

you came in?"

on your return?"

The girl turned her eyes to Vance

"I-I thought-she was asleep,"

all right. But perhaps-even then-"

in quickly. "By the by, did you

The nurse shook her head slowly.

"No. Everything seemed the

empty. I refilled it before going to

Vance looked up quickly. "And

"I didn't particularly notice that;

left it, for I remember a fleeting

sense of relief because Mrs. Gar-

CHAPTER XIII

Vance seemed profoundly puzzled

and said nothing for some time.

"How much light was there in the

"Only a dim shaded night-light

"In that case, you might con-

ceivably have mistaken an empty

bottle for one filled with a colorless

"Yes, of course," the nurse re-

turned reluctantly. "That must

have been the case. Unless . . ."

"Tell me, when did you discover

"Shortly before Doctor Siefert ar-

bottle when I was arranging the

"I think that will be all just now.

sorry. But you'd better not plan

Heath, who had been waiting in

the passageway for the girl's dis-

and that Floyd Garden had made

the necessary arrangements for the

"And what do we do now, Mr.

"Oh, we carry on, Sergeant,"

want to talk to Floyd Garden first.

Send him up. And call one of your

stairs yourself till he arrives. We

may get this affair cleared up to-

Footsteps sounded in the passage-

way, and Floyd Garden entered the

study. He appeared deeply shaken.

"I can't stand much today. What

feel," Vance said. "It was not my

intention to bother you unnecess'ri-

ly. But if we are to get at the truth,

we must have your co-operation."

"Go ahead, then," Garden mum-

"We must have as many details

as possible about last night. Did

Garden nodded cheerlessly "Oh

yes. Zalia Graem, Madge Weather-

"Was there any one else here?"

Garden took the pipe from his

"Zalia Graem. She came at half-

"Merely garnerin' facts," Vance

"About half an hour. They came

Vance returned the man's steady

"What time did your guests de-

"A little after midnight. Sneed

past eleven. Then we had another

"Miss Beeton had returned by

"Yes, long before that. I heard

"And after your guests had gone,

"I sat up for half an hour or so.

had another drink and a pipe; then

Vance lighted another cigarette.

and settled himself deeper in the

"To go back a bit," he said casu-

her come in about eleven."

your expected guests come?"

mouth and looked up swiftly.

past eight, I should say. Why?"

"We understand just how you

Vance was unusually serious.

removal of his mother's body.

Vance?" Heath asked.

do you want?"

by, and Kroon."

had gone out."

part?" he asked.

then, of course?"

what did you do?"

turned in.'

chair.

"No. that was all."

bled.

Then he glanced up suddenly.

room?" he asked.

by my bed."

fluid."

today."

den hadn't needed a dose of medi-

"Yes, yes. I know." Vance put

CHAPTER XII-Continued

"And have Miss Beeton's subsequent observations been helpful to before answering. you, doctor?" asked Vance. she said hesitantly. "Her color was

"No, I can't say that they have," Siefert admitted.

Vance was studying the tip of his cigarette. Presently he asked: "Has the nurse's presence in the notice anything changed-anything, house resulted in any information let us say, out of place-in the room, regarding the general situation here?"

"Nothing that I had not already known. In fact, her observations same to me. The windows and have merely substantiated my own shades were just as I had left conclusions. It's quite possible, too, them, and-Wait, there was somethat she herself may unwittingly thing. The glass I had left on the have augmented the animosity be- night-table with drinking water was tween young Garden and Swift, for she has intimated to me once or bed." twice a very strong suspicion that she is personally interested in Floyd | the bottle of medicine?" Garden."

Vance looked up with augmented but it must have been just as I had

"What, specifically, has given you that impression, doctor?'

"Nothing specific," Siefert told him. "I have, however, observed them together on several occasions, and my impression was that some sentiment existed there."

The nurse appeared at the door at that moment to announce the arrival of the medical examiner, and Vance asked her to bring Doctor Doremus up to the study.

