OUR COMIC SECTION

How Germans Protect Bee Hives.

How the Honey Bee Lives and Performs His Very Important Duties

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

LITTLE does the average layman know of the active life of the honey bee which in summer is conspicuous flying from flower to flower, bearing pollen that plants may blossom and bear fruit in season.

The young queen bee, a few days after leaving the hive in which she has been born, selects a day for her wedding flight. She usually chooses a clear, warm, quiet day because her honeymoon is short, and she must make the most of it. Only when she leaves the hive with a swarm, probably a year hence, will she have another occasion to fly.

Mating always takes place on the wing, and if conditions are such that the queen cannot fly she will die a virgin. The strongest drone is her mate, for the queen is a good flyer, and the weak are thus eliminated in this wise provision to maintain the strength and vigor of the race.

Before the queen has had time to return to the hive after the mating flight, the drone will have fallen to the earth dead.

Because of her specialized duties and the fact that she does not engage in outside work and is not subject to the hazards of weather and enemies that might prey upon her, the queen may live to the ripe old age of three or four years. When she becomes too old, or when she can no longer produce queen and worker bees, or if she becomes accidentally crippled, the bees will raise another queen to replace her and for a while both mother and daughter may work side by side in the hive. But this arrangement does not last long. The old queen will shortly disappear.

The marked differences between the queen and worker bee, both of whom come from the same kind of fertilized egg, have already been mentioned. Their difference in behavior is even more pronounced. The worker bee is armed with a straight sting, the end of which is barbed like a harpoon. When a worker bee stings, it cannot disengage its sting. The violent effort of tearing itself loose from the well-anchored sting so severely damages the tissue of its body that it dies within a few minutes. Normally it can sting only once.

When Rival Queens Battle.

The sting of the queen, instead of being straight and barbed, is smooth and curved. It is constructed so that it can easily be withdrawn when she uses it. The queen seemingly does not realize that she possesses this very effective weapon.

She may be picked up and handled as harmlessly as a kitten.

If the queen gets into the wrong hive in returning from her mating flight, a royal battle is sure to ensue, and the two queens fight it out until death comes to the weaker.

If the queen used her sting indiscriminately, she might easily lose her life in meeting an enemy with which she could not cope. If she were being handled by her keeper and attempted to free herself by stinging him, he might instinctively retaliate by crushing her frail body. Should he do so, it would jeopardize the future life of the colony, especially if there were no larvae in the hive from which a successor could be raised. For her protection therefore, she depends upon her own daughters or sister workers, who far outnumber her and whose sacrifice is not so fatal to the well-being of the colony.

The drone usually is regarded as a lazy individual, but, after all, he is the father and is entitled to certain respect. He gathers no food, nor does he help defend the family; he has no tools to collect sweets nor has he a sting to defend even himself. During his brief existence, however, he has certain privileges not accorded his sisters. He can safely visit neighboring colonies. Neither workers nor queens are accepted in other hives, but during the breeding season drones are allowed to come and go as they please.

Know One Another by Smell.

When the breeding season is over, and the honeyflow comes to a close, the bees become more economical with their food supply, which must carry them through the long, cold winter. Then they drive all the drones from the hives, thus dooming them to perish soon for lack of food and shelter.

The person who can recall the names and faces of several hundred acquaintances is unusual; yet in a family of 80,000 individuals the bee instantly recognizes every member. It is evident that recognition is not through the sense of sight; instead, it is effected by the more highly developed sense of smell.

Every colony has a distinctive family odor, different from that of every other colony. If a strange bee attempts to enter a hive, the guards at the entrance detect its alien odor and drive it away. When a colony is divided into two parts, the parts placed in separate hives and given queens that are sisters, the bees in each half develop different odors. Within a week's time they become total strangers to each other. Were the halves united again, the bees would disregard the existence of any relationship.

It sometimes happens that a beekeeper unites two or more colonies, which separately are too weak to produce a crop or to survive a hard winter. The usual method is to place one hive on top of the other, inserting a sheet of newspaper between them. The bees from both sides gnaw small holes in the paper, and, in doing so, they "rub noses," but the holes at first are not large enough for the bees on either side to engage in combat. The apertures permit the mingling of the odors of the two units, so that by the time the holes are large enough for the bees to pass through, the two parts have an identical odor. Thus union takes place peacefully.

