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Rickshaw Drawing Not Heavy Physical Labor

Adolph Basler, director of the physiological institute of the Sun Yat Sen university in Canton, China, recently made some interesting observations on the rate of work performed by a coolie drawing a rickshaw. This form of running is peculiar in that the force exerted is practically all forward. The arms are held by the shafts of the vehicle, and since the vehicle's center of gravity is over the axle, the coolie does not have to exert any upward force. The work he does is consequently the same as if he were pulling a weight by a cord running over a pulley.

It was found that the rickshaw coolie ran from four to six miles an hour, consuming during fast locomotion about one-tenth of a horse power—the same, that is, as if he were drawing five and a half pounds one foot in each second. This is over and above the amount of work the coolie would do while running at the same pace without pulling the loaded vehicle. The expenditure of energy is much less than that of the oarsmen in a university boat race.

Italians Lay Claim to First Spectacle Maker

It is a little over three hundred years ago since the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers received its charter from Charles I and the tercentenary is soon to be commemorated. But is it quite correct to speak of it as being the tercentenary of spectacles? Among the lesser sights of Florence is a house which bears a tablet affixed "to honor the memory of Salvino Degli Armati, inventor of spectacles in the Thirteenth century." Strangely enough, although our own spectacle makers' guild had its charter in 1629, we find Pepys, nearly forty years afterward, complaining of his eyesight. He adds: "I am mighty hot upon trying the late experiment of paper tubes." If the Italian claim is authentic, it seems inconceivable that the boon of spectacles should have taken another three centuries to reach us.—Montreal Family Herald.

President's Wives Smoked

Mrs. Zachary Taylor, wife of the twelfth President, was a pipe smoker. She was known to smoke a pipe occasionally in private while she was mistress of the White House. Mrs. Andrew Jackson, wife of the seventh President, also was a pipe smoker, but she died soon after her husband's election and consequently never presided over the executive mansion. James Parton, Jackson's biographer, says it was not uncommon for Jackson and his wife to sit for hours smoking their pipes before their fire in the Hermitage, near Nashville.—Kansas City Times.

Deadly White Ants

The United States exports iron telegraph poles to South Africa. Wood is abundant and cheaper, but it would be quickly destroyed by the powerful jaws of the terrible white ants. In Ceylon black "army" ants marched on the warpath. A scientist counting them, found 300,000 soldiers in one army, marching in companies about twenty abreast, with officers running up and down the line keeping order. Let a horse or man break a leg and fall in the path of army ants, and in a few hours only a skeleton is left, according to Prof. J. Arthur Thomson in "Outline of Science."

Bunyan's Flute

While John Bunyan, who wrote Pilgrim's Progress, was in prison his jailors heard music coming from his cell. They decided to take away his instrument, but the music ceased as they drew near the cell, and they could find nothing to show how the music was made. From time to time the music sounded, but only Bunyan and his book were found. What had happened was that Bunyan had made a flute from a loose rail of his stool, and on hearing the goaler's step he would slip it back into its place and pore over his book.

Too True

There had been another quarrel in the Spatts' menage, and Spatt sat glowering at the evening paper.

Mrs. Spatt hated him for his silence.

"Furthermore," she began again, "you certainly aren't much of a husband."

The man threw down his paper and regarded the woman he had led to the altar appraisingly.

"Well, my dear," he said wearily, "I think I can truthfully say you're a lot of a wife."

"Warden of Life"

It was in 1912 that Casimir Funk, at that time associated with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, said, "There is a force that exercises vital guardianship over the nutritive processes by which inert food material is translated into human feeling, thought and action. That force I call vitamine, because it is the warden of life—because it is necessary to life."

Flattery Unprofitable

Flattery is a man-invented commodity which may have a few uses, but does have many more abuses. "Hot air" may get you by for a while. But it is like counterfeit money, soon discovered and then worth nothing but contempt.—Grit.

Shrubs Guarded by Law

To protect desert holly, Joshua trees and other growths of the deserts, California and Nevada recently have passed laws making it a misdemeanor to dig up, destroy or pick the flowers of some varieties of plants that grow in the dry places. Between Tonopah and Las Vegas, in southern Nevada, a wide expanse of desert country, several hundred miles long, is called the West's largest and most beautiful natural flower garden.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Love-Making Added to Arts Lost to Mankind

"Love-making is fast becoming a lost art. It is being practiced with about as much enthusiasm as a hungry man pounces upon a charlotte russe; with as much finesse as a butcher carves a steak," says Paul Mirand, author.

