

TAKE IT FROM ME

By

NEAL O'HARA



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TAKE IT FROM ME



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BY
NEAL O'HARA



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Boston

Massachusetts

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TAKE IT FROM ME

ALL ABOUT YOURSELF

ACCORDING to the eminent British scientist Hooke, the human brain is capable of holding some 3,155,760,000 separate ideas. The human face and figure are generally at their best in a person's 21st year. Most speech defects develop between the ages of 3 and 8 years.

Scientific tests have determined that there's no emotional difference between blonds and brunets. In an actuarial survey of a fairly large sample of Baltimore's working class population, it was discovered that moderate drinkers of alcoholic beverages had somewhat lower mortality rates and greater expectation of life than total abstainers. Because fear affects the circulatory system, causing the skin to tighten, it's really possible for a person's hair "to stand on end" from fright when the skin covering the skull is drawn taut.

A psychologist advises one never to try too hard in memorizing anything because laboratory experiments have shown that over-trying actually slows down the process of learning. Worry and fear actually cause tooth decay. There's a prize example of a New Jersey young man with previously sound teeth who developed 9 cavities within 3 weeks during which his wife was critically ill.

The bite of a human being is really more serious than the average bite of a dog, cat or horse, because the human mouth contains a greater variety and larger quantity of dangerous bacteria.

Your stomach, when absolutely empty and shriveled up, is just a trifle larger than your index finger. Soothing news from an eminent neuro-psychiatrist: "The very fact that you fear you are losing your mind is the best possible proof that you are not." (Time out for a sigh of relief.) Continued crossing of your legs may give you palsy in time.

Your personal plumbing: Some 15 miles of tiny tubes and filters are required to strain the waste material of your body from your blood. You can find the approximate number of years you have left to live, according to life insurance actuarial tables, by subtracting your present age from 80, multiplying the result by 7 and dividing the result by 10. (But if you're past 70, forget about the system.)

Near the centre of your brain is an organism that functions like a thermostat. Among other things, it will cause you to shiver and thus, by such involuntary muscular exercise, to generate heat to counteract the cold that discomforts you. The only part of the body that can't repair itself is the tooth. In the course of a year all your fingernails and toenails grow about 11 yards in the aggregate.

Throughout life, no matter what age you reach, your ears never stop growing. Laboratory experiments show that a person can be hypnotized by the playing of

a phonograph record. Going, going, gone: A man of middle age who's not already bald loses about 40 hairs a day. While you're sleeping, your brain grows slightly smaller and your body a trifle larger. It's because your blood vessels dilate during slumber, bringing more blood to the body and less to the brain. Inhabitants of rural regions are always more susceptible to influenza than city folks.

Because alcohol and fat mix readily, heavy drinking will do you much less harm if you stoke up with fatty foods before you start elbow bending. Man can live as many weeks without water as he can live minutes without air. Better not scratch yourself because you have phosphorus enough in your body to make about 750,000 ordinary matches.

If you're normal, your ability to learn increases up to the age of 22, then remains virtually constant up to 35. The skin of a person sometimes continues to grow for as long as 24 hours after death. Recipe: Your eyes will be sharpened for night automobile driving by having milk, cheese, butter, eggs, liver, spinach, lettuce, carrots and tomatoes in your diet. They all contain plenty of Vitamin A, which creates "visual purple," a requisite for night driving. In the average hand, the third finger is as long as the hand is wide.

Spring fever isn't a psychological laziness, but an actual disease that occurs when a body's store of calcium is depleted, lowering one's capacity for work. Your saliva, gastric and intestinal juices are potent killers of germs within your body. Statistics show: If you exam-

ined 100,000 persons for their intelligence, 6750 would be very superior, 13,000 superior, 13,000 dull and 750 would be morons. And the remainder just average.

It's the theory of an eminent Berlin professor that the difference in the secretions of human sweat glands and the variability of the acidity of the skin account for the fact that some persons attract insects, such as mosquitoes, while others are practically immune. An eminent medico speaking, "More damage is caused to persons who use alcohol in quantity by their failure to act properly than by direct effects of the alcohol itself."

It's hardly credible at first thought, but the air you breathe during a single day weighs more than the food you eat in the same span of time. It is estimated that there is enough electricity in a normal male adult's blood cells to illuminate a 25-watt bulb for about 3 minutes.

Thunder may scare you, but the odds are 7000 to 1 against a person's being struck by lightning during a life span of 70 years. Dentists now advance the theory that bacteria alone don't cause tooth cavities, but are assisted by a person's own saliva. A person's hair invariably reflects any disease affecting the blood stream. Thus, one with poor circulation or anaemia always has lustreless hair. On the say-so of the Association for the Advancement of Science, blonde persons are more likely to become bald than those with brunet locks. On the authority of Prof. Walter Miles of Yale, a person improves in his ability to see objects up to his 17th year, then a gradual decline sets in. But so gradual is the decline that an average person of 52 years can see as well as a 14-year-old boy.

You're an active volcano: Every minute of the day, some 500,000 atoms in each human body are tearing themselves apart, and with each disintegration, rays are sent out to pierce the bodily tissues for about 1-5th of an inch. If blood failed to circulate in your brain for 45 seconds and then resumed, your brain cells would have deteriorated in that brief meantime and you'd be at least feeble-minded from then on.

Biologists have discovered that the fluid of which your tears are made, even if greatly diluted, makes a powerful bacteria destroyer. Recipe for remembering: Because memory depends upon your nervous condition (tired and nervous people forget easily), psychologists recommend taking a few deep breaths and relaxing when trying to recall some person's name.

More human beings die from over-eating than from drinking too much. Fruit, sugar and honey get into the human blood stream the fastest of anything you absorb as food, requiring almost no breakdown at all.

Psychologic: Think of the word "bubble" with your mouth wide open. (Feel the urge to compress your lips?) In the course of a day your heart pumps enough blood to fill an ordinary R. R. tank car. Cancer of the lungs or stomach, heart disease and pulmonary tuberculosis can first be recognized in a person's eyes. In fact, diseases affecting all blood vessels in the body can first be detected in the back of the eye and the progress toward recovery or death may be most accurately watched there, too.

On the say-so of an eminent psychologist, a nervous breakdown indicates your personality has been subjected to too

great a strain, so Nature has warned you and given you a respite. But a nervous breakdown is also an indication you have within you the material for recovery.

Handsome males who wish to avoid baldness should never let the fine spray of water from a shower nozzle come in contact with their scalps. What psychiatrists call the mid-channel period, the years between 45 and 55, are the most dangerous for mental onslaughts for both men and women. A man who is genetically fit to reach a height of five feet, eight inches can eat all the food he can stow away and yet not add as much as two inches to his stature. On the other hand, if he is genetically fit to attain five feet, eight inches, he may never reach that height if his food is deficient. Cold baths are effective in reducing the weight of fat persons because cold causes a loss of bodily energy which then repairs itself by consuming some of the surplus fat.

FAVORITE GAGS

Eavesdropped on a Boston street: A panhandler stopped a Harvard student and said, "I beg your pardon, sir, but you wouldn't want to see a poor man walking the streets all night, would you?" Replied the Harvard lad, "Well, it might be interesting to watch, but I've got to go home and go to bed."

"Who was that, Eliza?" asked the mistress when the phone conversation ended. "'Tweren't nobody, Missus Jones," the maid replied. "Jest a lady sayin', 'It's a long distance from Chicago,' and I says, 'Yes, ma'am, it sure is.'"

A guide was grandiloquently telling a tourist group how many millions of gallons of water went over Niagara Falls each minute. "Yuh?" commented one unimpressed sightseer. "What's to prevent it?"

PATIENT: "Doctor, are you sure I have pneumonia? Sometimes doctors prescribe for pneumonia and the patient dies of something else."

DOCTOR (with dignity): "When I prescribe for pneumonia, you die of pneumonia!"

BOSS (severely): "You should have been here at nine o'clock."

NEW EMPLOYEE: "Why? What happened?"

CYRIL: "I really think that our British custom at the telephone is superior to the American 'Hello.'"

TOM: "And what do you say in England?"

CYRIL: "We say, 'Are you there?' Then, of course, if you're not there, there's no use going on with the conversation."

BOSS (to Pat): "So you want to quit working? Aren't the wages all right?"

PAT: "The wages are all right, but I'm afraid I'm doing a horse out of a job."

MISTRESS: "Do you know how to serve company?"

MANDY: "Yes, ma'am; either way."

MISTRESS: "What do you mean, either way?"

MANDY: "So they'll come again, or so they won't."

SCOTSMAN: "Are you to be my caddie, my lad?"

CADDIE: "Yes, sir."

SCOTSMAN: "And how are you at finding lost balls?"

CADDIE: "Very good, sir."

SCOTSMAN: "Well, look around and find one and we'll start the game."

FIRST PATIENT (in doctor's waiting room): "How do you do."

SECOND PATIENT: "Oh, so-so. I'm aching from neuritis."

FIRST PATIENT: "Glad to meet you. I'm Mendelbaum from Chicago."

AROUND THE WORLD

OF Tibet's 3,000,000 population, some 575,000 are priests. Although you associate them with the Sahara Desert, one-third of the world's camels are found in Soviet Russia. The milk tree, flourishing in Brazil, bears an edible fruit with the flavor of strawberries and cream, and its trunk yields milk, similar to a cow's, except the tree's milk will stand for two months without souring. Japan is now trailing only Germany and the United Kingdom in its exports of beer to the United States.

No woman is allowed to give evidence in Hindu courts of justice. Such is the British sense of fair play that they won't stand for the cops operating speed traps to catch unwary motorists. They consider that sneaky and unethical. The mahogany trees that flourish in Guatemala and El Salvador are usually cut by the light of the moon because the trees are sounder, freer of sap and richer in coloring at night than during the day.

Grasshoppers in virtually any style are featured on restaurant menus in India. (We'll take ours with a little insect powder on them, with a garbage can nearby). A band of sea gypsies, the Bajaos, who live in thousands of small boats in the Sulu sea, are so used to the ocean's motion that walking on terra firma actually makes them dizzy.

. It's even simpler than Reno in Cochin, China, where parties desiring a divorce simply break a pair of chopsticks in the presence of a witness and the thing is done.

The bad news: In case you go mountain climbing in the Alps this year, the dogs of St. Bernard aren't carrying flasks of brandy any more, but hot coffee in thermos bottles. Instead of hanging their stockings the night before Christmas, French children put their shoes on the doorsteps of their homes. Monopoly: Practically all the clay used in making clay pipes the world over comes from one little town in Belgium.

Settling the unemployment problem: A permanent staff of 30 painters spend their lifetime just daubing the famed Firth of Forth railway bridge in Scotland. By the time they've got through giving it a thorough painting, it's time to go over it again. In Greenland, the natives cremate the body of a person who's just died almost before the flesh turns cold. And with the body they burn everything that belonged to the deceased.

All Arabs abhor whistling and believe that after a person has whistled, it takes 40 days to purify the mouth. Where ferryboats flourish: One of the great rivers of India, the Brahmaputra, 1800 miles long, isn't spanned by a single bridge. Java hears more thunder than any other country in the world.

On the island of Cyprus, the natives greet you, when speaking English, by saying "Goodbye" when, of course, you expect them to say "Hello." It's all due to a mistake in a Greek-English grammar used for years in the Cyprus public schools. Centuries before American women ever gave the matter a tumble, Burma was the first nation to give

women equal suffrage with men and the right to own property in their own name.

At a celebrated banquet to 25,000 mayors and dignitaries of all the cities and towns of France, once held in the Tuileries, the set-up was so vast that the head waiter and captains had to ride around on bicycles to see that the service was functioning smoothly.

Iceland has neither policemen nor prisons. India has only 3 seasons—the hot, the rainy and the temperate. Boston, Mass., and Aberdeen, Scotland have more book stores per acre than any 2 other places on earth.

But it's a heap-big honor: The baby-austin Republic of Andorra, tucked in between France and Spain, pays its President the munificent salary of \$15 a year. London's morning newspapers have a combined circulation of 9,000,000 as compared with 3,500,000 odd for New York City's A.M. sheets. Occasion: Since 1875, at Sèvres, France, there has been stored in the great vault of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures a platinum-iridium meter bar, the standard of the metric system. Once every 6 years representatives of more than a dozen nations, each with a key to some special door to the vault, meet to inspect it with great and solemn formality.

Police in Bulgaria mark the ears of pickpockets with a bright red, indelible ink when they're released from prison—that the public may beware. An American comedy act playing in Rio de Janeiro had to send all the way to N. Y. for a supply of blank cartridges. It seems that down in South America there's no fooling about it when they make ammunition—the bullets are the real thing and no blanks are manufactured.

In a normal year, the vineyards of France produce enough wine to float 165 battleships. Quick, Watson, the umbrella: The Brazilian city of Belem, on the equator, prepares for rain virtually every afternoon at four o'clock—and gets it.

When the Javanese sit down to a meal, they really eat. Dinner there always consists of 17 rigidly defined courses. In Italy a girl doesn't get her engagement ring until the day of the wedding. Still that's better than none at all. Any Chinese business man who hasn't cleaned up all his debts by the Chinese New Year's Day not only loses his credit rating, but also his reputation for honesty.

Among the warriors of Tungo-besch in Central Africa, an unfaithful wife isn't divorced or cast off. She's simply beaten to death.

Service: After you have made your application, it takes from 10 months to 2 yrs. to have a telephone installed in Japan. Blizzard-exempt: Snow never falls on 70 per cent of the earth's surface. Haggis, which the Scots go for in a big way, is a dish consisting of a calf's, sheep's or other animal's heart, liver and lungs boiled in the stomach of the animal with a seasoning of pepper, salt, onions, etc., chopped fine, with suet and oatmeal. (We'll take wheat cakes!).

