THE GATE CITY

PUBLISHED BY
THE GATE CITY COMPANY

C. F. SKIRVIN.....Manager

DAILY BY MAIL.

One year.....$3.00|Four months...$1.00
Six months.....1.50|One month.....25

Entered in Keokuk postoffice as second class matter.

Postage prepaid; terms in advance.

All subscription orders should give the P. O. address and state whether it is a new or renewal order. If change of address is desired, state both the old and new address.

Remit by postoffice money order, express money order, registered letter or draft, at our risk.

The date printed on the address of each paper notes when the subscription expires.

Subscribers failing to receive their papers promptly will confer a favor by giving notice of the fact.

Address all communications to
THE GATE CITY COMPANY,
No. 18, North Sixth St., Keokuk, Iowa.

THE GATE CITY is on sale at the following news stands:
Hotel Keokuk, cor. Third and Johnson.
C. H. Rollins & Co., 629 Main street.
Ward Bros., 525 Main street.
Depot News Stand.

Keokuk, Iowa ..... April 21, 1910

AMERICA.

A hundred stars shall rot to bone,
A hundred kingdoms shall decline,
A hundred battlefields shall suck
Their glut of sacrificial wine;
The Buddhist priest shall meditate
Where now cathedral crosses gleam;
The sons of Genghis Khan shall bring
To pass fulfillment of his dream;
The shrill muezzin's chant shall chime
At eventide with Ben Bow's bells;
The kaffir's clucking voice be heard
Where now voluptuous Paris dwells;
The lout shall loll in lordly state;
The beggar's child shall shower dole,
Before your final word is writ
Of honor, on the age's scroll.
Your wish shall will the world to peace,
The weaklings of the earth shall crawl
To suckle at your fruitful breasts.
And, fruitful, you shall feed them all.
—Herbert Kaufman, in Everybody's.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat reports that King Menelik is rapidly convalescing from his third funeral.

It has been judicially decided that prunes are not pastry. Of course not. Only an insurgent would maintain to the contrary.

The weather man made the mistake of transposing March and April. He is herewith reminded that some mistakes are worse than crimes.

Speaking of the fruit situation, everybody fears the worst and hopes for the best. Several days must elapse before the exact facts are known.

The primary election will be held on the 7th of June. There is a lot of work in the way of perfecting nomination papers to be done meantime.

New potatoes are selling at fifteen cents a pound, equivalent to $9 a bushel, in St. Louis. And yet we are urged as a measure of economy to become vegetarians!

A southern paper says too many Democrats in Tennessee are crazy and too many in Maryland are fools. It would be interesting to learn what it thinks is the matter with Iowa Democrats.

The Washington Democrat predicts that Colonel Palmer will carry Washington county by as big a majority this year as before, notwithstanding Clifford Thorne of the same county is a candidate against him.

It is reported that 363 acres of Black Hawk county land, recently sold, brought $240,650. The same tract was purchased twenty years ago for $7,500. This is additional proof that there is no better investment than Iowa land.

Damage to the grain crop of Iowa resulting from the recent cold wave is slight, in the opinion of George A. Wells, secretary of the Western Grain Dealers' association. The general tone of reports from farmers and grain dealers in all portions of the state is optimistic.

It has been remarked that a man generally finds it easy enough to paddle his own canoe after he has acquired the canoe and the paddle. This is true, and it is also true that the experience he gains in getting them is a distinct aid to him in using them to the best advantage.

The Washington Post calls attention to the fact that Postmaster General Hitchcock's $10,000,000 saving, added to Secretary MacVeagh's $50,000,000 income increase, makes a harvest of $60,000,000 already stored in Uncle Sam's bins—secure from boll weevil, chinch bug, black rot, drouth, flood, frost and other enemies of Secretary Wilson.

The politicians at the state capital are speculating upon the probable effect of Frailey's withdrawal from the contest for attorney general. Some say it will improve Candidate Feeley's chances for the nomination, while others profess to believe that Candidate Chantland will be benefited. All are agreed that it is inimical to Candidate Cosson's interests. Sentiment in this part of Iowa, as far as it has developed, is decidedly favorable to Mr. Feeley. He more nearly represents southeastern Iowa Republican sentiment on a number of important issues than any other candidate now in the field.