"Love, the sublime passion, the most intense, absorbing and tender of all the emotions is, as a result, in danger of dying a slow, reluctant death.

"It is a great tragedy, but we must face it. We have neither the time nor the place for love-making. Love-making requires leisure and an appropriate setting, and in this modern day we have neither. It is true that love—a fundamental emotion of mankind—can never exactly be done to death. Men and women will always fall in—and out—of love; but it is regrettable that love, so divine, and love-making, so delightful, should become such negligible quantities in our daily lives.

"Love-making once used to be a great art—one which was conducted with artistry, talent, skill and finesse. Today not only men, but women also, are too busy making money to take time to make love."

Thrifty Music Lovers "Paid" for Their Seats

When Mme. Nellie Melba once was on tour of Australia, some of the leading citizens in a little town she visited decided there was no reason why they should pay to hear her sing, says an article in London Tit-Bits. And so, dressed in their best, they walked to the hall, then slipped around to the side of the building, where they found a ladder leading up to the roof of the hall.

Up they climbed, and placed themselves around an open skylight, through which they heard the concert perfectly. While it was in progress the caretaker remembered he had left the ladder out, so he put it away in a shed. After the concert the party on the roof discovered that their "exit" had disappeared. There was a 25-foot drop, and none of them, in their Sunday best, cared to risk it. So they were forced to sit on the roof in a biting wind, until about 4:00 a. m. they attracted the attention of a policeman, who rescued them.

The Choo-Choo Desire

In the London Saturday Review Mr. Sterndale Bennett records this interesting human phenomenon:

"I have known at least two great scholars (one an Aristotelian, the other a constitutional historian) who would race for railway bridges, to see the trains pass underneath and arrive deliberately early at a terminus (when making a journey), so that they might gaze in admiration at the engine and even proudly mount the footplate and talk with the driver."

We have felt that way ourself. Small boys who wish to grow up and become locomotive engineers are at last completely justified.—New York Post.

Insulted Again

The two artists met each other at the varnishing day exhibition.

They discussed art together and were unanimous in blaming the judges for not having selected their immortal works to be hung on the walls.

"Well, I can't grumble. I'm not doing so badly," remarked one of the pair at last.

"How's that?" asked the other. "Got a commission?"

"Yes, from a millionaire. He wants his children painted badly."

"Oh," remarked his companion, 'then I should say that you're the very man for the job."

Looked Like It

The car was unusually crowded, and an inoffensive-looking little man accidentally stepped upon another's toe.

"You clumsy fool!" roared the injured man, clasping his foot and massaging it very gently. "You might have broken my instep."

An abject apology failed to appease him in the slightest.

"Do you think my feet were made for an idiot to walk on?" he demanded.

"It almost seems as if they were," was the quiet rejoinder.—London Answers.

Ants Aid Prospectors

One way of prospecting in New Mexico is by examining the character of the anthills encountered in the mountain and their vicinity. Any mineral content of the land is likely to be revealed by the piles of soil brought to the surface by the ants, which often reach rather considerable depths in with explorations under the surface. An examination of these pyramids will reveal the character of the material to be found immediately below and in this manner finds of great value have been made.

Speed of Meteorites

The fact that more meteorites are seen in the afternoon and evening than in the morning hours shows that their velocities must be, in general, greater than that of the earth, otherwise they would not overtake the earth in such great numbers. There is reason to believe, says Nature Magazine, that meteorites are different in their origin from shooting stars, that they are not true members of our solar system but are drawn into it from interstellar space by the attraction of the sun.

Peculiar Mill Stones

Before England became an industrial country, and when the villages were self-supporting, mill stones were used by the villagers to grind their corn. A remarkable feature of the stones was that the surface of the lower stone was carved with a fixed harp pattern of hollows and ridges, disposed in a certain direction between the axle and the perimeter of the stone, so as to obtain uniformity of grinding and regulate the flow of flour to the edge.—Detroit News.

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NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has obtained from the Orphans' Court for Kent County letters Of Administration Ancillary C. T. A., on the personal estate of

WM. HOWARD LYLE

late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against said deceased's estate are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of December, 1929, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said deceased's personal estate.

All persons indebted to this estate must settle at once.

Given under my hand this 11th day of June, 1929.

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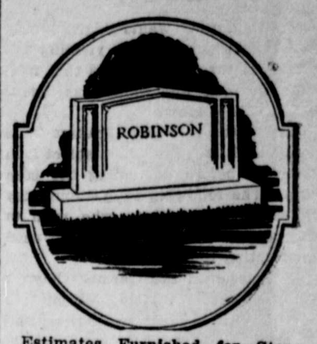
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