

# NERVIEST POKER GAME EVER IN NEW ORLEANS

## Colonel Beaupre Relates Interesting Tale of Crooked Sharps Who Operated There and Elsewhere.

"Of all poker games as was ever played crooked, one that was pulled off in New Orleans at the time of the Corbett-Sullivan fight was the nerved," said Colonel Adam Beaupre, of Natchitoches, as he anchored alongside several genial companions in a downtown cafe.

"It was worked by a gambler named Frank Tobie, who used a high layout which he had invented when he lived in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Sixty thousand dollars was cleaned up in one night before the players got suspicious and when one of 'em did get 'on' Tobie and his partner backed out of the house with their guns pointing on a line with their late associates in the game.

"This layout were a money-maker. Tobie was a good deal of a genius with tools and when he lived on a side street in Guthrie he rented a little place on a side street and completed the invention. He showed his machine to a few wise ones and they were wild to buy the affair. It was sure thing. In the frame of the layout one of the dealer's side was concealed mechanism that grabbed the money from the table.

"It was operated with springs, one under the table for the knee and another on top in reach of the elbow. A plate in the side of the card box dropped down and left a narrow opening lengthwise when the box was placed in position against the layout. The second card was manipulated. By pressing one of the springs one of the slender steel fingers came out of the layout, slipped into the box without a sound and gripped the card and pulled it into a recess into the layout. By the same pressure the card could be returned at the proper time to second place in the box.

Had a Gold Mine.

"Tobie had a gold mine, but talked too much. His success dazzled him, and he made too many confidants. The 'graft' was worked over two or three years before gamblers generally learned it. Tobie sold his layouts at \$1,500 each and disposed of about 75. He could have sold more, but was afraid to overstock the market. Many a green one and many a wise one who played bank in Chicago during the World's Fair possibly is still wondering what made him so unlucky. Several of Tobie's layouts were there, and made big money for their owner.

"The biggest single haul was made in the City of Mexico. A railroad contractor, well known in the Southwest as a plunger and a stayer, had gone to Mexico from Arizona. Two gamblers at El Paso heard of the high layout, bought one, and started after the contractor. They opened a game in Mexico City and in a short time cleaned out the contractor to the tune of \$100,000, and got back across the line with the money.

"The layout created talk, and was superseded by what is called the 'new work,' in which I suspect Tobie had a hand. The mechanism is all in the box, which lessens the chance of discovery and exposure. This last invention was brought to Oklahoma not a great while ago and players were easily beaten. A big winning was made at Joplin, Missouri.

"Another great device for fleecing a player was also the invention of an Oklahoma genius," continued Colonel Beaupre, as he paused to apply a light to the end of a villainous black cigar. "This was the 'crap' rollout, and it was made by a young fellow named Frank Jones, who lived in the little country town of Mulhall.

Another Sure Thing.

"The crap rollout is largely a feat of skill after the player has learned how to face the dice. To work the rollout smoothly the cloth on the table must be raised slightly, which is done with a small hook on the player's finger ring. Jones, of Mulhall, studied combinations for facing the dice and then practiced till he became adept. To illustrate his play: He begins by facing two sixes, two aces or a six and an ace. His scheme is to make wheels roll forward on the table like wheels on axle, falling neither to the right nor the left. This combination, if rolled successfully, gives the player four chances to make seven and not

one to throw 'craps.' Suppose, however, his point should be eight. There is a facing combination for every point. For eight, the combination is to face two sixes, two fives or a five and a three. This permits the throwing of eight and seven twice each, an even break.

"One danger to the house is the seeing fairness. The player uses dice furnished by the house, exposes them in his open hand and rolls them in plain sight. Jones could roll his dice for a distance of two feet with safety. The losses are the only thing that suggests an unnatural play. Three rollout sharks cleaned up \$1,200 here last summer and got \$800 at Guthrie the same day before the fire alarm was turned in.

"Jones grew from a piker in a country town to be one of the cleverest sharks in the country. I have seen him with \$20,000 in a bunch. He went to the Philippines five years ago and came back loaded down with coin. A peculiarity was his insane fondness for champagne, not so much in drinking it. When he made his winnings he began rounding and bought wine for everybody. In making his get-away from the table, to avoid unpleasant questions and rubbing, Jones would pitch a handful of silver toward the ceiling and disappear, while the crowd was scrambling for it."

THE SOUTH IS THE COMING SECTION.

(Savannah News.)

As a matter of fact the South is now more prosperous than she has been at any previous time in her history. She has had several years of good prices for her chief products, and consequently her people are in very comfortable circumstances. That this is true is shown by the deposits in her banks. It was stated by a banker of this city recently that the banks of Savannah have now more deposits than all the banks of Georgia had fifteen years ago. That statement of itself tells a remarkable story of progress.