If it becomes necessary to place a new queen in a colony, it is essential that she be properly "introduced." The old queen is removed at least an hour before the newcomer is "presented." In this interval the colony discovers that it is queenless and it may start constructing new queen cells.

Even though the colony desires a queen, it would not do to release the usurper, because her strange odor would antagonize the bees and endanger her life. She is placed in a wire cage to protect her from assaults. Although her new subjects would kill her were she suddenly released, they feed her by inserting their tongues through the meshes of the wire.

Must Store Food for Winter.

Honeybees help perpetuate their race by their insatiable desire to gather nectar. Unlike bumblebees, hornets, yellow jackets, and wasps, honeybees cannot live from hand to mouth. They must store enough food during the summer to keep the colony alive throughout the winter. Of the four other insects just mentioned, all the individuals in each colony die at the approach of winter except the young mated queens, and these simply crawl into protected places where they hibernate. During this period they require no food.

Among honeybees, only the drones die in the fall. The queen and the workers live and are semi-active throughout the winter. It is important, therefore, to gather enough food during the summer to maintain the colony during seasons when insect activity largely ceases.

At the end of the swarming season, which coincides with the height of the breeding season, the queen lays fewer and fewer eggs until fall, when the rearing of the brood entirely ceases. Cold weather has overtaken the colony by this time, imposing changes in its organization to cope with low temperatures. Individual honeybees die of chill at temperatures well above freezing; in fact, they seldom fly when the temperature is lower than 45 degrees Fahrenheit.

Crochet Her a Chic Little Dress

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

ONE, two, three!—here they are, a trio of pretty little crocheted frocks worn by a trio of pretty little girls as pictured. And do little folk of feminine gender love the dresses that doting mothers and big sisters crochet for them! Well, just show this picture to wee daughter or sister or niece or little girl neighbor and we wager that their opinion on the subject will make elders seek crochet hooks, yarns and books of instructions instanter, forthwith and without delay.

These stunning frocks are supposed to be party dresses—that's the way the designers thereof listed the way the designers, but for our part charming as any one of them would be to wear to a party, we believe your little girl will be wanting to wear her crochet dress every day. Why not? The idea of general wear will be found perfectly practical, workable and demonstrable for it is crocheted of fast dye mercerized cotton yarn that washes like new and is so much easier to launder than a dress that has to be ironed each time. Serviceable, too —almost no wear-out to it!

Speaking of smart styling in crochet fashions for little folks, never have professionals paid so much attention to this angle as during recent years. The result speaks for itself in the three models pictured. There is the charmingly styled princess worn by little Miss Six-Year-Old (possible she may be seven); anyway the dress shown to the left reaches a new high in sweets so far as children's fashions are concerned. It is crocheted of mercerized cotton, and we leave it to you to visualize it in the color your little girl happens to like best. It has puff sleeves as stylish as can be and is buttoned all the way down the front with crocheted buttons of a smartest mode. It really does not take long to crochet this dress and it is delightful pick-up work to inspire you to "improve each shining hour."

Little Two-Year-Old, who stands centered in the foreground, has on a fluffy-ruffle type of dress with bows on the shoulders and a ribbon run through the waistline of the very full skirt. It is just the sort of be-ribboned dress that makes an adorable child look more so. Why not make two of 'em, one for Sunday-go-to-meetin' dress and one for everyday service?

Party days for a small girl mean ribbons and lace, cambric tea and ice cream and cake. What could be nicer to wear at such festive times than the lacy dress which the cunning youngster to the right is wearing? It is crocheted of delicate mercerized cotton quite to this miniature queen's taste, you may rest assured. It will also prove a boon to mother for it is dependably serviceable for all its fragile appearance, will wash, of course, and all that has to be done is to pull the lacy crochet into shape here and there carefully with your fingers —doesn't require the least mite of ironing.

Here's a suggestion or two to mothers who are making over dresses for little daughter's play

To all appearances much is "going black before the eyes" of fashion. At any rate there is nothing in the way of a frock so outstanding in early fall style showings as sleek black gowns of either gleaming satin or of slinky, slenderizing, flattering-to-the-figure jersey which may be either a pure silk weave or of synthetic texture. The vogue for this type of frock is pronounced. Deft drape effects predominate in the fashioning of these stylish all-black gowns somewhat after the manner pictured. Top them with a all draped toque or one as shown.

