

YOU HAVE SIX EARS.

THE ORGANS OF HEARING ARE A WONDERFUL SET OF MACHINES.

They include Two Hammers, Two Anvils, Two Stirrups, Six Canals, Two Small Shells, Six Drums and Several Other Curious Utensils.

The hearing apparatus is far more wonderful than most people have the slightest idea of. It is a marvelous collection of instruments for receiving, magnifying and recording sounds or vibrations, as the learned term them.

What you do when you speak to a friend is to throw the air into vibration. Your vocal organs strike the air, and the impulses thus caused reach the trumpet shaped bits of flesh and gristle you call ears. You have altogether six ears.

The flaps which are stuck on to each side of the head are the outer ears. Besides these there are the middle ears and the inner ears, all of which lie in cavities in the bones of the head. All that the flaps do is to collect and concentrate the vibrating currents of air, so that they may strike the ear drums.

These latter are really the middle ears. The outer ear narrows as it enters the head and ends in a ring. A membrane is stretched over this ring, much in the same way as a piece of parchment is stretched over the head of a drum.

The ear drum is a true drum, for it can be tightened and slackened by means of levers made for that purpose. The tightening and slackening are done quite automatically to suit the various sounds.

This is how it is tightened: In the middle ear are four tiny bones, the most peculiar looking bones imaginable. The biggest is a little odd shaped bone called the mallet. It looks like a lilliputian version of a lobster's claw. Minute muscles are attached to it, so that it may act as a lever to increase or diminish the tension of the drum skin. One muscle relaxes the membrane, another pulls it taut.

The four bones form a chain to connect the drum skin of the outer ear with the drum skin of the inner and so to conduct the sound. The next bone to the mallet is the anvil, then come the spherical bone and the stirrup, which looks exactly like its namesake, but it is by far the most important of the four. By means of this alone one can hear, in a fashion, even if all the others be gone.

A bony, gristly tube joins the ear-drum with the back of the mouth at the side of the soft palate. Hence the four bones are always in a bath of air, quite naked, as it were. It is owing to this that people who are somewhat deaf are able to hear better when they listen with their mouths open.

Now we come to the inner ear, which is made up of three parts. The first one is called the vestibule, or hall, and it has a drumhead to which the chain of little bones is attached.

The hall leads to the other parts, both of which consist of tortuous tubes along which the sound passes. One part is made of three semicircular canals. The other is shaped exactly as a snail's shell. All these make up a peculiar labyrinth, and all are completely filled with a curious fluid. Their walls are lined with the soft, pulpy nerves of hearing which communicate with the brain. Owing to these complex and winding cavities, a great extent of nerves is exposed for the reception of sound.

Now let us see what happens when somebody says "Hear" to you. The air is thrown into vibrations, which spread out and until they touch the side of your head. There the fleshy flap on one side collects and magnifies the vibrations.

Down the ear funnel they pass until they reach the membrane of the drum of the ear. They strike on the membrane, which adapts itself to them. Then the vibrations are communicated, through the bones in the middle ear, to the membrane covering the entrance to the labyrinth.

If you keep your mouth wide open the air vibrations pass direct to the little bones. The impulses of the air are not interrupted by first having to strike the membrane of the drum; that is all the difference.

People could easily converse with their ears sealed up. If the two speakers each held an end of the same piece of hard wood against their teeth even the faintest whisper could be understood.

You will see from this that what are commonly called the ears are not essentially necessary to hearing, after all.

Well, however the vibrations are received, they finally strike against the membrane covering the entrance to the hall of the labyrinth. Thence they make the fluid which fills the labyrinth vibrate. These vibrations act on the fibres of the auditory nerve, the fibres which connect the inner ear. Along this nerve the impressions are communicated to the brain. In this manner the sensation of sound is produced, and you know that somebody said "Hear!" to you.

The Tepid Bath.
A tepid bath at about 90 degrees Fahrenheit, taken just before retiring, in a tub where the whole body except the face is immersed, is an excellent substitute for sleep, says Henry Bennett Weinburg in Perfect Health. To see exact, he says it is the only substitute known to science for nature's sweet restorer. "I have known cases of prolonged and chronic insomnia cured by this form of bath. Sleep, with the exception of the heart beats, was intended for perfect rest. The bath above named will come near enough producing this result to answer many months for sleep in cases of insomnia."



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HANGING THE PUMPKIN.

A Painting That Raised a Storm in the Paris Salon.

It is the duty of Louis Pretet, official picture hanger of the Societe des Artistes Francais, to distribute the canvases which annually comprise the Paris salon throughout the rooms of the Palais des Beaux Arts. The jurors are then summoned to examine his work and commend or condemn, as they see fit. The artists are at liberty to appeal to the jurors, and an influential artist can make trouble for the picture hanger. The Paris correspondent of the New York Tribune tells this story of Volton, one of the most famous living painters of still life.

Volton had painted what he considered as his masterpiece, a luxurious pumpkin, orange in color and heroic in size, such as one sees at an agricultural show. The jurors did not approve Pretet's choice of a place for it.

A second choice also was found for it and condemned.

By this time the legend of the pumpkin was being repeated in all the studios of Paris, and the leading artists began to look in at the salon to make sure that their exhibits were not being injured by an unfortunate contrast.

Bouguereau nearly fainted with horror on seeing the pumpkin not far from his pictures.

"Take it away at once!" he commanded. "It kills my little pink and white nymphs."

So the pumpkin was removed. But here Cormon objected. "It shall not stay in the same room with my pictures!" he declared. "It makes my lions and bears and tigers look like tame cats."

Tattegrain was the next to cry out. "Not near me! What becomes of the martial spirit of my canvases and what is the use of exhibiting starving garrisons with that large pumpkin next door?"

