

TAKE INVENTION FOR GRANTED

Few People Seem to Realize Importance of Work Done by Men of Brilliant Ideas.

Inventors sometimes have been looked upon as rather scatter-brained people who spend most of their time thinking up impractical ways to do unnecessary things. But, according to Dr. Miller Reese Hutchinson, distinguished inventor and former adviser of Thomas A. Edison, few people realize the importance of invention to our modern daily life.

"Invention," says Doctor Hutchinson, "is perhaps the most important constructive force in our economic life. We take it for granted and few people appreciate its daily application. But inventions shadow our every step from the cradle to the grave. Our food is planted and harvested with invented machinery; it is distributed throughout the world on invented freight cars and motortrucks; it is cooked in invented stoves and ovens and sometimes eaten with invented teeth. We come and go from our work on invented means of transportation—if we walk it is on invented shoes and socks. All of our daily activities in business and industry are expedited and made possible by inventions. Our leisure moments are soothed by music from invented musical instruments or brightened by invented motion pictures, and when we die we are placed in an invented casket, carried away in an invented hearse and lowered into the grave by means of an invented lowering device."—Industry Illustrated.

FRENCH CITY HAS HISTORY

Tarbes, Birthplace of Marshal Foch, Otherwise Identified With Military Prowess of Country.

The visit to America of Marshal Foch, incidentally leads interest to his native city, Tarbes, in the south of France. This town which is destined to be a shrine of France henceforth, already has contributed in other ways to the military prowess of that country, according to a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Honored by a conspicuous statue and by the name of one of its principal streets is Dominique Jean Larrey, who introduced the 'flying field hospitals,' adopted and developed by Napoleon, the genesis of the modern ambulance. More recently it has been a center for the breeding of the famous Pyrenean horses, an Anglo-Arabian breed, valued primarily for their light cavalry use. It also has an important arsenal."

Glass Pavements a Failure.

Some years ago a plant was established near Lyons, France, for the manufacture of paving glass. Numerous descriptions of the new paving material were published, and a brilliant future was predicted for it. The city authorities of Lyons permitted the manufacturer to lay a specimen section of glass pavement in the Place de la Republique, a center for heavy traffic.

The glass bricks failed to stand the test of wear. The edges of them were soon broken and splintered, and many of the blocks split in two, so that in a short time it became necessary to remove the glass and substitute stone or wood. The city officials agreed that glass pavement can be used under favorable circumstances for sidewalks, but not for the middle of streets.

Vanishing Vicuñas.

The llama and alpaca are extensively domesticated in South America. A relative of theirs, the vicuña, smaller in size, is a wild animal, native to the high plateau of the Andes.

The vicuña has been hunted almost to the point of extermination by the Indians, and before long it is likely to become an extinct species. Its fine silky wool, of a tawny color, is woven into very attractive ponchos, and rugs made of its skin are much sought as bed coverings.

Vicuña rugs occasionally find their way to the United States, where they fetch high prices. They are usually four feet by four, and in Bolivia sell at \$250 bolivianos. A boliviano is but thirty-eight cents.

Thought-Reading.

This trick never fails to raise a high if performed before a room full of people—the more the better.

Ask a lady to write a sentence on a piece of paper. She must hand this and let everyone read it except herself. Then ask her to fold it up and place it on the floor, and get one of the men present to put his foot on it. After thinking deeply for a few minutes, assume a bright smile, and to the owner of the foot; "You wish me to tell you what is that piece of paper?" When he says "Yes," answer, "Your foot," and make for the door.

Humanity.

I was going down to business the day I met a poor man begging, asked me if I could spare a copper to him: "I am very sorry for what would you do if I gave \$1 note?" "beggar said: "Sure, I should fall dead."

Lost His Ballast.

You gain weight during your trip in Maine?" "temporarily. I went back again," the doctor removed the Boston Transcript.

