

Deaf and Dumb—and Blind

By PAUL CALVIN ANDERSON

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When the tide is out at Palm Beach hundreds of hotel guests walk up and down the hard, wet sands. Others speed up and down in their autos. Others, still, sit on hired chairs and gaze out seaward and imagine they can hear the songs of mermaids.

On a certain day in the present twentieth century Philip Gillett was among those who walked. He was a young man at the beach with his mother and sister, and his occupation when at home in New York was preparing himself for architecture. He did that mostly by looking at one or two skyscrapers a day from the outside and spending \$500 per week allowed by his father. It was his father who had insisted that the young man take up architecture. There never had been an architect in the Gillett family, and he wanted one. He had a manor house, and he wanted a henery built, and he wanted to point to it after it was finished and say: "A Gillett did that!"

On this particular day Philip Gillett had toothache and he set out to walk it off. His sister had told him to hold a wad of cotton saturated with peppermint essence in his mouth, and to keep his mouth shut. He thought a good deal of his sister, and he was obeying her.

Toothache affects a person peculiarly—particularly a man. It gives him what is known as a grouch. He wants to stand on the beach and see a dentist drown in the sea. He isn't to blame, but everybody else is. And what made young Mr. Gillett crosser still was the fact that he had to chew cotton and keep his mouth shut. It was not dignified. It was taking undue advantage of a fellow.

Among those who motored that day were Miss Edna Blair and Miss Kitty Waldron, girl chums. They were in



Resorted to More Peppermint.

Miss Kitty's auto, and she was running it herself. After getting out of the crowd, and heading up the shore, they saw a young man half a mile ahead of them. He was scuffling along on the hard track and was in their path. The honk! honk! was sounded, but he paid no attention. He wanted to be run over and have that aching tooth smashed out.

The automobile passed him within two feet and in spite of himself he gave a jump and swallowed the peppermint-soaked wad of cotton. He then had to produce more cotton and more peppermint for his aching tooth.

Mr. Gillett's walk had extended two miles when he sat down on a hummock and resorted to more peppermint. His sister was right; it began to have a soothing effect! He began to feel glad that he was alive and away from the snow heaps of New York city. Just then he caught sight of the auto returning. As it drew near, he saw that Miss Edna Blair was passably good looking and that Miss Kitty Waldron was more so. The auto was aiming to pass him within a few feet, but that was all right. He reasoned that the girls desired a nearer view of the young man, whom they had so frightened, and he was right about it. They didn't seem to see him, of course, but that was false pretense.

And after that fate stepped in. The auto was exactly opposite Philip to an inch, and exactly six feet and one inch and a half away, when a front tire exploded with a bang. Two young ladies screamed. The auto ran wild until half buried in the sand. The young man was blown over on his back by the concussion and swallowed his wad of cotton for the second time in an hour.

He would have been less than human if he hadn't arisen with a face as red as paint and cross all the way through. He grabbed for his hat and might have gone running over the sand dunes had not a sweet and plaintive voice reached his ears: "Oh, sir, please do help us! We have burst a tire!"

Yes, he would help. As a gentleman he must do so; but he made up his mind to do no more. That is, he wouldn't speak a word to those girls. They had fed him on cotton, so to speak, and he would have his revenge.

He advanced and raised his hat. Then he inspected the tire.

"I hope you were not hit by one of the flying pieces," said Miss Kitty in her most ingratiating manner.

No reply.

"Will we have to walk back to the hotel?"

No answer.

"You see we have a spare tire here."

No answer.

Mr. Gillett owned an auto himself.

In fact, his mother and sister were down the beach in it at that very moment. He knew all about tires.

He took the jack from its place, and without motioning the girls to descend he went at it and had the tire replaced inside of 12 minutes. He might have done it in ten except for overhearing such observations as:

"Say, Edna, he must be deaf."

"Yes, deaf as an old tin pan."

"And he hasn't spoken a word. Do you think he's also dumb?"

"He looks it."

"Poor young man! It's just awful! He's got considerable style about him."

