

JOHN HENRY ON OBESITY CURES

BY GEO. V. HOBART, ("HUGH M'HUGH.")

Dear Bunch: Your letter from Vienna received, and glad we are to know that you and Alice are crowding the occasion with the joy of living.

On next year's trip Peaches and I hope to be with you, and what we'll do to Europe will be a pitiable shame. I met Jack Golden the other day, and he sends his kindest to you and Alice.

Jack says he's going to get married some of these days and do that Europe gag himself.

Can you imagine Jack with a thousand dollars' worth of blushing bride hanging on his elbow, hiking through Europe and stopping in at the Louvre occasionally to make faces at the paintings?

I can't.

If ever a bride drags Jack away from Stone Street she'll be the limit in ladies' dress goods, and that's no jovial outburst.

We are all well at home with the exception that some fresh friend told Aunt Martha that she was getting

and that she would have to stay there in a foreign land alone, among utter strangers, unless he sent a cab for her.

When Aunt Martha got home that night she found that all the flesh she had lost was her pocketbook with ten dollars in it, and Uncle Peter lost about ten dollars for cab hire, making a total of four pounds, English money.

A day or two later Mrs. Carruthers told Aunt Martha that the only sure cure for obesity was to take electric baths, so Uncle Peter had one rigged up which was a great shock to his pocketbook.

As soon as it was up Aunt Martha went inside of the frame-work and sat among the electric lamps with only her head out in the atmosphere for about two hours.

Then she came out smiling, and said she felt fine and that she must have lost ten pounds.

Uncle Peter peeped inside to look the bath over, and found that she had forgotten to turn the current on.

Next morning when Aunt Martha went after the electric bath Uncle Peter turned the current on himself to make sure, and when Auntie stepped in it she accidentally put her foot on an ohm or something, which tickled her so that she let a blood-curdling yell out of her that could be heard for 27 miles as the crowd dies. Then she put her other foot down, and that landed on a volt or an ampere or some foolish dingus which



"The Muscle Goods Arrived."

stout, and the old lady promptly fell for every obesity cure known to modern science.

Even at top weight Aunt Martha doesn't go over 154 pounds, but she got the idea in her head that compared with her Barnum's original fat lady was a pikerette, so she decided to go after that obesity thing with an ax.

We tried to flag her and talk her out of it, but she heard all back, and said she'd made up her mind she wasn't going through this world leading a double chin.

Well, Bunch, Aunt Martha started in to put the sabots to the fatty tissue, and for a week Uncle Peter's peaceful home across the road looked like a moving picture entitled "The Original Rough House."

First day out of the box Mrs. Grimshaw, who weighs 278 in her war-paint, told Aunt Martha that exercise was the only thing to keep down the weight, so Uncle Peter was chased off to town for a rowing machine, a set of Indian clubs and a proud assortment of deaf and dumb bells.

Presently the muscle goods arrived, and next morning about daylight Aunt Martha jumped on board the rowing machine and bore away to the north-west, with a strong ebb tide on the port bow.

She was about four miles up the river and going hard when a strap broke, whereupon Aunt Martha went overboard with a splash that upset most of the furniture in the room and knocked her manicure set down behind the bureau.

One of the cars went up in the air and landed on the bridge of Uncle Peter's nose, because his face happened to be in the way when the car came down.

When loving hands finally pulled Aunt Martha out of the interior of her rocking-chair, she found that, with the help of the rowing machine, she had lost nearly two pounds, mostly off the end of her elbow.

The next day Mrs. Cooper, who weighs about 246, told Aunt Martha that she wasn't using the best kind of physical torture, so Uncle Peter was once more chased off to the store, where he bought one of those rubber contrivances you fasten on the wall and then try to pull it off again with the handles.

Bright and early the next morning Aunt Martha grabbed the handles, and was getting away from her obesity at the rate of an ounce an hour, when suddenly one of the rubber strings broke and something kicked Aunt Martha just where a good singer gets her coloratura.

When Aunt Martha fell wounded on the field of battle every picture on the walls fell with her, and there was such a crash that the cook thought the end of the world was coming, so she ran screaming in the direction of Patterson, N. Y.

They had to pour about a bucket of water over Aunt Martha's map before she came to, and then she found that all she had lost by this new process was her breath and a couple of side combs.

Mrs. Gaddings dropped in that day and told Aunt Martha that the only way to reduce the flesh is to take a long walk; so Auntie picked out a long walk and took it.

After she was gone about six hours, and it was getting dark, she called Uncle Peter up on the long distance telephone and broke the news to him that she had walked 15 miles, and that she had been so extravagant she had used up all the walk that was in her,



"Could Be Heard 27 Miles."

caused Aunt Martha to become short-circuited.