ALL NEED MORE EXERCISE

British Surgeon Advises Americans to Devote at Least One Day a Week to It.

"Spend one day of the week in thought, and one day in exercise, and you will be able to put seven days' work into the other five."

That is the creed of Sir Harold Stiles, regius professor of clinical surgery of the University of Edinburgh and representative of the Royal College of Surgeons to the American College of Surgeons, which recently met in annual convention in Philadelphia.

Sir Harold learned of the statement made by Sir James Cantlie, a London surgeon, that "old age is just a pose. We only begin to live at forty-five. Down with the gospel of folded hands." Sir James is seventy years old. For fifteen minutes every morning he dances the Highland fling and the sailor's hornpipe.

As a result, a passion of exercise has taken hold of the older heads of London, and Sir James is leading groups in calisthenics in all quarters of the city.

Sir James Cantlie's campaign "for physical jerks for young men of more than 50 and young women—say more than 40"—brought smiles of approval from Sir Harold Stiles.

"Exercise—why it's the greatest thing in the world.

"You Americans are too fat. The ordinary American as I have seen him is far more robust than the average Englishman, not because you exercise less but because you eat more."

Sir Harold is an earnest champion of golf. "If I did not exercise one day out of the week, I could not get along the rest of the time," he said.

Americans are waking up to the possibilities of exercise, Sir Harold believes. He has visited this country three times. Each time he has found conditions permitting exercise improved more for the "middle-aged tired business man."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

BOTH SINGED AND "TRIMMED"

Barber Shop Patron Came to the Conclusion That He Had Made a Bad Bargain.

"Do any of you fellows here know how to scorch hair?" inquired a man when he entered a barber shop.

"Yes, we singe hair," replied the barber after a moment's hesitation.

"What do you charge for scorching?" the prospective patron asked.

"Twenty-five cents," was the barber's reply.

"Would it be any cheaper if I furnished my own scorcher?" the man inquired, referring to the small wax tapers, which cost about a penny each.

"Well, you can go ahead and scorch nine any way," said the patron, removing his coat.

"The reason I asked," he explained, "was that I got my hair scorched for the first time about two months ago in a barber shop and the barber told me that only a few shops in the country were prepared to do that kind of work. Before I left I asked him if he would sell me a couple of scorchers and he said that under the circumstances he would, but that he would have to have 25 cents apiece for them. I guess that wasn't such a bargain though. You go ahead and use these, anyway," the man told the barber, as he laid two tapers on the chair.

Alluring Offer to Workmen.

In telling of Europe's monetary woes James Bryce, former ambassador from Great Britain to the United States, recounted recently a story which was told him by a friend who visited Russia. "It takes a pile of ruble notes that high," said Viscount Bryce, extending his hand several feet above the table, "to purchase a crust of bread there. The workmen employed to print off new ruble notes threatened to strike. They were propitiated by an offer on the part of the soviet government that, when they had worked an allotted number of hours at making ruble notes for the government, they might work as much longer as they liked at printing off ruble notes for themselves."—New York Evening Post.

Pineapple Products.

The pineapple growers of Hawaii, anxious to encourage new uses for their product, are now putting the fruit up in cans, crushed or grated, as well as sliced.

Grated or crushed pineapple is beginning to find favor as an ingredient of sodas and sundaes. Pineapple pie, made with the fruit thus prepared, is declared excellent.

Prohibition has given a great boom to the soft-drink trade, and anything new and tempting in this line is in demand. A St. Louis brewery is putting on the market a carbonated coffee beverage and a carbonated tea beverage, in bottles.

The Main Thing.

An old dandy got up one night at a revival meeting and said: "Bruders an' sisters, you knows an' I knows dat I ain't been what I oughter been. I've robbed henroosts an' stole hawgs, an' stole lies, an' got drunk, an' slashed folks w' mah razor, an' shot craps, an' cussed an' swore, but I thank the Lord der's one thing I ain't nebbber done: I ain't nebbber lost mah religion."—Western Christian Advocate.