Land of prosperity: Only one Japanese in 10,000 owns a passenger automobile. In many parts of China, where chronometers are scarce, they tell the time by looking at a cat's eyes, which are at a maximum distention at noon and dilate from then on. Safety first: In Akureyri, Iceland, the town church is chained fast to the rocks so it won't be blown away in one of those fierce arctic storms.

. We know the linotyper will be pleased to know that the official name of the Hindu Maharajah of Travencore is Sir Padmanabba Dasa Vanchi Pala Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapathi Maney Sultan Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahdur Shamsheer Jang.

When Hungarians dine out, they cease all conversation as soon as a course is laid on the table and do not utter a syllable till the food is eaten.

Service: One of Copenhagen's leading hotels has running beer as well as running water piped into all its guest rooms.

. Swank no end: The great city of Manchester, England, provides its mayor with a personal valet—at municipal expense.

Hazardous profesh: An average of 2 gendarmes on the Paris police force are run down and injured by motorists every day. The sign "Free House" in front of many British saloons means it has no special brewery product that it pushes and you may order virtually any brand of ale or beer that you wish.

Over in Japan, childlessness and failure to produce a son and heir are the chief causes of divorce. Fair enough: In Soviet Russia, they'll slap a 50-cent fine on you for getting on or off a moving trolley car. Equality in Scandinavia: The only countries in the world that pay women the same wages as men for the same kind of work are Denmark, Norway, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Czechoslovakia (unless Der Fuehrer has changed that latter).

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS I TO 15

1. Where did the famed Mayo Brothers of Rochester, Minn., get their primary medical education?
2. Where is Heidelberg College in America located?
3. Quick now, how much is $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$?
4. Is it the Marquis of Queensberry or Queensbury who laid down the rules of boxing?
5. Who is the current poet laureate of England?
6. What was the first story published serially in a newspaper?
7. Who was Gavrilo Princip?
8. The Bible still holding top honors for the largest distribution of any book printed in English, do you know what comes second? And third?
9. Has the U. S. flag ever consisted of more than 13 stripes?
10. Of course you know, but try to give us a reasonably exact definition of "white."
11. Outside of the art books, where you will always find it, do you know if "The Last Supper," by Da Vinci, is still in existence?
12. For Sunday school teachers: Quick now: What Biblical character went mad and ate grass?
13. For femmes: You couldn't have much perfume without it, but do you know what ambergris comes from?
14. Do you know when the abbreviation "MS." should be used?
15. Winslow Homer was a great American. Was he famous as a baseball player? Artist? Politician?

Answers on pages 16 and 17.

ANSWERS (to Questions I to 15)

1. *Dr. Charles Mayo was graduated from Chicago Medical College, and Dr. William Mayo from the medical school of the University of Michigan.*
2. *Heidelberg College in the U. S. is at Tiffin, Ohio.*
3. *$2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ is $6\frac{1}{4}$ —as if you didn't know!*
4. *It was the Marquis of Queensberry who laid down the boxing rules.*
5. *John Masefield is the poet laureate of England as we go to press.*
6. *"Robinson Crusoe," by Daniel Defoe, was the first story published serially in a newspaper.*
7. *Gavrilo Princip is only the guy who knocked off the Archduke Ferdinand at Sarajevo and thereby created the incident which set off the World War fireworks.*
8. *"Pilgrim's Progress" holds second honors for the largest distribution of any book printed in English, with "Robinson Crusoe" third.*
9. *Originally Old Glory was to have a star and stripe for every state in the Union. So when Vermont and Kentucky were admitted, in 1791 and 1792 respectively, both the stars and stripes were increased to 15. But shortly after, as other states entered, it was obvious there'd be too many stripes, so a law enacted in 1818 called for a stripe for each of the 13 original states and a star for every state.*
10. *White, according to the dictionary, is that color which is devoid of any tint and is the opposite of black—which confounds that school of thought which declares white is merely the absence of color.*
11. *Yes, on the wall of the Italian Convent of Santa Maria Delle Grazie in Mussolini's Italy.*
12. *Nebuchadnezzar.*

13. *From whales—and a good sized hunk of it is practically worth its weight in gold.*
14. *When you don't know whether the woman you are writing to is married or single, you use it in place of Miss or Mrs.*
15. *Winslow Homer was last century's great artist whose work attracted wide attention in Harper's Weekly and elsewhere.*

 LITTLE ITEMS ABOUT BIGWIGS

LONG before John D. Rockefeller started giving away new dimes, the original P. D. Armour, founder of the packing company, had \$100 in new \$1 bills placed on his desk each day for casual distribution. We'd tell you his name, but he might sue us, so we'll just say one of the nation's leading chess players learned the game while an inmate of an insane asylum.

Testimonial statistic: For endorsing the same cosmetic product, Dowager Queen Marie of Rumania got \$2000, Alice Roosevelt Longworth \$5000. All the money that Benjamin Franklin received for his public services would pay only half what he spent out of his own pocket. In London's inner Fleet Street circles they'll tell you that Edward VIII's famed "at long last" abdication speech was actually written by Winston Churchill.

Inspiration: As a boy, U. S. Supreme Court Justice Cardozo had no less than Horatio Alger, Jr., famed author of juvenile rag-to-riches tales, for his private tutor. It seems that Author Alger was forever going broke and took the tutorial assignment to tide him over the rough spots. Prexy Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia is so exclusive he has a private elevator to take him to his second story office in the university's administrative bldg.

Discrepancy: In the 1921 "Who's Who," Andy Mellon listed himself as born in 1852. In the 1929 edition, he put it down as 1854. And in the 1930-31 "Who's Who," his birth date is placed in 1855. Oh, well, that's one way of avoiding old age. An urgent 11.30 P.M. interview with a newspaper man revealed that President James B. Conant of Harvard Univ. still sticks to old-fashioned, one-piece night-gowns.

N. Y. bellhops will covertly tell you that tips skid toward minimum when there's a bankers' convention in the town. Whenever he mentions it in stage dialog, conversation, or a song lyric, Geo. M. Cohan always refers to the American public as "they"—never "it."

The founder of the great Collier publishing house, Peter F. Collier, came to the U. S. from Ireland in 1866 to study for the priesthood, but did so well peddling books to earn his education that he turned to that field and remained in it—later to become a multi-millionaire.

Evolution: The name of the famed circus family actually isn't Ringling, but Rungeling. And vaudeville programs of 15 years ago show that Harry Richman, now a big shot entertainer himself, was successively pianist for Mae West and Peggy Joyce in the 1923 season.

Addicted to sartorial splurges, Manuel Quezon, head man of the Philippines, thinks nothing of buying \$5000 worth of clothes at a lick, mostly from Fifth Avenue tailors.

John L. Lewis got mad as you-know when a newspaper photog snapped him with his face swabbed with towels in a barber's chair and all but thrashed the lens lad. Prof. Raymond Moley (remember him?) once paid this tribute to a great lawyer: "Always he fought with the fine

blade of reason, never with the bludgeon of abuse." Refreshingly frank is Mrs. F. D. R., who in her autobiography freely admits her coming-out party was a flop.

That arbiter of etiquette, Mrs. Emily Post, who's punctilious in most matters, has one weakness—slang. It's her safety valve. In a down-to-brass-tacks business conversation, she's liable to pop out with a "lousy" almost any minute. Alexander Graham Bell, the telephone's inventor, in 1907 also devised a man-lifting kite, 40 ft. long, which hoisted a U. S. Army flyer in the air 168 ft. and held him suspended for more than 7 minutes.

New Dealer: The late multi-millionaire merchant, E. A. Filene, once said this to a political audience: "Why shouldn't the American people take half my income away from me? I took it all away from them."

Nest egg: The richest man on earth, the Nizam of Hyderabad, India, is reputed to have \$250,000,000 in solid gold stored in his private vault, along with a couple of bushels of precious gems. Stymie: Not even the President of the U. S. can wangle the private unlisted number of a person from the telephone company. F. D. R. found that out when he tried to contact Joseph P. Kennedy recently. The best the phone company could do was call up J. P. K. and ask if he'd speak to Mr. Roosevelt. Will Rogers, who met death in an airplane crash, was so careful about motoring that he had his brakes tested every night.

A man who never played a note, Laurens Hammond of Chicago, invented the only musical instrument that won't get out of tune—an electric organ which creates tones by measured electrical impulses. It's always at the right pitch,

neither temperature nor humidity affecting it.

John Wanamaker started his original store at the age of 23 and took in \$24.67 the first day. He put the 67 cents in the cash drawer and took the \$24 down to the Phila. Public Ledger to buy an adv. for his new store.
Sartorial miser: When John G., the head of N. Y.'s famed Wendel family, died, he left \$80,000,000 in realty and \$10 worth of clothes.

When the original Commodore Vanderbilt, aboard his yacht, once defied a constable to arrest him, the latter promptly seized the multi-millionaire, took him like a babe in arms, stalked off the boat and unceremoniously dropped the Commodore ker-plunk on the pier. Vanderbilt wasn't so defiant from then on. Harlem's famed Father Divine was examined for lunacy in Georgia back in 1914. The legal writ at the time designated him as "John Doe, alias God."

Lull: Radio bigwigs have recently discovered that the kiddies just won't send in any more box-tops, labels, etc., for trivial gifts that the broadcasters offer.

Fixed for life, you might say, is Anthony Eden, whose pappy-in-law left him an annuity paying \$25,000 a year.

The celebrated economist, Stuart Chase, asserts a family with an annual income of below \$2500 has no business owning its own home; it's too great a risk.
Pioneer: R. E. Olds, the motor magnate, was the first person in America to have a garage built in his home. That was in 1904.

Mrs. F. D. R. consults with the President on the topics she plans to discuss in her radio talks—just so she won't hit on

a subject that's sprinkled with dynamite. Alias: Nicolai Lenin, the patron of Communism, wasn't his real name at all. On his birth certificate he was entered as Vladimir Ilytch Ulanov.

Ralph Waldo Emerson and John Greenleaf Whittier both suffered from tuberculosis. There was life in those old boys of other days. Cato, at 80, started to study Greek. Tennyson, at 83, wrote one of his greatest poems, "Crossing the Bar." Between 70 and 83, Commodore (the public-be-damned) Vanderbilt added \$40,000,000 or \$50,000,000 to his fortune.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 16 to 30

16. Would you know who Lincoln Perry is?
17. Briefly, what is suede?
18. Where is Washington and Lee University?
19. In what small, but now famous, Minnesota village was Sinclair Lewis born?
20. What state currently accounts for more than half the U. S. production of cigarettes?
21. How soon after Abraham Lincoln's inauguration did the Civil War break out?
22. What was the name of the plane in which Lindbergh made his epochal New York to Paris solo flight?
23. What was the title of Colonel Lindbergh's best-selling book which he wrote after that?
24. Identify Robert Todd Lincoln.
25. What was the outstanding achievement of Dr. Joseph B. Lister, British surgeon?
26. What Hungarian composer was even more famous as a pianist?
27. What is the difference, if any, in the meanings of *bi-weekly* and *semi-weekly*?
28. Where is the largest wireless receiving station in the world located?
29. What was the first street-car subway ever built in the U. S.?
30. What is the most malleable metal?

Answers on page 24.

ANSWERS (to Questions 16 to 30)

16. *Lincoln Perry is the true name of the film comic you know as Stepin Fetchit.*
17. *Suede is generally calf or kid skin that is finished by buffing on an emery wheel.*
18. *Washington and Lee University is at Lexington, Va.*
19. *Sinclair Lewis was born at Sauk Center, Minnesota.*
20. *North Carolina currently accounts for 57 per cent of the U. S. cigarette production.*
21. *Within six weeks after Lincoln's inaugural, the Civil War broke loose.*
22. *The plane in which Lindbergh made his epochal New York to Paris solo flight was called "The Spirit of St. Louis."*
23. *Lindbergh's book describing his New York to Paris solo flight was entitled "We."*
24. *Robert Todd Lincoln was the oldest son of Abraham Lincoln.*
25. *Dr. Joseph B. Lister, British surgeon, introduced the antiseptic system to modern surgery and revolutionized it.*
26. *Franz Liszt's fame as a pianist exceeded even that as a composer.*
27. *Bi-weekly means every two weeks; semi-weekly means twice a week.*
28. *The largest wireless receiving station in the world is at Chatham on Cape Cod.*
29. *Boston's Tremont St. subway was the first street-car tunnel ever built in the U. S.*
30. *Gold is the most malleable of all metals.*

ANOTHER MYTH IN SMITHEREENS

THE famous incident of Pocahontas saving Capt. John Smith actually occurred in Maine—and it wasn't Pocahontas, the daughter of a Virginia chieftain, who saved the captain's neck, but the obscure daughter of a Maine tribal chief. These facts Capt. Smith set forth in his original Journal. But in its second printing the incident was doctored, its locale switched to Virginia and Pocahontas rung in. And outside of that, it's correct.

The Department of Agriculture blasts another myth in advising that it's perfectly safe to mix food such as milk or ice cream with lobster or fish, provided the foods are fresh and in good condition. The theory that Eskimos are immune to cancer recently went blooey when the first case ever known was discovered in a member of the tribe on Baffin Island in northern Canada.

Although the Caesarian operation supposedly derives its name from Julius Caesar, it was not performed on living mothers during Caesar's time according to eminent medical authority. And, to dispel another myth, Caesar's mother lived for years after his birth. After all the red flags that have been waved at bulls in arenas, it's a surprise to know those animals can't distinguish colors, but will charge at any bright object in motion.