So the unfortunate painting was shifted about till it had passed through fifteen rooms, and not a member of the Societe des Artistes Francais would tolerate its presence. Finally Pretet placed the pumpkin in the entrance hall, officially termed "Salle d'Honneur" and popularly nicknamed the Chamber of Horrors. Volton has been his mortal enemy ever since.

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PURELY VEGETABLE, SWEET TASTE, NO HARM.
CURE SICK HEADACHE

OUR INSTINCT TO CHEW.

It Manifests Itself in Numerous and Curious Ways.

Seeing that the maxillary apparatus of man has for long ages past been put to vigorous use, it is not surprising that the need to exercise it should express itself as a powerful instinct. This instinct manifests itself in many and curious ways. During the early months of life the natural function of feeding at the breast provides the infant's jaws, tongue and lips with all the needful exercise. This bottle feeding fails to do, and we frequently find bottle fed children seeking to satisfy the natural instinct by sucking their thumbs, fingers or any convenient object at hand.

The teeth are a provision for biting hard foods, but even before they actually appear we find the child seeking to exercise his toothless gums on any hard substance he can lay hold of, and there can be no doubt that exercise of this kind tends to facilitate the eruption of the teeth, a truth indeed recognized universally, whether by the primitive mother who strings the tooth of some wild animal round the neck of her infant or the up to date parent who provides her child with a bejeweled ivory or coral bauble.

When the teeth have erupted, the masticatory instinct finds among primitive peoples abundant satisfaction in the chewing of the coarse, hard foods which constitute their dietary; but among us moderns, subsisting, as we do, mainly on soft foods, affording but little exercise for the masticatory apparatus, it does not find its proper expression, and thus tends to die out. Nevertheless it dies a hard death and never continues to assert itself. Witness the tendency of children to bite their pencils and penholders. I have known a child to gnaw through a bone penholder much in the same way as a carnivorous animal gnaws at a bone.

This instinct to chew for chewing's sake manifests itself all over the world. In our own country not only do children bite pencils and penholders, but they will chew small pieces of India rubber for hours together. The practice of gum chewing, so common among our American cousins, evidently comes down from faroff times, for the primitive Australians chew several kinds of gum, attributing to them nutrient qualities, and the Patagonians are said to keep their teeth white and clean by chewing matri, a gum which exudes from the incense bush.

CHINESE PROVERBS.

If the roots be left, the grass will grow again.

One lash to a good horse; one word to a wise man.

The gods cannot help a man who loses opportunities.

Riches come better after poverty than poverty after riches.

Dig a well before you are thirty. Be prepared for contingencies.

The error of one moment becomes the sorrow of a whole lifetime.

Borrowed money makes time short; working for others makes it long.

The gem cannot be polished without friction nor the man perfected without trials.

Large fowls will not eat small grain. Great mandarins are not content with little bribes.

A wise man adapts himself to circumstances as water shapes itself to the vessel that contains it.

The best thing is to be respected and the next is to be loved. It is bad to be hated, but worse still to be despised.

Mirrors.

The first record concerning mirrors dates back to the days of the venerable Moses, and they were made of brass. When the Spaniards landed in South America they found mirrors of polished black stone in use among the natives.

In the fifteenth century the first glass mirrors were made in Germany by a blowpipe, and were convex. The first manufactory of glass mirrors for sale was established in Venice early in the sixteenth century. In the reign of James I. men, women and children were looking glasses publicly, the men as brooches or ornaments in their hats and the women at their girdles or on their bosoms.

The First Skyscraper.

"The confusion of tongues in the tower of Babel must have been dreadfully annoying."

"Yes, indeed. Think of not being able to make the elevator boy understand what floor you wanted to get off at."

A New Arrival.

Newsed-I say, old chap, you ought to see the nine pound addition to our family that arrived last night. He's a peach.

Oldwed (the father of twins)-Well, you ought to be thankful he isn't a pair.

Somewhat Ambiguous.

Parke-I wish you would drop in to dinner on us any night.

Lane-But how do I know your wife would like to have me?

Parke-But she would feel exactly the same about it if it was any one else.

Time's Slower Stages.

Muggins-Men live faster than women.

Buggins-That's right. My wife and I were the same age when we were married. I'm forty-five now and she has only turned thirty.

Still More Untimely.

"Do your neighbors sing the latest songs of the day?" asked the landlord.

"I shouldn't object to that," answered the sad eyed tenant; "their specialty is the latest songs of the night."-Washington Star.



LOSS OF APPETITE

If your stomach is upset or in any way out of order-if food seems distasteful to you-if acidity, burning or fullness of the stomach prevents you from having an appetite-if you wish to eat and eat well-take, before each meal, a wine glassful of

VIN ST MICHEL

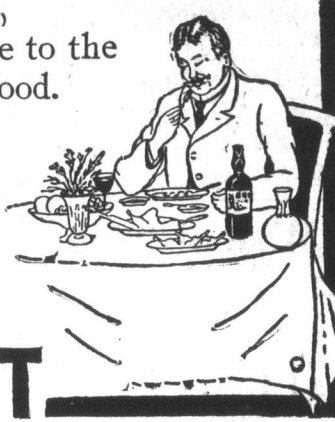
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It will create an appetite and restore to the palate that lost relishing taste for food.

It will make the digestive organs act naturally and properly digest the food eaten, whether your stomach is in good order or not. No matter if you are young or old, sick or healthy

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We are offering Twine for the corn harvest at the following prices, payable Oct. 1st, or 1 1/4 per cent. off for cash:-

600 feet pure Manila at 11c. per lb.

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