"Oh, I don't know. Wasn't it funny to see him go over on his back. If his hat hadn't blown off he'd have swallowed it!"

"Hush, you bad girl! I'll tell you what he is. He's a professor in some deaf and dumb school. And he owns an auto, too. See how handy he is. I wish we hadn't frightened him so."

"If we had scared him worse, he might have got his voice and hearing back. Think what it would be to marry a deaf and dumb man! Are you going to thank him?"

"Not in words, but I'll just look my thanks."

As Mr. Gillett finished and stood back and raised his hat the thanks were duly looked and the auto whizzed along. He followed at a slow pace. The toothache was all gone, but he had been humiliated. He had been made to jump aside like a kangaroo; he had been blown flat on his back; he had been made to swallow wads of cotton; he had almost been called names to his very face. No wonder he wouldn't speak to his sister for an hour after getting back to the hotel, and that his mother laid her maternal hand on his locks and said:

"Philip, I hope you won't go into a decline, as your grandfather did at this very place."

There is fate and there is revenge. Fate had come—revenge had to wait a day or two. Then the sister came running to Philip.

"Oh, Phil!" she exclaimed. "I've met just the nicest girl you ever saw! She's stopping at the Royal. I've invited her to take a spin in the auto, and you are to be chauffeur. I want you to meet her."

As the aching tooth had gone out of business and the world looked rosy again, Philip consented, though entirely to please the sister. They differed on the girl question.

It was only when they had rolled around to the hotel and picked up their passenger that Mr. Philip Gillett would have swallowed a whole roll of cotton batting had it been handy. She was the girl of the other auto—the girl who had looked her thanks—Miss Kitty Waldron!

Mr. Gillett tried to say things, and Miss Waldron did likewise, and the sister sat there and wondered if both of them had toothache. And when they got back at last and Mr. Gillett assisted Miss Waldron up the steps of the veranda, she turned to him to say:

"Sir, have you any explanations to make?"

"I have, and will call this evening to make them."

The explanations must have proven satisfactory, as an auto ride became a thing of daily occurrence thereafter, and the season had not yet closed when Miss Gillett put her arms around her brother's neck and murmured:

"Oh, Phil, I'm so glad—so glad! I just hoped you two would take each other, and now you have!"

A Spanking Chair.

Although the whipping post is a thing of the past, the principle is revised and modern form and judiciously applied is expected to work wonders in enforcing good behavior upon some of the worst offenders brought before the juvenile court.

A "spanking chair" has been set up in the basement of the juvenile home at Columbus, O., and Elisha Senris was the first to occupy it. He promised to be good for all time when he had been given a good "dressing," and he was instructed to relate his experience to other lads who have an inclination to be very, very naughty.

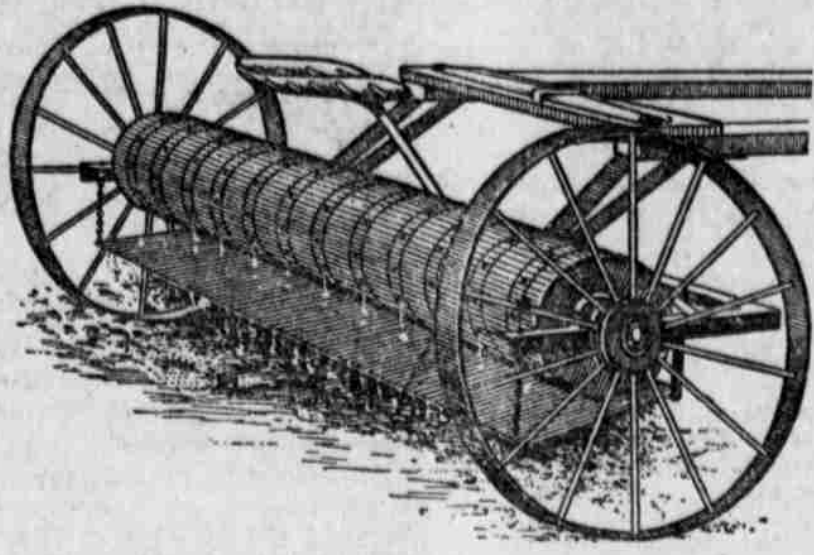
The juvenile court paddle consists of a long leather strap, wide and heavy, and it is bound with felt so that the edges will not cut or bruise the flesh. The paddle "stings right," but leaves no marks, and is much more humane than a switch or a slipper—and more effective.