The notion of people that food left remaining in an opened tin can becomes poisonous is the bunk. A tin can, opened or closed, is just as good a container as a porcelain dish. Of all the jungle's predatory animals, the lion relatively has the smallest heart.

Despite that "dog days" come in hot, sultry, summer days, fewer dogs go mad in the summer than in any other season of the year. And that's on the word of the U. S. public health service. The phrase, "as strong as a bull," is hardly apt. For most bulls, being fat, tire very easily from ordinary exertion.

Rubber is not waterproof. Indeed, when exposed to moisture for a period of time, it disintegrates into a soft mushy substance. A receding chin doesn't mean any weakness in character. In fact, some of the most forceful and resolute persons in all history have been very Andy Gumpish.

Recent tests in 14 U. S. industrial cities by the govt. public health service show that rain does not clear the air of impurities. The fellows behind any oyster bar will tell you that from May 1 through August of this yr. folks ordered plenty of oysters despite those months contained no letter R. So there's another taboo that's vanishing.

Horace Greeley wasn't such a terrible penman as history would have you believe. Many papers of his, recently uncovered, are perfectly legible.

Rice paper isn't made from rice, but from a pithy plant called tungstua, found in Japan and China. The first battle of the Revolutionary War wasn't fought at Lexington, Mass., but at Alamance, N. C., 2 yrs. before the battles of Lex. & Concord. It was started by Irish settlers

who wouldn't stand for the entry of the English in No. Carolina.

The notion that yawning is a concomitant of boredom is strictly the bunk. A person whose interest and attention are at their peak may still give vent to an awful gape. The Sat. Eve. Post front cover to the contrary, according to an exhaustive research of American printing history just published, the only newspaper that Benj. Franklin founded was a German language sheet called *Der Philadelphische Zeitung*.

Despite the cartoonists, goats don't eat tin cans. Whenever you see a goat gnawing at a tin can, it is simply getting at the paper labels, which contain salt that the animals love.

No ventriloquist (even Edgar Bergen) can really "throw" his voice and make it seem to be coming from the opposite side of the room. Although bloodhounds are popularly rated as ferocious creatures, they are really kind and gentle—and almost never attack a person they have tracked down.

Although the popular phrase is "as strong as a lion," tests conducted in a Boston zoo revealed the tiger is much stronger than the lion when compared pound for pound of weight. It takes a fraction of a second longer to kill a criminal in the electric chair than by hanging him.

The govt. Bureau of Fisheries asserts no pearl of any sales value has ever been found in an edible oyster in the U. S. Ostriches don't stick their heads in the sand under any circumstances. Although Britons are forever mumbling about tubbing themselves, an outstanding statistician of their country estimates the average

Britisher takes 60 baths a year or only a trifle oftener than once a week.

Stalwart male strutters on the summer beaches are hereby advised that hair on the chest is no indication of strength. The growth of bodily hair is merely due to glandular development, not muscular power. Although the term "Georgia peaches" is world famous, that state actually contributes only one per cent of the nation's output of that particular fruit.

The Indians never regarded totem poles as either idols or gods. The truth is, an Injun believed the totems were descended from animals which could understand when they were spoken to. The octopus, which most of us have nightmares about actually isn't such a dangerous creature, after all.

When, during the World War, a German general sent word to America's famed Lost Battalion asking for a surrender, its commander, Maj. Whittlesey, didn't reply, "Go to hell," as is popularly supposed. He simply ignored the message. Despite the popular notion to the contrary, the forests of North American woods are growing faster than they're being cut down.

Throughout the history of the Mormon church, not more than 10 per cent of its membership ever practised polygamy. The popular notion that Sir Isaac Newton discovered the law of gravity when an apple fell from a tree and hit him on the head is strictly the bunk. When a dull-witted bore once asked Newton how he discovered gravity's law, the scientist made up that story on the spur of the moment and told it as a gag—and that's how the legend spread. But it was purely a prank on Newton's part.

Contrary to popular notion, pure white paint was seldom used in New England in colonial days. The most popular color was a mixture of red lead and lampblack. Summer stuff—to paste in your Panama hat: It isn't the heat of the sun that causes sunburn, but the actinic rays of the sun. In fact, there have been severe cases of sunburn contracted within the Arctic circle. Although called catgut, violin strings are never made of a cat's innards. Usually they're from lambs' intestines.

The tremendously long neck of a giraffe actually contains no more vertebrae than the neck of a human being. Despite the title, "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo," no one ever did. The funds at one particular table might run out after a series of lucky plays by gamblers, but there has always been plenty of dough in the casino's coffers to meet all payoffs.

The average resident of Scotland may be thrifty, but when you're a guest at his home he'll heap more food on your plate than you can possibly eat—unless you're a gourmand. The bagpipe isn't a Scotch instrument. It was introduced by the Greeks.

Although the popular impression is that wrinkles are brought on by worry, most of them actually come from laughing. These days the phrase, "spending money like a sailor ashore," is all cock-eyed. For P.O. figures on and U. S. naval ship reveal a huge total of postal money orders sent home by the enlisted men.

Credit where it's due: John L. Soule, writing in the *Terre Haute (Ind.) Express* in 1851, originated the phrase, "Go West, young man, go West," and not Horace Greeley.

The belief that when a snake is killed its tail continues to live till sundown is so much hooley. On acct. of a snake's nervous system, the tail continues to wiggle some time after the reptile's death, but sundown has nothing to do with it. There's no documentary evidence that St. Patrick ever conducted a crusade against snakes in Ireland.

The most beer per capita is drunk by the Belgians and not the Germans, as you probably thought. Shining eyes or not—no animal can see better in the dark than in the light. Far from dying in poverty, Christopher Columbus was a relatively wealthy man when he passed on from earth.

Despite Boston's pride in its initiation of anesthetics for surgical operations, the Chinese had achieved the same results as far back as the 2nd century. Tomato juice as a soother for a hangover is over-rated. Milk or just plain water will fix up your awful stomach just as well.

FAVORITE GAGS

TEACHER: "Who gave us this beautiful school?"

PUPIL: "President Roosevelt."

TEACHER: "Who keeps our roads so nice?"

PUPIL: "President Roosevelt."

TEACHER: "Who makes the trees and flowers grow?"

PUPIL: "God."

VOICE IN BACK OF ROOM: "Throw that Republican out!"

KIND LADY: "And how would you like a nice chop?"

WEARY TRAMP: "That all depends, lady! Is it lamb, pork, or wood?"

DRUNK (to resplendently uniformed bystander): "Call me a cab, will yuh?"

BYSTANDER: "My good man, I am not a doorman; I'm a naval officer."

DRUNK: "Okay, then, buddy; call me a boat. I gotta get home."

SOLICITOR: "Will you give me a quarter to help the Old Ladies' Home?"

STUDENT: "Gosh, what are they doing out on a night like this?"

FIRST BOARDER: "What sort of coffee does the landlady bring up in the morning?"

SECOND BOARDER: "Well, I give the milk to the cat, the sugar to the dog and I use the water for shaving."

MOTHER: "I don't think the man upstairs likes to hear Johnny play his drum."

FATHER: "Why?"

MOTHER: "Well, this afternoon he gave Johnny a knife and asked him if he knew what was inside the drum."

DOCTOR: "Could you pay for an operation if I thought one necessary?"

PATIENT: "Would you find one necessary if I couldn't pay for it?"

FATHER: "I've been thinking, my son, of retiring next year and leaving the business to you."

SON: "There's no hurry, dad. You go ahead and work a few more years and then we can retire together."

SHIP'S OFFICER: "There goes eight bells, you'll have to excuse me; it's my watch below."

LADY PASSENGER: "Goodness! Does your watch strike as loud as that?"

JONES: "Ants are supposed to be the hardest working creatures in the world."

SMITH: "Yes, but they still seem to have time to attend all the picnics."

ARTS AND ARTISTS

SYNTHETIC Southerner: Stephen Foster, composer of "Old Black Joe," and regarded as the great Dixie melo-
dist, was in the South but once in his life and that was on a
boat excursion to New Orleans. In case anyone
should ask you, the musical scale was invented in 1024 by
Guido Aretino, and Guido was an Italian.

A Stradivarius may be the world's most prized violin,
but one of history's greatest violinists, Paganini, preferred
an instrument fashioned by Giuseppe Guarneri of Cremona,
Italy. It is authoritatively estimated that in his
career, the great Stradivari made approximately 1116 musical
instruments—chiefly violins, but also about 20 violoncellos
and 10 violas.

Bargain: Millet, the artist, sold one of his greatest works,
"The Angelus," for \$360. It was later bought for \$160,000
at an auction. One of the late George Gershwin's
unpublished tunes was a satirical opus called "Mischa, Sascha,
Toscha and Yascha"—and dedicated, of course, to the world's
4 outstanding concert violinists.

Correggio's celebrated picture, "The Muleteers," which
now hangs as a masterpiece in the London Museum, was
originally painted as an advertising sign for an inn.
Big Three: The only dramatist besides Geo. Bernard Shaw

and Eugene O'Neill who commands a royalty as high as 15 per cent of the gross receipts is Noel Coward.

Anomaly: As any artist will tell you, although modern pigments are more permanent, oils more binding, and varnishes far superior, the works of relatively modern painters don't stand up with old masters in the matter of longevity. Bizet, composer of the opera "Carmen," died 3 months after its premiere, broke and discouraged. He had no idea his opus was destined to be universally popular.

The annual royalties on "The St. Louis Blues" published 33 yrs. ago, still amount to around \$20,000 a yr. At the age of 89, Michelangelo was still active with his paint brush and Titian painted his famed "Battle of Lepanto" when he was 98.

The breakdown of an organ in a tiny church at Obendorf, Germany, on Christmas Eve of 1818 led directly to the composition of the classic religious song "Silent Night" (*Heilige Nacht*). Special music for the church's Christmas festival had been prepared, but when the organ broke down, it was out of the question. Only a guitar was available as an instrument. So the asst. pastor dashed off a poem, went to the organist's home and asked him if he couldn't arrange a simple melody for 2 solo voices and a chorus to sing the poem to a guitar accompaniment. The organist said he'd try—and then and there jotted down the music. The next morning, at the little church, the greatest of all Yuletide songs was sung for the first time.

Rubinoff, with his violin, was top guest artist at Chicago's free open air concerts the past yr., and an audience of 225,000 turned out to hear the maestro scrape the bow over his

fiddle. Lily Pons and Andre Kostelanetz were next, with a mere 175,000 listening. Hart Danks, composer of the immortal "Silver Threads among the Gold," separated from his once-adored wife in the twilight of his life and died alone in a cheap boarding house. And several yrs. later Mrs. Danks also passed away alone in a poor tenement district of Boston.

Sir William Gilbert (of Gilbert and Sullivan), who wrote such gay operettas, deserted the theatre in his declining days, became a magistrate of a British village and turned out to be the meanest sort of judge—and especially grouchy to motorists.

In the last stages of illness, Mozart composed his famed Requiem for his own funeral. Bargain: The composer of the immortal "Memphis Blues," W. C. Handy, sold all rights to the song for \$50 right after he'd written it in 1912. It cleaned up a fortune for someone else. And its original title was "Mister Crump." Boston's famed symphony is the only non-union orchestra of its class in the United States.

Because there's no record of the birth of the great violin maker, Stradivarius, he is always honored on the anniversary of his death. In his lifetime he made instruments that today have a total value of \$4,000,000.

The famed painting "The Spirit of '76" was called "Yankee Doodle" by the artist, Archibald Willard, when he completed it in 1875. It was changed while the picture was on exhibition in Boston because one of that town's eminent half-wits was nicknamed Yankee Doodle.

Distinction: Of all the regulars they meet year after year, the pet dislike of N. Y. ship news reporters is Toscanini,

the conductor, who can always be depended on to be gruff and boorish toward the press lads. The more abundant life: Under a new contract, musicians in Chicago radio stations now draw as much as \$150 salary for a 5-day, 25-hour week.

Retort snappy: When the famed warbler of an earlier generation, Patti, spurned an American concert tour at \$50,000 a month, the exasperated promoter pointed out to her that the President worked a whole year for as much money. Replied Patti: "Then get the President to sing for you!" (That's telling 'em, Adeline!).

When Brown University at a special ceremony conferred an honorary degree on the conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Serge Koussevitsky, he responded, not with a speech, but by performing a short concert on his double bass. 'Twas ever thus: Whistler painted the portrait of his mother, which became famous all over the world. But a still greater artist, Rembrandt, painted the portrait of his father (on view these many yrs. at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts) and it hardly got a tumble.

Nice job: With the rank and file of musicians starving, here's the emolument James Patrillo, prexy of the Chicago musicians' union, received last year: A \$26,000 salary, a \$25,000 home, \$12,000 for home furnishings, \$1700 for a garden, \$16,000 extra to cover his income taxes, \$25,000 for an armored car with guards, \$5000 for expenses and a few trivial items, adding up to \$100,700.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 31 TO 45

31. What New England city was once actually named Beantown?
32. In what manner does a pigeon differ from other birds when it takes a drink of water?
33. What is the largest church edifice in the world?
34. Next to Massachusetts, what state raises the most cranberries?
35. In our peak year of 1929 what was the approximate income produced by the American people?
36. What are the so-called Big Four meat-packing companies in the U. S.?
37. What color are the eggs of canary birds?
38. Identify Dr. Edward Jenner.
39. What American city is the world's biggest food center?
40. What President of the United States was a tailor by trade?
41. Who is the only President of the U. S. buried in the Arlington National Cemetery?
42. Identify John Maynard Keynes.
43. What is pig iron made of?
44. Was Rudyard Kipling the full name of the famed British author?
45. What is the highest temperature (in the shade) ever recorded in the U. S.?

