

FOR EVERY FAMILY
MEDICINE CHEST

To the head of every family the health of its different members is most important, and the value of an agreeable laxative that is certain in its effect is appreciated. One of the most popular remedies in the family medicine chest is a combination of simple laxative herbs with papain that is known to druggists and physicians as Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. This preparation is mild and gentle in its action on the bowels, yet positive in its effect. A dose of Syrup Pepsin at night means relief next morning, while its tonic properties tone up and strengthen the muscles of stomach, liver and bowels so that these organs are able in a short time to again perform their natural functions without help.

Druggists everywhere sell Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin in 50c and \$1.00 bottles. If you have never tried this simple, inexpensive, yet effective remedy, write to Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 201 Washington St., Monticello, Ill., and ask for a sample bottle. Dr. Caldwell will be glad to send it without any expense to you whatever.

Always Leap Year.
"It's leap year every year in Pappu," said an ethnologist. "The reason isn't that the women are the bosses there. No, quite the contrary. The reason is that love-making is supposed to be a thing beneath the notice of the Pappu male.

"All women look alike to him. So the matrimonial pourparlors all fall on the female sex.
"If a man accepts a girl's proposal, the fact that he is engaged is chalked on his back. But on the girl's back the engagement is branded with a red-hot iron."

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Ery Murine Eye Remedy. No Smarting—Feels Fine—Acts Quickly. Try It for Red, Weak, Watery Eyes and Granulated Eyelids. Illustrated Book in each Package. Murine is compounded by our chemists—not a "patent medicine"—but used in successful Physicians' Practice for many years. Now dedicated to the People and sold by Druggists at 25c and 50c per bottle. Murine Eye Salve in Aseptic Tubes, 25c and 50c. Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago

Among the Ancients.
Democritus had just announced the theory that the visible universe is merely the result of the fortuitous concourse of atoms.
"Subject, of course," he said, "to the approval of Mr. Gompers."
For he did not wish to be drawn into a magazine controversy over it.

A QUARTER CENTURY
Before the Public. Over Five Million Free Samples given away each year. The constant and increasing sales from samples prove the genuine merit of ALLEN'S FOOT-POWDER, the antiseptic powder to be shaken into the shoes for Tired, Aching, Swollen, Tender feet. Relieves corns and bunions of all kinds. Sample FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Lenoir, N.Y.

Too Far for Business.
"I see King George's uncle is in New York."
"H'm! That's bad for George."
"Why so?"
"What will he do if he has occasion to go and see his uncle?"

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I want every person who is bilious, constipated or has any stomach or liver ailment to send for a free package of my Paw-Paw Pills. I want to prove that they positively cure indigestion, sour stomach, belching, Wind, Headache, Nervousness, Sleeplessness and are an infallible cure for Constipation. To do this I am willing to give millions of free packages. I take all the risk. Sold by druggists for 25c a box. For free package address, Prof. Munyon, 53rd & Jefferson Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Invigorates and prevents the hair from falling out
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"Elegantly sugar coated. Small dose. Price, 25c."

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It's Use Will Quickly End Weak, Sore Eyes
PISO'S REMEDY
Best Cough Syrup, Cures Croup, Whooping Cough, Croup, etc. Sold by Druggists.

The American Black Bear

by Dan J. Singer
COMPOSER OF FIELD AND STEEP



HAVE spent a good many weeks, even months, at a time, in the various ranges of the black bear, and might really say with truth that we have practically lived together side by side.

Sometimes just a little ridge might have separated us, where I could see, possibly the next morning after, that he had been having a fine feast in a blueberry patch.

One night we were a little more sociable. I had just removed the pelt from a coyote, and had intended carrying the carcass away from camp the next day, but left it that night a few feet from my tent. During the night my friend (who, by the way, always reminds me of a good-natured boy with a fur overcoat on), came down and saved me the trouble by carrying it away for me. I did not hear him arrive, for I believe I was asleep, but the telltale tracks were enough to convince me in the morning. And so by having lived with him in his own home, watched, photographed, and studied his ways, I can set down for those who may be interested, some of his characteristics and habits.

