

Favored Few Make Living From Law Of Averages

By JACK C. LUNAN
Star Staff Writer

Ever hear of the law of averages? Well as far as we can understand, it is something elusive like the Einstein theory, perpetual motion or how high is up, but guaranteed to catch up with you sometime or other, in one way or another.

Personally, we don't know much about the law part of the question but averages have haunted our very existence from cradle days on up.

Along about the time we were trying to master the technique of negotiating our first pair of ice skates, we remember the mater telling the next door neighbor that our average weight gain had been consistent almost from diapers through rompers.

Then came grammar school with its Three R's, history, geography — and of course fractions and averages. In high school and college there were average attendance, average grades, average expectancy of becoming a down-trodden pauper or a gouty millionaire.

Our first introduction to the law of averages came during a fairly prosperous, but altogether unsuccessful attempt to outride and outshine the race riding abilities of the Sloans, Sandes and other luminaries of American racing. For it seems that the Sport of Kings evolves around the law of averages. If you stay long enough with the man behind the grill at the \$2.00 mutual window, the law of averages will take care of you and eventually you will cash a ticket. If you keep on riding, the law of averages will catch up with you, and the track ambulance will whisk you off to white sheets and maybe pretty posies that you never will smell.

Then after swapping participation in sports to writing about them, the old bogey of averages, like a saucy gremlin, was forever present among the keys, springs, nuts and bolts that make a typewriter click. In the spring, when our thoughts were straying toward a hickory pole and a possible perch, there were basketball averages to figure. With the perspiration and other worries of hot summer evenings came the task of dishing the pitching averages of good, mediocre and just other pitchers, and at the season's end, the non-inglorious duty of placing on paper, the batting averages of the Katydidd Kittens.

Working a trick for King George, we found that Old Man Average was still with us. If we showed better than average leadership ability, there was the expectancy of three stripes and the privilege of sipping mild and bitter in the sergeant's mess instead of a low-

ly estaminet. If your marksmanship was up to a certain average you got a medal to hide a grease spot on the left breast of your tunic. If Fritz was sending over a shower of cemetery tickets, there was an average chance that one of them would not be marked with your name. Such was the army and averages.

But the law of averages seems to be here, there and everywhere — at least the averages are. An average dose of medicine seems to have its good points, bad taste or not. Uncle Sam in inquiring into your earnings, asks about averages. The stock market ticker keeps you well informed as to stock, bond, grain or cotton averages. Mr. Anderson's staff at the U. S. Department of Agriculture wear away gross after gross of pencils figuring crop and dairy production averages. The weather man keeps busy with temperature, precipitation and other averages. And the man behind our favorite cigar counter, bobs up every now and then to offer us an "Above the Average Weed."

A friend of ours who dabbles in the insurance field, assures us that averages play more than a little part in whether you collect on a premium or not. It seems there's the life expectancy average and the law of probabilities, which has all to do with adjusting losses after a ship and cargo goes to join the growing wealth of one Davey Jones.

In the field of aviation there is average flight time, average cargo load, and a below average pay check for the general run of personnel. In the newspaper world there is daily advertising lineage, average circulation figures, average newspaper consumption. The common carriers base expected profits on average pay loads. If you watch over your pate there is better than an average chance that it will not lose its foliage before your second set of store teeth wears out. If you leave home early enough you have a fair average chance of getting a seat at your favorite cinema. If the new shoes you bought are of dependable workmanship the averages are in your favor against corn or bunions.

Remember well the fast-greying, ping-cheeked teacher who first introduced us to Mr. Average. Like a bad dream he has made our life a series of constant worries.

But at last we have found one guy we can not only feel sorry for but laugh at in holy glee.

Imagine a guy making a living figuring averages. And he goes by the title of average adjuster at that. Poor sap.

Today And Tomorrow

(Continued From Page One)

is no less interesting. Men between seventeen and twenty-five are considerably more optimistic about their own chances than are men over forty. The prosperous are, of course, more optimistic than the poor. But even the poor voted by a substantial majority (61.4 per cent) that they have a better chance than their fathers. Negroes, most significantly, are more optimistic (67.8 per cent) about their own opportunities than the poor, as a whole, and are indeed very nearly as optimistic as the national average of all Americans. About their sons' chances they are most optimistic than the average, more optimistic than any other classification of men. Only 5.3 per cent think their sons will be worse off than they; 75 per cent believe they will be better off.