Answers on page 38.

ANSWERS (to Questions 31 to 45)

31. *Danbury, Connecticut, was originally know as Beantown.*
32. *When a pigeon drinks, it holds its head in the water until it is finished.*
33. *St. Peter's Cathedral, in Rome, with an area of 227,009 square feet, is the world's largest church.*
34. *Next to Massachusetts, the state which grows the most cranberries is New Jersey.*
35. *The income produced by the American people in 1929 was about \$81,000,000,000.*
36. *The so-called Big Four meat-packing companies are Swift, Armour, Wilson and Cudahy.*
37. *The eggs of canaries are colored pale green or blue and are often spotted with reddish brown.*
38. *Edward Jenner was the brilliant British physician who discovered vaccination.*
39. *Chicago is the world's biggest food center.*
40. *Andrew Johnson, our 17th President, was a tailor by trade.*
41. *William Howard Taft is the only President who is buried in the Arlington National Cemetery.*
42. *John Maynard Keynes is the eminent English economist.*
43. *Coke, limestone and ore go into the making of pig iron.*
44. *His full name was Joseph Rudyard Kipling.*
45. *The highest temperature recorded in the U. S. was 134 degrees in the shade at Greenland Ranch, California.*

NATURAL HISTORY À LA CARTE

THE deadliest species of the African jungle isn't the tiger, the lion or the snake, but the driver ants which, swarming in millions, proceed to eat serpents, human beings and animals—and don't even fear to feast on a live elephant. Jesse Owens of the jungle: A few hours after it is born, a baby zebra can run as fast as its papa and mamma—and that's fairly fast.

The scientific name for a skunk is *Mephitis mephitica* in case you want to start calling anyone names. A trout sees what is above the level of its eyes, but never sees anything under him, because its vision is upward.

Don't ask us why, but a nail driven into a tree, say 5 ft. above the ground, will remain at that height regardless of how tall the tree subsequently grows. Jungle acrobatics: When a baby kangaroo is frightened, it dives head first into its mamma's pouch and then turns a complete somersault to land right side up again.

When a penguin dives under water, a transparent film drops over its eyes to keep out the water and yet permit the penguin to see. The reason it's easy to poison rats is that they have no facilities for quickly getting rid of anything bad they've eaten. The rat is one of the few species that's unable to vomit.

The albatross, with a wingspread of more than 12 ft., has to take off into the air just like an airplane, facing the wind, then running a short distance and finally taking off. But once it's in the air, it can stay there for days. The biggest of all vegetable growths is a seaweed called nereocystis, whose stalks are at least 600 ft. tall as they extend from the bottom of the sea.

Octogenarians of the insect world are the ants, with run-of-the-mill workers living to the ripe old age of 4 or 5 yrs. and the queen ants becoming female Methuselahs and lasting as long as 15 yrs. Almost without cessation, the queens of those terrible termite colonies lay more than 7000 eggs a day, day in and day out.

It's the biologists' theory that instead of being a warning signal, the rattlesnake rattles as a call to another rattlesnake during the breeding season and it's really more to be compared with the cooing of a dove. A tough baby to get into a scrap with is the duckbill, which uses its own hypodermic needles as weapons. Each of its hind feet has a lance-like spur concealed in it, which shoots venom into an adversary, producing sharp anguish and pain, swelling and drowsiness—and then the duckbill polishes it off.

Fingertip aquarium: Goldfish are so tiny just after they're hatched, a small fry of them can swim about comfortably in a thimbleful of water. Every day of its life, an oyster draws from 4 to 5 gallons of water through itself.

Home, sweet home: Using large sticks and limbs, eagles often construct nests for themselves that weigh nearly a ton. Tests made at the agricultural school of Cornell

Univ. showed that cows are smarter than horses. The bossies not only learn quicker than equines, but the smartest cows give the most milk.

Far from being wise, the owl is so dumb that when it's attacking its prey, it always lets out a cry of joy too soon, warning the prey and often allowing it to escape. The chameleon of the deep is the octopus, which can change its color at will and appear green, white, copper-colored or light brown.

Dopey, the dinosaur: The skull of a hadrosaurus dinosaur in the Smithsonian Institute shows that though its head was more than two feet long, its brain weighed less than two ounces—making it probably one of the most stupid creatures that ever roamed the earth. All mammals possess hair, even with a few scattered bristles on the noses of young whales.

An ostrich egg weighs from 2½ to 3 pounds. And a humming bird's egg registers about half a gram—about rooth the size of an ostrich's egg. There's no danger in just taking a sniff of the flower, but the ordinary lily of the valley contains minute qualities of the most powerful heart poison known.

Despite their freedom from the ills of civilization, few wild animals die of old age, reports of the U. S. Biological Survey show. Food shortages, diseases, accidental injuries and attacks by natural enemies are the principal causes of death among wild animals. Twilight sleep: Only the female polar bear hibernates. And while she's asleep over the winter months, her two cubs are born. In fact, when the mamma bear wakes up, her cubs are already 8 wks. old.

Super-zzzzzz: Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews designates the celhenomyia fly, found in New Mexico, as the fastest living thing in the world. This insect has attained a speed of 818 miles an hour, which means it travels even faster than sound and can therefore keep ahead of its own buzz. **Armor-plated:** A giraffe's hide is an inch thick and very tough, in addition.

If a giraffe ever sticks out its tongue at you, you've got something there—a giraffe's tongue averages 17 inches in length. **Elephantine equine:** The largest horse in the world is Jerry, who chews his oats on the Earle Brown farm at Lyndonville, Vt. He's a six-year-old gelding weighing 2500 pounds—and is crazy about—of all things!—ice cream cones.

The venturesome nature of the male or female giraffes cannot assert itself in speech, for they have no voice at all and are therefore mutes. During its rather tenuous lifetime, an elephant has from 6 to 7 sets of teeth.

Habitat: Rattlesnakes are found nearly everywhere in America, but nowhere else on earth. A rhinoceros's tusk gets red at the tip when the animal is angry, which makes a red-tipped tusk more valuable than the ordinary kind. A python eats only once in 6 or 8 wks., and then it takes about 9 days to digest its meal and be active again.

And the cobra's aim with its deadly fluid is perfect within a radius of 4 ft., but marvelously accurate up to 15 ft. **Methuselahs in shells:** Of all living creatures nowadays, the tortoise is credited with the greatest longevity. Some of them live to be 200 or 300 yrs. old. **Freight car insects:** A bee can carry a load of honey as heavy as 90 per cent of its own weight.

Because bats have nerves in their wings, they can detect the proximity of objects, even in pitch darkness, by sensing air current vibrations—which gives bats even greater flying skill than birds have. What, no amber? A species of firefly found in Paraguay flashes a red light at the end of its body and a green light along the side. And no wonder they call it the railway beetle.

North of the equator, all twining vines climb from left to right, but south of that imaginary line, they all go from right to left.

Quota: A bedbug doesn't reach maturity until it has taken 5 bites out of a human being. A frog may be boiled and still live, provided the temperature of the water is increased by slight degrees to the boiling point. We just thought you'd like to know.

Some alligators grow as many as 40 sets of teeth in a lifetime—and what teeth! A whale is a mammal that never walks and a penguin a bird that never flies.

Far from being lumbering, with its eight tentacles, the octopus is one of the swiftest things in water. By filling the cylinders of its lungs with water, then ejecting the aqua, it propels itself backwards at a bewildering speed. A big fellow can make 18 to 320 feet in a single leap. Ouch: The electric eel of average size, about a yard long, can cut loose with an electromotive force of 300 volts when it makes a major discharge.

A curious air-breathing insect, the halobates, runs lickety-split over the ocean and is often found thousands of miles from land. And its eggs are also often found embedded in floating feathers of sea birds.

A super-glutton is the pterophryne, a denizen of the Sargasso Sea. A reputable scientist reports having seen a

six-inch specimen swim up and swallow a four-inch fellow-pterophryne in one gulp. Phi Beta Kappa insects: In proportion to its size, the ant has the largest brain of any living thing on earth.

Such a dread for killer whales do ordinary whales entertain that they will often commit suicide by beaching themselves rather than fight it out with their fearsome enemy, who delights in ripping out the whale's tongue for a starter and then gradually tearing the mammal to pieces.

Poisonous snakes are immune to the venom of other snakes. So when a couple of cobras, for instance, get to fighting, one has to knock off the other by biting rather than injecting poison via the fangs. Reverse gear: Lobsters swim by flapping their tails and dragging themselves backwards. And one lobster, tagged by Uncle Sam at Woods Hole, Mass., traveled up to the Maine coast (more than 100 miles) in less than a month.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 46 to 60

46. Who was the tallest United States President?
47. How many legs have all true insects?
48. Would you happen to know just who Alfred C. Fuller, a Hartford, Connecticut, manufacturer, is?
49. Who was the oldest President of the United States to be inaugurated?
50. What two nations are in both Europe and Asia?
51. What is a luthier?
52. What is thaumaturgy?
53. By what fraction of an inch do women's shoes increase with each full size?
54. Where was petroleum first discovered in the U. S.?
55. Rank these cities according to population: Prague, Singapore, Marseilles.
56. What nation is currently the world's largest producer of iron?
57. What state do you suppose has the most farm tractors?
58. What is acne vulgaris?
59. What state leads all others in the production of cheese?
60. Why is walnut almost universally used for gun stocks?

Answers on page 46.

ANSWERS (to Questions 46 to 60)

46. *Abraham Lincoln—6 feet 4 inches tall.*
47. *All true insects have six legs.*
48. *Alfred C. Fuller is the head man and founder of the celebrated Fuller Brush Company.*
49. *The oldest President of the U. S. to be inaugurated was William Henry Harrison at the age of 69.*
50. *The Soviet Republics and Turkey are in both Europe and Asia.*
51. *A luthier is a violin maker.*
52. *Thaumaturgy is a fancy name for magic.*
53. *In women's shoes there is an increase of one-third of an inch for each larger size.*
54. *Petroleum was first discovered at Titusville, Pennsylvania, in 1850.*
55. *Marseilles, 915,000; Prague, 850,000; Singapore, 590,000.*
56. *Japan is the world's largest producer of iron.*
57. *More tractors (138,000) are used on the farms of Illinois than of any other state.*
58. *Acne vulgaris is just a fancy name for adolescent pimples.*
59. *Wisconsin leads all states in cheese-making, producing 58 per cent of all U. S. cheese in its 3000 factories.*
60. *Walnut is used for gun stocks because it absorbs a recoil better than any other wood.*

HEALTH HINTS

A HEADACHE in itself is the result of irritation of the brain—and may be a warning of a disease almost anywhere in the body. . . . Here's a thought from a health magazine: "Overwork and overstrain lead to physical or mental breakdown; yet, paradoxically, idleness can lead to the same results." . . .

To week-end vacationists: You can avert the shock of ducking into cold sea water if you first douse the back of your neck and then both your wrists before taking the plunge. . . . Quota: An adult should drink an average of 5 pints of water a day. . . . Don't take any case of hay fever lightly, if it's neglected it can grow into a bad case of asthma. . . .

Because any hindrance of a free flow of bile may lead to gallstone trouble, you should beware of constantly wearing tight belts or tight girdles. . . . Tooth decay among white persons could virtually be eliminated if refined sugar were taken out of our diet. . . .

There's a reasonable doubt that sunlight is absolutely essential to health and as proof they point to the Eskimos of northern Greenland, who get virtually no exposure to the ultra-violet rays. . . . "Early to bed and early to rise never put circles under anyone's eyes." . . .

If you're going to reduce by exercise, summer is the best time to do it inasmuch as the appetite then is less keen and it's easier to keep your poundage down. Shake that shaker: During summer hot spells, sprinkle plenty of salt on your food. It'll help replace the large amount of bodily salt you lose through perspiration.

Worry and hurry are the twin sisters of Fate, promising a short life and anything but a merry one. Victims of excessive perspiration might try bathing the affected members in a basin of water containing a teaspoon of formalin solution. It's helpful in hardening the skin and cutting down perspiration.

A haze over the sun by no means obscures its dangerous, sunburning ultra-violet rays, so don't let that fool you. In fact, on a hazy day at the shore, the sun can do a terrible job on your exposed skin. "Sleep eight hours every night. We can't all be Edisons and Napoleons—and besides, Edison had his deafness and Napoleon finally met his Waterloo."—Health hint by an expert. Rest taken BEFORE physical exertion is worth much more than rest taken after you're fatigued.

Summertime advice by an eminent medico: Don't go swimming when you have the slightest head cold. Ether pneumonia is sometimes caused by impure ether, of which there is more sold than you may think. Resistance to infection is lowered in fat persons, which is why diabetes is more common among obese than among those of normal weight.

Danger sign: Actually there is no such thing as "growing pains" that children are said to experience. They're usually due to rheumatism, bad posture, tuberculosis of

the joints and the like. Smoking definitely cuts down your susceptibility to germs. Samples of human saliva, laden with bacteria, showed the bacterial count reduced by 35 per cent after tobacco smoke had been blown through them.

Another myth is that persons with easily upset stomachs should avoid the so-called acid fruits. On the authority of the American Public Health Association oranges, tomatoes and grapefruit, known as the acid fruits, contain only real organic acids and are easily oxidized in the body.

Through ventilators which draw air from the front of your automobile, it's possible to suck in dangerous quantities of carbon monoxide gas from the car ahead of you in dense traffic. Watch your waist line, mister: The mortality rate among fat persons from pneumonia is considerably higher than for those of normal weight.

The world's leading nutritional authority, Dr. Henry Sherman of Columbia Univ., estimates the average span of human life could be increased by about 7 years if folks consumed more vegetables, fruit and milk.