Bunch, she was the shortest circuit that ever happened.

For a couple of minutes that room looked like a thunderstorm, with Aunt Martha playing the thunder.

When Uncle Peter finally got the current turned off and all the live wires out of her hair, Aunt Martha collapsed on the sofa, screaming: "Take it away! Take it away! Now I know what a hard life the third rail must lead!"

I think the electric treatment has cured Aunt Martha.

At any rate all the exercising paraphernalia has been thrown out in the back yard, and I think that now she will be perfectly satisfied to go through life leading a double chin as nature intended.

Yours in the current of friendship, JOHN.

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LAWYER NOT YET A BELIEVER.

Spiritualistic Friend Failed to Keep His Appointment.

A Cleveland man sentenced to be electrocuted on a murder charge was a strong believer in spiritualism. Whenever he talked with his lawyer he was either abusing him for not getting him acquitted or else arguing with him about spiritualism.

The lawyer never had believed in spiritualism, but he was open to conviction. The day before his client was to go to the death chair the lawyer made a proposition to him: "By this time-to-morrow," he said, "you will have crossed the mysterious river. You say it is possible for spirits to return. If you think you're so smart, just return and then I'll be convinced."

The client was a matter of fact sort of man. He readily agreed to the lawyer's plan. "If there is any way I can appear to you," he said, "you can bet your neck I'll do it. If I'm not on hand at the appointed time you can just make up your mind it's because there's nothing in spiritualism. But I'll come around all right."

The two decided on a time and place for the meeting. "I broke another engagement in order to be there," said the lawyer in telling of the experiment, "and waited around for more than an hour on the fellow, but the cuss never showed up."—New York Press.

Why He Escaped.

Two men who had not seen each other since they parted after an ocean voyage that was noteworthy for its roughness stopped to talk about the journey.

"Do you remember that particularly rough day on the Banks," one of the men asked the other, "when you were the only man who went to lunch?"

The good sailor allowed that he did. "Well, sir," pursued the other, "you never knew how near you came to death that afternoon. When Gillen and I saw you coming out on deck with a novel in one hand and a cigar in the other, looking disgracefully well, Gillen said to me: 'Any man who has the nerve to flaunt his ability to stand this rolling in the face of men as sick as we ought to be him overboard.' I agreed with him. But you escaped because neither of us was able to get up to do it!"

Woman's Limitations.

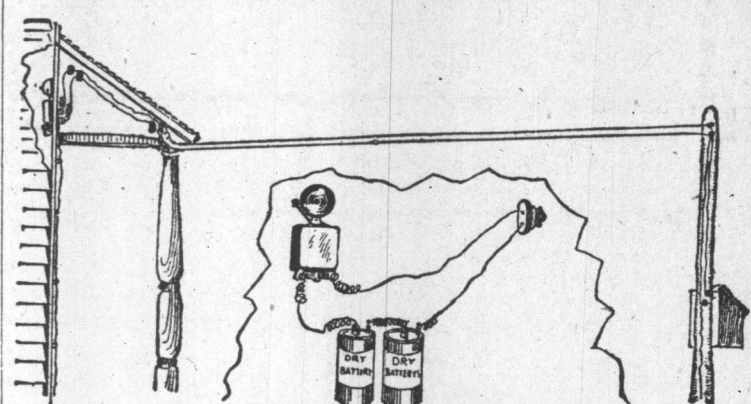
Any woman thinks she's capable of reforming a man, but when it comes to reforming herself she employs a dressmaker.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

WHEN THE POSTMAN DROPS YOUR MAIL

He Touches the Button, You Do the Rest.

The accompanying illustration represents an electric bell at the house which is connected with my mail box about 1,200 feet distant. When the carrier leaves mail for me he pushes the button which is inside the box and which rings the bell in the house, explains the satisfied possessor of this contrivance.

I used an ordinary electric door bell,



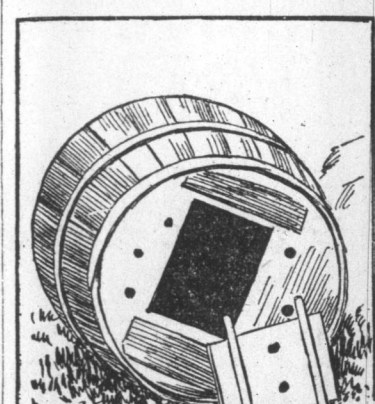
Bell Signal from Rural Mail Box to House.

dry batteries, a push button and telephone wire. If much wire is required I would advise the use of a lightning

FIGHTING THE PEST OF LICE

Of all the enemies of poultry these two, lice and mites, are undoubtedly the worst. They seem to be universal and found wherever poultry is kept.