There is no evidence here that American society is becoming fixed and rigid in a separation of classes. On the contrary these figures say that not only is American society expanding internally but that the circulation from the bottom to the top is felt by the great majority to be free and active. These figures contradict flatly any theory that American society is following the classic pattern towards class and caste, towards hereditary privilege of the few and permanent inferiority for the many.

These figures throw much light on the problem of social revolution. My own view is that the common and distinguishing character of social revolutions is not the ideology of the revolt nor the program of the revolutionists: it is the rise of new men to power and position. Revolutionary governments, including our own at the end of the eighteenth century, are on the whole composed of much younger men than established governments. The vigor which revolutionary governments usually display for a time is in great measure due to the fact that they break with the rules of seniority in the selection of men to posts of power and influence.

Mr. Roper's figures would, I think, justify the statement that in America the circulation upward in the social order is so free and active that this country is living in a state of slow but permanent revolution. The violent forms of revolution occur where the circulation is obstructed, and only as long as most of the people of a country feel that in fact they are not constricted and held down, that country has the essential benefit of revolution—the renewal of its vigor by a rise of new men—without the

convulsions which are the price of revolution.

This is almost certainly the reason why Americans, though they are in rapid motion not only from place to place but from one social level to another, are ideologically today more conservative than most of the rest of the world. They are conservative about their institutions because they lack the motive which really impels masses of men to wish to change their institutions. That motive is the denial or the absence of opportunity for the mass of men. In this country today the mass of men do not think they lack, or are being denied, opportunity.

From this many consequences flow. One is that Americans are unwilling to take the trouble to do much about their institutions which have become in many respects antiquated—the structure of government, for example, in Congress and its relations with the presidency. If this country were in serious trouble, the defects of the government might be disastrous. The reason the people do not worry sufficiently about the defects of the government is that the social order, as they see it in Mr. Roper's survey, does not seriously trouble them. They put up with a government that works badly because except in time of war or deep depression, they do not find their expectations in life on what the government does.

Another consequence of the free and active circulation within American society is that though people are optimistic and hopeful, they are not settled and serene. In fact considering what America has to offer, Americans are not nearly so happy as they would wish to be. This circulation, this personal progress upward, requires continual personal readjustment to new ways of living and that makes men nervous and anxious and irritable, and unsure and insecure.

So the condition is not one which, despite the spectacularly optimistic vote of confidence, produces a complacent self satisfaction. Copyright, 1946, New York Tribune Inc.

In the sixteenth century the Emperor Akbar of India brought weavers from Persia to make rugs for his friends. Today many beautiful hand woven rugs are produced in India. Some Indian rugs follow Persian motifs, but many introduce native ideas of art. Old Indian rugs are extremely valuable.

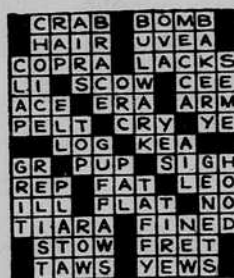
DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

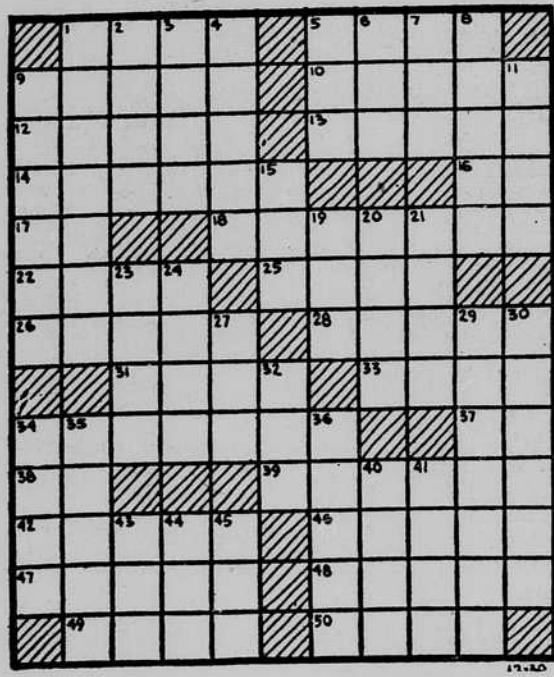
1. Counter (Poker)
5. Metallic rocks
9. Glisten
10. Arboreal marsupial
12. Kind of dance
13. Beat it! (slang)
14. Territory of U. S.
16. Sign of the infinitive
17. Music note
18. Heavy hammers
22. Units of work
26. Smudge
28. Sanctified person
30. To search a person (slang)
31. Tumult
33. Species of pillar
34. Assistants
37. At home
38. Hewing tool
39. Longs for
42. Timing device
46. A lariat
47. Cooking device
48. Doesn't work
49. Stair
50. Nourish