Swimming ranks high among all forms of exercise because it brings into play almost all the muscles of the body. White sugar taken into an empty stomach causes excessive mucus by irritating the membranes and retards the digestion. For your information: Those tables specifying what your weight should average for your height are not to be depended upon absolutely. The width of your body is most important in that conjunction, too. Hey, there, lazybones: A person who sleeps long hours is more susceptible to fatigue than one who

sleeps soundly for a briefer spell. A Colgate Univ. survey dishes up that dope.

A survey among 500 patients at the famed Mayo Clinic revealed that virtually the same percentage of them got distressed stomachs from milk, butter and ice cream as from eating maligned onions. Warning: Late hours and too much tobacco and alcohol are among the leading causes of loss of memory. There is more nourishment in a single hen's egg than in a doz. average-sized oysters.

FAVORITE GAGS

LITTLE ELSIE: "Mummy, you know that vase you said had been handed down from generation to generation."

MUMMY: "Yes, dear."

LITTLE ELSIE: "Well, this generation has dropped it."

TRAFFIC COP (bawling out woman motorist): "Don't you know what I mean when I hold up my hand?"

WOMAN MOTORIST: "I ought to; I've been a school teacher for 25 years."

CUSTOMER: "Look here, you're giving me a big piece of bone. With meat costing what it does, I don't want all that bone."

BUTCHER: "I'm not giving it to you, Mister. You're paying for it."

Said a nervous woman to the motorman, after reading the signs on a Boston street car, the front sign which read "Dorchester" while the side signs said "Ashmont-Milton," "Does this car go to Dorchester?"

MOTORMAN: "Yes, lady."

LADY: "Are you sure of it?"

MOTORMAN: "Yes, lady; get right on."

LADY: "But it says Ashmont and Milton on the side."

MOTORMAN: "We ain't going sideways, lady; get right on."

BABY EAR OF CORN: "Mamma, where did I come from?"

EAR OF CORN: "Hush, dear, the stalk brought you."

WIFE: "What's wrong, Henry?"

HUSBAND: "My razor! It doesn't cut at all!"

WIFE: "Don't be silly, your beard can't be tougher than the kitchen linoleum."

JUDGE: "The evidence shows, Mrs. Grumpz, that you threw a dish at your husband."

MRS. GRUMPZ: "It shows more than that, Your Honor; it shows that I hit him."

WIFE (acidly): "And what would you be today if it weren't for my money?"

HUSBAND: "A bachelor."

FATHER: "You'll never get rich talking to yourself."

SON: "Edgar Bergen did."

TEACHER: "What is etiquette, Tommy?"

TOMMY: "Etiquette is the noise you don't make when you are eating your soup."

HOLLYWOOD CLOSE-UPS AND FADE-OUTS

FOR the big scene in the super-film, "The Hurricane," Samuel Goldwyn spent \$150,000 to build a reproduction of a Samoan village and then \$235,000 more to have it inundated and then blown to smithereens. It all comes under the head of art. The Will Hays organization forbids any Hollywood studio to portray revenge in any film with a modern background. But if the story's laid in ancient days, revenge is O. K.

Bobby Breen, the young radio and film star, is the son of Rebecca and Hyman Borsuk. Point of view: "What is hard for the business man to understand," says the show biz weekly *Variety*, "is how two moving pictures can differ by as much as \$1,000,000 in cost. But what Hollywood seeks is the reason why two films, equal in cost, can vary by as much as \$2,000,000 in gross income." And that's what makes the film business the crazy enterprise it is.

Promotion: The head horse wrangler on a Hollywood lot that specializes in Western pictures used to be called just that—the head horse wrangler. But since the studio's making a higher grade of picture, he's acquired the flossy title of "director of equitation." (But he's still the head horse wrangler.)

He was mad: When a Hollywood columnist got a bum seat to the world premiere of a film in that town recently,

he sent a cablegram to the studio's chief press agent, then in Paris, to tell him how burned up he was—at 28 cents a word. Opportunists: When a rabies epidemic recently broke out in Minneapolis, an alert Hollywood studio made a timely reissue of its film, "The Life of Louis Pasteur," in that territory.

Transition: Harry Langdon, once a \$3500-a-week film comic himself, now writes funny dialogue for Laurel & Hardy—but not at \$3500 a week.

When a major Hollywood studio reissues the film, "Farewell to Arms," watch the Italian ambassador yelp to high heaven. The valor of Italian soldiers is impugned in the picture at which Mussolini reared in 1930 when it was first released. Mark-down: After a feature picture has been exhibited for 15 months, the major Hollywood studios carry it on their books at a valuation of only \$1, even if it cost \$1,500,000 to make.

Fertile: A Hollywood press agent, looking for a job, sent a crated rabbit to each prospect, along with a letter explaining the P.A. could originate publicity ideas faster than rabbits multiply. Sideline: Shirley Temple collected \$50,000 for indorsing a certain brand of breakfast food. Yum-yum.

Bing Crosby in a philosophical mood: "My mother saved me from being a lawyer and Dixie Lee (his wife) saved me from being a bum." Indispensable genius: Because they felt no one else could make satisfactory pictures from them, Hollywood's M-G-M studio put more than \$1,000,000 worth of film stories on the shelf following the death of Irving Thalberg, Norma Shearer's husband.

The modern cameras now used in the Hollywood studios

cost around \$7000 each. After clicking as a new star in Hollywood, it takes about 2 yrs. before the cinema celeb attains that rating in all foreign countries. And by the some token, a star who's all washed up in the U. S. still hangs on to his popularity for a couple of annums in alien lands.

Windfall: For writing the tunes in the unexpectedly successful Fred Astaire film, "Top Hat," Irving Berlin garnered a mere \$240,000. They guaranteed him a percentage of the profits.

Bing Crosby's racing stable now totals 30 horses—and they eat oats, not cheese. By showing a chart of what Uncle Sam grabs in income taxes from high-bracketed stars, one Hollywood producer can readily convince an actor in his employ not to be sucker enough to make an extra picture for a rival company instead of taking a needed vacation. The figures show the star'd be doing the extra work for practically nothing, with the tax lads getting nearly all.

How the movies first came to Hollywood—on Oct. 27, 1911: During the spring and summer of that yr., David Horsley, owner of the Nestor and Centaur picture companies, had a scout covering the U. S. looking for an ideal place where movies could be produced out of doors yearly. The scout, Horace Davey, returned to the studio in Bayonne, N. J., and announced that Hollywood, then an unheard-of suburb of Los Angeles, was the ideal spot, with plenty of climate and practically no weather. So Horsley, his family, with 3 companies went on to Hollywood to find a suitable location. He rented the Old Blondeau tavern and saloon at the junction of Sunset Blvd. and Gower St., as the city

had voted dry the previous year. The companies set up shop on Oct. 27, 1911, and 2 days later the first scenes were shot. "Her Indian Hero" was the title of the first movie made in Hollywood, directed by Milton Fahrney and with an all-star cast including Dorothy Davenport, Jack Conway, Geo. Gebhardt and Russell Bassett. Prints of the film are still treasured in several Hollywood vaults today. The original Horsley studio was destroyed by fire in 1913. And Horsley, the pioneer, never made a fortune, even a small one, out of motion pictures.

That eminent film rodent, Mickey Mouse, was called Mortimer Mouse in Walt Disney's earlier films. The experts are worrying for fear too heavy a schedule of movie and radio work may put too great a strain on Deanna Durbin's young voice.

Souvenirs: When a recent Hollywood picture was finished ahead of time and well within its budget, the grateful producer gave the 4 Rolls-Royces used in the film to the director, technician, cutter and electrician as a mark of appreciation. It sounds more like a WPA project, but because three large hills partly blocked his view of the mountains beyond, Jesse Lasky, the movie magnate, had them removed by steam shovels from in front of his ranch house near Hollywood.

Hollywood not only demands authenticity for its films, but is willing to pay for it. Which accounts for a fellow there renting a British car of ancient vintage to one studio for a week and collecting therefor more money than the car cost him 10 years ago. God comes to Hollywood: The Gideon Society has just installed Bibles in all dressing rooms on the major studio lots.

Fists across the sea: A leading Sydney, Australia, newspaper is whacking the old tom-tom that the "American film octopus" is bleeding that continent and that Wall Street controls most of the Australian movie theaters. It's the same old stuff. If it weren't for Hollywood pictures, Australian cinema houses would have to close up.

Sideline: It's estimated the Hollywood stars pick up an extra \$5,000,000 each year just indorsing commercial products. So impressed by the excellence of the film, "The Life of Louis Pasteur," was the Egyptian government that it refunded to the Hollywood producers the customs duties it had already collected.

On a check-up, a major Hollywood studio discovered that of its 13 most recent super-deluxe films, 9 had shown a deficit of \$1,700,000, while 4 had rung up a profit of \$1,800,000—with the result that only a net profit of \$100,000 had been obtained from a total investment (and risk) of \$9,000,000 on the 13 films.

Mae Murray, glamorous \$5000-a-week blonde of the silent screen, now conducts an advice-to-the-lovelorn session over a N. Y. radio station. Daily dozen, plus: One of the major Hollywood stars keeps her girth down by spilling 4 boxes of matches on the floor each morning before breakfast and then picking the matches all up one by one.

It costs a Hollywood extra about \$1000 to acquire a wardrobe for full dress scenes and \$5 a wk. thereafter for upkeep. And their pay is \$15 a day—when they work.

When Sonja Henie continually complained of cold feet while shooting her ice-skating scenes, it was discovered that her high shoes, too firmly laced, were the cause.

Sure fire: A year's output of Shirley Temple pictures

(usually 4) is certain to bring in from \$10,000,000 to \$11,000,000 at box offices the world over. Memento: Among the ornaments in Cecil De Mille's private office is a crown of thorns, reposing on a red velvet pillow. The crown was used in the crucifixion scene of "The King of Kings" that Cecil made yrs. ago.

The average print of a Hollywood talkie that goes whirling through the projection machine costs the studio about \$140. Plastic surgery in the Hollywood movie colony during the past year: 42 nose and ear alterations; 385 dimples applied or removed; 345 pairs of eyebrows raised or lowered; 191 hair lines changed; 186 lips made thinner or thicker. And 60 per cent of the stars altered were males.

Good customers and fast travelers are the Hollywood cinema stars and executives. They spent over \$1,000,000 in airplane fares last year. There are more policemen inside the Hollywood studio lots than there are coppers covering regular Hollywood beats.

There are all kinds of ways to make a living, and no less than 4 concerns in Hollywood do nothing but supply insects for the movies—anything from a trained flea to a dragon-fly. Non-super-film: It took only 8 days of actual shooting to make the most artistically successful movie of 1935, "The Informer." And the total cost was below \$250,000—which is practically pin-money in Cinemaland.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 61 to 75

61. Rank these cities according to population: Belfast, Ireland; Yokohama, Japan; Frankfort, Germany.
62. Which of the senses varies the most?
63. Is pneumonia an infectious disease?
64. Which is the lighter, balsa wood or cork?
65. Identify Edward Streeter as the author of what?
66. Excepting Australia, what are the three largest islands in the world?
67. What direction does a tornado usually travel?
68. Rank these cities according to population: Buenos Aires; Philadelphia; Moscow.
69. What jockey won the English Derby six times?
70. About how long are the days and nights at the equator?
71. What is the chief difference between an asteroid and a satellite?
72. What is a vixen?
73. What are the tallest trees that grow in the world?
74. How many types of human blood are there?
75. What U. S. newspaper is often called "The Manchester Guardian of America"?

Answers on page 60.

ANSWER (to Questions 61 to 75)

61. *The cities rank thus: Yokohama, 705,000; Frankfort, 555,000; Belfast, 415,000.*
62. *Man's sense of taste varies more than any other sense.*
63. *Pneumonia is infectious.*
64. *Balsa wood weighs about half as much as cork.*
65. *Edward Streeter is the author of the sensational best-selling humorous book of the World War, "Dere Mabel," and he has just clicked again with "Daily Except Sundays."*
66. *The three largest islands in the world, next to Australia, are Greenland, New Guinea and Borneo.*
67. *A tornado usually travels from southwest to northwest.*
68. *The cities rank thus: Moscow, 3,670,000; Buenos Aires, 3,325,000; Philadelphia, 1,950,000.*
69. *Steve Donoghue won the English Derby six times.*
70. *The days and nights at the equator are virtually 12 hours long throughout the year.*
71. *The chief difference between an asteroid and a satellite is that the first revolves around the sun but the latter revolves about a planet.*
72. *A vixen is a she-fox.*
73. *The tallest trees in the world are the California redwoods, some attaining a height of 600 feet.*
74. *There are four types of human blood.*
75. *The St. Louis Post-Despatch is often called "The Manchester Guardian of America"?*

PRESIDENTS' PARADE

PRECISIAN: Abraham Lincoln regarded the United States as a plural term. In other words, he'd say "The United States are" instead of "The United States is." George Washington once said, "My public and private sentiments are alike at all times."

The shortest President of the U. S. was James Madison, who measured only 5 ft. 4 inches. The tallest, of course, was Abe Lincoln with his 6 ft., 4 inches. It was none other than Geo. Washington, in his "Moral Maxims," who said: "Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called Conscience." Distinction: John Quincy Adams was the only bald-headed President of the U. S.

Quick, now: For what President of the U. S. did the Supreme Court actually stand up and cheer? Well, when Woodrow Wilson entered the House chamber to deliver his war speech in 1917 the Supreme Court Justices, down front under the President's nose, rose and led the entire assemblage in applause. An eminent portrait painter points out that George Washington's features indicate he was a man of the strongest and most ungovernable passions.