"I might suggest," said Siefert quickly, "that, with your consent, it would be possible to have the medical examiner accept my verdict of death due to an accidental overdose of barbital and avoid the additional unpleasantness of an autopsy."

"Oh, quite." Vance nodded. "That Her voice trailed off. was my intention." He turned to the district attorney. "All things that all the medicine was gone?" considered, Markham," he said "I Vance asked. think that might be best. There's nothing to be gained from an autop- rived this morning. I moved the

Markham nodded in reluctant ac- table, and realized it was empty." quiescence as Doremus was led into the room by Miss Beeton. After a Miss Beeton." Vance glanced at the brief interchange of explanations girl sombrely and then turned and comments Doremus readily away. "Really, y' know, I'm deuced agreed to Markham's suggestion.

Doctor Siefert rose and looked on leaving here just yet. We will hesitantly at Vance. "You will not undoubtedly want to see you again need me further, I trust."

"Not at the moment, doctor." Vance rose also and bowed formally. "We may, however, communi- missal, came in to report that Siecate with you later . . . And, Miss fert and Doremus had departed,

Beeton, please sit down." The girl came forward and seated herself in the nearest chair, as the men went down the passage-

"I don't mean to trouble you un-

duly, Miss Beeton," said Vance; "but we should like to have a firsthand account of the circumstances surrounding the death of Mrs. Garden." "I wish there was somthing defi-

nite I could tell you," the nurse replied readily in a business-like manner, "but all I know is that when I arose this morning, a little after seven, Mrs. Garden seemed to be sleeping quietly. After dressing I went to the dining-room and had my breakfast; and then I took a tray in to Mrs. Garden. She always had tea and toast at eight o'clock. It wasn't until I had drawn up the shades and closed the windows, that I realized something was wrong. I spoke to her and she didn't answer me; and when I tried to rouse her I got no response. I saw then that she was dead. I called Doctor Siefert at once, and he came over as quickly as he could."

"You sleep, I believe, in Mrs. Garden's room?"

The nurse inclined her head. "Yes. You see, Mrs. Garden frequently needed some small service in the night."

"Had she required your attention

at any time during the night?" "No. The injection Doctor Siereplied indifferently. "And how long fert gave her before he left her after Miss Graem came in did Miss seemed to have quieted her and Weatherby and Kroon arrive?" she was sleeping peacefully when I went out-" a few minutes after Miss Beeton

"You went out last night? . What time did you leave the

house?" asked Vance. "About nine o'clock. Mr. Floyd Garden suggested it, assuring me that he would be here and that he

thought I needed a little rcst.' "Had you no professional qualms

about leaving a sick patient at such | round of highballs."

"Ordinarily I might have had," the girl returned resentfully; "but Mrs. Garden had never shown me any consideration. She was the most selfish person I ever knew. Anyway, I explained to Mr. Floyd Garden about giving his mother a teaspoonful of the medicine if she I shut up the front of the house and should wake up and show any signs of restlessness. And then I went out into the park."

"At what time did you return, Miss Beeton?"

"It must have been about eleven," she told him.

mother seems to constitute a somewhat crucial point in the situation. Did you have occasion to give her seen it before. dose of it while the nurse was

Garden drew himself up sharply and set his jaw.

"No, I did not," he said through his teeth. Vance took no notice of

change in the man's manner. "The nurse, I understand, gave you explicit instructions about the

was?" "In the hall." Garden answered with a puzzled frown. "Just out- hall. side the den door. I had left Zalia in the drawing-room and had gone to tell Miss Beeton she might go out for a while. I waited to help her on with her coat. It was then

mater woke up and was restless." "And when she had gone you returned to the drawing-room?"

"Yes, immediately." Garden still what I did. And a few minutes later Madge and Kroon arrived."