But Lawyers Must Live.

It is impossible to see the long scrolls in which every contract is included, with all their appendages of seals and attestations, without wondering at the depravity of those beings of promise by such formal and public evidences.—Johnson.

QUICK RESULTS FROM APPLICATION OF LIME

Unless Acids Formed in Soil By Decay of Humus They May Accumulate Sufficiently to Retard Growth of Plants



New Style of Lime and Fertilizer Distributer.

(By W. B. ELLETT, Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station.)

When plants or the remains of crops decay in the soil, certain acids are formed, especially humic acid, from the decay of humus. Unless

less these acids are neutralized by a "base," such as lime, they may accumulate in sufficient quantity to become harmful to the growth of certain kinds of plants. Most cultivated soils are slightly acid and this condition is favorable for the growth of most crops. But plants excrete from their roots sufficient acids to secure this condition, usually, so the aim should be to keep the soil in a neutral or slightly alkaline condition. This can be done by the use of lime. It is only when a soil becomes very acid that crops do not thrive.

Muck and peat soils, which are made almost wholly by the decay of plants, are nearly always acid. But, strange as it may seem, some of the most acid soils of the United States are upland soils. This is because the rocks from which these soils were made contained very little of the "bases," and therefore the acids formed by the decay of plants grown upon these soils are not neutralized. Sandy soils, especially soils derived from granite, sandstone, slates and shales, are quite likely to be more or less acid. An application of lime to an acid soil gives immediate and marked results, because it makes the soil "sweet," and favorable for the growth of crops.

Quick or burnt lime, if not bought already pulverized by machinery (which is desirable), must be slacked before application. It should be water-slaked, not air-slaked. Although air-slaked lime may not be used, it must be remembered that air-slaking means that part of the quicklime is changed into the slower-acting carbonate of lime, hence a larger quantity of it must be applied than of water-slaked quicklime. If it is old air-slaked lime, it is nearly all carbonate, and no more valuable than ground limestone, hence twice as much should be used as of fresh water-slaked lime. One of the best ways of applying quicklime is to put it in a few large

piles in the field and slake it with water. About five gallons of water should be poured over each bushel of lime when it is emptied upon the pile, and the whole pile should then be covered with moist soil. After a few days practically all of the lime in the pile will be fine enough to spread easily, either in a grain drill with fertilizer attachment, or a lime and fertilizer spreader. It should be screened first, unless the distributor has a screen.

When a lime spreader is not available the burnt lime may be placed in 25 piles, of one bushel each, on each acre (when the application is one ton per acre). These piles may be either water-slaked or they may be covered with moist soil to a depth of three to three and a half inches. In a few days the lime will be sufficiently powdered and can be spread with a shovel. Quicklime may also be air-slaked by exposing it in piles to the air; but air-slaked lime is not as valuable as water-slaked lime, and is usually lumpy and hard to apply. A manure spreader can also be used for distributing lime if the bottom of the spreader is covered with chaff before being filled with lime. Quicklime that has been pulverized by machinery is now on the market. This form of lime should come into more common use, as it is much more convenient to use than lump quicklime. It can be used in the distributor, manure spreader, or drill, without previous treatment. But be sure it is fresh, and not at all air-slaked.

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One great advantage of the ground limestone or ground shells is that it is already in a condition to apply from the wagon, or in a lime spreader, fertilizer distributor, manure spreader, grain drill, or spread from piles with a shovel. It is also less disagreeable to apply, as it has none of the burning, caustic properties which make quicklime so disagreeable to handle. Ground limestone, however, does not distribute as readily from a lime spreader as slaked lime, being much heavier. It is perhaps best applied by hand from piles. A pile of 100 pounds each, 33 feet apart each way, will make an application of two tons per acre.

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