When F. D. R. had more than 1000 Washington correspondents as his White House guests on a recent evening, the rations consisted of cheese and bologna sandwiches and oodles and oodles of beer. Solon's secret: From youth on through his earlier adult days, Abraham Lincoln practised writing poetry—and some of it wasn't half bad.

Despite the legend of Geo. Washington's modesty persists, Carl D. Sandburg, in his "The Saga of American Society" relates that until a friend laughed him out of the idea, the Father of His Country, as President, wanted to be called "High Mightiness." Kiss of death: In all history, the only 2 men the Whig party elected President of the U. S. died in office—Wm. Henry Harrison and Zachary Taylor. They also happen to be the only Presidents who actually died in the White House.

Rumblings and reverberations: When President Millard Fillmore had the first bathtub installed in the White House in 1851, a national scandal virtually ensued, with red-blooded Americans all over the land yelping that the chief executive was a sissy. Abraham Lincoln, under the firm name of Berry & Lincoln, was granted a saloon license to dispense liquor at Springfield, Ill., on March 6, 1833.

Payroll: from Geo. Washington to U. S. Grant, Presidents of the U. S. drew \$25,000 a yr.; from Grant to Teddy Roosevelt, \$50,000 annually; and from Taft to F. D. R., \$75,000. Distinction: The first President to be born a citizen of the U. S. A. was Martin Van Buren.

Catch of the season: At the tender age of 29 Geo. Washington was the richest resident of America. Eliza

McArdle, who afterward became his wife, taught Andrew Johnson, later to be President of the U. S., how to read and write. On becoming President of the U. S., George Washington did not take the oath prescribed by the Constitution. He simply said, "I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States."

The 5th cousinship between the F. D. R.'s and the T. R.'s is the 4th instance of relationship between 2 Presidents of the U. S. John Adams and John Quincy Adams were father and son; Wm. Henry Harrison and Benj. Harrison were grandfather and grandson; and James Madison and Zachary Taylor were 2nd cousins. The most costly candidate for President of the U. S. was Warren G. Harding in whose behalf the Rep. Nat. Committee of 1920 spent \$5,319,729.

Evolution: When the republic started, George Washington favored calling the executive mansion "The President's Palace," but that was discarded as too formal. So it became just "The President's House." Later, on stationery and in documents, Teddy Roosevelt substituted "The White House" as its official designation. Woodrow Wilson once observed: "People never remain the same after they come to Washington. They either grow or swell—usually the latter."

It was no walkaway for Geo. Washington to obtain the Presidency of the U. S. The first time there were 11 other candidates running against him and for his 2nd term he was opposed by 4 hopefuls. Question: A researcher inquires if F. D. R. got that Phi Beta Kappa key he always wears from a pawn shop. For in his 1904 class book at Harvard, his name *isn't* listed among the class members of

the P. B. K. nor is he in the group photo of those members.

President U. S. Grant once pulled one of those Dolly Gann controversies when he visited Europe. His son, accompanying him, refused to dine at the state dinner unless he was seated at the same table with the Queen—and Ulysses backed him up to the hilt although Sonny Boy didn't rate the honor. President James K. Polk of U. S. got religion late. It wasn't until he was on his death bed that he was baptized by a Methodist clergyman.

During the whole year when Calvin Coolidge served as a newspaper columnist, under contract to write 200 words a day, he never varied as much as 10 words from the quota of 200. Emily Post's etiquette goes into the ashcan when folks line up to shake F. D. R.'s hand at a presidential reception. The attendants insist that the gentleman go ahead of his lady in the reception line and you'll get a tap on your shoulder if you go in for gallantry and disobey.

Love comes to the White House: Three American Presidents were married during their term of office—Tyler, Cleveland and Wilson. But Tyler's and Wilson's were their 2nd marriages. The greatest of all death coincidences in American history were two ex-Presidents, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, passing away on the same day, the Fourth of July of 1826, exactly a half century after the Declaration of American Independence in which they both played a prominent part.

A President with a high sense of humor was Andrew Jackson while in the White House. When Andy picked Martin Van Buren for U. S. minister to Great Britain and the Senate turned down the nomination, Old Hickory framed

the works and had Van Buren elected Vice President and thus preside over the very body that once spurned him.

Distinction: Just one Vice President of the U. S. resigned from that office before the expiration of his term—John Calhoun, when he had a testy quarrel with President Andrew Jackson.

The suspense was awful: It wasn't until 8 days after the election of 1789 that George Washington was notified he'd been elected President of the U. S. There weren't any White House correspondents till Teddy Roosevelt's term in the White House. Up to then the newspaper lads had tarried on the sidewalk outside the W.H., in all kinds of weather, to buttonhole and interview personages on their way out. Then, kind-hearted T.R. set aside a special room for them inside and invited them in—where they've been welcome ever since.

President John Adams once defined an aristocrat thus: "Whenever I use the word aristocrat I mean a citizen who can command or govern two votes or more in society, whether by his virtue, his talents, his learning, his loquacity, his taciturnity, his frankness, his reserve, grace, face, figure, eloquence, air, attitude, movements, wealth, birth, art, address, intrigue, drunkenness, debauchery, fraud, perjury, violence, treachery, Pyrrhonism, deism, or atheism—for by every one of these instruments have votes been obtained." (Sounds like John was kind of sarcastic.).

Fancy, we calls it: It sounds kind of oo-la-la in these democratic days, but Geo. Washington's presidential coach was canary colored and adorned with Cupids holding garlands of flowers. The killing job: Not counting the 3

who were assassinated, the first 7 Presidents of the U. S. died at an average age of 78, the second 7 at an average of 71, the third 7 at an average of 66 and the last 8 died at an average of 65 yrs.

Only one of the first 7 Presidents of the U. S. had a son. And that one son, John Quincy Adams, grew up to be a President himself. Dominic in the White House: At the time of his election to the Presidency, James A. Garfield was a minister of the church called the Disciples of Christ. Poof for the Presidency of the U. S.! Thomas Jefferson wrote this epitaph for his tomb: "Here lies buried Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, of the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom, and Father of the University of Virginia." (Not a word of his 8 years in the White House.). Maybe Henry Clay was smart: George Washington, although rich in land and slaves, suffered so financially from depreciated currency that he had to borrow money to pay his travelling expenses from Mt. Vernon to N. Y. to be inaugurated—and Thomas Jefferson, once a wealthy Virginian, died virtually broke.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 76 to 90

76. What is the most abundant metal found in the earth?
77. How does Boston rank as a U. S. wholesale market?
78. What is the oldest of America's great symphonic orchestras?
79. What three states lead in the production of leather footwear?
80. Will sound travel faster on a hot, humid summer day or on a dry, cold day?
81. Which weighs more, a cubic foot of water or a cubic foot of ice?
82. Who was the first Vice-President of the U. S.?
83. What was the One Hundred Years' War?
84. At about what figure is the current enlistment of the U. S. regular Army?
85. Which is heavier, a troy ounce or an avoirdupois ounce?
86. What are Uncle Sam's submarines named after?
87. Which is higher, the Empire State Building or the Great Pyramid of Egypt?
88. Give the names of the five Great Lakes.
89. Name the capital of Canada.
90. Is there any U. S. battleship now in service that is named after a New England state?

Answers on page 68.

ANSWERS (to Questions 76 to 90)

76. *Aluminum is the most abundant metal found in the earth.*
77. *Boston is the third largest wholesale market of the U. S., exceeded only by New York and Chicago.*
78. *The Philharmonic of New York, founded in 1842, is the oldest of America's great symphonic orchestras.*
79. *New York, Massachusetts and Missouri lead all other states in the production of leather footwear.*
80. *Sound travels through hot summer air faster than through dry zero air.*
81. *A cubic foot of water weighs 62½ pounds. A cubic foot of ice, 57.2 pounds.*
82. *John Adams was the first Vice-President of the U. S.*
83. *The One Hundred Years' War was actually a series of conflicts between England and France, and lasted from 1337 to 1453.*
84. *In the regular United States Army today the enlistment is approximately 180,000.*
85. *In the U. S. table of weights and measures the troy ounce is about one-tenth heavier than the avoirdupois ounce.*
86. *Uncle Sam's submarines are named after fish.*
87. *The Great Pyramid is 485 feet high; the Empire State Building is 1248 feet high.*
88. *The names of the five Great Lakes are: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario.*
89. *Ottawa is the capital of Canada.*
90. *No. No U. S. battleship now in service is named after a New England state.*

FAMOUS FIRSTS

THE first watches sold commercially were made in Germany, had the shape of an egg and varied as much as an hour a day—yet folks of the time thought they were wonderful. The word “nickname” was originally “ekename,” in which “eke” had the meaning of “also.”

N. Y. City’s first major industry—of all things!—was commerce in beaver pelts. Which is why the city’s official seal bears a picture of that animal. The catch phrase, “Don’t sell America short,” was first uttered by the elder J. P. Morgan during the banking crisis of 1907. It was Benjamin Franklin who first observed, “Nothing is certain but death and taxes.”

Paper money and playing cards were both printed for the first time in the 10th century. The first copyright in the world was granted in Ireland when a monk of Tara designed a psalter that was copied by a rival monastery. The designer thereupon appealed to the king, who ordered the imitation psalter destroyed and thereby laid the groundwork for the copyright law of today.

The idea for the Christmas seal originated with a Danish postal clerk, Einar Hobbell, working in the Copenhagen post office back in 1904, and from the first the receipts were devoted to combatting tuberculosis. Back in 1895,

Prof. Samuel P. Langley built an airplane powered by a steam engine and managed to keep it up in the ozone for 6 seconds.

The word "news" has been in use only 400 yrs. Before that, tydings (spelled that way) meant the same thing.
 No. 1 martyr: The first person in the world to be killed in an airplane smash was Lieut. T. E. Selfridge, who was killed near Wash., D. C., when flying with Wilbur Wright on Sept. 17, 1908. Wright was injured in the crash, but recovered.

Nothing new under the sun: On view at Johns Hopkins Univ. is a Cretan cross-word puzzle that's at least 2000 yrs. old.
 Historic: The first ice cream soda was made in 1874 when a Phila. druggist dropped a hunk of ice cream into a soda and discovered it was an improvement.
 The first real Christmas tree can be traced back to about 1600 A.D. in Germany. And for the next 200 yrs., that was the only country that had them.

The first edition of the Bible ever printed in America (1663) was in the Indian language and was called "Um-Bibulum God."
 The newly-riches of ancient Rome imported scholars from Greece to teach their children—and that's where the private tutorial system started.
 Movable metal type was being used for printing in Korea 50 yrs. before Gutenberg bobbed up with the idea in Europe.

Evolution: When the original Pierce Arrow company started in 1870, it manufactured bird cages, incubators and bicycles.
 Distinction: The first American ship to sail around the world was the *Columbia*, out of Boston, in 1790.

The first fellow who appreciated a good press agent was Alexander the Great, who, standing at the tomb of Achilles, cried out, "O fortunate youth, to have had Homer as the herald of your fame!". Pioneers: The first American hotel to be built on modern lines, with a lobby, was the Tremont in Boston, shortly followed by the Astor in N. Y. and the St. Charles in New Orleans. Credit where it's due: It was William Drennan, the Irish poet, in a book published in 1795, who first called Ireland the Emerald Isle.

The world's first pot of tea was brewed as a beverage because of the fact that a Chinese mandarin sought to hide the awful taste of Yangtze river water by steeping in it a few dried leaves of a shrub that grew in his garden.

The acre was originally the area that a yoke of oxen could plow in a day. There's certainly nothing new under the sun: Anyway, chain stores were started in China 'way back in the 2nd century of the Christian Era.

Oracles and priests originated the art of ventriloquism more than 2000 yrs. ago when they learned to speak with their lips closed, thereby making listeners think they were hearing the prophecies of a nearby image.

Birth of a notion: It was an obscure French confectioner, Nicholas Appert, who first successfully put up food in tin cans—and won a prize of 12,000 francs from no less a person than Napoleon, to whose soldiers and sailors the process of preserving foodstuffs meant a great deal. Far back in 1870, when Lenin was in diapers and Stalin was unborn, Dr. John B. Ellis published an exposé of Communism in the United States.

Set in an old stone wall at Rugby school in England is

a century-old bronze tablet with this inscription: "In memory of William Webb Ellis, who, with a fine disregard for rules of football as played in his day, first took the ball in his arms and ran with it, thus laying the foundations for the Rugby game." (And for American football, too, if I might add it.)

It'll interest F. D. R. to know that Dr. Pierre Purve of the University of Chicago has dug up hieroglyphic tablets to prove that holding companies flourished in the Mesopotamian city of Nuzi more than 3000 years ago. In the war with Siam centuries ago, the Chinese were the first to use armored ships. They covered their boats with raw ox hides to protect the crew from the stones and arrows hurled by the enemy.

When coffee was first used as a beverage, only learned and religious people drank it. Such is fame: An Englishman named Preece invented the low frequency telegraph a whole yr. before Marconi brought out high frequency wireless telegraphy in 1896—but who ever heard of Mr. Preece? When Joseph Jefferson approached the pastor of a great N. Y. church to hold funeral services for his actor friend, George Holland, the snooty divine declined and gingerly recommended that he try "the little church around the corner"—which is how that now famous edifice first got its name.

H. Gordon Selfridge, ex-Chicago merchant prince who now owns London's greatest dept. store, is credited with establishing the world's first bargain basement. No. 1 man: The first student of the first law school in this country (Litchfield Law School in Conn., 1763) was Aaron Burr, of whom you may have heard.

