

# MESCAL HABIT GROWS ALARMING

How the Use of the Narcotic Has Spread Among Indian Tribes of America

## PRODUCES MILD HALLUCINATIONS

Clubs are Formed for the Social Indulgence in this Strange Drug—Give it a Religious Character with Weird Rites and Ceremonials.

The constant spread of the use of mescal as a narcotic among the Indians grows alarming and must soon demand widespread attention with a view to discovering some remedy for this pernicious habit and some check to its growth.

Mescal is the product of a certain cactus which has long been used in various ways among the Mexicans as an intoxicant under the name of pelote. The form in which it is used by the Indians is the mescal button—a kind of bean, very bitter to the taste, which is sometimes chewed and sometimes brewed in a kind of tea. When taken in either way it produces mild and delightful hallucinations of such a positive character as to place this plant in the same rank with hashish, opium, or any other of the famous drugs which have produced for men the joys of an artificial paradise.

The Kiowa Indians of the Rio Grande are said to have used the mescal button from time immemorial for the purpose of producing a beatific state of mind in connection with certain of their religious ceremonies. Gradually the practice has spread northward from tribe to tribe. The Poncas and some of their neighbors in Indian territory and Oklahoma took it up and soon counted many worshippers of this strange god. Thence it extended to the Omahas and Winnebagos, among whom it is at present constantly gaining new adherents, and now the practice is acquiring foothold among the Sioux. The tribes which have longest used it have, in the ardor of their devotion, sent missionaries to introduce their wonderful new medicine among other tribes, and wherever it becomes known its allurements prove irresistible. Clubs are formed for social indulgence in this narcotic, and for mutual participation in the rites and ceremonials which always accompany its indulgence for the purpose of giving it a religious character. In some cases the students returned from eastern and other boarding schools have become members and promoters of these clubs.

The meetings usually are held in the afternoon. After the mysterious ceremonies in acknowledgment of the secret power of the strange divinity have taken place, the buttons are passed around for chewing, four or five to each member, and the tea is brewed and drunk. Only the novice experiences any nausea or unpleasant sensation, and this soon passes off. There ensues only a blissful feeling of lassitude, accompanied by a delicious sense of happiness and peace. All thoughts of care or trouble or enmity roll away and the devotee is possessed by the feeling that all men are brothers and all the world is good. Meanwhile his sense of vision is powerfully affected, so that he sees changing and beautiful harmonies of color in everything upon which his eyes rest. This lasts throughout the night and until sleep comes next day, when the effects pass off and he gets up and goes away without any feeling of depression or other unpleasant results. And throughout this saturnalia of the senses and orgy of vision the mind itself remains clear and the devotee is a self-possessed spectator of all his hallucinations. One other effect of this remarkable drug must be noted in this brief summary. The mescal takes away all desire for alcoholic drink.

It is no wonder that the mescal habit appeals strongly to the simple mind of the Indian. No doubt, in many cases the effect which appeals to him the most powerfully is the one last named. He loses the desire for whiskey which he knows has been his undoing. Whether the means justify the end is a question he is little likely to ask. Just what steps may best be undertaken to counteract this pernicious habit are not at once apparent, but the practice is assuming such proportions as to require some action. However slight may be the physical effects of the habit—and they do not appear from brief observation to be either rapid or serious—the moral effects are obvious, for these must be the same as those which follow from any form of the drug habit; and from these at least it is the religious duty of the friends of the Indian to try to save him.

### Worldly Wisdom.

As there is a worldly happiness which God perceives to be no more than disguised misery; as there are worldly honors which in his estimation are reproach, so there is a worldly wisdom which in his sight is foolishness. Of this worldly wisdom the characters are given in the Scriptures, and placed in contrast with those of the wisdom which is from above. The one is the wisdom of the crafty, the other that of the upright; the one terminates in selfishness, the other in charity; the one is full of strike and bitter envyings, the other of mercy and of good fruits.—Blair.

# ROARLY PUTS ON GOLOSHEE

Bases Hard Winter Prophecy on Jersey Farmers' Thick Crop of Whiskers.

