight. The majority abruptly jump from one extreme to the other. This is not only foolish in northern latitudes; it is dangerous. There will be cold days, just as there will be excessively warm days, says Good Housekeeping.

The very thin underwear of midsummer should be reached by degrees. No outfit is complete or hygienically correct if it does not contain intermediate weights. "It is surprising to me how many people persist in the old-fashioned idea of dressing by the calendar," once remarked a dealer in underwear with whom I was talking. "If they would let the calendar alone and dress according to the day you would hear less about spring colds."

The chief function of underclothing is to assist in maintaining the normal temperature of the body. It is obvious that the problem becomes most complex in the season of greatest changes, spring and autumn. Whoever gives the matter a serious thought must see the absurdity of supposing that an even temperature of the body is maintained by any one given form of dress when the thermometer fluctuates from the forties on one day to the sixties on the next. These changes should be met by constant changes in clothing, and this in the underwear, rather than in the outer clothing. All of the best makes of underwear come in a number of weights in all wool, in silk, in wood and cotton, and in cotton. The variation is so graduated that every change in climatic conditions can be met with comfort and virtual insurance against sickness.

The theory on which the manufacture of hygienic underwear is based is that air at rest is the best known non-conductor of heat. Therefore it is aimed to produce a fabric which shall retain a large amount of air at rest within its interstices. Wool is the best known substance for this purpose. Thus, an all wool garment is warmest because of the greater amount of air it contains, which, surrounding the body, prevents the escape of the natural heat of the body. It is well known that a piece of new flannel is warmer than a piece which has been shrunk and felted with washing. From the latter some of the air has been expelled, lessening the non-conducting properties. This is the principle which has produced the so-called cellular underwear, which has come into use in the past few years.

But the conservation of body heat is not the sole aim. The covering next the skin must be of such a porous nature as to allow the skin to throw off all its watery and poisonous matters with the least possible resistance. This property must have due weight in the selection of underwear. As warm weather advances it becomes the more important of the two factors. Lighter clothing is worn in order not to retain so much of the animal heat. Just here the individual enters into the problem. With some the amount of animal heat is very great; with others it is small. It is plain that the underwear suited to the former will not be suited to the latter. A careful study should be made of the needs of the individual and clothing selected accordingly, especially at this season. Mothers cannot be too careful of their children in this matter. Stray to keep the temperature of their bodies at normal. Watch the weather closely and make them change their underwear accordingly. It will save anxiety and doctor's bills. Don't let them have their own way in this matter.

When packing for the mountains or the seashore, see to it that there are suits of underwear of several weights for every member of the family. The thin ballbrigan that is seemingly too warm in the heat of the cottage is insufficient on the yacht, and an extra wrap will not answer the purpose. A heavier weight of underwear alone will insure safety.

Caramel Pie.

Put half a cup of sugar in a clean, smooth sauceron over the fire and stir until it melts, and let it boil until a light brown color; then add two tablespoonfuls of water and add a pint of milk that has been warmed. Beat six eggs, add a pinch of salt, another pint of cold milk and a teaspoonful of vanilla. Pour this into the caramel mixture. Pour into rather deep pastry shells that have been previously baked. Set in a moderately hot oven, and bake until the custard is set in the middle. Serve cold. —Washington Star.

Currant Jelly.

Press all the juice from any quantity of currants and strain it. To one pint of juice put three-quarters of a pound of crushed sugar. When you put the juice on the stove place the sugar on a dish in the oven to get hot. Let the juice boil until the scum rises, which must be carefully removed with a spoon. Then put the sugar in the juice, and let it boil one minute only. Good Housekeeping.

Javelle Water.

Javelle water may be made at home. Pour a quart of cold water over a quarter of a pound of chloride of lime. Allow it to settle and pour off the clear water. A pint of liquid soda should be added, and the mixture kept in a blue glass bottle, tightly corked. Javelle water is invaluable for removing stains from white goods. N. Y. Post.

TEST IS STARTLING.

Edison, Jr., Proves That His "Vitalizer" Acts on the Brain.

Experiments with the Appliance at New York Demonstrate Its Power to Control and Cure Intractable Diseases.

One of the most interesting and important scientific experiments that have ever been performed has just been completed in the laboratory of Thomas A. Edison, Jr., at 14 Stone street, New York. The experiment had for its purpose the measurement of the exact extent to which young Mr. Edison's famous invention, the magnoelectric vitalizer, was able to stimulate and assist the brain in its mental processes. The tests were made by applying the units of the magnoelectric vitalizer to one of two students chosen from the third-year class of New York university. The second student did not wear the appliance.

To each student there was propounded a problem of moderate difficulty, steps having been taken to measure by suitable apparatus the exact period of time occupied by the mental response of the subject. Upon comparing the results of ten such trials it was found that the average improvement in the mental response of the student who wore the magnoelectric vitalizer was three and sixths second quicker than that of the other student. In other words, that young Mr. Edison's invention enabled the wearer to think much more quickly than was possible without the aid of the appliance.

The same experiment was made with public school pupils, from the second grammar grade. These children yielded similar results.

Scientifically and practically, young Mr. Edison's experiment is expected to have great results, the more so as it has just been discovered that all the brain processes of thought and consciousness are of electrical character. It is, consequently, predicted that the magnoelectric vitalizer will soon be in general use in the schools and colleges of the United States as in the homes. The appliance has already demonstrated thoroughly its power to control and cure such intractable diseases as hemiplegia, chronic rheumatism, consumption, nervous prostration, kidney trouble and similar complaints, and now that its new properties as a brain tonic have been tested there seems to be no limit to its sphere of action.

Perhaps the best evidence of the great value of young Mr. Edison's famous invention is afforded by the recent attempt of a certain Dr. Wall street man to purchase the patent and manufacturing right of the discovery for \$750,000. The inventor, it is said, absolutely declined the offer, because he knew the purchasers intended to exploit the vitalizer at the expense of the public. For further particulars the younger Edison wishes to keep the price of the vitalizer as low as possible, so that every sick person may be able to obtain it.

When young Mr. Edison was seen at his laboratory he said: "Months ago I demonstrated that perfect health is dependent upon the electrical condition of the spinal cord. The straggler cures disease by supplying the natural electrical force to the nerves. In addition to this I have just proved that the vitalizer is a powerful brain tonic. It enables a man to think quicker. It greatly increases mental alertness and energy."

"I am determined that the invention shall not fall into the hands of those who would regard it only as a money-making business. That is why I am myself attending to the letters of patients. You can tell your readers for me that the poorest man is as important in my eyes as the richest. Any man who has a two-cent stamp can write to me here at 14 Stone street, New York, and obtain my personal advice concerning the applicability of the vitalizer to his case.

NO LIGHT FROM BODY.

Paris Scientists Discredit Alleged Discovery of Prof. Goodspeed at University of Pennsylvania.

A Philadelphia dispatch published in Paris to the effect that Prof. Arthur W. Goodspeed, of the University of Pennsylvania, had discovered a hitherto unknown ray which, emanating from the human body, was strong enough to make photographs, has been received with incredulity there.

Dr. G. Lebon says: "All the experiments made regarding this subject, both by Col. De Rochus and myself, have given no result. Col. De Rochus did for a moment believe the possibility of the luminous radiations emitted by the human body."

"A hand placed upon a sensitive plate after an exposure of a certain duration seemed to have influenced the sensitive plate here and there. Shapeless marks were visible upon it, but it is necessary to add that these marks were obtained by means of a glove filled with sand and heated to the same temperature as the body. It could, therefore, only be inferred from these experiments that the marks on the plate were caused solely by heat."

Troubles of One Man.

A gentleman who married his stenographer wants a divorce because he finds that she cannot cook. If he had married his cook, queries the Chicago Chronicle, would he have demanded a divorce if she could not write shorthand?

FIND RICH BURIED TREASURE.

Searchers in Oklahoma Located with Mining Secured the Sum of \$2,000,000.