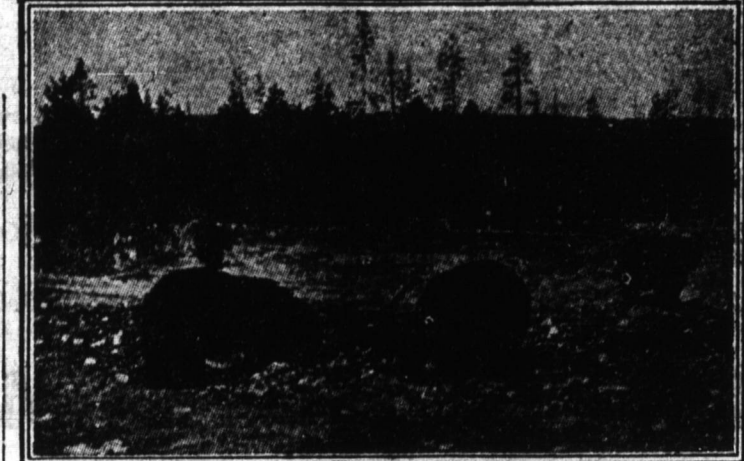
The range of the black bear extends from Mexico to Alaska, and they have been met with in nearly every state and territory within the United States; also Labrador, Province of Quebec, Alberta and Assiniboia, British Columbia, and the Mackenzie River basin. All black bears hibernate during the winter months. There are, however, woodmen in the south who disagree with me on this point, saying they have seen their tracks during every month of the winter, and the mild climate does not force them to lay up in a cave or den as it would in the more severe weather of northern latitudes. I have myself seen bear tracks during the winter months, and even in the deep snow of the northern state. But this is the exception, and I have no doubt that these bears are simply shifting to another sleeping place, having been driven out for one reason or another. Their dens may not have been well chosen, and they possibly became leaky, or exposed to the winds, or some hunter might pass that way with a keen nose and an inquisitive canine that would cause him to roll out in a hurry. It is safe to say all black bears den up both north and south, sometime between November 1 and January 1, depending on the altitude, weather and latitude. They emerge in the spring, usually from the first part of April to the middle of May, according to conditions, the males often appearing some two weeks before the females. It is at this time in the spring, just after they have left their winter quarters, that a bear's pelt is in its prime. During hibernation, as no food is laid up, they, of course, do not eat, nor do they drink, unless they make use of the snow that has fallen about them. Contrary to the general supposition, they are not in a deep coma or hazy condition, for they are easily aroused. It is true that they sleep, but are quick to detect danger and fully equal to the occasion of making off and looking up other quarters if disturbed.

The cunning little cubs (for what deserves the name more than a little woolly, back cub?) are brought forth during hibernation, usually between February 1 and March 1, and it is several weeks before they are able to leave the den with their mother. From one to four cubs may be born—I would say two or three is the average; four is rare, but three is often met with, and a she-bear followed by one cub does not always indicate that the young hopeful had no brothers or sisters, as they may not have survived all the dangers of cubdom. At birth they are ridiculously small, compared with the size of the mother, and weigh but a few ounces. I have never weighed one, but understand that Dr. Hornaday, director of the New York Zoological park, has, and their weight runs from 8 to 18 ounces, depending on the number in the litter. Their eyes are closed—they have no teeth, nor have they their little furry jacket as yet. The reason advanced for bears being so unusually small at birth, is that the old bear having remained all winter without food, and not being able to forage for some weeks after the young are born, it would naturally be a great drain to nurse cubs that weighed several pounds. So Nature has thus provided in this way.

Unlike the grizzly, the black bears mate every year, or nearly so. Grizzlies may be put down for about every other year. When the cubs are from six to eight weeks old, they are able to accompany their mother and do so all during that summer. It is usually about berry time before the little fellows develop a grown-up appetite and commence to rustle for themselves. Not very long after this the old bear drives them off to shift for themselves. In some cases they have been found denning the following fall with their mother, but this is unusual.