NEW SLEEK BLACKS

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

NEW FABRIC TRENDS FOR AUTUMN SEASON

Trends in the silks and rayons which Paris designers have prepared for the fall costume collections:

New plain silks have a softer, more velvety touch, a duller surface than before.

Rayons of intricate weaving are dull, pebbled, "crushed," have fine matelasse patternings. Ottoman cribs, plain or fancy, and many novelty surfaces obtained by uneven yarns.

Serge or twill weaves appear in delicate silks or rich metals.

Neon lights have inspired a whole group of fabrics made with colored metal yarn, also new changeable, moiré, cashmere and jewel effects using the same colored metal.

Novelty velvets are made with pile that is combed to roll and has only a medium luster. Also with printed gold backs or satin backs. Velvets are printed in floral and patterned or quite plain, elaborate in texture and often have small Paisley, Directoire, Empire motifs and Eighteenth century designs.

Capes Replace Jackets in Early Ensembles for Fall

First autumn ensembles often replace coats or jackets by capes, and are trimmed with sleek, flat furs. One such is Martial and Armand's three-piece costume of brown wool, already ordered by several smart women. The skirt features front fullness and is topped by a leopard girl which shows beneath a hip-length circular case of the brown wool finished with a tiny fat collar of leopard skin that is knotted under the chin.

Pleats for Autumn

Autumn will be a season to wear box-pleated numbers with built-up waistlines, and the newest manner of raising a waistline is to build the skirt up at the sides only.

Want to Become "Famous"?

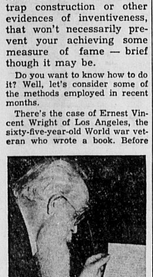
By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

WOULD you like to be famous? Would it give you a thrill to have your picture printed in thousands of newspapers all over the United States and perhaps have the newsreel cameramen knock at your door and ask you to say a few words while they cranked away at their machines? Would it give you satisfaction to have people nudge each other and remark in a low tone, as you passed by, "Look! There's Joe Dokes. He's the fellow, you know, who . . ."

If your answer is "Yes" to all those questions, it's not difficult, you know, for you to attain any or all of those ambitions. You remember the saying, often attributed to Emerson, about building a better mouse-trap and having the world beat a path to your door. But even if you have no "feel" for mousetrap construction or other evidences of inventiveness, that won't necessarily prevent your achieving some measure of fame — brief though it may be.

Do you want to know how to do it? Well, let's consider some of the methods employed in recent months.

There's the case of Ernest Vincent Wright of Los Angeles, the sixty-five-year-old World war veteran who wrote a book. Before



ERNEST VINCENT WRIGHT—He wrote a 50,110-word novel without once using the letter "e" in it.

doing it, he tied down the "e" key on his typewriter and never once used it in writing all the 50,110 words in his novel. That feat not only put his name and picture in all the newspapers but also won for him a chance to speak over the radio. And, of course, when he did he was very careful to avoid using words which contain an "e."

Then there's the case of Dr. Thomas H. Staggers, mechano-therapist of Cleveland, Ohio, who worked steadily for two days and succeeded in piling up a tower composed of 3,585 matches on the mouth of a beer bottle before a visitor, coming into the room with a heavy tread, caused the tower to collapse. Of course a variation on this piling matches up on a bottle is an old parlor trick which many a hostess has suggested when her party begins to "go dead." But it remained for Dr. Staggers to make a bid for fame with it. Immediately, dozen people in various parts of the country tried to beat his record and for a time match-piling-up was a popular fad. I don't know who finally won the "title" of "champion" in performing this feat (although I'll probably hear from others who beat Dr. Staggers record because I haven't also mentioned their names). But, after all, does it matter?

Ends Fast on Forty-Third Day.

Consider, next, the case of Jackson Whitlow of Stooping Oak, Tenn., who declared "a command from God" and started to fast. For more than a month he abstained from food of all kinds while the world waited breathlessly each day to learn how he was enduring the self-imposed test of his endurance — at least, the amount of newspaper space devoted to the fast and the pictures of him (sent by wirephoto) gave the impression that the world was waiting breathlessly.