There was a short silence during which Vance smoked thoughtfully. "Tell me, Garden," he said at length, "did any of your guests en-

ter your mother's room last night?' Garden's eyes opened wide: color came back into his face, and he sprang to his feet.

"God God, Vance! Zalia was in mother's room!" Vance nodded slowly. "Very in-

terestin'. Yes, quite . . . I say, do sit down. Light your beastly pipe, and tell us about it." Garden hesitated a moment. He laughed harshly and resumed his

"Damn it! You take it lightly enough," he complained. "That may be the whole explanation." "One never knows, does one?"

Vance returned indifferently. "Car-Garden had some difficulty getting his pipe going again. "It must have been about ten

o'clock," he said at length. "The

mater rang the little bell she keeps

"I Saw That She Was Dead."

on the table beside her bed, and I was about to answer it when Zalia jumped up and said she would see what the mater wanted."

"And did you yourself go into your mother's room at any time during Miss Beeton's absence?" men; but stay on the job down-"No, I did not!" Garden looked defiantly at Vance.

> "And you're sure that no one else entered your mother's room during the nurse's absence?" "Absolutely."

"And who was it," Vance went on, 'that first suggested going home?' Garden pondered the question. "I believe it was Zalia."

Vance got up. "Awfully good of you, Garden, to let us bother you with these queries at such a time," he said kindly. "We're deuced grateful . . You won't be leaving the house today?'

Garden shook his head as he too stood up. "Hardly," he said. "I'll stay in with father. He's pretty well broken up."

Garden went morosely from the "Which of your visitors arrived

When he had gone Vance stood for a moment in front of Markham. eyeing him with cynical good-na-

"Not a nice case, Markham. As I said.'

He moved toward the window and looked out. "But I have things pretty well in hand. The pattern is together all the pieces, Markham- | here." all but one. And I hold that piece too, but I don't know where it goes. or how it fits into the ensemble." Markham looked up. "What's the

piece that's bothering you, Vance?" "Those disconnected wires on the buzzer. They bother me frightfully. I know they have a bearing on the brought in sandwiches about half- terrible things that have been going on here . . ." He turned from the window and walked up and down the room several times, his head down, his hands thrust deep into functionary who was received by his pockets. "Why should those the queen in audience described her wires have been disconnected?" he murmured, as if talking to himself. "How could they have been related to Swift's death or to the shot we heard? There was no mechanism. No, I'm convinced of that. necklace of exceeding fine jewels. After all, the wires merely connect Her gown was white silk all two buzzers . . . a signal

of communication . . ."

tor Siefert prescribed for your the door into the passageway and he stared at it as if it were something strange—as if he had never

"Oh, my aunt!" he exclaimed. 'My precious aunt! It was too obvious." He wheeled about to Markham, a look of self-reproach on his face. "The answer was here all time," he said. "It was simple-and I was looking for complexities . . . The picture is complete now, Markham. Everything fits. Those disconnected wires mean medicine before she went out. Will that there's another murder conyou tell me exactly where this templated."

He led the way downstairs. Heath was smoking gloomily in the lower

"Sergeant," Vance said to him. "phone Miss Graem, Miss Weatherby, Kroon - and Hammle. Have them all here late this afternoonsay six o'clock. Floyd Garden can she told me what to do in case the help you in getting in touch with them.'

"They'll be here, all right, Mr. Vance," Heath assured him.

"And Sergeant, as soon as you looked puzzled. "That's exactly have taken care of this, telephone me. I want to see you this afternoon. I'll be at home. But wait here for Snitkin and leave him in charge. No one is to come here but those I've asked you to get, and no one is to leave the apartment. And, above all, no one is to be permitted to go upstairs either to the study or the garden . . . I'm staggerin' along now. "I'll be phoning you by the time

you get home, Mr. Vance."

Vance went to the front door, but paused with his hand on the knob. "I think I'd better speak to Garden about the gathering before I go. Where is he, Sergeant?"