Steel Frame House.

Builders in an Ohio city are experimenting with residences having frames of steel, which can be anchored in masonry foundations.

Old Year—New Year

NEW Year, New Year, What do you bring? Your bag might hold Anything!

Old Year, Old Year, What will you do With all the hope That I gave you?

There is a moment When you meet, Like two travelers On one street.

Old Year, New Year, In the sky, Out where the winds And ghosts go by.

Old Year, Old Year, What do you say, Meeting the New on The Milky Way?

You took from me Like a thief, Larkspur joy and Juniper grief.

But you leave me One bright hour, Glad like sun on A crimson flower

This is mine Eternally, You may not Take it from me!

New Year, New Year, What do you Hear as you pass him In the blue?

Old Year, Old Year, Where do you go, Out on that path Men do not know?

LOUISE DRISCOLL in N. Y. Times.

To Travel Heavenward

TO BE strong and true; to be generous in praise and appreciation of others; to impute worthy motives even to enemies; to give without expectation of return; to practice humility, tolerance and self-restraint; to make the best use of time and opportunity; to keep the mind pure and the judgment charitable; to extend intelligent sympathy to those in distress; to cultivate quietness and nonresistance; to speak little and listen much; to adhere always to a high standard of thought, purpose and conduct; to grow in grace, goodness and gratitude; to seek truth and righteousness; to work, love, pray and serve daily; to aspire greatly, labor cheerfully and take God at His word—this is to travel heavenward.—G. Kleiser in Y. M. C. C. Central.

To Welcome the New Year.

A PRETTY ceremony handed down from the past is to open the front door promptly on the stroke of midnight for the passing of the old year to join the centuries of the past, and for the entrance of the baby new year, who is just about to commence his earthly career.

NEW YEAR'S EGGS.

The Persians still exchange presents of eggs at New Year's just as we do at Easter. But the rest of us now do our giving of presents at Christmas parties, though we may give to each other on January 1. In Scotland and England everybody calls on everybody else New Year's day, and drinks punch. Here in America calling has gone out of style, but if we do nothing more, we at least shout "Happy New Year" to everybody we meet on New Year's morning. When we shout that, we mean good luck to them for all the new year through.



NEVER AGAIN
Ostrich — New-fangled breakfast food, eh? Well I swore off from that stuff the first of last year!

PUMPKIN PIE.

Stew the pumpkin and rub through a colander. Beat the yolks of four eggs light; add a cupful of sugar and beat until you have a quart of the stewed pumpkin. Pour in a quart of milk, a teaspoonful of nutmeg, and cinnamon. Fold in the stiffened whites of four eggs. Line a deep pie plate with puff paste, then fill with the pumpkin and bake in a moderate oven till done.

SHORT LIFE IS LONG.

As the cartoonists have it, a year comes in as a baby and 365 days later dies as an old man. How fortunate it is that the human comes in as a human and not as a year.

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Taking Desperate Chances.
It is true that many contract severe colds and recover from them without taking any prevention or treatment, and a knowledge of this fact leads others to take their chances instead of giving their colds the needed attention. It should be borne in mind that every cold weakens the lungs, lowers the vitality, makes the system less able to withstand each succeeding attack and paves the way for the more serious diseases. Can you afford to take such desperate chances when Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, famous for its cures of bad colds may be had for a trifle?

Mrs. Laura M. Hoyt Recommends Chamberlain's Tablets.
"I have frequently used Chamberlain's Tablets during the past three years, and have found them splendid for headaches and bilious attacks. I am only too pleased, at any time, to speak a word in praise of them," writes Mrs. Laura M. Hoyt, Rockport, N. Y.

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REAL "PRESS AGENT STUFF"

Hard to Beat This Yarn Alleged to Have Been Put Out by P. T. Barnum's Expert.

The late Edgar Saltus, at a dinner he once gave in his beautiful New York apartment, talked about the press agent.