A banker has told the ladies of the Young Woman's Christian association that banking is one of the simplest matters in the world. The chief difficulty, he says, is for people to get money to put in the bank, but when this preliminary feat has been accomplished the rest is delightfully easy. All of which is confirmed by every-day experience.

Of the 108,286 aliens classed as immigrants who landed at New York in the month of March, according to Commissioner Williams, only 2,611 crossed the ocean on the mere chance of finding work. All the rest were bound direct for regions where friends and relatives on the spot had led them to expect employment. The exhibit is a fine tribute to the opportunities this country affords.

Lincoln's rule for living is worthy a place in every scrap book and on the lining of every hat. It is brief, practical and to the point, as follows:

"Do not worry, eat three square meals a day, say your prayers, be courteous to your creditors, keep your digestion good, exercise, go slow and go easy. Maybe there are other things that your special case requires to make you happy, but, my friend, these, I reckon, will give you a good lift."

It seems probable that there is some exaggeration in regard to the value of the crops which have been killed by the freeze of the past week. The estimate of $10,000,000 loss on fruit is at least large. A correspondent writing from Des Moines says concerning the situation:

According to the reports of the department of agriculture the estimate on the value of the Iowa fruit crop in 1908 was $2,500,000, and last year perhaps double this sum. The value of garden and small fruit crops is about $6,000,000 a year. While at present it would seem that all fruit is gone yet some of the fruit men say that it always turns out that the earliest reports are the worst.

The custom of employing what are known as "trusties" around jails and other penal institutions is distinctly condemned by Attorney General Stead of Illinois in an opinion just rendered. Briefly, the attorney general's ruling is that any sheriff who allows a "trusty" at the jail to leave the institution to go outside makes of the prisoner an "escape." The attorney general says that it is the duty of the sheriff to receive and confine a prisoner in jail until discharged in due course of law, and it is his duty to keep such person confined and grant him no privilege or indulgence; that if he does allow him to go out of the jail he has permitted an escape and is subject to a fine or imprisonment or both. If this is the law the sheriffs and other like officials would do well to abolish the custom at once.

A BIT OF LOCAL HISTORY.

In a communication in the Des Moines Register and Leader Dan Ford complains that no state in the Union has neglected its history as Iowa has hers. He doubts if there is a man in Iowa who can locate the spot where stood the first school house established in Iowa. In this connection he writes:

"In returning from South Dakota, not long since, and on the road between Yankton and Sioux City, we noticed a monument close to the track a short distance up a narrow little valley heavily timbered. We were at a loss to know why a monument should be erected in such a place, as there was no house close by. We asked its meaning from the conductor, who informed me the monument marks the spot where the first school house in Dakota stood. This shows that South Dakota is far ahead of Iowa in its efforts to preserve her history and mark her historic localities. This monument was erected at the expense of the state, and all will agree that is is a very valuable investment."

"Before Iowa gets many years older a movement should be set on foot to locate where stood her first school house, and to mark the spot with a monument. But to do this at this late day would be rather a difficult job."

Mr. Ford says that no state in the Union has as complete a history as Wisconsin. No effort nor expense was spared to collect her early history. The libraries at Rome, France, Quebec, Montreal and the early church records of St. Louis furnished Wisconsin her most valuable and earliest records. The log church that Marquette built on Madaline Island, Lake Superior, yet stands. It was preserved by building a large modern church around it. It was built in 1669, and five years before Marquette discovered the Mississippi river. And at Praire du Chien, at the mouth of the Wisconsin river (where Marquette first saw the Mississippi river), there is a monument erected to commemorate that wonderful discovery. This reference to Marquette prompts Mr. Ford to recall that it was in the vicinity of Keokuk that Marquette first landed on Iowa soal. Premising that were a member of the Iowa legislature to introduce a bill for an appropriation to erect a monument on the spot where Marquette first set foot on Iowa soil, such a member would be hooted and laughed at, Mr. Ford goes on to say:

"Iowa history began on the day that Marquette landed. And we have never yet heard of an Iowa historian who can give an opinion, nor locate this historic spot. Gue's History don't know where it was, but locates it somewhere near Montrose, Lee county. Marquette landed at Price's Creek, two miles above Keokuk, and a monument should be erected at the spot. This creek is a small stream and it should be named Marquette creek (there's no spot in Iowa named in honor of Marquette). It took its name from old Bill Price, who was the elite of the early society of Keokuk. He was a fisherman and built his cabin at the mouth of the creek. His claim to fame rests on his reputation as a rough-and-tumble knock-down-drag-out fighter and a quart of whisky per day was his usual ration. Poor old Bill has long ago gone to receive his rewards and punishments, but the creek perpetuates his name and fame."