DOWN

1. A disease
2. Nuclei of starch grain
3. Covers with ink
4. Signs as correct (abbr.)
6. Fabulous bird
7. Organ of hearing
8. Kind of rock
9. Shows mercy
11. Biblical name
15. Ecclesiastical vestment
19. Sprite
20. — mater, brain covering
21. Broad smile
23. Lassie
24. Cut
27. Digit
29. Restricted
30. A state
32. Attempt
34. Head coverings
35. Egresses
36. A fine line of a letter (illus.)
40. Officer's assistant
41. Chest sound
43. Witty saying
44. Evening (Poet.)
45. Twilled fabric



Saturday's Answer



CRYPTOQUOTE—A cryptogram quotation

F V W M H Y A H M P S T H N C T I M V A
M C N K B, H T J B A A Z V A S A M C H W W
I W C S O G C N A B—Z H M M B.

Saturday's Cryptoquote: IT IS THE HEART, AND NOT THE BRAIN, THAT TO THE HIGHEST DOTH ATTAIN—LONG-FELLOW.

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DOG NOTES

By Peter Boggs

NOVEL PUPPY FEEDER

A friend of mine had a real dog problem a few weeks ago that he solved in a rather novel manner. His Springer Spaniel had a litter of six puppies. Two days after they were born the mother dog died. Now came the problem of how to feed the orphaned pups. This is how he did it:

He took an old inner tube that was hanging in his garage and six rubber nipples, the kind used on babies' bottles, to a nearby service station. There the nipples were vulcanized to the inner tube. At home, milk was poured into the inner tube and all six puppies received their meals at the same time. All of the pups thrived on this novel feeding and today the inner tube with the nipples is hanging in the garage just in case it is needed again some time in the future.

WHAT TO FEED PUP

Many of you must have received dogs as Christmas gifts judging from the number of requests I have received for feeding advice. Remember that any puppy will eat and eat until his little sides bulge, but allowing the animal to get in that condition is very harmful. He should be fed at regular intervals and not given too much at any one time, even though it may be fun to keep feeding him little morsels of this and that all day long. Until a pup is four months of age he should be fed four times a day. Here is a suggested diet:

8 a.m.—One-half glass of warm milk poured over dry cereal, such as shredded wheat, etc. Once or twice a week add the yolk of an egg.

Noon—One-quarter pound of raw beef mixed with half to three-quarters of a cup of canned spinach or tomatoes. To this add a teaspoonful of cod liver oil every other day.

4 p.m.—Half to three-quarters of a glass of warm milk poured over dry cereal or dry cereal dog food.

8 p.m.—One-quarter pound of raw beef mixed with a small amount of canned tomatoes or spinach, plus some moistened dry dog food.

The dog's diet should also include a raw knuckle bone to chew on occasionally, and, from time to time, a puppy biscuit. Now as to the amount of food a puppy requires. Of course a Great Dane pup requires a larger meal than a Scottie. As a guide to the proper size of a meal I suggest that it be less than one-half the size of the animal's head.

If you received an older dog (over a year of age) he should have two meals a day — in the morning a small amount of milk and dry cereal, and his regular large meal every evening. If you have any particular questions regarding the feed of your pet, please write me in care of this paper.

DOG SAVES LIFE OF ANOTHER DOG

When a dog saves the life of a human, the press of the country usually heralds the deed by displaying the story prominently. But dogs do not always limit their rescues to human beings. "Tim," a Cocker Spaniel, was out walking with his master when they passed the edge of a small pond and were startled by the frantic barking of a Collie pup that had fallen through the ice.