Now a little bear knows exactly what he wants, and what is good to eat just as well as you do. He knows every root, every bulb, every berry that will make him fat and happy. How does he know this? I cannot say; you will have to ask him. When I say this I have in mind the following case that was brought to my notice: A young cub, only a few weeks old, was caught one spring and fed on milk. He was kept in camp until the following fall when they moved camp down on some bottom lands. Here, while running about, he would suddenly stop, dig up some roots and devour them with a relish. He seemed to be as fully prepared to forage for himself as if he had been taking lessons from his mother all summer. Another much mistaken idea about the black bear is that he emerges from his winter quarters very thin and emaciated (this so far, is true); that he is desperately hungry after his long fast; or is terribly ferocious, and inclined to attack anything on sight, man included. This is not so, although I have often heard it so stated. Not even a black bear with his enervated digestive apparatus can or does indulge in a hearty meal after so long a fast. The organs of a bear are no different from those of a man in this respect, and after their long disuse are only capable of assimilating the daintiest morsels of food—such as grass shoots, tender roots and their like. In fact, at first they show little or no desire to eat, but after a few days they commence to partake again of pretty much everything. I say this because a bear is omnivorous, which means that he eats quite generally everything—both vegetables and meat. They are not as carnivorous as generally supposed, usually being contented with such small animals as ground squirrels and field mice, but still, when the opportunity offers, they have a great propensity for stealing down ever so carefully to a nearby farm and carrying off a fat little sheep. They, too, have a great weakness for honey, and it is hardly necessary for me to mention honey and sweets, for here we see him again like a good-natured, mischievous boy. The various insects form a long list of goodies for them, and they spend much of their time overturning stones, prying open old stumps and logs, poking their nose and sniffing at every tiny hole or crevice for such dainty morsels as grubs, caterpillars, crickets, and ants. The black bear seems to partake of such a variety of food that it is hard to say just which he enjoys the most. Ants are one of his favorite dishes, and I have no doubt that they consume as many of these as some of the ant-eaters of South America. One of their favorite methods of catching a certain species of ants, which are very vicious little fighters, is to thrust a paw in the midst of one of their hills, and as they swarm over the bear's paw with the purpose of attacking their enemy, they are quickly lapped up.

But what greater picture of contentment can one imagine than a bear in a good-sized blueberry patch? Slitting half up on his haunches and pulling the branches towards him with his paws—fairly shoveling in the berries that help fatten him up for the long winter—they are indeed great berry eaters and will often travel miles to locate a patch, and then will patronize it long and often.



FOUR OF THEM AT HOME.



THE AUTHOR AND A NEW BRUNSWICK BLACK BEAR

For some weeks on a wild canyon through which ran a small river. Along the banks grew numerous juniper trees and for several miles I could see where the branches had been literally all pulled down by bears in pursuit of the sweet juniper berries. I do not think I have ever seen so much bear sign; it looked as if all the bear in the country had been on the great feast. It was the latter part of December and they had just recently gone into winter quarters, or we certainly would have been able to make a record on bears if we had cared to. There is another red berry that grows in that section the bear are very fond of, I think the name is manacca. It is a low-growing tree and the bears are often given to sunning themselves in these trees. The black bear prefers his meat well tainted, and, in fact, I do not believe it can be too strong for him. Unlike the grizzly he does not cover over or bury a carcass, but this again is only characteristic of him, for he does not feed, or in fact do anything as systematically or as seriously as the grizzly—much preferring a little mischief to work, and here again we see him the happy-go-lucky fellow. I cannot take space to mention all the fancies of his appetite, but this gives a very good general idea of his diet. I must not omit to say, however, he is something of a fisherman, both for game and for sport, and with a quick stroke of his paw, sends many an unsuspecting fish hurtling through the air to land well up on the bank, where he can once more please his palate. I have often heard of seven hundred pound black bears; there are none. Between four and five hundred pounds are as heavy as they will ever tip the scales. Bears are very rarely weighed by hunters, and the estimates given of their weight are very often much in excess, but, of course, not always purposely so. Broadly speaking, I would say that the average weight of the average black bear, taking them as you happen to find them, would be approximately one hundred and fifty pounds. I am not speaking of full-grown bears, as one is likely to kill several partly-grown bears to one full grown. A full-grown bear in the spring may weigh but a little over two hundred, and the same bear in the fall might easily be close to a four hundred pounder. How many of us have gone into the woods in our early hunting days and looked around wondering which would really be the safest tree to shin up in case an old black bear should have designs on us. Now that little sapling over there looks good. They say a slim tree with no branches is the best to rest in on an occasion like this. But for those who do not already know, we will settle that question right here. It does not matter in the least what tree you select, whether it is one some two or three feet in diameter, or just that little sapling; it is safe to say if you can get up, so can the bear. But this is the point; he won't come. No black bear, when given such a fine opportunity to get away, will stick around. Their claws, which are very unlike those of the grizzly, are especially adapted for climbing, while the front paws of a grizzly are especially adapted for digging, being long, and from four to six inches in length, and nearly straight. Grizzlies do not and cannot climb trees. On the other hand, the black bear's claws are shorter, more curved, and thicker at the base, which enables them to go up a huge tree very much as a cat or a squirrel would, and also a slim one just large enough to sustain their weight. In conclusion would say that I do not pretend to know all about black bears—no one man can; but I have found them sufficiently interesting to have taken a great deal of pleasure in devoting a long study to them, and have here set down only what I know to be facts.

