

SHIPS AND THEIR SIZE.

Why You Cannot Compare the Vessels According to Tonnage.

The different uses of tonnage terms when speaking of ships are causes of confusion to the lay mind, states Captain C. A. McAllister, engineer in chief, United States coast guard, in the Popular Science Monthly. For example, steamship companies in order to impress upon the traveling public the size and consequent relative safety of their craft will advertise the sailing of a certain steamer of 20,000 tons, meaning, of course, gross tons. The company's agent, in entering her at the custom house, will take great precaution to certify that she is of only 7,340 tons when paying tonnage taxes. He then is referring to her net tonnage, and, in fact, that standard is used only when paying dues or taxes.

Displacement tonnage is almost exclusively applied to warships, as they do not carry cargoes. Strange to say, the tonnage of a battleship varies almost hourly, as coal or other weighty objects are used or taken on board. The tonnage of warships is, however, fixed. They are referred to in terms of the fixed tonnage.

A statement that a 10,000 ton battleship sank a 10,000 ton merchant ship does not mean that the ships were of equal size. The merchant ship would be much the larger owing to the different meanings of the term "ton" as applied to the two types of vessels. It is absolutely impossible to give rules for the relations of these terms, as the conditions vary too greatly. Generally speaking, the gross tonnage of a ship is from 50 to 100 per cent greater than the net tonnage. Tons displacement are always in excess of tons gross. Deadweight tonnage is on an average from 30 to 50 per cent greater than gross tonnage.

THE BIBLE NEGLECTED.

Though Still the Best Seller, It Is Not Read as It Used to Be.

Although the Bible still leads all other best sellers, few read it. People still present Bibles to brides and grooms. People still present Bibles to children. Colporteurs still roam the country handing out Bibles among the villagers. Associations of devout enthusiasts still put Bibles in hotels. But the Bible is seldom read aloud in the home. And the type of American who daily reads his Bible in secret from a sense of duty is becoming more and more rare.

Quite apart from its moral and religious bearings, the neglect of the Bible involves a cultural handicap worth noting. It involves a cramping of the popular vocabulary, as no other literary masterpiece is such a well of English pure and undefiled. It involves a dulling of literary perceptions, as literature abounds in Biblical allusions which every reader of the Bible instantly understands, but which only readers of the Bible ever can. Finally it involves a failure to respond to many a good joke, as an astonishing percentage of the best gipsies are nothing more or less than Biblical allusions.

It is mainly useless, we realize, to propose a course of self enforced Bible reading for adults. We insist, however, that parents who want their children to get the most enjoyment out of life may well see to it that their children develop an acquaintance with the Bible. It is the basis of keen speech. It is the basis of intelligent reading. It is the basis of culture. And by culture we mean a capacity for enjoying the fine and beautiful things of this world and the capacity for producing some.—Chicago Tribune.

Fright and the Hair.

The hair does stand on end under certain conditions, because there is a little muscle down at the root of each hair that will make each hair stand up straight when this muscle pulls a certain way. It is difficult to say just how these muscles are caused to act in this way when we are frightened. We know that when thoroughly frightened our hair will sometimes stand straight up, and we know that it is this muscle at the root of each hair that makes it possible, says the Book of Wonders, but why it is that a big scare will make this muscle act this way we do not as yet know.

Platinum Retorts.

Platinum is used directly in the making of munitions of war and indirectly in all sorts of operations that are incidental to warlike operations. To cite but one example, in the manufacture of cordite perfectly pure sulphuric acid has to be used, and sulphuric acid can only be perfectly purified in platinum retorts, each of which, by the way, represents a value of \$50,000 to \$75,000.

A Lot to Know.

When Disraeli was prime minister of England a good looking young man applied to him for a government position. "I know, sir," said the applicant wistfully, "how little I know."

"Dear me," said Disraeli, "as much as that? I haven't got half that distance yet."

Biting.

Spinks—What made him so annoyed? Judgments—He told his wife she had no judgment, and she just looked over him critically from head to foot and said she was beginning to realize it.

Word From Br'er Williams.

Don't be in a hurry fer de long lane ter turn, fer de lion what's waitin' whar de turn is may be mighty hon'ry!—Atlanta Constitution.

Every shadow points to the sun, and sorrow helps us to appreciate happiness.

FOUGHT THE DRAFT

The Scene in New York City During the Riots of 1863.

A BRIEF REIGN OF TERROR.

For Five Days the Mobs Opposed to Conscription Raged Through the Streets, and More Than a Thousand Persons Were Killed or Wounded.

During the draft riots in the war days of 1863 New York city was in the grip of a reign of terror and bloodshed for nearly a week. Conscription was begun on the morning of Tuesday, July 13, in a four story brick building at Third avenue and Forty-sixth street, under the supervision of Provost Marshal Jenkins. Assistance and protection had been promised, but no one came to help him and his little force. Drafting commenced at 9 o'clock, and a big crowd stood outside. A stone was hurled through a window at 10:30 o'clock, and soon many more were battering against the walls. Terrorized, the police and draft officers fled to the street, where many of them were roughly handled.

The rioters rushed into the draft office and threw the enrollment books out of the windows to the crowd, which tore the records to shreds. The draft wheel, chairs and tables were smashed, piled in the middle of the room, and a match was applied. This building was one of the many burned, the aggregate loss by incendiary fires being estimated at \$2,000,000.

For negroes in the city it was a day of doom, the mob looking upon them as one of the chief causes of the draft. Many of them were killed and wounded, some being shot, others beaten to death and still others hanged to trees and lampposts. The Colored Orphan asylum was burned. Near Fulton market boys killed three negroes and left their bodies on the pier near Fulton ferry entrance.

So suddenly did the shock come that the police and limited force of militia in town could not resist it. There was a hurried conference between Major General Wool, ex-Governor Morgan, General Anthon and Brigadier General Harvey Brown; but, owing to the absence of Governor Horatio Seymour, whose opinion was wanted, martial law was not declared. Brigadier General Brown, however, took command of the troops in the city and summoned from nearby points all available soldiers. Mayor George Opdyke issued an anti-riot proclamation.

During the afternoon a mob swept along Fifth avenue, destroying property. They were ready to burn Mayor Opdyke's home, but Judge Barnard saved it by telling the crowd the only way to resist the draft was by bringing it before the court. He promised he would issue a writ of habeas corpus for any drafted man for whom application should be made. In all, the mobs were many infuriated women, whose actions were often worse than those of the men.

Horace Greeley, who was a particular object of aversion to the rioters, started, as usual, from his home in Nineteenth street to go on a Fourth avenue car to the Tribune office. Friends told him of his danger, and he spent the day in Windust's restaurant, at Park row and Ann street, and went home at night in a closed carriage while mobs were demanding his blood.

Governor Seymour issued a proclamation the next day calling on all citizens to stand by the constituted authorities and assist in maintaining order. Rioting, however, continued throughout the day and night, the police, soldiers and mobs having many fatal encounters.

On the third day the rioting continued, and many of the mob and the city's defenders were killed or wounded. The federal authorities postponed the draft, but trouble did not cease at once, as many of the rioters thought the action was a governmental trick to gain time. The fourth day brought further disorders in New York and Brooklyn. Archbishop Hughes addressed a crowd in front of his home, urging them to keep the peace. His plea had a soothing effect.

On the fifth day fighting ceased and order was partly restored. A heavy storm also dampened the ardor of the tired rioters. General James B. Fry, provost marshal general of the United States, issued an order that drafting would be resumed. Brigadier General E. R. S. Canby assumed command of the Federal troops in the city, relieving General Brown. A roundup of ringleaders among the rioters followed, and many were arrested. By July 30 order was completely restored.

More than 1,000 persons were killed or wounded during the rioting, among them Colonel O'Brien of the Eleventh New York volunteers, then in the city on recruiting duty. He ventured out in uniform after having conspicuously opposed the mob. He was seized, beaten, dragged through the streets and finally hung into his own back yard, where he died.—New York Sun.

Repotting Plants.

Repotting plants becomes necessary at intervals from two considerations. The plant uses up the available fertility in the soil and fills the pot with roots. In repotting plants it is well to shake off whatever earth can be separated without breaking and injuring the roots. Then water and shade for a few days.

Fame is something which must be won; honor only something which must not be lost.—Schopenhauer.

Fighting the Fly.

An excellent remedy for the fly pest is formaldehyde. The correct strength may be secured by adding three teaspoonfuls of the concentrated formaldehyde solution to a pint of water. The solution should be kept in such a way that the flies can drink it. A good way is to take an ordinary thin walled tumbler and fill it partly full of the solution. Place on a saucer or small plate a piece of white blotting paper and cut it to the size of the dish. Then place it over the glass and turn the glass bottom up on the dish. As the solution dries out of the saucer the tumbler should be slightly raised up, so that the liquid will again flow over the entire surface.

Another simple remedy to keep flies out of the house is by means of an odor unpleasant to flies. Any odor pleasing to man is offensive to flies and will drive them away, as, for instance, oil of lavender, diluted; geranium, mignonette or heliotrope.

Cows' Milk and Casein.

It has been proved that casein, which forms over 3 per cent of the total weight of cows' milk, is an important commercial product and may be profitably employed in the manufacture of glue, combs, buttons, linoleum, hairpins, toys, paints and even shoe polish.