The exact spot at which Marquette landed is a matter of some dispute. Mr. Ford locates it at the mouth of Price's creek. A local history published soon after the founding of Keokuk in the late 40s says it was at the mouth of Lemolee's creek where Sandusky now stands. It is known to a certainty that on landing, wherever it was, Marquette discovered human footprints. Further investigation disclosed a trail leading to the westward up a ravine. He followed this trail a distance of some six miles until he came upon a large body of Indians camped in the locality now known as Yellow Banks. He remained with the Indians as their guest for several days, conducting religious services at intervals. At the conclusion of his visit he retraced his steps, reembarked and continued his journey down the Mississippi river.

REFUSING INFORMATION.

It is reported that some persons in Des Moines have refused to answer certain of the questions asked by the census enumerators. One woman is represented to have told the enumerator: "It's none of your business whether I'm married." Another said: "I keep roomers, but I don't want people to know it, so I won't give their names." A third declared: "I said I was single. It's none of your business whether I am divorced." It is, of course, none of the census taker's business, but it is the government's business, and those who refuse to give the desired information will speedily wish they had pursued a different course. The penalty for refusing to answer questions is a fine not exceeding $500. The penalty for wilful falsification is a fine not exceeding $2,000. It is said the names of a dozen Des Moines people have been telegraphed to Washington for having refused to give the census enumerator proper answers.

The presumption is that no Keokuk people have deliberately invited trouble on this account. If the census enumerators have encountered any one who refused to answer the fact has not come to the knowledge of the newspapers or the public. The same situation obtains at Cedar Rapids, on the authority of the Gazette, which tells its readers that—

"The census man is not going to make public any information concerning yourself. He simply is gathering facts which will be a part of a big total. For instance if you are divorced, that fact will not be published in such a way as to air your troubles. You will simply be counted among the divorcees; your identity is lost. Besides, you are protected by the law, which says that enumerators communicating any information regarding the census are liable to a fine not exceeding $1,000."

The same paper in speaking of the persons in Des Moines who refused to answer the questions, predicts that "when they hear from Washington they will be scared stiff." But—

"No Cedar Rapids citizen will refuse any information the census taker may call for. At least no one will go any farther than did one or two corporations, whose heads, asked to fill out census blanks, declined to do so, until the law was read to them—and then they fell over themselves to be obliging. It's best to obey Uncle Sam."

NOTES AND COMMENT.

The Iowa City Citizen looked in vain through Warren Garst's long announcement for a good word for President Taft.

"How did the Methodist church ever come to ordain a man by the name of Tipple?" inquires the Burlington Gazette.

The near-philosopher of the Sioux City Tribune has noticed that about the time a woman gets old enough to have sense she begins wearing freak shoes and store hair.

The Sioux City Journal observes that about all the public has got out of political conditions under insurgent leadership is a stomachful of dissatisfaction.

"Distributers, not producers, fix the prices of farm products," is the conclusion that has been reached by F. D. Coburn, secretary of the Kansas state board of agriculture.

What Alex Miller calls being dutiful is for a man to go to a missionary meeting and hold the baby while his wife reads an essay on "How to make happy homes in the foreign lands."

"The early gardener who spent most of his time bragging about the advanced stand of his early vegetables has yielded the floor to his conservative neighbor who had all along been insisting that it wasn't safe to get the seed into the ground much before the middle of April," observes the Sioux City Journal.

The Cedar Rapids Republican says that President Taft is wise in his determination to make a few speeches in his own behalf, not allowing the traducers of his administration to do all the talking. "There are so many insistent liars in politics nowadays," the Republican continues, "that they succeed in convincing a great many persons who simply want to know the truth."

Dr. Wiley says women should learn less calculus and more cooking. The Des Moines Tribune suggests that he might add that some men ought to spend less time fishing and more money for things to cook.

The Cedar Rapids Republican suggests that when the Iowa senators come on that whirlwind campaign through Iowa to instruct the people they bring with them that man Foss, of Massachusetts, who is the apotheosis of the things for which they stand.