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But Mamma Didn't.
Little Mabel was always tumbling down and getting hurt, but as soon as her mother kissed the bumped forehead Mabel would believe it cured and cease crying. One day she accompanied her mother to the Union depot, and while they were seated in the crowded waiting room an intoxicated man entered the door, tripped over a suitcase, and fell sprawling on the floor. The attention of every one was attracted to the incident, and in the sudden silence following the fall Mabel called out:

"Don't cry, man. Mamma 'll kiss 'ee, and 'ee 'll be all right."—Lippincott's Magazine.
Mean People.
Henry Russell, the head of the Boston opera, was describing his foreign tour in search of talent.
"They were mean people," he said of the singers of a certain city. "I could do no business with them. They thought only of money."
Mr. Russell smiled.
"They were as bad as the man who discovered the Blank theater fire."
"The first intimation the box office had of this fire came, at the end of the third act, from a fat man who bounded down the gallery stairs, stuck his face at the ticket window and shouted breathlessly:
"Theater's afire! Gimme me money back!"

Domestic Difficulties.
Husband—What's the matter, dear? Why do you look so worried?
Wife—Oh, I've just got everything all ready for Mrs. Neatleigh's visit. I've done up all the curtains and pillow shams and bureau covers and centerpieces, and they're all spick and span.
Husband—Well, if everything is in such ample order why look so disconsolate about it?
Wife (bursting into tears)—Oh, I just know, as soon as she sees them, she'll know I cleaned everything all up because she was coming!—Judge.
Touch Preventer.
Howell—Why do you call your dog "Strike Breaker?"
Powell—I have done it ever since he grabbed a fellow who was about to strike me for money.
Needed Reform.
Benham—We need a reform in our banking system.
Mrs. Benham—Yes; it's a shame that a wife can't overdraw her husband's account!—Judge.

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Our Ovens
To
Your Table
Untouched by human hands—
Post Toasties
—the aristocrat of Ready-to-Serve foods.
A table dainty, made of white Indian corn—presenting delicious flavor and wholesome nourishment in new and appetizing form.
The steadily increasing sale of this food speaks volumes in behalf of its excellence.
An order for a package of Post Toasties from your grocer will provide a treat for the whole family.
"The Memory Lingers"
Post Toasties Company, Limited
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The Sun and Substance

of being a subscriber to this paper is that you and your family become attached to it. The paper becomes a member of the family and its coming each week will be as welcome as the arrival of anyone that's dear. It will keep you informed on the doings of the community and the bargains of the merchants regularly advertised will enable you to save many times the cost of the subscription.

We're Opposed to Mail Order Concerns Because—

They have given contribution a cent to furthering the interests of our town—
Every cent received by them from this community is a direct loss to our merchants—
In almost every case their prices can be met right here, without delay in receiving goods and the possibility of mistakes in filling orders.
But—
The natural human trait is to buy where goods are cheapest. Local pride is usually secondary in the game of life as played today.
Therefore
Mr. Merchant and Business Men, meet your competitors with their own weapons—advertising.
Advertise!
The local field is yours. All you need do is to avail yourself of the opportunity offered. An advertisement in this paper will carry your message into hundreds of homes in this community. It is the most efficient of killing your greatest competitor. A space this size won't cost much. Come in and see to about it.

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DO YOU know of anyone who is old enough to read, who has not seen that sign at a railroad crossing?
If everyone has seen it at some time or other, then why doesn't the railroad let the sign get away? Why does the railroad company continue to keep those signs at every crossing?
Maybe you think, Mr. Merchant, "Most everybody knows my store, I don't have to advertise."
Your store and your goods need more advertising than the railroad needs to warn people to "Look Out for the Cars."
Nothing is ever completed in the advertising world.
The Department Stores are a very good example—they are continually advertising—and they are continually doing a good business.
It pays to run a few ads round about Christmas time, it certainly will pay you to run advertisements about all the time.
It's just this, that's all, to **ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER**