

Why Mention of Thrift

Grates on Auto Driver
Charlie when he had his other car developed a system that saved him a lot of pennies—perhaps as many as 100 in the months he labored with it.

Recently when fortune smiled on him, he traded for a new car. On his first trip home with it from the club at night he turned off the ignition and coasted down the hill. However, he forgot that the new motor was equipped with a gimmick which automatically locks the steering wheel when the ignition is shut off.

Just as Charlie was about to turn into his street the front wheels failed to answer his tug and he rammed a telephone pole with the right fender before he could bring the machine to a stop.

"It'll cost at least a sawbuck to straighten that out," he moaned, "and all to save a little gasoline."—Brookton Enterprise.

Significance in Name

Clemens Made Immortal
Probably the best known nom de plume ever adopted by an American writer is that of Samuel Clemens, "Mark Twain."

Usually it is regarded as just a proper name, chosen by the humorist from a book or some family record, as most such names are chosen. But the fact is that it wasn't a proper name at all until Clemens made it such, says the Golden Book Magazine, which tells the story:

"From the carefree days of his life on the Mississippi, Clemens passed to setting type on his brother's newspaper, to piloting a steamboat, and to wandering in the West. Shortly after, he began writing articles for a Nevada paper—clever, fun-poking skits. It was in 1863 that he first adopted the name of Mark Twain. 'I want to sign them Mark Twain,' he wrote. 'It is an old river term, a leadman's call, signifying two fathoms or 12 feet. It has a richness about it; it was always pleasant for a pilot to hear on a dark night; it meant safe water.'"

Women Geographers

The Society of Woman Geographers is a society, organized in 1925, by a group who felt that there should be some medium of contact between women distinguished in geographical work and its allied sciences—ethnology, archeology, botany, natural history, sociology, folklore, arts and crafts, etc. For active membership in this society only those women are eligible who have done distinctive work whereby they have added to the world's store of knowledge concerning the countries in which they have traveled. Corresponding members are those who fulfill the requirements for active membership, but who reside outside the United States of America and Canada. The associate membership admits widely traveled women who are interested in furthering all forms of geographical exploration and research.

Ancient Norwegian Town

Voss is situated about sixty miles from Bergen by rail and resembles very much the "Ostlandet," as the eastern part of Norway is called, being broader and having many pine woods. Voss is a very old village; how old is not quite certain. The inhabitants were christened in 1023, according to Snorre's Heimskringla, by Olav the Saint. The name occurs before that in the old sagas, and is once mentioned as a kingdom. There is a famous old stone church in the town proper and a Finne, a short distance from the railroad station, there stands the oldest wooden building in Norway, a so-called Finne-loft. The town itself is usually spoken of as Vangen, and the surrounding uplands as Voss, although the latter name is generally used for either.

Choosing His Own Name

At one time it was the custom in the Shetland islands for a man to select his own surname, and the last man to do this was Gideon Manson. The custom followed was for a son to twist his father's Christian name and make that his surname, a fact which explains why Gideon Manson's grandfather was called Magnus Robertson and his father James Manson (Magnus' son).

According to custom, Gideon should have called himself Gideon Jameson (i. e., the son of James), but he chose to be known by his father's surname. This ancient custom led to considerable confusion and was finally prohibited by parliamentary enactment.

Farthest From Land

The farthest distance a ship can sail from land is 12000 miles. This may seem strange, for the Atlantic ocean is more than 4000 miles wide, and the Pacific even wider than that. But there are islands in these oceans, and never can a ship be more than 1200 miles from some point of land. The spot of greatest distance from land, is in the Pacific ocean, half-way between New Zealand and South America.

WHY

Navy of Argentina Honored French Merchant

How the entire Argentine navy once steamed across the Atlantic to fire salutes to a French wine merchant's warehouse at Bordeaux is told in an interesting article on wine in Fortune Magazine.

The first agent sent by the house of Calvet to Buenos Aires, almost a century ago, says Fortune, became so impressed by the possibilities of real estate speculation that he squandered all the sums entrusted to him on likely plots, and presently returned to Bordeaux extremely penitent, a confessed embezzler, with nothing to put in his employers' hands but the deeds and titles to real estate which was then frozen solid, impossible to liquidate.

Many years later the house decided to ascertain what it possessed in Buenos Aires, for, being immersed in their wine business, the Calvets had all but forgotten that they owned real estate in the Argentine. They discovered that the city was developing in such a way that their property would soon reach its present enormous value. To consolidate themselves in Argentine hearts and seize this opportunity to expand their business in a new sphere, they gave certain real estate which the city wished to buy for parks and boulevards quite gratis. As a result practically the entire Argentine navy later steamed across the Atlantic, up the broad Gironde to Bordeaux and anchoring off the Calvet wine wharf, blazed away a salute to M. Jean Calvet. On the day that a member of the house lands at Buenos Aires he receives an invitation to dine with the president of the republic.

Why Knotty Lumber Is Used for Wooden Boxes

There is one industry which not only has no antipathy for knotty lumber, but actually welcomes it.

Tests which have been carried on demonstrated beyond doubt that knotty shooks actually add strength to the boxes up to as much as 50 per cent, providing, of course, that the knot is not too extensive.

In thin material knots should not exceed more than one-fourth of the total width of the shook, but in thicker material the knot may be as much as half the width before it becomes too large.

The market for inferior lumber presented by the wooden-box industry is expected to go a long way toward keeping the cost of other lumber at lower levels than if the knotty lumber were discarded.

Why It Is "Calico" Cloth

From North and South, from East and West, from far and near, does the English language borrow to feed the maw of a lexicon that is never sated.

Take for illustration our common word "calico," which we know to be just the ordinary garden variety of cotton cloth.

At first glance, it seems a perfectly colorless member of our lingual tribe. Investigation into its history, however, reveals the interesting connection that it has a story.

For we have it from the city of Calicut, in India, it being originally known as Calicut cloth, and subsequently as Calico.—Kansas City Times.

Why Hot Water Helps

Why is hot water more desirable for laundering than cold? As you may have observed when you cook, solid matter dissolves much more easily as the water grows warmer. This principle applies not only to foods, but to dirt. That is one reason why soil and most kinds of stains are washed from fabrics more readily in warm or hot water than in cold.

The same principle applies to soap. Most soap forms a lather more quickly in hot water than in cold, and the suds do the work. Save on soap and hot water and you are taking much of the burden of washing onto your own shoulders.

Why "Dove" Is Not Pigeon

The words "dove" and "pigeon" are practically synonymous, but in ordinary usage pigeon is a somewhat broader term and is applied to all birds belonging to the family Columbidae. Both terms are applicable to the domestic pigeon and to various wild species, but some of the smaller species of the family are specifically called doves, such as turtledoves, mourning doves, ground doves, to distinguish them from the larger species more commonly called pigeons.—Exchange.

Why One Knocks on Wood

The custom of knocking on wood appears to have originated in the custom of touching wood upon every occasion of happiness or good fortune, in gratitude to Christ, who died upon a wooden cross. Through some notion of the mass mind the custom of touching or knocking on wood came to be looked upon as a means of warding off misfortune.—Rocky Mountain News.

Why "Siamese" Twins

The original twins were two brothers—Chang and Eng—born in Siam in 1811 of a Chinese father and a Siamese mother, hence the term "Siamese twins." Since that time any two children similarly joined have been referred to popularly as Siamese twins.

Why Bowlegs

The condition known as bowlegged is due to allowing a child to walk too early or to rickets, or, rarely, to muscular contraction before the child is put on his feet.

Gates of Death Never Opened for These Two

The prophet Elijah and Enoch never saw death, according to the Bible. II Kings 2:11 says: "And it came to pass, as they (Elijah and Elisha) still went on and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, which parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven." This is undoubtedly a figurative way of stating that the prophet passed from earth by miraculous translation instead of through the gates of death. Likewise Enoch, the father of Methuselah, never saw death, according to Hebrews 11:5. "By faith," that passage says, "Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and he was not found, because God translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God." This is the basis for the popular but misleading statement that Methuselah, the oldest man mentioned in the Bible, died before his father did. As a matter of fact Methuselah's father never died, according to the Biblical account. Genesis 5:25 simply says: "And Enoch walked with God; and he was not; for God took him."—Pathfinder Magazine.

Much Hinged on Speed Made by Stage Drivers

Old-time stage drivers were ambitious, writes Edward Martin, in the United States Daily. A true test of their mettle was the delivery of the President's message. The letting of contracts by the Post Office department hinged on these deliveries, and if a driver failed to make good time it meant the cancellation of the contract with his employers and the transfer to a rival company.

Dave Gordon, a noted driver, once carried the President's message from Washington, Pa., to Wheeling, a distance of 32 miles in 2 hours, 20 minutes. He changed teams three times in this distance.

Bill Noble, who died in the eighties, claimed to have made the best time on record. He professed to have driven from Wheeling to Hagerstown, Md., 185 miles, in 13 1/4 hours.

Princeton's Famous Ivy

The first class ivy at Princeton was planted by the class of 1877 on its class day at its graduation in June, 1877, and the ceremony was accompanied by an oration, called then and since the ivy oration. The orator in 1877 stated that ivy had been chosen as a symbol of the perpetual remembrance the class would have of Princeton, striking deep, clinging close, and always green. The class of 1877 turned out to be one of the most remarkable classes in after years that Princeton has graduated. The first ivy was planted at the new library. Since then it has been planted at Nassau hall with a tablet naming the class. Some of the ivy has been historic, being brought specifically for the planting, one spray having been sent from the castle in Germany of William of Nassau, prince of Orange, after whom Nassau hall was named in 1756.

Origin of Tile

At the siege of Argos in the year 272 B. C., a tile fragment thrown from a housetop slew the battling king of Epirus. Thus tile played an important part in history.

Tile is one of the oldest building materials, having first been made in the remote ages of antiquity; yet, how many of us know just what tile actually is?

Tile is burned clay, or to be more specific, a carefully proportioned mixture of certain clays and other minerals, after being formed into the desired shape, is heated in a special furnace called a kiln until the particles become so hot that they partially melt and stick together. When cooled, tile, as firm and homogeneous as a piece of stone, results.

Charta's Highlights

The Magna Charta's most important articles are those which provide that no freeman shall be taken or imprisoned or proceeded against except by the lawful judgment of his peers or in accordance with the law of the land, and that no scutage or aid shall be imposed in the kingdom (except certain feudal dues from tenants of the crown) unless by the common council of the kingdom. The remaining and greater part of the charter is directed against abuses of the king's power as feudal superior.

Black Hills Traditions

The Black Hills of South Dakota are rich in tradition. It is the land where Stou, Cheyenne, Crow, Arapahoe, Pawnee and Mandan Indians fought savagely for possession of a great hunting ground which they named Paha-Sapa, or the Mountains that are Black. Here are the medicinal springs, mini-pazhuta, which were believed to be the gift of the Great Spirit. These, too, were prized possessions which the Sioux eventually won and held until they relinquished them to the United States government by treaty in 1876.

Legal

A small boy sided up to his famous lawyer father and asked: "Dad, you don't charge for advice to members of the family, do you?" "No," admitted his father. "Why do you ask?" "Well," said the small son, "I wanted to find out, when you were a little boy like me and needed a dollar, what did you do?"

Bee May Give Up Lease, but She's Good Tenant

About 8,000,000 colonies of bees acknowledge human protection in the United States and return for it more than 140,000,000 pounds of honey a year. It is a curious relationship that exists between men and bees. For no matter how long domesticated, the bee remains a true barbarian. Though she may trace her ancestry through hundreds of generations of hive-dwellers, she, without a moment's notice, may take to the woods, make her home in a hollow tree and revert completely to the primitive.

The compact between man and bee is that of landlord and tenant. The beekeeper tricks his bees into staying with him by furnishing apartments to their liking. But the bee never surrenders her liberty nor her complete right of choice. If she is not pleased with the condition of the new house offered her at swarming time, she promptly moves out and takes to tail 'imber.

But the beekeepers have learned to humor the fickle whims of their winged tenants. That 140,000,000 pounds of honey was worth about \$23,000,000, a pretty good rental for the type of houses and service the bees required.

Historic Old Pepps House Part of College System

Impington hall, historic home of the Pepps family, was presented to the Cambridgeshire education committee as a memorial to John Chivers, founder of the jam firm, says a London dispatch to the New York Times.

Impington hall forms the nucleus of a village college for the area of Histon and Cottenham, from which village the head of the Pepps family, Lord Cottenham, takes his title.

The house was begun about the middle of the sixteenth century by John Pepps. It includes a central hall and gallery and is still substantially what it has been for the last 300 years, though there were additions in 1862 and 1903.

Allusions to Impington in Samuel Pepys' diary begin on July 15, 1661, with, "Rode to Impington, where I found my old uncle sitting all alone like a man out of the world."

The educational authorities have altered the old buildings, which are in a good state of preservation and include many beautiful paneled rooms with seventeenth century ceilings.

Famous Frenchwoman

Anne Louise Germaine Necker, Baronne de Stael-Holstein, was born at Paris, April 22, 1766. Her father was the famous financier, Necker. Her mother was Suzanne Curchoff. She was a plain child, but a coquette and desirous of prominence and attention. Excessive study and intellectual excitement injured her health, which was improved by the family's removal to Coppet, her father's estate on the lake of Geneva. In 1786 Mile. Necker published a novel, "Sophie," and in 1790, a tragedy, "Jeanne Gray." Her first marriage was to Eric Magnus, baron of Stael-Holstein, first an attaché of the Swedish legation and later minister. She was twenty at the time and her husband thirty-seven.

Bible in Hopi Language

The American Bible society recently completed the first publication of the four Gospels into the language of the Hopi Indians. For many months the proofs of the Gospels passed back and forth between the translator and the headquarters of the society in New York city in order to perfect the typesetting. The difficulty of the task may be gathered from the text of the first Beatitude, which follows: "Pas Hlkwsit an ooklwyqaam hahlaypit epya, pi ovegatsit anq monwatuatya hapi pumy himuanniq'q'."—Washington Star.

Luray Caverns

The caverns of Luray, at Luray, in the famous Shenandoah valley of Virginia, are perhaps the most wonderful in their beauty among the subterranean apartments of the world. Luray is a popular midway stopping point between North and South. The Smithsonian Institution says of Luray: "Comparing this great natural curiosity with others of the same class, it is safe to say there is probably no other cave in the world completely and profusely decorated with stalactitic and stalagmitic ornamentation than that of Luray."

Four Canals in Scotland

Scotland has four canals, with a combined length of about 185 miles. The Caledonian canal connects the nearby continuous line of locks in Glenmore, and is devoted principally to tourist travel. The same is true of the Crinan canal across the peninsula of Kintyre. The Forth and Clyde canal, between Bowling and Grange-mouth dates from 1790. The Union canal, a branch of the Forth and Clyde extends from near Falkirk to Edinburgh.—Rocky Mountain News.

Marriage in Old Rome

There were three different modes by which marriage could be contracted among the ancient Romans. The marriages of the patricians were celebrated in the presence of ten witnesses, and with a variety of religious ceremonies peculiar to their order. The plebeians married after two different forms: one was a species of sale, "emptio venditio;" and the other simply by the cohabitation of the parties for a year, which by law constituted a marriage.—Detroit News.

MILEAGE COVERED DAILY BY CITY POSTMEN.

Postmen on foot walk an average of 170,000 miles daily in delivery of mail to more than 20,000,000 persons in the Nation's fifteen largest cities, according to the Post Office Department.

Each foot-carrier walks an average of about 12 miles a day, it was pointed out, and delivers mail to about 1,500 persons. This 12 miles may be covered in one trip, or several, depending upon the length of the route, it was explained. On a 12 mile route, the postman makes one trip a day; on a 6 mile route, two trips; on a 4 mile route, three trips; on a 3 mile route, four trips, and on a 2 mile route, six trips. Each postman, however, walks about 12 miles regardless of the length of his route.

Official postal laws state that a foot-carrier may not carry more than 50 pounds of mail in his sack on any single trip.

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