The fact that the South is prosperous is not known alone at home. It is known in all parts of the country, and the consequence is that thousands are beginning to look in this direction for homes and investments. Farmers are coming from the East and the West. They will take up the vacant lands and turn them into profitable farms, and capitalists are coming and they will put their money into factories and mines.

It hasn't been so many years since they out bound freights of the Ocean Steamship Company consisted almost entirely of cotton, lumber, naval stores and vegetables. Now the ships are laden with all sorts of manufactured goods for the Northern markets. No doubt a similar change has taken place in the cargoes that are shipped North from other Southern points.

People are coming and money is being invested in the South so quietly that few realize how great the change is that is taking place, but when investigation is made it is seen that a wonderful transformation is going on.

No doubt, the high price of cotton has done much to draw attention to the South, but now that she is attracting attention her advantages will become better known, and her progress in wealth and population in the next few years will equal anything of the kind that has been known in this country.

# EXPERTS CAN KILL WITH JIU-JITSU

JAPANESE SCIENCE THAT MAKES ITS EXPONENTS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

The biggest fighting man on earth is Nourouh, the "Big Turk," champion wrestler and fighter of Turkey, champion heavy weight catch-as-catch-can wrestler of the world.

The smallest fighting men in the world are the Japanese jiu-jitsu experts.

It would be an interesting thing to see Yamagata, one of the greatest Japanese bone-breakers, fight it out with the Turk. And it is no sure thing that the giant would win, says the New York World.

Jiu-jitsu, or, more properly, tai-jitsu, (the secret of the body) is as ancient as the art of fencing. It has been studied for centuries in Japan, and cricks have been learned that take advantage of every weak point in the human frame. It is not wrestling, but is an entirely different game.

The Japanese took Port Arthur bit by bit, a tort or an intrenchment at a time. In that way they eventually captured the citadel. A Japanese jitsu expert might whip the giant in the same manner, breaking bone after bone until his huge opponent became helpless.

There are forty-two tricks in jiu-jitsu that are not necessarily fatal. There are many others that are fatal, but these are kept secret.

Has Power to Kill.

With the slightest turn of the wrist or a blow with the side of the hand a trained Jap can break the strongest arm or leg. With the pressure of a thumb he can kill as instantly as with a pistol bullet or a knife.

The little Japs go through a wonderful system of training to perfect themselves in the art. In the first place the students are taught agility. To make them quick in escaping danger they are trained in avoiding moving objects. The first feat is practiced with two bamboo poles, crossed, so that they will fall in different directions. The student must stand still between them and wait. When the poles fall he must avoid them with the slightest movement possible of his body. Day by day the poles are made heavier, until they are solid wood and as thick as telegraph poles. To be caught under one of these is to be killed or maimed.

When the novice becomes sufficiently expert in this strenuous style of side-stepping he begins to learn the tricks that are used on the defensive and the aggressive. Three years of hard work completes the course, and then he receives a diploma. It is as great an honor in Japan to be a tai-jitsu expert as to be a professor of mathematics. The art was, until a few years ago, kept in the families of the samurai, or nobility.

Nourouh's art is a different thing. The big Turk, in his matches at home, fights as a bear might in a pit. He wrestles, hits with his fists, kicks or gouges. The match is never finished until one or the other of the "wrestlers" is unconscious.

Turk Heavy and Slow.

Nourouh is as ponderous and slow as an elephant. A little Jap might easily break his wrists or his arms before the big Turk could succeed in catching a hold. But if Nourouh could fall on his agile little opponent, then he could go hard with the tai-jitsu. The Turk would lie on him as he did on Tom Jenkins, until he was crushed into helplessness. One of the best effective tricks of the gigantic Jap is to whirl his rival into the air JAPANESE SCIENCE NO. 2

and throw him head first to the ground. In that way he can kill an ordinary man.

A Japanese swordsman or jiu-jitsu expert is the finest trained athlete in the world. The traditions of his craft demand that he take the greatest possible care of his physical condition. But Nourouh, whose work is all done with brute strength instead of brains, lives on black coffee and cigarettes while preparing for a match.

If the giant could be trained and taught like one of these tiny Japanese, even Jim Jeffries would fear to "go into a collar with him." A master of jiu-jitsu of his own size would kill Jeffries in five minutes.

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# EUROPEAN SUBSTITUTES FOR THE STAFF OF LIFE

## Wheat Flour an Expensive Luxury in Many Countries and Queer Mixtures Are Used in Its Place.

Here in Britain good wheat flour is one of the cheapest necessities of life, and even the poorest can afford to eat bread which is better and more pure than many of the comparatively well-to-do in other European countries ever see, says Pearson's Weekly.