"He went into the den when he came downstairs," Heath told him with a jerk of the head.

Vance walked up the hall and opened the den door. I was just behind him. As the door swung inward and Vance stepped over the threshold, we were confronted by an unexpected tableau. Miss Beeton and Garden were standing just in front of the desk, outlined against the background of the window. The nurse's hands were pressed to her face, and she was leaning against couragement for the patient. Garden, sobbing. His arms were about her.

At the sound of Vance's entry they drew away from each other quickly. The girl turned her head her breath and, turning with a start, door into the adjoining bedroom. "I'm frightfully sorry," Vance give quick relief. murmured. "Thought you were

"Oh, that's all right," Garden reknow, is in an emotional upheaval all she could stand yesterday and as the salicylates. today, and when I found her in here she seemed to break down, and-put her head on my shoulder.' Vance raised his hand in good-

natured indifference. "Oh, quite, Garden. A harassed lady always welcomes a strong masculine shoulder to weep on. Most of them leave powder on one's lapel, don' y' know; but I'm sure Miss Beeton wouldn't be guilty of that . . . Dashed sorry to interrupt you, but I wanted to tell you before I went that I have instructed Sergeant Heath to have all your guests of yesterday here by six o'clock this afternoon. Of course. we'll want you and your father here, too. If you don't mind, you might

numbers." "I'll be glad to, Vance," Garden "Anything special in returned. mind?"

help the sergeant with the phone

Vance turned toward the door. "Yes. Oh, yes. Quite. I'm hopin' to clear this matter up later on. Meanwhile I'm running along. Cheerio." And he went out, closing more work and worry would prethe door.

As we walked down the outer hall to the elevator, Vance said to Markham somewhat sadly: "I hope my plan works out, I don't particularly like it. But I don't like injustice, either . .

We had been home but a very short time when Sergeant Heath telephoned as he had promised. Vance went into the antercom to answer the call and closed the door after him. A few minutes later he rejoined us and, ringing for Currie, ordered his hat and stick.

"I'm running away for a while, old dear," he said to Markham. "In fact, I'm joining the doughty sergeant at the homicide bureau. But I sha'n't be very long. In the shaping itself perfectly. I've fitted meantime, I've ordered lunch for us

"For Heaven's sake, Vance, what are you planning?

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Queen Elizabeth's Gowns Queen Elizabeth is said to have left more than three thousand hab-

its in her wardrobe when she died. including gowns, petticoats, kirtles, doublets, and mantles, some emmade of velvet and damask. A high dress as follows: "The queen had two great pearls in her ears with very big drops. She wore red false hair and a small crown. Her neck was uncovered and she had a huge . a bordered with white pearls as big took several deep inhalations on it, signal between upstairs and down- as beans. She wore a mantle of stairs . . . a signal—a call—a line blush silk shot with silver threads and a very long train." She is de-Suddenly he stopped his medita- scribed as "vain and effeminate. "The sleeping medicine Doc- tive pacing. He was now facing though brusque and masculine."

HOW ARE YOU TODAY

Chronic Arthritis.

ATHEN we see so many individuals crippled with rheumatism we may wonder what chance they have of living for any length of time. Unable to use certain joints, suffering more or less pain at times or all the time, the effect upon their appetite, digestion, bowel activity, and outlook on life is bound to affect their health and

length of life. Dr. H. A. Nissen, Boston, in the Maine Medical Journal attempts to standardize, at least roughly, the length of time the rheumatic or arthritic patient is likely to live. The clinical course of 500 arthritic patients was charted and ana-

lyzed. The cases where the arthritic or rheumatic symptoms had existed for less than five years were not included in this study. The duration of the rheumatic symptoms ranged from five to twenty years.

Dr. Barton

In any group of so-called arthritic patients 68 per cent (about 7 in 10) can be assurred of improvement. The remaining 32 per cent or 3 in 10 are the ones which Dr. Nissen states physicians should carefully study, keeping a careful record so as to be able to measure or compare the changes in the course of the arthritis.