In addition to serving as President and writing the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson did another good turn for his countrymen. He introduced waffles to America, bringing the first criss-crossed waffle iron here from Holland. . . . Stout is also called Porter because so many porters used to drink it in British pubs when it was introduced in the 18th century. . . .

A Scotch humorist, John Arbuthnot, in 1712, created John Bull as the personification of the English nation. In a satire, John Bull was portrayed as a fat, good-natured, bull-headed man, Louis Baboon as a Frenchman, and Nicholas Frog as a Dutchman, but John Bull was the only name and figure that stuck. . . .

Snoopy-ookums: The Roman poet Cato asserted that the custom of kissing came into being that the men folks might more readily discover if their wives had been tasting wine. . . . The term "going west," used as a euphemism for death during the World War, originated in the 16th century. In those days, writers said that prisoners who were sentenced to death in London, "went west"—to be hanged at Tyburn. . . .

An old-timer informs us: When the typewriter was first put on the market, salesmen had to give demonstrations to skeptical prospects and their favorite word to tap out was "typewriter." So the letters in that word were carefully placed in the top row of the keyboard (to make it easier for the sales lads) and a few other letters tossed in to fill out the line. The rest of the keyboard was arrived at more or less haphazardly. . . .

Slight accident: The Frenchman Daguerre was trying to discover a way to clean tarnished silver when he stumbled

on the secret which led to photography. Few folks know what they mean when they say, "I slept like a top." Top is a corruption of the French word "taupe," meaning a mole, and the expression is derived from the French phrase, "Il dort comme un taupe" (He sleeps like a mole.).

The first world's Ely Culbertson to cash in on teaching card games was none other than Edmond Hoyle, the fellow who drew up all the rules. He cleaned up a tidy fortune explaining whist to Londoners—and lived to the ripe old age of 97.

The Romans were the first to use feather beds. Yum-yum: The world's largest Christmas pudding was brewed (yes, brewed!) at the Red Lion Inn, Southmark, England, in 1718 and weighed more than 1000 pounds.

FAVORITE GAGS

“We were starving to death,” said the great explorer at the boarding house table, “but we cut up our boots and ate them.”

“Hush, not so loud,” said a pallid fellow boarder, “the landlady might hear you.”

“Is this the fire station?” asked a timid voice.

“Yes,” said the chief eagerly.

“Well,” continued the voice, “I’ve put in some new plants—”

“Where’s the fire?” asked the chief.

“and some of these new plants are very expensive,” the voice continued.

“Look here,” said the chief. “You want the flower shop.”

“No, I don’t,” said the voice. “I was coming to that in a minute. My neighbor’s house is on fire and I don’t want your firemen treading all over my garden when you get here.”

JUDGE: “Who was driving the car when you collided with the truck?”

STEW (triumphantly): “No one,” he said, “we were all in the back seat.”

SON: "What does P. S. mean at the end of a letter?"

FATHER (absent-mindedly): "Please Settle."

FATHER (to son): "Why don't you go 'out and find a job? When I was your age, I was working in a store for \$3 a week and in 10 years I owned the place."

SON: "You can't do that nowadays. They have cash registers."

FRESHMAN: "Ginger ale."

WAITER: "Pale?"

FRESHMAN: "No, thanks. A glass will do."

LITTLE ELSIE: "Mother, is it correct to say you water a horse when you give it a drink?"

MOTHER: "Yes, dear; that's right."

ELSIE: "Well, then, I've just milked the cat."

WIFE: "Wake up, Henry! There's a burglar going through your pockets."

HUBBY (rolling over): "Oh, you two just fight it out between yourselves."

CUSTOMER: "You know that music stool you sold me?"

SHOPKEEPER: "Yes."

CUSTOMER: "Well, I've twisted and turned it in all directions but I can't get a single note out of it."

SMITH: "Did you give your wife that lecture in economy you talked about?"

JONES: "I'll say I did."

SMITH: "Any results?"

JONES: "Yes; I've got to give up smoking."

ROYALTY 'ROUND THE WORLD

AT any British banquet, no one may smoke during the dinner or even after the last course until the toast to the King has been given. The successor to the throne of Japan was determined in 858 A.D. by a wrestling match. The two sons of the Emperor Buntoku settled who'd be the next Mikado by the grunt and groan method.

A king is addressed in a letter as "Sire." And the envelope is directed to "The King's Most Excellent Majesty." Distinction: When you're knighted by the King of England, you are a "Sir" for the duration of your life. But when you're made a baronet, you can pass the title down to your oldest son.

When skies are blue: British monarchs whose birthdays don't fall in either May or June have to celebrate them in one of those 2 months anyway. It just happens, though, that the current George VI is the first King since Edward VII who had to suffer a switch in his natal celebration, George V and the abdicated Edward VIII having actually been born in June anyway. And that reminds us: King George VI's favorite fags are a brand of Virginia cigarettes.

Delayed Durbar: Although King George has postponed his coronation visit to India, it's probable it won't even

occur, due to a seething unrest among the inhabitants of that jumpy land.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, despite the high-heeled boots he always wears, looks short because his height is only 4 feet, 11 inches in his stocking feet. Nice going, kid: Young King Farouk of Egypt inherited \$62,000,000 from his old man in addition to his throne.

Thar she blows: Because Henry VIII liked his women-folks plump, he ordered that the maids of honor at his court be allowed a daily ration of eight gallons of beer. Candid cameras are out: Newspaper photographers are not permitted to take pictures of King George VI's personal activities without making prior arrangements with the royal secretary.

Another abdication: Expect no more world-wide Christmas greetings from King George VI by radio. He becomes so jittery before a microphone that that form of royal activity is definitely out in the future. The Duke of Windsor isn't exactly dependent on what the British royal family kicks in to him. When he abdicated, the best authorities placed his personal worth at \$3,500,000, and as the boys say, that ain't hay.

So strait-laced was King George VI's great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, she absolutely forbade glasses to be worn at Court, in fact, the late King George V was the first British monarch to wear spectacles in public. Queen Mother Mary of England still enjoys her after-dinner cigarettes, but that's the only time she smokes them.

Hands off the Mikado: So sacred is that descendant of the Sun Goddess, the Emperor of Japan, regarded that no one is permitted directly to touch his body. Even the court

physician, feeling His Majesty's pulse, for instance, has to wear silk gloves for the chore. Side line: To dispose of surplus goods produced by his royal vineyards, dairies and orchards, King Carol of Rumania runs a small grocery store just inside the back door of his palace at Bucharest.

Dessert de luxe: Some of the most fastidious of India's maharajahs have their ice cream coated with a thin covering of gold leaf and then eat it. Britain's new Queen Elizabeth isn't averse to wagering a pound or so on a hoss race. And she likes to play long shots and hunches.

Prophetic: On the front cover of the popular song, "If I Had You," published in 1928, was printed, "The Prince of Wales's Favorite Fox Trot." And the concluding lyrics of the chorus run: "I could climb the snow capped mountains, sail the mighty ocean wide, I could cross the burning desert, if I had you by my side. I could be King, dear, uncrowned, humble or poor, rich or renowned. There is nothing I couldn't do, if I had you!".

Of course it's still red when you have a nosebleed, but when you're a member of Italy's social elite, you're said to have black blood not blue blood, in your veins. Recent photos reveal that Queen Elizabeth of Gt. Britain has a pair of rather pudgy ankles for her age.

Embarrassing moment: At the coronation of Henry I, the Bishop of Salisbury, jealous of the Archbishop of Canterbury, roughly pushed the latter aside and at the height of the ceremony himself jammed the crown on the King's head. Whereupon Canterbury, good and mad, knocked the crown to the floor with his crozier and then whacked Henry over the bean.

The famed solid gold table service at Buckingham Palace is worth an average of \$2000 a plate. And no guest has ever copped one as a souvenir. Royal etiquette: As a ruling monarch, no king attends the coronation of another king. But he sometimes is present only as an individual—*ex officio*, as you might say.

Distinction: The only white rajah in the world is Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, who reigns over some 40,000 sq. miles in northern Borneo. Dowager Queen Mary of England manages to struggle along on an annual pension of \$335,000, which is not derived directly from the public treasury but from the revenues of former royal estates.

A nice old guy was King George III of England, who enjoyed inviting a flock of persons to his palace, making them dance three or four hours to the same tune and then dismissing them without offering the slightest trace of refreshments. Public notice: To quell the excitement caused by rumors of miracles happening in the St. Medard cemetery in Paris in 1732, Louis XV ordered its gates locked and posted this sign on them: "By order of the King, God is hereby forbidden to work miracles in this place."

The Duke of Windsor not only abdicated his throne, but has also renounced his title of the world's best dressed man, a sartorial authority asserts. Says the critic, on the basis of Edward's recent clothes: He's wearing trousers too wide for his height; the cut of his lapels is too short and too wide for his height; and his neckties are pretty weird.

Although the late King George V's widow is officially

titled the Queen Dowager, she obviously dislikes the term. In official court items in the London papers, she is referred to simply as Queen Mary. And Queen Elizabeth is spoken of as "the Queen," not "Queen Elizabeth."

Depressions don't worry the famed Aga Khan. As spiritual leader for more than 100,000,000 Moslems, he gets 2½ per cent of their annual incomes as a gracious tribute. It runs around \$3,000,000 a yr. We Americans know the Japanese Emperor as Hirohito, but in Nippon they never use that term. To his subjects he's O-Tenshi-Sama. Absentee ownership: King Ananda of Siam has never seen the country over which he reigns as monarch. He's an 11-yr.-old kid grabbing off an education in Switzerland.

England's Queen Elizabeth is tickled pink at the prospect of that trip to the U. S. and Canada, but the fly in King George's ointment is reported to be that speech in French he'll have to make at Quebec. It's tough enough for the monarch to orate in his native tongue without going into Français.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 91 TO 105

91. What Presidents of the U. S. have been related to each other?
92. About how many Jews are there in the world?
93. Which draws the larger salary, the Chief Justice of the United States or the Vice-President?
94. What is the largest bird that flies?
95. Which is heavier, milk or cream?
96. What is the legal difference between slander and libel?
97. Who composed the opera "Tannhäuser"?
98. Where was Labor Day first celebrated?
99. From where was the nation's motto, "E Pluribus Unum," taken?
100. About how many pounds more does the average American male, 5 feet 5 inches high and 40 years old, weigh than the average woman of the same height and age?
101. What makes common pins shine so brightly?
102. What is the middle name of Herbert C. Hoover?
103. Name the largest city in the world beginning with *T*?
104. What is dromania?
105. What and where is the tallest all-stone building in the U. S.?

Answers on page 84.

ANSWERS (to Questions 91 to 105)

91. *John Quincy Adams, the sixth President, was the son of John Adams, the second President. Benjamin Harrison, the twenty-third President, was the grandson of William Henry Harrison, the ninth President. Zachary Taylor, the twelfth President, was the second cousin of James Madison, the fourth President. And, of course, Teddy and Franklin Roosevelt are fifth cousins.*
92. *Of about 16,000,000 Jews in the world, 4,225,000 live in the U. S.*
93. *The salary of the Chief Justice of the U. S. is \$20,500. That of the Vice-President, \$15,000.*
94. *South American condors are the largest birds that fly.*
95. *Milk is heavier than cream. The cream rises to the surface, in fact, because it is composed of infinitesimal drops of oil and fat that are lighter than the rest of the milk.*
96. *Legally, slander is malicious defamation by speech or oral language. Libel is the same thing in print.*
97. *Wagner composed the opera "Tannhäuser."*
98. *New York City was the first to celebrate Labor Day, in 1882, but Oregon was the first state actually to make it a legal holiday.*
99. *The nation's motto, "E Pluribus Unum," originally occurred in a poem, "Moretum," attributed to Virgil.*
100. *The average weight of a man 5 feet 5 inches high and 40 years old is only three pounds more than of a woman of the same height and age.*
101. *Common pins have a coating of tin that makes them shine.*
102. *His full name is Herbert Clark Hoover.*
103. *The largest city in the world beginning with T is Tokio.*
104. *Dromania is the scientific term for the instinct to wander.*
105. *Boston's Ames Building, at Washington and Court Streets, is the tallest all-stone building in America.*

DITHERS FROM THE DICTATORS

THE slug: Although the adv. rates for Mussolini's daily paper, *Il Popolo d'Italia*, are terrific, most Italian business and industrial leaders are smart enough to buy plenty of space in it just the same. A sign in a celebrated delicatessen advertises "Hitler herring." Ask what it is and the prop. explains, "I take a Bismarck herring, cut out the brains, remove the backbone and open the mouth."

To conserve paper, Herr Hitler's govt. beseeches German housewives to carry baskets and plates with them when marketing, so the stuff they buy won't have to be put in paper bags. The govt. has warned all newspaper editors in Japan to suppress: "Any item that is liable to give the impression that the Japanese are a bellicose people or that the Japanese foreign policy is aggressive." (My goodness, perish the thought!).

Such is the acute shortage of foodstuffs in Germany that the Nazi regime has even ordered magicians to cease doing tricks involving the breaking of eggs in a hat, etc. Embarrassing diplomatic moment: Shortly after Mustapha Kemal abolished the fez for all Turks, the Egyptian ambassador to Turkey showed up wearing one, the fez also

being the national headgear of Egypt. Whereupon the Turkish dictator stepped up and smacked the envoy right smartly on his cheek.

Me und Gott again: The Nazi-controlled Brunswick Court of Appeals recently rendered this pronouncement: "Der Fuehrer is an envoy whom God has charged with a great mission for his people and for the world. It is therefore the duty of the church not to oppose, but to obey, the will of God, of which Der Fuehrer is an expression." So that settles it.