When the fast of this "man who talked with God" ended on the 43d day because "the Lord has told him to eat" physicians were quoted as saying that it was "one of the most remarkable cases in medical annals." Evidently they had forgotten some of the other fasters who had "hit the headlines" in years gone by.

For instance there was Dr. Henry S. Tanner of Minneapolis, Minn., who, back in 1877, amazed the doctors by fasting for 42 days when they had declared that 10 days was the limit. Again in 1880 he staged a 40-day fast which attracted as much attention and got, if anything, more newspaper space than did Whitlow's this year. Next he challenged all comers to meet him in a $10,000 fasting contest in which each contestant was to receive daily a gallon jug of pure spring water but no food. The one who held out longest was to win the contest and the ten thousand.

The Champion Faster.

But, such was the fame of Dr. Tanner as a faster, that he could find no one to take up his challenge. Later he went to California where he inspired a colony of fasters to follow his example. Several of them made remarkable records—all the way from 41 to 49 days. But the champion was Mrs. A. H. Wiseman of Los Angeles who fasted for 54 days and by doing so reduced her weight from 230 to 226 pounds. Of course, the all-time record for abstaining from food was that made by Terrence MacSwiney, the Irish patriot, who fasted for 63 days back in 1920. But, strictly speaking, his isn't a "record" for he died as the result of his abstinence.

So if you are thinking of becoming famous by hanging up a new record in fasting, better think twice before you start. For there are other—and safer—ways of doing it. You might make something bigger—even though not necessarily better—than has ever been made before. Take a tip from Louis Waynal, a Los Angeles carpenter, for instance. Last year the newspapers carried pictures of him displaying what was said to be the "largest Bible in the world." Its pages were three feet wide and three feet long and, using a hand-stamping machine which he constructed himself, he stamped into each of its 8,048 pages every separate letter, symbol and punctuation mark in the huge book was bound with metal and its weight was 1,094 pounds.

He Won at "Chin Golf."

Just recently J. O. Whipple, Jr., of Princeton university received a silver cup for winning the first intercollegiate chin golf (shaving) contest in New York. Students from various eastern universities reported at the place and various materials and tools with a 24-hour growth of whiskers on their faces. As in golf, the least number of strokes on the razor was to decide the winner. Whipple won with 31 strokes, no cuts and no penalties.

All of which indicates that there's a great variety of ways in which you can become "famous" if you so desire. In fact, there are so many different ways that they might even be subdivided and classified in some such ways as this (A) those who are . . . (B) those who do something; and (C) those who don't do something.

Those Who Are.

The (A) group might be subdivided according to age as to "the oldest" and "the youngest." For example, Albert A. Cole of Portland, Maine, woke up one morning to find himself famous and his picture in the papers as the oldest active grocer in the United States because he was eighty-four years old and had served continuously as a retail grocer for 73 years and eight months. Clear across the country, in Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. Abagail Leffingwell was being publicized because she was "ninety-eight years young," had just had a permanent wave.

As for the "youngest," there was little ten-year-old Warren Repelje of San Gabriel, Calif., who operates his own model airplane supply store in his home and, when he received his membership in the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, became the "youngest commerce body member."

Pictured also in the newspapers about that time were Kennard E. Goldsmith, twenty-three-year-old mayor of Portsmouth, N. H., said to be the youngest municipal executive in the United States."

The Child Bride.

But the fame of these was as nothing compared to that of the nine-year-old girl down in Tennessee who became the bride of a twenty-two-year-old man and who was pictured holding in her arms her husband's wedding gift —a doll. For a time her name was on the lips of millions of people. Of course, you remember it! What! You don't? It was Eunice Winstead. It's Mrs. Charlie Johns now.

The caption over a picture of Mrs. Inez Swanson of Los Angeles told of her distinction. "12 Times Married" it said and beneath the picture was a story telling how she "exhibited as proof of her marriage certificates and boasted 'I ain't never buried a husband yet.'"