In the preparation of casein for commercial purposes about 700 gallons of skim milk are put into a great vat and heated to about 135 degrees F. Then very dilute sulphuric acid is added to precipitate the casein or curd. The whey is drawn off, and the curd is drained and cut into chunks, after which streams of cold water are played on it to wash out the acid. The curd is then dried with rotary fans and ground into powder, in which form it is placed on the market. One hundred pounds of skim milk will yield about three and one-half pounds of casein powder.—Popular Science Monthly.

Value of Thunderstorms.

"Thunderstorms," says a Professor Ward in Science, "bring us much that is of benefit. To them we owe much, in parts of our country even most of our spring and summer rainfall. Without these beneficent thunderstorms our great staple crops east of the Rocky mountains would never reach maturity. One good thunderstorm over a considerable area at a critical crop stage is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars to American farmers. Our stock markets time and again show the favorable reaction of such conditions upon the price of cereals and also of railroad and other stocks. Thunderstorms break our summer droughts, cleanse our dusty air, refresh our parched earth, replenish our falling streams and brooks, bring us cool evenings and nights after sultry and oppressive days."

Kindergartens.

"The first kindergartens in our country," said an educator, "were conducted for the children of the well to do. The remarkable value of this training for the children of the poor was soon recognized, and mission kindergartens became numerous. Then the more progressive cities and towns tried them experimentally in their public schools. That their worth has been abundantly proved is clearly shown by the spread of the kindergarten, and the general introduction of kindergarten training departments into state normal schools and city training schools.

"At present 1,228 cities have an aggregate of 8,403 kindergartens in their public schools, with an enrollment of 434,000 children."

A Browning Face.

"A nasty jolt," said Senator Penrose at the Philadelphia club, discussing a political betrayal, "a nasty and unexpected jolt. It reminds me of the octogenarian banker who said to Gobsa Golde:

"Your beautiful girl wife declares that your face is like a poem."

"Yes?" Gobsa chuckled. "Have a cigar. So my wife says my face is like a poem, does she?"

"Yes," answered the banker, with a loud, harsh laugh. "She says your face is like a poem by Browning because it's got so many deep lines!"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Man and Pie.

"Pie is all you need give any man for dessert," said Mrs. Helen E. McLane, the food expert. "He thinks that pie is all there is to dessert anyway, and the more you give him of it the better he likes it. So give it to him, but be sure to give him the best, most nourishing kinds of pie, for there is a great difference."

"Mince pie is the best because it has more food value. But it is also the most expensive. Prune pie properly draped and trimmed is a favorite with my men, and they know good pie when they see it."—Exchange.

Effective Threat.

"Having any more trouble with that temperamental ingenue?"

"No," replied the manager. "I contrived to get hold of a photograph of her son, who is now thirty-six years old, and the last time she got huffy I threatened to show it to a newspaper man."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

A Common Economic Mistake.

The type of man who feels he has discharged his obligations as a husband when he provides his wife with a place to do housework for her board is not uncommon.—Topeka Capital.

No Reason Assigned.

Vicar (at village Red Cross concert)—Miss Jones will sing again "I Cannot Tell You Why."—London Opinion.

He who is everywhere is nowhere.—Seneca.

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These three things are the great essentials by which the United States can furnish an air fleet "to blind the eyes of the German army," according to Allan R. Hawley, president of the Aero Club of America. Mr. Hawley appeared before the subcommittee of the house military affairs committee, at the first hearing of witnesses on the Hubert-Sheppard bill to create a department of aeronautics. He declared that the administration's proposal to expend \$600,000,000 in placing American aeronautics on a war footing would be far inadequate.

America will be compelled to "do its bit" by supplying not less than 100,000 airplanes and from 10,000 to 20,000 trained aviators. Amplifying the testimony of Rear Admiral Peary and other aerial experts, Mr. Hawley told the subcommittee that the United States has its supreme opportunity to render immediate service on the western front and that its contribution to the strength of the allies in the air would greatly outweigh the results that might be achieved by sending an army of 100,000 men or more to the front later.

The trials of the old directors of the Pittsburgh Life and Trust company, charged with conspiracy in connection with turning over the assets of the company to Clarence F. Birdseye and his New York associates upon a small initial payment and the promise to pay them \$80 a share for their stock, will be held the first week in September.

Two persons were killed and fifty were injured when two passenger cars and a work car on the Charleroi line of the Pittsburgh Railways company collided at Birchamers stop, two miles from Monongahela. The dead are George Patrick, aged twenty-three, of Charleroi, brakeman, and W. H. Wees, twenty-six, of Braddock, a passenger.

Four hundred men, women and children struggled helplessly amid bursting electric light bulbs and falling poles to release themselves when a big tent, belonging to the Redpath Chautauque company, collapsed in Tarentum during a windstorm, resulting in probable fatal injury to one person and serious injury to eight others.



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