The Comet.

(Astronomers aver that in May the earth will barely escape contact with the nucleus of Halley's comet. Our globe will be enshrouded by the wanderer's coma, or at least, its tail. Anticipation of this event breeds some disquietude in human breasts.)

I shall not seek any nook to pray
That this collision pass away.
When all our worldly Homers nod
Still back of all is ruling God,
On whose fair mission whirl the stars
In orbits void of changeful jars,
They please the fountains of His eye
Forever low, forever high.

No killing mists shall wrap us round,
Nor dire explosions far resound.
No quakes split rock and grassy hill,
The seas dry up, the oceans spill,
The rivers halt upon their course,
The mountains shatter by their force,
The cities jumble into flames
When greeting spheres strip down for gains,
For here and there, around, above,
The Maker's hand guides but for love.

Yet, if need be that we must go—
Children of chaos 'neath this blow,
O what a chance for boasting heart—
A funeral—all the world a part!
Passing from things we see and feel;
Electric glare and thunder peel,
Lighting and rocking us to rest.
Ere darkness vision doth invest.

No trembling prayer shall haunt my lips
If heaven shall send us this eclipse
To grandly usher us away
To mansions where the angels play.
—Will Chamberlain.

Candidates for Attorney General.

Des Moines Tribune: By the withdrawal of Joseph R. Frailey of Fort Madison from the race for the Republican nomination for attorney general the fight for the place narrows down to a warm contest between Senator George Cosson, Speaker Guy Feeley and Col. William T. Chantland.

Frailey's withdrawal it is thought would be an aid to Feeley, in that it will leave the river towns undivided. Both men are prominent Elks, and Frailey's withdrawal will leave that body undivided. Senator Cosson, author of the Cosson laws, it is thought would obtain the vote of the majority of the law enforcement advocates of the state, as the liberal element would have been divided upon Frailey and Feeley. With Colonel Chantland drawing his support from practically the same source as Senator Cosson, however, the race is tightened to a considerable degree, with the odds somewhat in the favor of Feeley. It is expected that vigorous speaking campaigns will soon be started by all candidates.

It is probable that the Republican state central committee will get busy before long, open headquarters in Des Moines and begin plans for renewing the state wide organization, to become active immediately after the primaries. Not much work can be done before the primaries without bringing down upon the heads of the committee much adverse criticism from one faction or the other of the party. Hence any work of organization before the primary will be small and only in a general way. The committee will not meet before the primary and select temporary officers for the state convention, which will be held in Des Moines Aug. 3. This will be deferred until after the primaries that a chairman may be secured who will be in harmony with the convention.

What the Old Standpatters Did.

Des Moines Capital: When the old standpatters of this state swept everything before them a few years ago, they had a chance to nominate a new man for secretary of state over Hon. W. B. Martin, who was then serving his second term. They had the chance and the power to nominate a new man over Hon. Gilbert S. Gilbertson, who was treasurer of state, holding his second term. But the old standpatters recognized the three term rule and renominated Martin and Gilbertson unanimously. This was done because these men had discharged their duties in a creditable manner. It was done to strengthen the party in the state. It was not done in a spirit of cowardice or compromise. It was done in a spirit of fairness. In this same spirit, Warren Garst ought to immediately withdraw from the campaign as a candidate for governor.

Liming's Launch on the Des Moines.

Keosauqua Independent: Commodore Liming has altered the propeller of the launch Keosauqua and the boat is better adapted to this river now than ever. In the original draft, the wheel extended below the boat several inches and this has been corrected by tunnelling, thus allowing the propeller to be raised, which will not detract from the speed and at the same time permitting the boat to run in water of much less depth. The launch is again in commission and Mr. Liming is making frequent trips to other points.

An Open Confession.

We all admit that we are vain
And love to see our names in type;
One person likes his mentioned as
The man who first invented tripe;
Another loves to see his name
All scattered freely through such stuff
As often fills a column when
The sob squad writer spreads her guff,
And, being human as I am,
I own my feelings as they are,
My weakness is to see this line,
—Frank Taylor in the St. Louis Star.

A New Use for the Razorback Hog.