The finding of \$2,000,000 buried treasure is reported from Vining, a small town located on Salt Fork river in western Oklahoma. The treasure was unearthed on the farm of Charles Morland, who gave his consent to a mysterious stranger digging on his land, provided he would give Morland one-tenth of the treasure discovered. The farmer received \$200,000 and the mysterious stranger immediately disappeared. He came to the neighborhood recently, presumably from the east, bringing a map describing the location of the treasure.

A wagon box was struck as it went under ground which contained the money. The entire neighborhood is in a fever heat. Stories of buried treasure on Salt Fork have been rife for years in western Oklahoma, rumors stating there was a gold and silver field somewhere there to the north of the mines of the Territory. The treasure was supposed to have been buried by a band of American soldiers during the Mexican war. The story is that Washington Lindsey, a private in the Tenth Ohio Infantry, with 11 of his companions, became detached from his regiment and fell in with the "Y" Indians. From the Indians they learned of such wealth secreted by them and guarded from whites. The Yankee soldiers secured some of the treasure and started for the east with three Spanish wagons laden with wealth. They were overtaken by the Indians and a battle ensued, Lindsey escaping with many wounds. Apprehensive of the approach of the Indians the soldiers had buried the treasure. Lindsey was picked up by a government train and taken back to Ohio. Several years ago a wheel from an old Spanish wagon was unearthed, and since that time the searchers for the gold had been there by the score.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY MADE.

Foreigners Claim to Be Able to Produce Substitute for Petroleum.

The discovery of a remarkable substitute for petroleum is claimed by Charles Fritz de Morgenstern, who is at the Hotel Lafayette, New York city. He came to this country two years ago with his idea and with a box of chemicals by means of which, he says, he can make barrels of petroleum at a cent a gallon.

Mr. Morgenstern is of French descent and has contributed from the University of Brussels and of Bonn and from an English school. His home is at Bene-Maria Italy. He says that two years ago he began his experiments with a view of obtaining a fluid which could be used in motor cars and quite by accident he discovered the substitute for petroleum. He says the liquid is largely water and that its combustible properties are imparted by the addition of a chemical salt which is obtained from a vegetable matter. The work which is used is lumps of his petroleum substitute, is looked with great interest.

"The new fluid," continued Mr. Morgenstern, "will burn with the same brilliancy as ordinary kerosene, and it will not explode under any circumstances. It is not dangerous to use in lamps, kerosene heaters, gas stoves or incandescent lamps, but as the new fluid for lamps and lighting it is all that could be desired."

BEARD SIGN OF GREATNESS.

Sultan of Jolo Says All True Leaders of Men Must Wear Flowing Whiskers.

To a colony of the waters that no truly great man ever was without flowing whiskers. I is related in Washington that on the occasion of Gov. Taft's first official visit to the royal province of America, the latter expressed himself as being greatly pleased with the governor's presence, but somewhat doubtful as to his high official status. Gov. Taft directed something wrong in the sultan's manner, and asked the interpreter, a German son-in-law of the Jolo sovereign, of the name of Schuek, what the matter was.

"He says it's the whiskers," said Schuek.

"But I haven't any," responded the governor, mystified.

"That's it, you haven't got them," Schuek explained.

Governor Taft and the other members of the Philippine commission were ultimately informed that the sultan had obtained the impression that all great Americans wore flowing beards from the fact that the two military commanders in the island, Maj. Thompson, of the Twenty-fourth infantry, and Maj. Sweet, of the Twenty-third infantry, had each a face adorned with a plentiful supply of long and silky hair.

Supreme Test of Intunction.

If the writ of injunction stands the strain to which it has been put by the Omaha judge who has restrained a woman from talking we may safely assume, says the Chicago Chronicle, that it is indeed capable of meeting any human situation that may arise.

Dark Outlook for Astor.

When Washington becomes the capital of the English-speaking world, says the Chicago Inter-Ocean, as Mr. Carnegie predicts will soon be the case, what is going to become of William Waldorf Astor?

Heavy Inheritance Tax. P. D. Armour's grandsons must give up \$20,000 on an inheritance tax. That would make most of us feel pretty bad, says the Chicago Record-Herald, but we could stand it if we had the \$4,000,000 inheritance.