Verona, N. J.—Columbus Roarly of Greenwood Lake made his annual visitation here to announce the weather for the coming fall and winter. Before giving out his private tips he was in earnest confab with the corner grocery man. Columbus was inquiring about the market quotations on goloshes and ear muffs a' week days, and drove a hard bargain by trading a fat pullet that had stopped laying and set of mosquito screens for the cold weather protectors.

The prophecies of Columbus Roarly—he refuses to call them prognostications or even predictions—have been accepted for thirty years hereabouts as only a little in advance of fact. He is so sure about the weather that he always buys his winter supplies in summer, and the reverse. All his prophecies are based on signs from nature. After he had traded with the grocer he gave out the signs.

"We're going to have a mighty cold winter," said Columbus. "Everything points to a cold fall and a rip-roaring winter. For one thing, have you noticed this season's corn. Every ear has grown long whiskers, and that's a sure sign. The corn seems to have the sense of a Morris County granger in this respect. A wise farmer'll grow a good crop of whiskers as winter advances. The harder the winter the longer and thicker the whiskers. The same way with the corn. I've never noticed longer breezes than they have this season."

"You may have noticed, too, that the sunflower blossomed early. That means that we'll have an early frost and early snow. We will have a blizzard of the 1888 brand along the middle of November. Then, look at the apple trees. I can't remember when we had such a poor crop. That means that the trees are storing up all their sap and energy against a hard spell of weather and a long winter. In summers before a mild winter there is always a fine crop of apples. The present condition, by the way, too, means a hard winter for the lover of apple-jack."

"As a clincher I might say that the cabbages are on to the fact that we are going to have a record-breaking winter. When a man says 'cabbage-head' to mean an ignoramus, he does not know what he is talking about, for the cabbages are the wisest of vegetables. Every head of cabbage on my farm this summer is growing thick, tough leaves—and all because they are providing warm coverings for the cold weather that they know we're going to buck up against this winter."

### THE ASCENT OF THE AVIATOR.

In the air one minute—"Another fool inventor."

In the air three minutes—"Hasn't he killed himself yet?"

In the air five minutes—"All the fools ain't dead yet."

In the air thirty minutes—"Mr. Ayriider, the well-known aviator."

In the air one hour—"Our distinguished fellow-countryman."

In the air one hour and a quarter—"The wizard of the air."

In the air one hour and a half—"The Legion of Honor could have been bestowed on no worthier man."

### THE GOAL AND THE PRICE.



—From the New York World.

### Early to Bed.

The man who makes it the habit of his life to go to bed at nine o'clock usually gets rich and is always reliable. Of course going to bed does not make him rich—I merely mean that such a man will in all probability be up early in the morning and do a big day's work, so his weary bones put him to bed early. Rogues do their work at night. Honest men work by day. It's all a matter of habit and good habits in America make any man rich. Wealth is a result of habit.—John Jacob Astor.

### Woman Author at Home.

Home-made jam is gradually disappearing from the twentieth century European household. And yet 69 years ago George Sand, who treated most of her domestic duties somewhat lightly, was discovered by a visitor wearing a cotton dress and a big apron, and skimming a panful of fruit destined for the jam-pot. "It is not easy work," she remarked. "I find it harder to make good jam than to write 'Valentine' or 'Mauprat'; but there are some tasks one cannot leave to others."

## Helpful Beauty Hints

Massage For The Amateur—Sensitive Skin Cures—Proper Care of White Hair To Avoid Its Constant Troubles—Care For Cracked Lips—Shampoo For Falling Hair.

To be massaged is one of the most healthful, freshening experiences a tired woman can have, but unfortunately it is beyond the means of the average person.

If one cannot afford professional treatment, or at best, that of one who has no real knowledge of her work, it is well to fall back on self-rubbing. This is not the luxury of massage, but it will do much to stir up sluggish circulation and to keep the skin in condition.

Rubbings are of two kind, dry or wet, and can be given quickly and easily after the daily bath. The former can be given with a piece of flannel or with rubber or Eristle flesh brushes or a crash mitten. The rubbing should be always in the one direction and if possible in a circular motion. For the back and loins, a long strip of flannel, held taut with two hands, not only is a good rubber, but is as good as a course in gymnastics.

