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A Gnatty Trick

DR. KAHN, Cornell Medical College, has announced that tropical disease-bearing mosquitoes will be eliminated in the future by the use of records of the female mosquito's love call, whereby the male mosquitoes will be lured into traps. Dr. Kahn hopes that in a few months traps will be working in the South Pacific on the disease-bearers of malaria, yellow fever, dengue fever, and elephantiasis.

—Cable News.



WHO ever Dreamed that in an Insect's
breast
Burned Passions which, at Science's
Behest
Would dissipate into a Fittful Dream
All through a Doctor's Cunning Little
Scheme?
For one, I find it Hard to Understand
How Insectival Heart-aches may be
Canned!

IT will not be the Lady's Lovely Voice
That Calls her Swain to Nuptials
Sweet and Choice;
The Unsuspecting Male is to be Trapped
And by a Trick, in outstretched Feelers
Wrapped.
Ah, Woe is Me! I'd Rather have the
Fever
Than Profit by the wiles of a Deceiver!

FOR, when a Record, Swift Revolving
Disc
Emits a Love-Call from an Odalisque
It's Time to Call a Halt and cry "Enough!"
"Mosquito, Watch your Step, it's only
Bluff,
"A Subterfuge to Lure you to Your Doom
"And give, Instead of Dalliance, a
Tomb!"

HOW Could Man be so Low as to
Employ
A Gramophone to act as a decoy
To Blast Forever a Mosquito's Life
And Say that he Must Never Take a
Wife?
How Harsh to Leave him Thus—to Pon-
der Fate
Disconsolate, Unloved, Without a
Mate!

SUPPOSING, Though, the Record
should be Cracked;
Would that, then, from the Female's
Charms Detract?
And would the Broken Notes from her
Love's Trumpet
Betray her as an Artificial Strumpet?
Let's Leave that to the Expert at Cornell;
He's probably allowed for That as
Well.

NOW, I can Think of Other ways to
Fame
Than Ruining an Insect's little Game;
To Rid the Islands of the Yellow Fever
I'd Work for Pittance small, and Like
a Beaver.
But, to Upset the Love-Life of a Gnat—
Oh, no, I Really Couldn't Stoop to
That!

—E.R.B.

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