

Vinegar as a Healer

WHERE circumstances permit, it is undoubtedly wise to keep a stock of medicines. There, however, is one healing agent which is to be found in almost every home, and that is vinegar, one of the most useful disinfectants for obstinate wounds. One of my sons had a large and ugly wound on the shin-bone. For three months the doctors tried to heal it, and at last amputation was discussed. Then I read a "Mirror" par. recommending starch poultices, and I applied these continually for one day, making the wound look thoroughly clean. After that I applied a pad of lint soaked in vinegar and water (boiled), making the solution as strong as the patient could bear. I covered the pad with oilskin to keep it moist, renewing it night and morning. In three days the result seemed miraculous. The wound was practically healed, and needed only protection for a little while before all was well. I have four boys, all baseballers, who are continually receiving injuries, and I am sure that the vinegar treatment has often saved the expense of medical attention; in fact, it has never failed me. One important point must not be overlooked. The vinegar pad must be kept moist and on the wound both night and day until there is a marked improvement.

A Saving Guaranteed

Ingenious Frauds Brought to Book

ALMOST daily one hears of various forms of theft, but the stealing of electric light is an unusual type of offence (says "The Dominion"). That it exists is beyond doubt; that it is difficult to detect and sheet home is equally beyond doubt, and this is one of the difficulties with which the city electrical department has to contend.

An interesting "exhibit" has just come into the possession of the department as a result of the alertness of one of its officers. It is a piece of thin wire about six inches long, bent in the form of a semi-circle. The tenant of a house was in arrears with his lighting account, and as he did not pay his supply was disconnected. He had sublet the back rooms, the sub-tenant paying a small additional sum to cover the cost of light. Not being able to get a light, the sub-tenant inquired as to the trouble, and, on being told, advanced money to pay the account so that the connection could be restored. The connection was restored, but not by the department, and the man in the back room had his light, which was all he was concerned about.

AN officer of the department, however, knowing something of the circumstances, saw lights in the house, and made a few quiet investigations. On gaining admission to the house he found a small piece of wire had been fixed to the bottom portion of the meter, making a short circuit so that the current was not recorded. It is probable that the tenant will be called upon in the near future to give some explanation of the affair. It is, however, a dangerous business for amateurs to attempt anything of this kind, for it requires some technical knowledge to achieve this ingenious fraud, and a shock from the new voltage is powerful enough to be fatal.

"A Neat Little Gadget."

SOME considerable time ago the department suffered considerable loss from a device which was unwittingly installed by principals in a number of business premises in the city, and it was only discovered accidentally. An officer of the department one day met the owner of a shop in the main street, who boasted that his electricity account was only half of what it used to be, thanks to a "neat little gadget" he had bought one day.

His usual account was about £6 a month, and it had come down to about £3. The officer was interested. "I want to have a look at it," he said, and was taken to the establishment. At the back of the meter was the "neat little gadget," a piece of metal with very thin wire spring on each end, and this had been attached in a manner—but out of sight—so as to short-circuit about half the current, in a similar manner to the first-mentioned case.

Guaranteed a Saving.

THE business man explained that a man had called on him two or three months previously selling the contrivances—which would not cost more than 6d. each—at 10/- each, guaranteeing that it would save at least 25 per cent. on his lighting account, and if it did not he could have his money back. The saving had amounted to 50 per cent. during the period the device had been in use.

The matter was put in the hands of the police, and the man was brought to book, becoming "the guest" of the country for a period.

In the meantime he had disposed of several dozen of the "neat little gadgets" in the city area, and if all the accounts had been reduced by half, then the loss to the department over a period of about three months was fairly heavy.

In another instance a man went into an empty house from which the wires had been disconnected and the meter removed. By some means or other the connection was restored, without the knowledge of the department, and the man had "free light" for several months before it was discovered. The man denied all knowledge of the affair, saying he had nothing to do with the paying of household accounts and did not know he had been getting electricity for nothing for most of a year.

Purification by Electricity

WATER can now be purified for drinking and domestic uses by a compact appliance which operates from the ordinary heating or lighting point.

As the water passes through the various chambers in the purifier, it is subjected to the action of electrical currents which remove foreign particles of matter and also destroy injurious germs. The contrivance should be invaluable to those who are doubtful about the purity of the water supply. It becomes more pure as it



MILLCENT O'GRADY

Lyric soprano, who was, until recently, resident in Auckland, is now in Christchurch and will be heard from 3YA on Wednesday, June 18.

passes through the chambers, until it is finally delivered in a state equal to that of distilled water.

The apparatus is so simple that it requires practically no attention once it is installed; the compartments are kept free of accumulations by the flow of the water under treatment, and great efficiency is claimed since there is no necessity for heating, with the consequent loss by evaporation and radiation.

Lamp's Magical Powers

LAMPS as magical as any in a fairy story are shortly to be produced, according to the "Daily Mail." Electric light bulbs, composed of tungsten and mercury elements are being experimented with, and it is claimed for them that they will have more health-giving properties than the sun, and their use will render the meanest and darkest cellar as healthy as a hillside in summer. Dr. Luckeish, who is experimenting with them, is convinced of their ultimate success.

The interior of future buildings, he says, will be covered with substances such as translucent quartz, having the power to retain and conserve ultra-violet radiation. In nurseries and schools, abbreviated dresses will be worn; colds and other illnesses will disappear before the lamp's magic rays, and the length of human life will be extended.



Obtainable from all Electrical Dealers
N.Z. Agents:
CORY-WRIGHT & SALMON
Engineers, Wellington.