Wet rubbings can be done with salt water, aromatic vinegar or alcohol. The plain alcohol is too strong and should be diluted to at least seventy degrees. Do not use enough liquid to be sloppy and rub until the surface is dry. The wet rubbings are particularly refreshing after a hard day and act as a quick and lasting bracer.

### For Sensitive Skins.

The man or woman with sensitive skin does not love summer; the hot sun not only plays havoc with looks, but often causes positive discomfort. The unlucky person who burns or chafers cannot run chances with the sun's rays, it is too painful. When exposed to the sun a woman should be veiled and a man wear a broad-brimmed hat.

For longer exposure, such as yachting or automobile trips, shelve vanity and rub cold cream over the face, thickly powdered with talcum powder. If you cannot stand a thick mask-like paste, at least use a little cream and a dash of powder; it will prevent blistering.

If you have achieved a bad case of sunburn, bathe the face with hot witch hazel and keep applications on the face all night.

Never wash the face in cold water after being out in the sun. If possible do not use water for several hours after coming in; if you do, it should be as hot as can be endured. Later rub in a healing lotion of some sort or carbolized vaseline.

### For Our White-Haired Friends.

While white hair is beautiful, it is also very troublesome, as it shows at once the slightest neglect. I am one of the early birds of the changing color process, so I know. To be attractive white hair must be kept absolutely clean, but in frequent washings there is great danger of losing the silvery shade so much admired. The hair is apt to become yellow in tone and streaky in color. To obviate these irregularities in shade, wash the hair in soapsuds made from pure white soap, and after the soap has been thoroughly rinsed off, wash the hair once again in warm water containing about twenty drops of bluing to a quart of water. The bluing will do for the hair just what it does for the laundry clothes, keep it from losing the pure white tone and from turning yellow. This is a good hint for professional shampooers.—G. B. H., New York.

### The Lips in Winter.

My lips crack and are very dry in winter. What can I do to help this condition?—A. B.

The lips need special care in cold weather, as the cold dry air and the wind take the oil out of them, and make them dry. The moisture from the breath evaporates quickly and lowers the temperature, and the alternate wet and dry make them rough. To prevent this the lips should have some form of ointment applied to them night and morning. White vaseline is as good as anything. Camphor, applied at the same time as the vaseline, is excellent to roughen the mucous membrane. First wet the lips thoroughly with a good strong liniment of camphor, and then rub in the vaseline with the finger tips.

### Voucaire Dust Developer.

Liquid extract of galega (goat rue), 10 grams; Lacto-phosphate of lime, 10 grams; Tincture of iodoform, 10 grams; Simple sirup, 400 grams.

The dose is two spoonfuls in water before meals.

### Falling Hair and Dandruff.

J. M.—Shampoo the hair very thoroughly with an egg shampoo. After you have dried it, rub this tonic into the scalp. Massage for ten minutes, then brush the hair. Use the tonic and give the massage each night until the hair ceases to fall:

Bay rum, 10 ounces; Resorcin, 20 grains; Cantharides, 3 drams.

### Oranges.

L. G.—Indulging in three or four oranges a day would not make one thin. They are used in the diet for obesity, because other fruits, such as bananas, peaches, melons and grapes are forbidden.

## AID FOR DISH WASHING.

Combined Dishpan and Drain Greatly Facilitates Drying.

The humble but important operation of dishwashing has been greatly facilitated through the genius of a Kansan. This man has designed a combined dishpan and rack that will save both time and towels, as it permits the water to drip off the dishes before they are dried. The utensil is made for use only in its usual capacity. The dishpan is cut away to allow one end of the drain through to enter it. This trough rests on legs which give it a downward slant toward the pan, and in the bottom is a rack on which



Water Flows Back Into Pan.

The dishes are stood. This rack is raised slightly, so that the water which drips from the china, glass, etc., runs back into the pan. In this way the dishes are rendered comparatively dry before the towel is applied to them, with the result that they can be completely dried much more speedily than when taken directly from the rinse water, and the towel does not become hopelessly saturated, as by the old-fashioned method.

