

## THE ROOM OF A . . .

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not squirm. It does not crawl out of the jug while the wasp is away hunting, for more. She brings another and another and another, until the jug is full of limp caterpillars.

The next time the wasp comes she has something different in her mouth. It is a ball of clay, and with it she plugs the mouth of the jug very smoothly and nicely. The little potter has now finished the jug that she made and filled and sealed without any help. She will not come back to it again.

The mother wasp has no need of her finished jug, but there is something inside that

has use for the canned meat that has been packed away. Before she sealed the jug, the mother insect put in an egg. When the egg hatched, the baby wasp would have plenty of food to eat, and there is nothing that would agree with it so well as tiny caterpillars. As this kind of young wasp is a soft, helpless, footless little thing (much like a baby hornet or a bee) it cannot catch food for itself. It does not need to try. There is enough in the jug.

About twelve days later a little hole will be broken in on one side of the jug and out will come a queer, little slender-waisted creature that with an uneasy lift of her tiny wings

## USES OF THE NIPA

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the nipa flower stalk yields a fine flow of juice. This is collected by the thousand of liters, distilled into alcohol, made into vinegar or sugar, or allowed to ferment to become tuba. So you see how useful a plant nipa is. It will keep your house dry, sweep your floors, feed your fires and warm the heart. Like the bamboo, mother nature seems to have especially provided the nipa plant for people like us who live in the tropics.

Can you add to the many uses of the nipa that you have heard about today?

flies to the window, out into the sunshine.

## KIKO'S ADVENTURES