Compared to Mrs. Swanson, James Masse of Goderich, Ont., is a novice in the matter of marriage. He has been married only once but his picture appeared in the papers with "15 of his 21 children." It was taken "shortly after the birth of his twenty-first child" which accounted for Mrs. Masse's absence from the photograph. But at least she can share in the distinction suggested by those lines which were printed under the picture: "Every one of the children born to the couple is still living either at home or within a few miles of his birthplace. According to the father, all 21 are alive and there is not a bad leg or a crooked eye in the whole bunch! All are healthy and sound.' This is believed a record for a family living on the American continent."

Those Who Do.

So much for "those who are." Now for some typical examples of "those who do." There was Mrs. Edna Mae Potter of Los Angeles who consumed 45 pounds of roasted chicken and dressing and defeated four men for the title of "chicken-eating champion." Her technique, illustrated with a photograph, was described as the "two-handed harmonica style." Then there was Miss Reva Whitcomb who "was declared champion pastry cook of New York state in competition at Rochester recently."

But "those who don't" are even more interesting than "those who do," especially if they don't obey all of the multitude of laws which have been passed to regulate human behavior.

NRA "Martyrs."

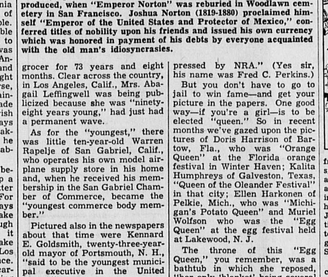
You recall the days of the NRA code and the Blue Eagle? So, of course, you remember the names of those poultry dealers in Brooklyn who defied the NRA, carried their case to the Supreme court and not only won it but also won fame throughout the country. (If you don't, they were the Schecter Brothers). Then there was that bakery dealer in York, Pa., who not only defied the NRA but went to jail for 18 days, was fined $1,600 and was hailed from one end of the country to the other as the "prime symbol of the little man oppressed by NRA." (Yes sir, his name was Fred C. Perkins.)

But you don't have to go to jail to win fame—and get your picture in the papers. One good way—if you're a girl—is to be elected "queen." So in recent months we've gazed upon the pictures of Doris Harrison of Bartow, Fla., who was "Orange Queen' at the Florida orange festival in Winter Haven; Kalita Humphreys of Galveston, Texas, "Queen of the Oleander Festival" in that city; Ellen Harkonen of Pelkie, Mich., who was "Michigan's Potato Queen" and Muriel Wolfson who was the "Egg Queen" at the egg festival held at Lakewood, N. J.

The throne of this "Egg Queen," you remember, was a bathtub in which she reposed, "her only 'blanket' being several dozen eggs."

As a matter of fact, you don't have to be a girl to be chosen a "queen" for the caption over the picture of a smiling baseball player in the newspapers not so long ago was "Chosen Beauty Queen" and the story said: "Mitzie

Paying tribute to one of the queerest characters America ever produced, when "Emperor Norton" was reburied in Woodlawn cemetery in San Francisco, Joshua Norton (1819-1880) proclaimed himself "Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico," conferred titles of nobility upon his friends and issued his own currency which was honored in payment of his debts by everyone acquainted with the old man's idiosyncrasies.



DR. THOMAS H. STAGGERS—He succeeded in piling 3,585 matches on the mouth of a beer bottle.

MARK M. SANDERSON of East Ellsworth, Wis., putting the finishing touches on the tombstone he built for himself.

'Way Back When

By JEANNE

FARLEY WAS ONCE A BOOK-KEEPER

NOT everyone can be an individualist and blaze his own trail to fame. Some of us are better fitted for falling into line as part of an organization. James A. Farley's rise in politics is an example of the rewards which may come to the good lieutenant.

Farley was born in 1889 in Grassy Point, N. Y., a small village on the Hudson river. There were five children, and the father was a saloon keeper. When Jim Farley was ten years old, his father died and his mother started a combination saloon and grocery store. The boy often tended bar or worked as grocery clerk on the other side of the store. Through these jobs he learned to meet the public, be friendly with strangers, and show sympathy for their problems. He attended the Stony Point high school and the Packard commercial school in New York. Graduating in 1906, he was employed as a bookkeeper. Jim was always interested in politics; and, before he was old enough to vote, he called house-to-house, getting out the Democratic vote in Stony Point.