The lice subsist on the feathers, and doubtless the epidermic scales. They are found largely about the head and neck, under the wings and around the vent. They must obtain moisture in some form and in order to do so will go either to the eyes, nostril or vent. Hens in good health and provided with a dusting bath will generally keep themselves free from this pest, but if

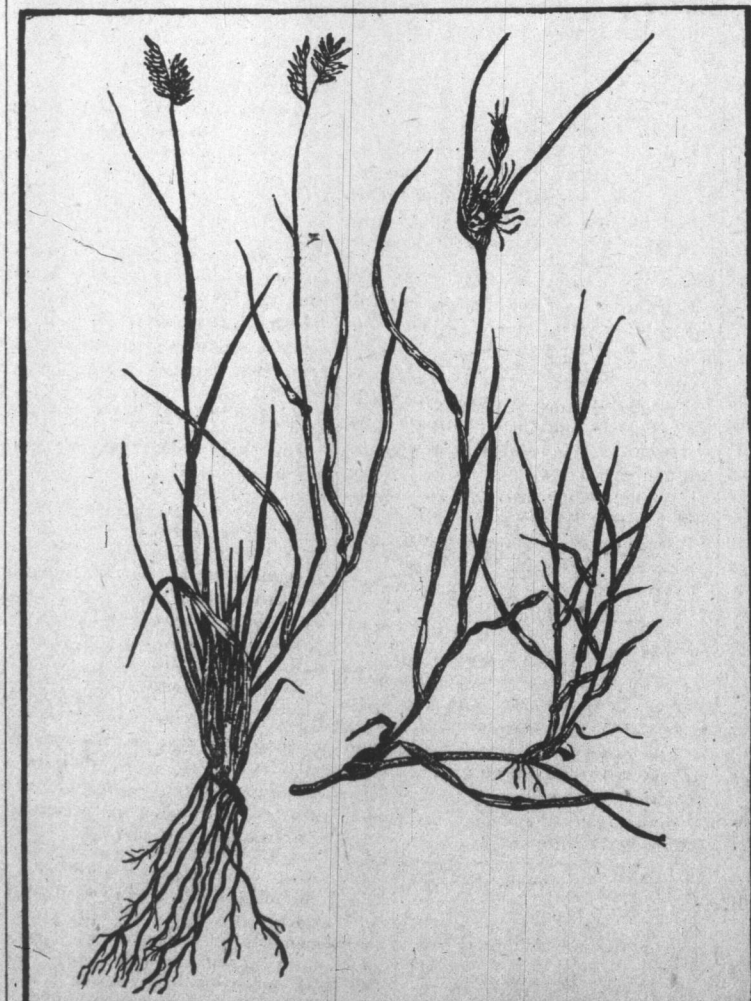


The Barrel Duster.

the fowls become debilitated, they will have to be assisted in ridding themselves of the nuisance. Dusting thoroughly around the neck, under the wings and about the vent with some good insect powder is the best remedy. The application should be repeated about three times at intervals of one week in order to kill those which hatch out. With young and growing chicks the work can be expedited by using the device as outlined in our illustration.

It is made as follows: Take an ordinary barrel and cut a hole in the head 8x10 inches. Place the chickens (about twenty-five half grown ones), in a barrel and sprinkle a handful of the powder over them, and then roll the barrel about for a minute or so. This has been found a very practical and effective method of getting rid of the lice.

Buffalo Grass a Famous Grass



This grass is known scientifically as *Bouteloua dactyloides*. It is the most famous grass growing in the west, as it is the grass on which have fattened millions of buffaloes and cattle. In the illustration a staminate plant is shown on the left and a pistillate plant on the right. It is chiefly abundant west of the Missouri river. As long as stock can get this food they will keep in good condition without any other feed. Its fattening qualities must be the ones that make it chiefly valuable, as the protein content is low, being about five per cent. on the air-dry basis.

TO GO WITH TEDDY

"BILL" McDONALD WILL ACCOMPANY ROOSEVELT TO AFRICA.

Latter First Promises to Come to Texas and Hunt Bear with Noted Ranger in the San Bernard Bottoms.

Austin, Tex.—Capt. Bill McDonald, the noted frontiersman and former Texas ranger commander, who visited President Roosevelt a few weeks ago, says that the president has promised him to come to this state on a bear hunt late this fall after the election is over.