"The press agent of today," he said, "has a dull and feeble imagination beside the press agent of the past. How Barnum would have scorned the press agent of today!

"Barnum, you know, had a good press agent. Take his press agent's story of the elephant, Alpha.

"Alpha fell ill—so the story ran—with gastritis. No medicines would relieve her. It was discovered that she had wrenched off an iron bar from her stall, and as the bar could not be found anywhere all saw that she had swallowed it. This bar was the cause of her acute gastric sufferings.

"Well, Mr. Barnum had a small colored lad named Rufe working for him. He sent for Rufe and said:

"Rufe, I want you to take a rubber tube to breathe through, and we'll put a strong rope around your waist, and then you must go down into Alpha's stomach after that iron bar she's swallowed. It's the only way to save her life!

"Little Rufe rolled his eyes in horror, but he knew Mr. Barnum. He knew he must obey.

"So he was well greased, and they gagged Alpha, and then they thrust him head first down the enormous oesophagus into the elephant's stomach.

"He soon found what he sought there; he gave three tugs on the rope, and they drew him out with the indigestible bar of iron clasped in his hand.

"It is superfluous to say in conclusion that Alpha's life was saved, and that brave little Rufe was handsomely rewarded by his generous employer."

GEMS TO BE SEEN IN SKY

Many Really Beautiful Things May Be Observed With the Aid of an Opera Glass.

If you use an opera glass on dark nights you can make the stars flash out like gorgeous gems, says London Answers.

All that need be done is to shake the glass ever so little, either sideways or up and down.

You will then find the line of sight made by the star's image will resemble a rich resplendent string of diamonds, rubies and emeralds; nor will the lovely turquoise be absent.

By making the opera glass describe a tiny circle, there will appear a necklace of glittering gems so brilliant as to cause one to wonder how a single star could possibly produce such an exquisite effect.

Bright stars fairly near the horizon should be selected. One of the best for the purpose at this season of the year is Capella, now so conspicuous in the northeast sky.

Capella, apart from its brilliance, is recognizable by the small triangle of faint stars close to it.

Another excellent object for celestial gem-making is the well-known Dog star, the brightest of all the orbs of heaven.

It makes its appearance in early winter, in the southeast.

Gorki and Chaliapin.

Readers of Gorki's "Twenty-six Men and a Girl" will recall the baker's cellar that figures so prominently in the tale. It was a cellar that once really existed in the town of Kazan, and Gorki himself worked there as a baker's apprentice. It is an interesting fact that opposite the baker's was a shoemaker's shop and in it, while Gorki was learning to bake bread, the young Chaliapin was learning to make shoes. Though the future singer must often have eaten bread of the future writer's baking the two did not then become acquainted. But both applied for a vacancy in the chorus of a local theatre, and it was Gorki who was accepted, Chaliapin's voice not having then developed. Later Chaliapin found use for his great physical strength as one of the "bur-laks" or "human horses" who pull the boats on the Volga.—Manchester Guardian.

Fireproof Gas Tanks.

One of our leading rubber companies has developed a fireproof cover for the gasoline tanks of airplanes, which has been accepted by the government for use on combat and mail planes. The cover was designed primarily for combat airplanes for protection against incendiary bullets, and is not only fireproof but leakproof and crash-proof as well. The cover consists of a sheet of soft but very tough rubber, one-half inch thick, laid on several plies of high-grade cotton fabric. The rubber is applied next to the tank. In tests it was found that when the gasoline tank is punctured the rubber immediately closed the hole and stopped the leak.

First Woman Reporter in Parliament.

Dora de Lareda, a young Jewish writer of London, has the distinction of being the first woman journalist to attend the opening of the British parliament as a reporter of the proceedings in the house of lords.

Knowledge.

"Son, what did you learn in school today?"

"I learned that the arithmetic problems you worked for me last night were wrong."—Farm Life.

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