In Portugal, for instance, the importation of foreign flour is absolutely prohibited by law, with the result that the so-called flour commonly sold in that country is adulterated in an appalling fashion.

A flour recently purchased in Portugal proved on analysis to contain 53 per cent of kaolin or china clay, while the remainder was mostly ground rice husks and finely powdered sawdust!

In Italy flour is also far too expensive a luxury for the poorer classes, and a substitute is found in ground chestnuts, which, however, make a nourishing food.

It is also in Italy that acorn flour is used to a large extent. The acorns are allowed to partly ferment, and are then chopped up, boiled and dried.

The bread made of acorns is black, bitter, intensely nasty, and by no means a safe food.

Strangest Substitute.

It is, however, in the north of Europe that the strangest substitute is to be found for wheat flour. This consists of fir tree bark, which at first sounds the most unpromising material possible for the purpose of food. Yet during the great famine in northern Scandinavia two years ago, whole families lived upon bark bread for months on end, and both in Finland and northern Siberia it forms a staple article of diet.

The bark is stripped from the trees in spring, this being the season when the operation is most easily performed. The outer or scaly bark is first carefully removed, as it is the inner or stringy bark which is the only part fit for food. This inner bark is then dried in the sun and stored against winter.

When required for use the bark is again dried over a slow fire and ground. The meal is moistened with cold water into a dough, but no yeast or baking powder is employed, and the dough is then thoroughly kneaded into large flat cakes as thin as parchment.

These cakes, before baking, are pricked full of holes with an instrument made of ptarmigan feathers, and then put into the oven, where they have to be carefully watched that they do not burn.

The cooking process takes only a very short time, and when done the cakes are lifted out and hung on a rail to cool. After this they are piled in large heaps and laid by for future use.

Considerable Nourishment.

There is a considerable amount of nourishment in this queer bread, but its taste is distinctly bitter and unpleasant to an unaccustomed palate.

A better form of pine bark bread is made out of oat flour, ground from kilndried oats mixed half and half with ground bark flour. Before eat-

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# WINTER ECZEMA




Gentlemen—I suffered with Eczema on the hands and face for over a year. It was not only annoying and painful, but very unsightly, and I disliked to go out in the streets. I tried at least a dozen soaps and salves, which did me absolutely no good, and became very much discouraged, until I read in the papers of the cures performed through the use of S. S. S., and determined to give it a month's trial at least. I am pleased to state that I soon noticed a slight improvement, sufficient to decide me to keep it up. After the use of six bottles my skin was as soft and smooth as an infant's. This was a year ago, and I have never had any trouble since.

MISS GENEVA BRIGGS, 216 S. Seventh Street, Minneapolis, Minn.

I tried doctor's medicines, salves, washes and all kinds of local applications, treating Eczema of long standing, but with only temporary relief. The itching and burning from Eczema was more than I can describe. Many nights I was unable to sleep on account of the awful itching. Seeing S. S. S. advertised I began its use, and after taking it for some time the dry eczematous eruptions disappeared and I was entirely relieved of this awful itching and burning. It is a boon to Eczema sufferers and I can conscientiously recommend it to them, believing confidently that a permanent cure will be effected in all such cases where it is taken according to directions.

Urbana, Ohio. R. F. D. No. 1. C. Orr.

All skin diseases have their seasons; some are active in the summer, while others lie dormant until cold weather, when the first breath of winter brings them to life and they remain to torment us until spring. Through the long hot months Winter Eczema sleeps in the system, and when cold weather begins it breaks out. The head, hands and feet are the parts usually attacked, but other parts of the body may be affected by this "flesh fire." The skin becomes feverish, hard and dry, cracks open and often bleeds, and the itching is terrible. While the trouble shows on the skin the cause is far deeper. This eruption is but nature's way of telling that the fountain of all health—the blood—is diseased and must have relief. It is filled with uric acid and other poisons which are forced through the pores, causing the natural oils, which should keep the skin soft and pliable, to dry up. These acids are constantly forming in the system to be absorbed by the blood, and thus the trouble is kept up. The treatment of this disease with local applications, such as washes, salves, powders, etc., is useless in effecting a cure, because they cannot get to the seat or beginning of the trouble. The best they can do is to give the patient relief for a little while. The blood must be cleansed of all acids and poisons and the system toned and built up before a cure can be had. S. S. S. cures by going into the blood, searching out all foreign matter, and making it strong and healthy again. S. S. S. is a purely vegetable remedy, and therefore cures this disease safely as well as surely, and from a condition of torture the patient is brought to one of healthful pleasure. Book on Skin Diseases mailed free, and our physicians will give advice, without charge, to all sufferers.

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