Knowledge Worth the Effort.

This may mean patience and effort but the knowledge gained will be worth the effort expended if it proves to show the degree of arthritic disturbance, and what the fu- Feed Brood Sows Well ture holds out in the way of en-

It is only by this long patient effort that the physician can really know whether his care of the case has been good, bad or indifferent.

There is no question but the above to us with a sudden motion, and I advice is sound because when an could see that her eyes were red ailment is an old or chronic one and filled with tears. She caught such as arthritis, the patient, and the physician also, are apt to try half ran through the connecting various treatments for short periods of time in an endeavor to get or

The treatment of rheumatism or arthritis today consists of the removal of any infection (in teeth, turned, although it was painfully tonsils, sinuses, gall bladder, intesevident the man was embarrassed. | tine), diet-starch foods are cut "But I do hope, Vance, you won't down; application of heat in some misunderstand. Everything, you form followed later by massage; the moving or manipulation of the here. I imagine Miss Beeton had joints; and the use of drugs known

Thus with 7 out of 10 arthritic patients assured of improvement in their condition, and the other 3 in 10 receiving careful supervision and treatment, the outlook for length of time and enjoyment of life for arthritics is encouraging.

The Building-Up Foods.

In the early days of the automobile many of the women of the country and the villages cast covetous eyes on the sleek, well fed. well rounded women of the city who went by in the open automobiles of those days. "If those women had as much work and worry as I have they would not look so smooth, sleek and placid."

And today, we find that our women of the country and village, and even of the city itself are not at all anxious to look sleek, well fed and plump. In fact as two of every five of our adult population are believed to be overweight, it would seem that perhaps a little vent the increase in weight.

Naturally then for one who wishes to increase weight the main thought is rest, light exercise to induce appetite and prevent constipation, and a little extra food, rich in food value. "Rest, relaxation and fresh air are important parts of the day's schedule if the diet is to be successful in increasing weight."

However, despite the fact that a tendency to thinness or leanness seems to run in some families, many individuals are underweight because of some infected teeth or tonsils, chronic sinus infection or tuberculosis-that is, some underlying slow or low infection. Thus before going on a diet rich in calories (high caloric), a diligent search for the cause of the underweight should be made by a physician and dentist. If no infection can be found, then a diet 25 to 50 per cent richer than at present should be taken because underweight means a reduction of the reserves-energy reserves-of the body. An underweight cannot fight an illness or infection as well as if he were of normal weight, nor is he broidered with jewels and others capable of doing as much physical or mental work.

The idea of a rich or high caloric diet is to make sure that the food contains all the materials needed for the various tissues of the body, and to this is added a further amount of food to build extra tissue or to replace tissue that has been lost.

As mentioned before, starch and fat foods are the great energy givers, and proteids-meats, eggs, fish, cereals-are the great builders or rebuilders.

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Drainage of Farm Roads Is Benefit

Repairing Should Be Done Before Usual Work Has to Be Started.

By E. R. Gross. Professor of Agricul-tural Engineering, New Jersey State College.—WNU Service.

Timely repair is as necessary to farm roads as it is to farm equipment. And the best time to make repairs is before plowing and seedsowing become the farmer's principal concern.

Delay in making repairs to farm roads can be costly to farmers, as roads which are in bad condition hinder transportation and may be the cause of missing the opportunities of a favorable market.

Since water does the greatest amount of damage to roads, drainage should be the first consideration in their upkeep. Diverting the water to roadside ditches prevents erosion but these ditches will not eliminate sub-surface water which prevents a firm road bed. In low or level places, lines of tile two to two and one-half feet below the surface should be run parallel to the road. Having provided adequate drainage, the grade may be restored or even improved. The firm dry road bed thus established will resist much heavier traffic without breaking down.

