

RALPH IS STUCK ON AN OLD PRODUCT

It's something that "will not dry up or grow sour," a claim that, sadly, he can't make.

By Ralph Finch

I saw an old trade card for **Te-Nex-Ine**, showing a woman holding a large but broken vase. Another woman calmly replies: "Use Te-Nex-Ine, my dear."



TE-NEX-INE advertising trade card. "I wish I could find some cement that would stand hot water."

I read that and thought, "If it works, I could use a pint of it. Or a jug." With a houseful of glass and pottery, one never knows.

So far, Janet has cleaned every piece of glass we own—some twice—and moved it all around (sometimes twice). And except for an occasional "clink," we haven't filed one claim with the insurance company. So far.

The cleaning woman once dropped something—and one step above clink—more like crash—and she started to sob. I not only immediately told her that it was no problem and of minor value (phew), but then, to soothe her sadness, I went into another room, came back, and said: "See? I've got two more of these. No problemo." (She's Albanian, and I didn't know the matching phrase in her home language.)

Once, however, in a previous life, I had a cabinet of fine china and glassware. One afternoon, the top shelf gave way, falling down and causing the second shelf to fall, and the whole thing fell onto the third and bottom shelf...and that wasn't the end of it. The piling up of smashed cullet forced the cabinet door to open and the flotsam and jetsam to pour out into the living room! I was downstairs at the time and thought for a moment that a car had left the road and crashed into our house.

No barrel of **Te-Nex-Ine** could have repaired that mess.

And how many of us would wish there was a magic solution to make things perfect, not just covered up?

L 77 DR. LERIMONDIE'S SOUTHERN BITTERS

DR. LERIMONDIE'S (arch) / SOUTHERN / BITTERS // c //

9 7/8 x 4 x 2 3/4 (7)

Oval, Green and Cobalt, NSC, Applied mouth, Extremely Rare



Now, old collectors will remember the days of Don Spangler in Ohio, who could do repairs that only a black light and a keen eye could spot.

And one old memory, and since it was 50 years ago, the subject of this short story is probably dead, so it won't embarrass him.

It was when, for a coming meeting of the Detroit Bottle Club, we announced that a Greenfield Village–Henry Ford Museum staffer would give a talk, including how to repair glass!!! We were confused by the concept but excited to see if a professional museum expert had some secret that they would share with us "amateur" glass collectors.

The man came to the meeting and gave a generally pleasing talk, but what was his secret about how to repair glass?

A: It wasn't a "repair" but "a cover-up."

B: And it was simple. He said you could take a bit of milk and pour it on the crack, and the crack wouldn't be seen when it dried.

Honest. And I know what your expression is right now.



A LOST ART RESTORED.
EGYPTIAN TE-NEX-INE,
 THE MOST POWERFUL ADHESIVE KNOWN
 A LIQUID GLUE, CEMENT AND MUCILAGE COMBINED IN ONE.

THE ORDINARY	
CEMENT COSTS	25 Cents.
LIQUID GLUE COSTS	25 "
MUCILAGE	25 "
TOTAL 75 CENTS.	

Will firmly unite any substance free from oil or water, requiring no heating or other preparation. It is always ready for use. Is especially adapted to hot climates.

TE-NEX-INE
 COMBINES THE ADHESIVE QUALITIES
OF ALL THREE.
COST, 25 CENTS.

Will not dry up or grow sour. Contains no injurious ingredient. Is entirely free from any disagreeable odor. Is clean and nice to handle. Will hold where glue and cement both fail.

MANUFACTURED BY
TENEXINE COMPANY,
 14 Oliver Street, BOSTON, MASS.
FOR SALE EVERYWHERE. TRY IT.

GEO. K. ARNOLD, Apothecary,
Wood's Block, Neponset.

Reverse of advertising trade card "A Lost Art Restored. Egyptian TEX-NEX-INE. The most powerful adhesive known. Manufactured by the Tenexine Company, Boston, Mass. For Sale Everywhere. Try It"

Got Milk?

Editors' choice of this most magnificent, badly cracked and repaired "Dr. Leri-mondie's Southern Bitters." Was milk used?

Read:

"Dr. Leri-mondie's Southern Bitters" by Justin McClure in the September–October 2016 issue of *Bottles and Extras*.

Was he serious?



When his talk was done, the club members were silent. Huh? Was he serious? It is now 50 years later, and I still think: **Was he serious?**

FYI: The Te-Nex-Ine company, from Boston, claimed that its product was "the most powerful adhesive known." It did come in a nice-shape "glue jar" with the word "Egyptian," and could "Mend Crockery, Glassware, Furniture and Household Ornaments," and "will not dry up or grow sour," a claim that, sadly, I can't make.

TEN-EX-INE advertising trade card.