His first political job was as town clerk of Stony Point. He was courteous to all, jolly, a hale-fellow-well-met sort of man who had a pat on the back for everyone. Through Alfred E. Smith, whom he helped elect governor of New York, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, for whom he was faithful lieutenant in the Presidential campaign, Farley forged steadily ahead. He won the top political plum in the United States, postmaster general.

• • • •

POET WAS ONCE A LAWYER

READ this story of the conventional lawyer who became one of our most famous poets. Not a dreaming, unsuccessful lawyer, but a man with a profitable and important law practice, important enough to associate with Clarence Darrow at one time. A busy man of commerce who became a writer of songs and poems, sonnets, essays and drama!

Edgar Lee Masters was born in the little town of Garnett, Kan., in 1868. His father was a descendant of old Virginia stock; his mother, the daughter of Methodist minister and descendant of Israel Putnam of American Revolutionary fame. The family moved to Petersburg, Ill., and later to Lewistown, where Edgar was raised in the typically respectable atmosphere of small town America.

He did newspaper work for the local weekly, learned the printing trade, and studied law under his father, who was one of the leading lawyers in the state. In 1891 Edgar Lee Masters was admitted to the bar and practiced in partnership with his father. The following year he opened his own office in Chicago where he was a highly successful lawyer until 1920.

But even in high school, Edgar Lee Masters was interested in writing and he never forgot his ambitions. He contributed to the Waverly Magazine of Boston and the Saturday Evening Call of Peoria; he wrote poems for a Chicago newspaper. His first book, published in 1898, while he was struggling to establish a practice in Chicago, was called simply "A Book of Verses." "Songs and Sonnets" followed, but none of them attracted much attention until his "Spoon River Anthology" was published in 1915.

Those of you who lament your unexciting lives and yearn for opportunity, look at his dual personality, the poet who has won such high awards in the realms of modern literature.

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Here's Planned Prettiness

4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 years. Size 6 requires 2 yards of 35-inch material, plus ⅞ yard contrasting.

Pattern 1327 is designed for sizes 12 to 20 (30 to 38 bust). Size 16 requires 4¼ yards of 39-inch material, plus 3½ yards of cord for lacing. With long sleeves, 4⅞ yards required.

Send your order to The Sewing Circle Pattern Dept., 247 W. Forty-third street, New York, N. Y. Price of patterns, 15 cents (in coins) each.

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IF AUTUMN comes will you be left behind with faded summer frocks, Madam? No, no, many times no—that is, not if you will but accept this cordial invitation from Sew-Your-Own. It's the easy way to become frock queen of chic for yourself and your daughters, as well. So Madam, why not sew, sew, sew-your-own!

A Dutch Treat.

It isn't often mother gets a break (it's beauty before age, you know) but this trip she does. Sew-Your-Own has designed, especially for her, an all-occasion frock (above left) that's simply lovely to look at. If father's compliments have become a bit rusty from lack of use, this frock will bring them back to their former brightness. It's pretty in any fabric: gingham, silk crepe, rayon prints, percale, or sheer wool.

Sweet 'n' Simple.

It's a treat, too, for mother when she finds a dress for Little Sis that's as carefully planned as the captivating model above center. It gives the growing girl the fluffing out she needs in the shoulders, and the prettily flared skirt offers her graceful poise indoors, plus full freedom for activity out of doors. It's adorable with the collar and cuffs in white linen. It heightens the contrast of her luscious healthy suntan.

Chic for the G. F.

And a treat for all concerned is the frock (at right) that's designed for The Girl Friend. She may be collegiate, high schoolish, a stenog, steno, secretary, or even a lady of leisure, but whatever she is she'll look the part and prettier than ever in this attire. It's the new, novel, and easy to sew. It is undoubtedly the frock to wear when you're short, the time, and the place are important.

The Patterns.

Pattern 1372 is designed for sizes 34 to 46. Size 36 requires 4⅜ yards of 35-inch material.

Pattern 1987 is designed for sizes

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Have you ever noticed that in very hot weather your organs of digestion and elimination seem to become torpid or lazy? Your food ferments, gas causes belching, heartburn, and a feeling of restlessness and irritability. Perhaps you may have sick headache, nausea and dizziness or blind spells on suddenly rising. Your tongue may be coated, your complexion bilious and your bowel actions sluggish or insufficient.

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