Dragging will keep sand, silt or clay roads in good condition. Repeated at frequent intervals, dragging tends to harden the top layers, especially in clay soils. Thus a good, firm road may be maintained by proper draining, grading and adequate dragging. If a better type of road is desired, surfacing may be considered. Gravel, stone, a sand asphalt blanket or other surfacing materials may be used to advantage and for profit.

for Healthy Spring Pigs

To insure strong, healthy, vigorous pigs brood sows must be fed satisfactory rations during the gestation period, states H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husband-

man, University Farm, St. Paul. In sections where crops are nearly normal, the principal ration for breed sows will contain ground oats, just enough corn or barley to keep the sows in the desired condition, and some protein feed such as skimmilk or tankage.

If alfalfa hay is available, some of the second or third crop should be fed to the sows in racks at all times. The hay may be ground, too. Good quality red clover or sweet lover hay may be substituted for alfalfa. Where skimmilk may not be obtained, a protein mixture of 35 pounds of tankage, 35 pounds of soy bean oil meal, and 30 pounds of ground alfalfa meal may be fed in a self-feeder. Ground alfalfa will add to the bulk of the ration. With the above protein supplement, a mixture of two-thirds ground oats and one-third barley will make a satisfactory ration.

If barley is of malting quality, however, oats may be fed alone and the barley marketed in other channels. Added to the oats ration, however, should be two or three ears of corn each day.

Water and salt should be available at all times, and the sows should have sufficient exercise. Feeding them some distance from their sleeping quarters will provide the exercise.

Bracing Fruit Trees

Wind and ice and heavy crops of fruit often break the limbs of fruit trees, peach trees especially, and these should be braced. Wire is probably the best thing to use for this purpose and it should be padded to prevent the wire from cutting into the limbs. A good padding material is pieces of old automobile tires, and the best time to do this work is during the pruning operation. In pruning peach trees care should be taken to cut back the top branches. which are often difficult to reach; for unless this is done the lower branches will soon become weak what it takes. and slender and finally die. Eventually, this neglect will result in a "leggy" tree.—Missouri Farmer.

Origin of Broccoli

Broccoli was fairly well known in England about the second decade of the Eighteenth century. Three varieties were recognized at that time among which were a purple and a white heading type. In 1778 four varieties were cultivated in the British Isles. There has been some dispute as to the origin of the seed but it is commonly thought that the English seed was brought from Italy. For a while it was recognized as "Italian asparagus." The culture for broccoli is very similar to that for cauliflower.

Balanced Ration Pays

A comparison of a herd feeding a balanced ration and one feeding corn alone was made with the following results in the Linn No. 3, Iowa, C. T. A., writes Otto Bruns. tester, in Hoard's Dairyman. A herd that was fed a balanced ration was also fed according to individual production, and produced butterfat at a cost of 11.5 cents per pound. The herd that was fed corn alone had a production cost of 24.9 cents per pound, a difference of 13.4 cents per pound.

One Cold Spot

The coldest spot on the earth is not the North pole, nor even the South pole, which is colder still. The temperature drops lower in parts of Siberia and other regions of the world than it does at either

At Verkhoyansk, Siberia, a temperature of 90 degrees below zero has been recorded, while the lowest temperatures at the North pole are believed to be about 65 below zero. Temperatures of 73 and 77 below zero have been recorded on the Anarctic ice barrier but no winter figures are available for the high plateau around the South pole.

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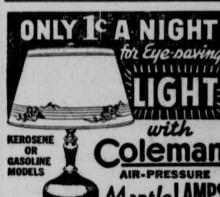
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Some Justification We love a boaster when he's got

How Your Nerves?



Sioux City, Iowa, said: "Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription was of wonderful benefit as a tonic to me both before and following childbirth. It stimulated my appetite, helped to calm my nerves and it strengthened me. Following childbirth there is nothing better as a tonic

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