

WOODEN HOUSES

will they last?

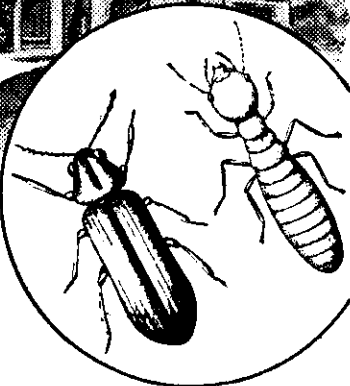


There is no reason why a wooden house should not last for a century. Many timber buildings in the world have lasted much longer. Then why do some wooden houses depreciate rapidly? *Simply for lack of maintenance.*

Timber is a natural building material in New Zealand. New forests now coming to maturity will meet the great home building needs of the next few years. Yet some folk have a prejudice against wood for their homes in spite of its warmth, great variety of pleasant finishes, low cost and low earthquake risk.

Borer and Termite

The case against wood is its tendency to rot, and the threat of Borer and Termite which are certainly widespread in this country. Yet none of these need get a hold of your house, if only you pay attention to maintenance. The Boracure Maintenance Service can take care of this for you. They will



Anobium Beetle and Termite (magnified)

supply experts to examine your house every year and report on the condition of the timber. They will tell you if any boards need to be treated or removed, and they will not allow faulty conditions of drainage and ventilation to develop and open the way for decay.

Architects Supervision

We are happy to work under the supervision of your architect if so desired. The cost of this service is infinitesimal in comparison with the investment at stake. To those contemplating building we say: have all timber dipped in Pentachlorophenol and you will have a well-nigh perfect building material. Get full particulars of the Boracure Service for Timber.

TO-DAY

To Boracure (N.Z.) Ltd.,
P.O. Box 632, Wellington.

Please send me details of your service.

I am interested in:

- ☐ Property already infected with Borer or Termite.
☐ House Maintenance Service.
☐ Pre-building Treatment of Timber.
Tick whichever applies.

Name

Address

HAY FEVER

(Written for "The Listener" by Dr. H. B. Turbott, Director of the Division of School Hygiene, Health Dept.)



THE ills we suffer nowadays are occasionally new in time, but mostly they plagued the peoples of earliest days. We know more now about causes; but when we do not, we have theories. Our ancestors had theories, too. Take hay fever and asthma; they were simple! They were caused by malignant demons. It depended on your luck whether you were plagued with masculine or feminine malignant spirits. You had to keep in with everybody, for magic words or looks could bring on hay fever if you displeased someone. Happily, the application of pieces of parchment containing Biblical verses or magic formulae, or the laying on of hands by medicine men or prophets, could accomplish a cure.

Unhappily, we have lost this art of simple and easy treatment, and hay fever still descends on us as though malignantly inspired. We are well this instant, the next we are prostrated with violent attacks of sneezing, followed by a free watery discharge from the nose. The eyes may be irritated and pour tears. It is all most upsetting for a while—then it ceases as quickly as it came upon us. Such attacks may last continuously for an hour or more till the victim is completely exhausted—and may recur intermittently for days. It was no wonder the ancients thought of evil spirits.

They're in the Air

We know now that these evil spirits causing hay fever are manifold protein particles in the atmosphere. They may be pollens of certain grasses, or from blossoms in the garden. They may be animal emanations, or certain fumes, or dusts or moulds floating in the atmosphere or in our homes. Occasionally articles of diet may be implicated as irritants bringing on hay fever. The modern treatment is just as magical as the ancient one—with this difference, that it works when carefully sorted out and applied.

When a victim knows from experience the cause of his attacks—and can afford to do so—he can escape by migrating to an area relatively free of the particular cause. For example, the seaside may bring freedom from attack, trees and grasses being scarcer there.

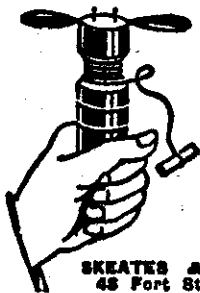
The first step is to trace the cause, whereon hangs the cure. This is usually done by scratch testing. The skin of the arm is cleansed, scratched without drawing blood and a small quantity of the suspected cause is lightly rubbed in. A raised weal and redness around it indicates sensitivity, and this particular substance is probably the cause of the attacks. Of course, you are very lucky indeed if you discover the cause at the first attempt. Usually one has to test through many pollens, of trees, grasses and flowers; if these are negative, one goes on to try out animal danders, vegetable and feather dusts, moulds, house dust and common foods. This testing-out process calls for much

(continued on next page)

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