## Woman Judge Sought for Weddings.

Judge Mary H. Cooper of Mitchell, Kan., is probably the only woman in the world on the Probate bench, and she enjoys another distinction in being the most popular "marrying judge" in Kansas. In fact, she has become known as the "Marrying Judge," and in Mitchell it is the favorite term by which she is identified. There's a reason for her popularity, and it is a strictly feminine one at that. She has stricken the word "boy" out of the marriage ceremony, and this is a concession which appeals to the average Kansas bride. "Marriages are increasing in my office," says Judge Cooper. "Young women are pleased because I have dropped the vow of obedience, and then I have made an effort to get away from the hackneyed, machine-like way in which civil marriages generally are performed. I make a little fuss over each couple that comes to me, and I send away feeling that the business of becoming man and wife is not dull routine. As a result young women like to get married by me, and then I always make it a point to kiss the bridegroom."

## Household and White Hands.

Do not be afraid to give a lift with the family work for fear your lily white hands will suffer. The secret of smooth hands is not idleness and never putting them in dish water. One can be almost a household drudge and yet not be ashamed to deal a deck of cards or let your best young man hold your hand.

The secret of good looking hands is thorough washing, pure soap, careful drying, and frequent anointing with soothing lotions and oils. If you must wash dishes insist upon having a toilet soap rather than the kitchen variety and your skin will not suffer.

Scrubbing is the worst feature of housekeeping in its action on the hands, and loose rubber gloves should be used as often as possible. The girl who must do rough work should never forget the value of a lemon in keeping the skin smooth. A piece kept on the sink will do wonders in overcoming the bad effect of household work.

## Family of Nine Weighs a Ton.

Mrs. A. T. Smith and her four daughters of Friendly, W. Va., weigh a trifle of 1,919 pounds, or an average of 293 4-5 pounds each. The mother is 45 years old and tips the beam at 240 pounds. Her oldest daughter is 23 and weighs 294 pounds. The second daughter is 21 and her weight is 178 pounds. The third daughter, 14, also is 192 pounds, while the baby of the family, 11 years old, has only 89 pounds to her credit. This Smith family holds still another record. The four men in it weigh 1,057 pounds. This gives a grand total of 2,976 pounds, or an average for the nine members of 239 1-3 pounds.

## A Shelf on Hinges.

An extra shelf, fixed on hinges, in the passageway near the dining room, will be found very useful. It should be screwed on hinges to a backboard set firmly to the wall. An oak board is the best thing, as it will not warp. A chain at each end of the shelf is attached to a hook in the backboard to hold up the shelf when in use. When the shelf is not any longer needed the chains are loosened from the hooks and the board folds down on its hinges flat against the wall.

## Change of Evils.

Fond Parent—"Children are such a blessing in the home." "You bet they are. Why, since we're had two children my wife has scarcely any time to play the piano."

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## STATE IS RICH.

Receipts of Fiscal Year Ending November 30 Will be Thirty Million.

Figures compiled at the close of business at the auditor general's department show the receipts of the State of Pennsylvania for the fiscal year, which ended on the last day of November, will reach the unprecedented total of \$29,500,000, with a possibility of going beyond that limit.

The receipts at the close of the week's business amounted to \$28,730,462.92, which is \$3,573,017.25 ahead of the same day in 1903 and \$1,793,330.20 ahead of the same day in 1907, which was a record-breaking year.

The expenditures of the State, however, have been unusually heavy, amounting to \$29,484,192.97 at the close of last week's business. The State had a balance on the first of the month of more than \$8,000,000, which has not been seriously affected.

Do YOU USE AN ATOMIZER in treating Nasal Catarrh? If so, you will appreciate Ely's Liquid Cream Balm, the quickest and surest remedy for this disease. In all curative practice it is identical with the solid Cream Balm, which is so famous and so successful in overcoming Catarrh, Hay Fever and Cold in the head. There is relief in the first dash of spray upon the heated sensitive air-passages. All druggists, or, mailed by Ely Bros., 50 Warren St., New York.

Dr. Cook has disappeared. His friends say that he has gone to seek needed rest, as he was on the verge of a nervous collapse. The charges against him to the effect that he neither ascended Mt. McKinley was reached the north pole has so affected him that he has been under a severe mental strain ever since his return from Denmark. It is said he will return in a few weeks to reply to the attacks that have been made upon him.

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