Capt. McDonald spent three days as the guest of the president. He says that hunting in all its phases was discussed and that the president expects to get rare enjoyment out of his African trip. Capt. McDonald was invited by President Roosevelt to accompany him on his big hunt in Africa. The captain thought that would be too far from his Texan range, and at first he declined the invitation, but he has reconsidered and accepted. Arrangements for the African trip will be agreed on during the Texas bear hunt. The date of President Roosevelt's proposed visit to Texas has not been definitely fixed, Capt. McDonald says. It will be either late in November or the early part of December. It is probable that Col. Cecil Lyon, Republican



Capt. "Bill" McDonald.

national committeeman from Texas, and Sloan Simpson, postmaster of Dallas, both personal friends of the president, will be the only Texas men in the party, with the exception of Capt. McDonald and the necessary guides and cook.

Capt. McDonald says that the caney bottoms of San Bernard creek have been selected as the bear-hunting grounds. These bottoms are famous as the habitat of black bears. San Bernard creek is situated midway between the Colorado and Brazos rivers. The hunting territory is within about 15 miles of the Gulf of Mexico and covers an area of many thousands of acres. The canebrakes are almost impenetrable, and in order that bear hunting may be carried on, the sportsmen who visit the locality have to follow narrow paths which have been cut through the dense growth of wild cane.

Capt. McDonald has been making inquiries as to the hunting prospects in the San Bernard bottoms, and he is advised that bears are unusually plentiful and that they will be rolling fat by early winter. A space will be cleared in the very center of the canebrake and the camp of President Roosevelt and his party established there. Leading from this camp trails will be cut through the canebrakes in all directions. These trails will be followed in the hunt for bear.

Some of these bears are of enormous proportions and it is asserted by old hunters that unlike the ordinary black bears, they are courageous and will put up a fight if cornered. It is regarded as dangerous to hunt them in these narrow paths, but most sportsmen are willing to brave this element of danger in order to get a chance at the big game. Many narrow escapes are recorded of hunters who encountered bears in these trails. It is either kill the bear or be killed yourself when such a meeting occurs.

McDonald has been in the ranger service more than 25 years. Throughout Texas there is a superstitious dread of "Bill" among lawbreakers, for he and his 20 men move like the wind and as certainly as a bullet from his rifle.

The ranger is a very ordinary looking man. Six feet tall, slender in build, quiet in dress—but he has a fighting nose and dangerous steel-gray eyes. He is terribly bashful among strangers. He declares he has been utterly terror-stricken, his knees shaking under him, when a tourist aimed a camera at him.

Tales of McDonald's bravery are legion. His most recent exploit was restoring order in the Brownsville district.

Aftermath.

"We came to ask your forgiveness, father," said the bride who had recently eloped.

"Well, all right," replied the parent.

"But, father," came from the groom; "we had the automobile charged to you!"—Yonkers Statesman.

Almost Brilliant.

"Has Maud a light part in that new play?"

"I believe so. She comes on the stage in the last act with a candle!"—Baltimore American.

Even the Hash.

Embarrassed in the fashionable restaurant by the menu written in French, the Wall street man of business exclaimed:

"Hang these froids, entremets and hors d'oeuvres—bring me a plate of good plain hash, if you've got such a thing on the premises."

"You mean an olla podrida, sir," said the waiter, in a tone of dignified reproach. "And afterwards?"

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The Modern Mother.

Madam (to the nurse maid, who has just brought home her four children from a walk)—Dear me, Anna, how changed the children look since I last saw them! Are you quite sure they are the right ones?—Flegende Blaetter.

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There is nothing little to the really great in spirit.—Dickens.

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For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. See all Druggists.

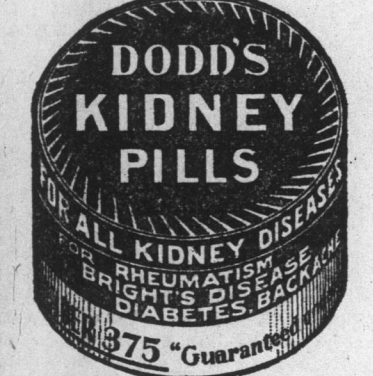
He has no force with men who has no faith in them.

It cures While You Walk Allen's Foot-Paste for corns and bunions, hot, sweaty, itching, scaling feet. See all Druggists.

It's easy to get tangled up in truth's castoff clothes.

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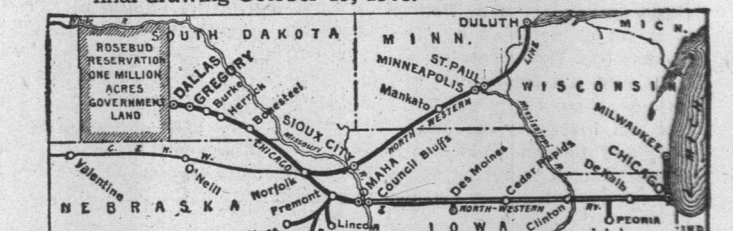
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BEST REACHED FROM DALLAS
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The Chicago & North Western Ry. is the only all-rail route to the reservation.

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