Jacksonville Courier: There is a renaissance of the razor back hog, known in some parts of the south as the hazel splitter. For generations the razor back has furnished quite a proportion of the hog meat eaten in some sections of Dixie land. Razor back meat was nothing to brag on, but it beat nothing a mile and was cheap, the razor back being a prowler and foraging his living.

It has remained for a southern farmer to utilize the razor back as a sort of watch dog and he avers that a good sized tolerably hungry hog will fight a wolf to a finish and will run the varmints off the place when they come prowling about after pigs, lambs or poultry.

A Jacksonville man who spent a winter in Florida—where the razor back reaches a state of perfection not otherwhere approached—states that many stories are current in that land relative to the native hogs anl its habits. Some of them may not be new, but they surely will not be disbelieved on that score.

One is to the effect that the farmers keep the hogs in the pen, which is made of upright pickets, by tying knots in their tails, this giving them such beam measurement that they are unable to get entirely through. Another was to the effect that a razor back was not regarded as property unless he could outrun a negro. Asked how he decided when his hogs were fat enough to butcher, a Florida cracker answered that it was easy to tell. He picked the animal up by the ears. If the head end was the heaviest it was turned loose to fatten. If the body end proved heaviest the animal was doomed to the slaughter.

The razor back is not a handsome animal, but he has his place in nature's program—even if it has taken a couple of hundred years to discover that he is a prime wolf dog.

Iowa Land to $500.

Des Moines Tribune: There has been considerable comment on the Evening Tribune's prediction that Iowa land would go rapidly to $500 an acre.

What will be surprising about it? Land not more productive is much higher than that in other parts of the world.

Why should Iowa be surprised at such a rapid advance? It is not more than twelve years ago that land was quoted in Champaign county, Ill., one of the best, at from $80 to $125, and the Iowans who listened wondered if Iowa would ever have any land worth as much.

Much later than that, when Iowa bought the rifle ranges south of Des Moines at $125 an acre, there was a great outcry because the state had allowed itself to be held up. What can that quarter be bought for now in open market?

The March 1 sales of Washington county averaged more than $130 an acre for farm lands, eighty-eight transfers, covering 9,264 acres of land. Here are some representative sales:

Joseph Marek to Lars Nouchek, 200 acres, $36,000; per acre, $180.

C. C. Clifton to R. H. Fetters, 160 acres, $30,400; per acre, $190.

Sadie V. Hillinger to L. W. Gordon, 136 acres, $29,700; per acre, $220.

W. D. Townsley to W. T. Clark, eighty acres, $18,000; per acre, $225.

W. A. Gibson to E. N. Helwick, 120 acres; per acre, $175.

No one dreamed ten years ago that Iowa land would ever reach $200 an acre. It was venturesome to suggest $100 an acre. The same rate of advance will take the best land to $500 an acre within a relatively short time.

This is a good time to be betting on Iowa.

Planting a Cat.

Cedar Rapids Republican: He is a mail carrier and an all around fellow. The other morning his wife heard him get up real early. She arose a short time afterwards and saw him in the barn. She prepared breakfast and called him twice. He emerged from the barn with a peculiar looking package and commenced digging a hole. "John," she cried, "come in, breakfast is ready." But John kept on digging, finally she leaned out of the window and said, "John what in the name of goodness are you planting?" "Hush," he said in a stage whisper. "It's our neighbor's cat. The blamed thing kept me awake all last night."

Farmers and the Moon.

Shreveport (La.) Times: Seventy-five per cent of the farmers of the United States plant their crops according to the moon's phases, but scientific investigation show that potatoes planted in the "dark" of the moon are no better than others.

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If you must imitate, look to the one who saves, instead of imitating the extragance of the spender.

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Three per cent per annum paid on savings.

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OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

Published by Order of the City for the Benefit and Information of the Citizens.

FOR THE LAST MEETING

The Proceedings of the Last Session Are Herewith Given in Full Detail and Complete.

(Continued.)

Report of Committee of the Whole.

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council, City of Keokuk, Iowa:

Gentlemen: Your committee of the whole, having examined the plat and schedule of the following described improvement, to-wit, the construction of an eight-inch tile sanitary sewer commencing at a connection with the alley of block 187; thence westerly in the alley between Main and Blondeau streets to the easterly side of Fourteenth street, this day referred to this committee, finds that no objections have been filed to the proposed assessment for the payment of the cost of making said improvement; and this committee finds that the said special tax assessment as shown in said plat and schedule are in proportion to and not in excess of the special benefits conferred upon the property abutting upon said improvement by said improvement and not in excess of 25 per cent of the actual value of said property as shown by the last preceding assessment roll.