Two men were trying to rescue the animal, but in vain as the ice

was too thin to allow them to approach the spot where he was struggling. Each time the seemingly doomed dog would get his front paws up onto the ice it would give way, plunging him back into the cold water. "Tim" had never seen the pup before but without hesitation he ran onto the ice and slowly edged his way towards the stricken dog. After many attempts he finally arrived close enough to grasp the Collie's collar and help him up onto the solid ice. Turning quickly, as if he sensed that the ice would not support their combined weight, he romped to shore followed by his new canine friend.

LET VET SEE SICK DOG

Dogs like humans suffer from lack of certain vitamins. A friend of mine owns a dog who seemed to have an extreme case of mange. The dog's hair fell out, accompanied by loss of appetite and a general run-down condition. A competent veterinary found that the dog lacked vitamin A. The proper medicine brought about a complete recovery.

If your dog sickens from any ailment whatsoever it is best to take him to a good vet. Do not rely on patent dog medicines and hope for a cure. Like people, dogs suffer many ills which have identical symptoms, and only a good veterinary can prescribe the proper treatment.

DOG ADDS SPOTS AFTER HE'S BORN

Most of us are familiar with the Dalmatian, or coach dog as this breed is popularly known. But did you know that these dogs arrive in the world pure white and that the many black spots with which they are covered do not make their appearance until the pup is many weeks old?

THE QUESTION BOX

Question: What is the youngest age at which the Laidlaw-Dunkin treatment for distemper can safely be given? How soon after exposure does a dog develop distemper?—F. R.

Answer: The Laidlaw - Dunkin immunization treatment shouldn't be given to a dog until he is at least four months old. Distemper usually develops five to nine days after the dog has been exposed.

Question: How long does it take to worm a dog?—D. S. L.

Answer: A dog should receive no food for twenty-four hours prior to being given worm medicine. Most medicines will act within one hour after being given to the dog. (Released by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

AUTHORS FILE SUIT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28—(AP)—A suit for \$26,753 was entered in District of Columbia court today against Michael Todd, producer of "Up In Central Park," by Marion Lovitz who said the money was owed to the authors of the play.

Miss Lovitz she acted as assignee for Herbert and Dorothy Fields, who wrote the book and lyrics, and Sigmund Romberg, composer of the music for the play.

Papers in the case asserted the money was owed under a contract calling for a percentage of gross weekly box office receipts.

Macau, Portuguese settlement in China, was for many years financed by Lottery tickets.

BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



WASH TUBS



GASOLINE ALLEY



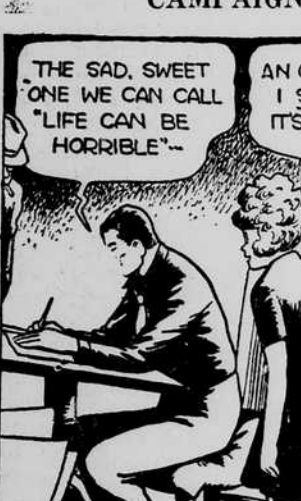
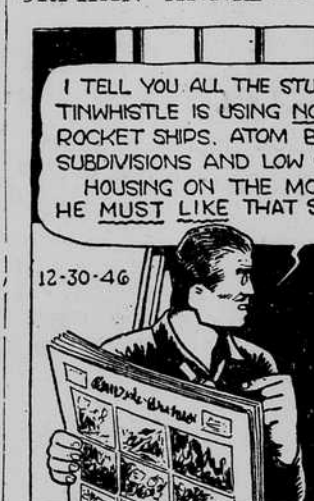
DR. BOBBS



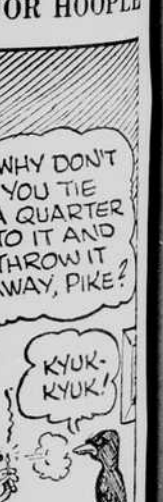
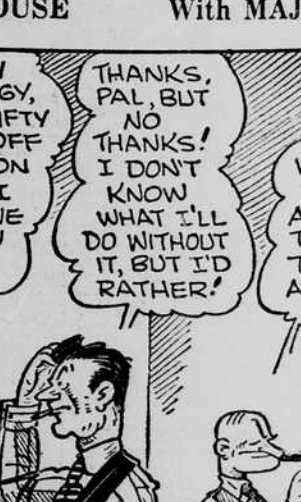
THE GUMPS



ORPHAN ANNIE



OUT OUR WAY



OUR BOARDING HOUSE



A SHARP REMINDER



ALL VERY SIMPLE