T. J. HICKEY, Chairman.

BY ALD. HICKEY:

Resolved, That the report of the committee of the whole be adopted and that the city council finds that no objections were filed to the proposed assessment set out in the plat and schedule, and that said assessment is in proportion to and not in excess of the special benefits conferred upon the abutting property by said improvement, and is not in excess of 25 per cent of the actual value of said property as shown by the last preceding assessment roll.

Adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Annable, Butler, Christy, De Yong, Hickey, Johnson, Kiefer, Lindstrand, McCormick, Roberts, Tigue—Total 11.

Nays—None.

Absent—Swanson.

CHARLES OFF, Mayor.

Attest:

H. T. MOORE, Clerk of the Council, City of Keokuk, Iowa.

BY ALD. TIGUE:

Whereas, The city council of the city of Keokuk, Iowa, has, in compliance with the resolution heretofore adopted, duly examined the plat and schedule reported by the city engineer and filed with the clerk of the council relative to the following described improvement, to-wit, the construction of the eight-inch tile sanitary sewer commencing at a connection with the eight-inch tile sanitary sewer in the alley of block 187; thence westerly in the alley between Main and Blondeau streets to the easterly side of Fourteenth street, and

Whereas, The said improvement as above described and completed according to the contract entered into by and between the city of Keokuk, Iowa, and Ette & Prasse, the contractors for said work, and has been accepted by the city of Keokuk, Iowa; and

(Tobe Continued.)

WARSAW, ILL.

Mrs. Lou Nagel entertained the graduating class of the high school at 6 o'clock dinner, music was enjoyed. It was a very pleasant event, Miss Mabel Nagel, daughter of the hostess is a member of the class.

Mr. Holmes, manager of the new E. M. King store, to be known as the Warsaw Cash store, arrived today and hopes to be open for business if possible by Saturday.

"Miss Lena Kechmeyer," in the person of "Shorty" Hamburger, of Warsaw, carried the house by storm at the recnt minstrel entertainment given by Keokuk talent at Nauvoo, for the benefit of St. Mary's academy.

The Woodmen Relief corps of Warsaw gave a very pleasant surprise reception to Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Martyn at G. A. R. hall last Friday evening. The ladies presented Mrs. Martyn with a beautiful gold corps badge as a token of affection and appreciation, Mrs. Hunt being the spokesman for the corps. Fine refreshments were served.

Coffee will be served at the M. E. church by the ladies of the church Thursday evning, from 4 to 7 p. m.

John Moore of Keokuk was a Warsaw visitor Wednesday, tuning up a few pianos.

Ed. Young has bought of George Bott the old Beilstein property, paying $2,000 for it.

There was a box social at Green Plains school house Tuesday evening, which was well attended. About $11 was cleared, and a jolly evening spent.

J. B. Dodge has sold his residence to Nicholas Satory for $3,500.

Robert Weimar, Warsaw's faithful city marshal, sports a fine uniform, the gift of many friends. He is the first uniformed marshal Warsaw ever had and that this was made possible by the efforts of Capt. Fred Rattermann, who first thought of the gift and who started the subscription. No more worthy man could wear that uniform than "Our Bob."

Brief and True.

(Beardstown Illinois Star.)

It blew; it snew. Whew!

The Way of the World.

Have wealth and the world will shake your hand
In any sort of weather.
But tell the world you've lost it and 'Twill "shake" you altogether.
—Christian Science Monitor.

In the Other Leg and Arm.

Louisville Herald: A man is shot in the leg and arm, and the Courier-Journal called him "an alleged victim." Where would one have to be shot to be a real victim?

Honey's Many Virtues.

"Honey, one of the most nutritious and delicate of foods, should be eaten more than it is," writes a cooking expert. "Bought in the comb, it is bound to be unadulterated, and will keep one free from sore throat and bronchial troubles. I know a number of women who use honey as a cosmetic. They apply it to the skin, rub it in well, then wash it off with hot water. The result is a finer-textured complexion, a glowing color, a young, fresh look."