From Gaudens Megaro's biography of Mussolini: "One thing he fears is assassination. And does he not fear assassination because his own early teachings constitute an incitement of his own assassination, now that he has come to rule tyrannically?" It's estimated by excellent authority that Hitler is shooting \$80,000,000 a year on the Nazi propaganda and spy system throughout the world.

High pressure man: In the 18 months he edited "Avanti" before his accession to power, Mussolini jacked up its circulation from 28,000 to 94,000—not bad. Adolf sets the styles—and we mean Hitler, not Menjou: The German government's fashion headquarters actually controls the styles of all ready-to-wear clothing in that happy land.

The biographer, Gaudens Megaro, again speaking of Mussolini: "He cannot pay even lip service to ideas unless he can utilize them as instruments of his ambition for power—With him, the utterance of an idea and the conviction that he alone can be its standard bearer are inseparable."

Herr Hitler's running a special school for 800 super-Nazis, covering all phases of spreading propaganda, not only in Germany but throughout the world. It also contains a "poison library" of answers to any unfriendly criticism from any other nations. Despite all Hitler's hullabaloo and hand waving, Germany's birth rate has steadily declined in the past 15 years from 23 to 18.9 per 1000 population.

Still talking in terms of cannon fodder, Mussolini's own Milanese newspaper, *Il Popolo d'Italia*, recently moaned that the steady decline of the national birth rate has already deprived Il Duce of 15 army divisions a score of yrs. hence. Aloofness and Adolf: Since he knocked off his friend, Ernst Roehm, in the 1934 blood purge, there isn't an acquaintance, however close, who's had the nerve to address Herr Hitler as Adolf—and not even the No. 2 Nazi, Gen. Goering.

Dictators vs. Cupid: Despite governmental subsidies and ballyhoo to increase the marriage rate (and therefore the birth rate) in Italy and Germany, there has been a steady falling off in wedlocks in both lands. Almost the only fruit available in Germany today at reasonable prices is bananas, tons of which Hitlerland has received from South American republics in exchange for German machinery and chemicals.

Prerogative: Mussolini may run the works in Italy, but when he confers with the King, he's not supposed to open his mouth until Victor Emmanuel has the first word. (Dunno how it works out, but we have our doubts.). Hitler's first role in political life in Germany after the World War was that of a corporal assigned to spy on

labor meetings and report the gist of the speeches there.

Yours sincerely: All letters originating in Germany, wherever destined, must wind up with a "Heil, Hitler" instead of the customary "Yours truly" or the like. Talking out of turn: Mussolini got so mad at a British journalist who asked him in a press conference, "What's going to happen when you die?" that the fourth estater has never since been readmitted to Il Duce's tête-à-têtes with newspaper men.

Benito in a berth: When the Fascist blackshirts made their memorable march on Rome in 1924, Mussolini wasn't triumphantly in the lead, as you might expect. Il Duce came down from Milan to Rome in a sleeping car. Mussolini is pushing thousands of cheap radio sets into the Near East with the gadgets so arranged that propaganda from Italy comes in clearly, but powerful British stations are shut out altogether.

Il Duce was christened Benito Amilcare Andrea Mussolini—Benito after Benito Juarez, the Mexican revolutionist who led a revolt against the Emperor Maximilian and had him executed; Amilcare after Amilcare Cipriani, the Romagnoule anarchist, one of the founders of the Italian Socialist party; and Andrea after Andrea Costa, another anarchist-internationalist. So maybe that explains everything. Whoops, my dear: More than 15 kinds of perfumes grace Adolf Hitler's private boudoir.

For the record: In the last "free" election held in Germany, 6,000,000 voted the Communist ticket whereas the total number of Jews in the country was only about 1-10th of the total. And of the 100 Communist deputies elected, not

one was a Jew. When Hitler comes to town: On Der Fuehrer's most recent sortie to Italy to call on his pal, Mussolini, 500 Nazi strong-arm men were imported to Rome, where they donned black shirts and mingled with the Fascist police. Then a phalanx of Italian detectives visited every home and shop on the route over which Adolf was to pass, not only inspecting roofs and drains from which a pot-shot might be fired, but requiring landlords and tenants to be entirely responsible for anyone using their premises. (Gosh, we'll bet one loud Boo! would have scared Adolf stiff.).

Ain't there a good dentist in the Reich?—or maybe he doesn't care. Anyway, Adolf Hitler's teeth are badly out of alignment. (And maybe that isn't all.).

With all Hitler's verbal bravado, there are those close to him who say his own physical courage is extremely doubtful. Ever notice how often Mussolini, in his pictures, has a hat of some sort on? Well, no Italian photographer would dare snap him with his dome uncovered. Reason: Il Duce is terribly sensitive about his nearly bald head.

Il Duce likes 'em plump: A recent ukase from Mussolini is that all advertisements in Italian publications, featuring women, must portray the buxom type of femme. Non-erudite: Herr Hitler's so busy being a big shot, he never has time to read anything except the most screaming headline.

Adolf Hitler's papa, a hard-drinking cobbler, thought his adolescent lad was slightly nutsy and beat him time and again. Smoke screen: To take the German Nazis' minds off their terrific food shortage, Hitler's subsidized

newspapers are constantly printing pictures of Americans in breadlines—taken, of course, at the depth of our own depression.

The boy who made good: Dr. Paul Goebbels, Nazi big-shot and Minister of Propaganda, before Hitler came along was a third-rate hack writer and had the greatest of difficulty selling his stuff. One European writer observes that Mussolini came into power without a program of any sort, but quickly evolved one, whereas Hitler stepped into power with a well-defined program, but speedily abandoned it.

It's generally accepted that they use doubles—that Mussolini has one do his physical work, like threshing that wheat, and another to drive his car those 90 miles an hour you hear about—but have you heard the rumor that persists to the effect that Hitler was assassinated and several doubles are now being used as stooge for him? The latest is that he was knocked off just before the Munich conference.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 106 to 120

106. What are the leading wine-producing states of the U. S.?
107. Identify Demosthenes.
108. Name the eight states beginning with *M*.
109. Name the only planets on which physical and chemical conditions would make human life possible.
110. Did Fahrenheit invent the thermometer or not?
111. What does a rasher of bacon mean?
112. Name the five senses.
113. What are the so-called Maritime Provinces in North America?
114. About how many men are there in the U. S. Marines today?
115. Are all these words, or any, misspelled: leisure, hemorrhage, indispensable, embarrassment, obeisance?
116. What is the largest city in the world beginning with *C*?
117. Where, in Massachusetts, does the British Government own a plot of land?
118. What is an ampersand?
119. Next to the U. S., what nation has the most telephones in service?
120. What does the *D* stand for in John D. Rockefeller's name?

Answers on page 92.

ANSWERS (to Questions 106 to 120)

106. *California, New York, Ohio and Michigan are the country's leading wine-producing states.*
107. *Demosthenes was a famous orator of ancient Greece.*
108. *Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi and Montana.*
109. *The earth and Mars are the only two planets on which physical and chemical conditions would permit human life.*
110. *Fahrenheit did not invent the thermometer but he was the first to use quicksilver instead of alcohol in the glass tube, which made a superior instrument.*
111. *A rasher of bacon means three slices of it.*
112. *The five senses are those of sight, smell, taste, touch and hearing.*
113. *The Maritime Provinces are Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.*
114. *The U. S. Marines consist of about 17,000 men today.*
115. *None of the words in this question was misspelled. Ouch! Sorry.*
116. *Chicago is the largest city in the world beginning with C.*
117. *The British Government owns a plot of land near Concord Bridge containing the graves of thirteen soldiers killed in the famous battle in 1775.*
118. *Ampersand is the name of the sign for "and," you know, this: &.*
119. *Germany, with approximately 3,450,000, ranks next to the U. S. in the number of telephones.*
120. *John D. Rockefeller's middle name is Davison.*

 AH, THE GOOD OLD DAYS

EXEMPTION: In ancient days, expectant mothers could take fruit from any orchard without a chance of redress for the owner. Fair enough: But back in George Washington's day U. S. Senators and Representatives got \$6 a day as pay, but only while Congress was in session. It was an old Roman custom to serve a guest as many cups of wine as there were letters in his name. (And we don't see how a guy named Theophilus McGillicuddy could stand it.).

Up to 1870, the title of professor was held in disrepute. Such intellectual Harvard eminents as James Russell Lowell, Louis Agassiz and William James didn't want it attached to their names. Up to a century ago strangers customarily shared the same room and bed at American hotels. In fact, it was a sensational innovation when a Boston hostelry, in 1829, for the first time offered to rent rooms for the exclusive occupancy of just one guest.

Oh, doctor: The accepted method of curing a stomach ache 300 yrs. ago was for the physician to sit on the patient's stomach and bounce up and down. It was only as far back as your grandmammy's day that folks in the North thought that infantile paralysis was spread by

butterflies and those in the South thought buzzards transported the disease. When H. C. Lytton, head man of a leading Chicago dept. store, The Hub, bet on Grover Cleveland to win the Presidency in 1888 and lost, he donned a full dress suit and sawed a cord of wood in the window of his store as a publicity stunt.

On Feb. 12, 1849, the selectmen of Nantucket Island decreed the town bell should thenceforth be rung thrice daily as follows: "7 A.M., time to start the day's work; 12 noon, time to quit for dinner; 9 P.M., time to go to bed." And it's still rung on that very same schedule today. The town bell ringer collects 40 cts. each time he ascends the belfry and yanks the rope.

The electric eye, which we like to think so modern, was invented more than 50 yrs. ago. But at the time they didn't know just how to adapt it to some good use. Up to 1845, it was a Boston custom for shopkeepers to bill their customers only once a year for goods purchased—on Dec. 31. The *Youth's Companion*, a juvenile weekly published in Boston, once had the largest mass circulation of any magazine in the U. S.

For 2 years under the Tweed ring's rule half a century ago N. Y. City's bill for stationery alone was \$2,272,000. A 35-yr.-old automobile just traded in to a dealer has a dash socket for a whip. The lash was used to keep the kids from jumping on at the rear. Some of its other equipment consists of a running board mud-scraper, a celluloid windshield and a folding rear-entrance step. When automobiles first went on pneumatic tires in the U. S., it took 2 hours to repair a punctured inner tube.

Historic: The first automobile advertisement published in the U. S. was in the *Scientific American* for July 30, 1898, and boosted the Winton "motor carriage." The ad's flaring headline read: "Dispense with a Horse . . . and save the expense, care and anxiety of keeping it. To run a motor carriage costs about $\frac{1}{2}$ cent a mile." (Oh, yeah?) Its demoniac speed was advertised as about "from 3 to 20 miles an hour."

At the turn of this century, only one pair of silk stockings was sold for every 2000 inhabitants in the U. S. Up to 1776, corporal punishment was dealt out to Yale undergraduates by the prexy himself, who publicly boxed their ears. Half a century ago, just 4 cities in the U. S.—N. Y., Chicago, Phila., and Boston—had newspapers that could boast 100,000 circulation.

Back in 1676, in Northampton, Mass., one Hannah Lyman was summoned before the judge for having publicly worn a dress trimmed with gold lace and bright-colored ribbons, "to the shame and mortification of her betters." And the kindly judge slapped her with a fine of a couple of pounds. In the good old days half a century ago, football backs usually had leather straps like valise handles, sewed to the shoulders and hips of their suits so teammates could grab them the better and haul them forward for extra yardage.

The gals of the gay 90's not only used bustles, but also false calves to conceal unshapely legs. The phoney attachments for the gams were cloth filled with sawdust and tied about the calves, beneath the stockings, in any shape desired. From a "25 Years Ago Today" column: "Auto traffic from Cape Cod Sunday afternoon was the

heaviest ever. In a half hour, 90 cars were counted."

Back in 1856, the crotchety editor of *Harper's Monthly* described Young America as a "Pasty-faced, narrow-chested, spindle-shanked, dwarfed race." That must have been before we started eating vitamins. Payroll records dug up for the First Nat. Bank of Boston reveal the salary of its president in 1789 was \$200 a yr.—the same as the porter's.

FAVORITE GAGS

Comedian Jack Osterman tells of the Schenectady, N. Y., hotel alongside the railroad tracks, with trains choo-chooing past all through the night.

The other evening when a drunk checked in and could stand it no longer, he called up the desk and asked, "What time does this hotel stop at Syracuse?"

A tourist traveling through the Texas Panhandle got into conversation with an old settler and his son. "Looks like we might have some rain," said the tourist.

"Well, I hope so," said the Old Settler, "not so much for myself, as for my boy here. I've seen it rain."

OLD LADY: "Captain, what shall I do if I become seasick?"

CAPTAIN: "Don't worry about that. You'll do it all right."

The judge stared at the prisoner with contempt in his eyes. "Do you mean to say," he asked, "that you murdered that poor old woman for a paltry three dollars?"

The prisoner shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Well, Judge, you know how it is. Three bucks here and three bucks there—it mounts up."

MOTHER: "William!"

WILLIE: "What, ma?"

MOTHER: "Are you spitting in the goldfish bowl?"

WILLIE: "No, ma, but I'm coming pretty close."

"Johnny, I wish you'd have better table manners. You're a regular little pig at the table." Deep silence on Johnny's part so father, to impress him more, added, "I say, Johnny, do you know what a little pig is?"

"Yes, sir," meekly replied Johnny. "It's a hog's little boy."

"Clorine," said her mistress, "I heard about your hard luck and I'm terribly sorry."

"Deed, ma'am, Ah ain't had no hard luck."

"Why, wasn't your husband killed in an accident yesterday?"

"Oh, yes, ma'am; but dat's his hard luck."

MISTRESS (to new maid): "Be careful when you dust these pictures, Mary; they're all old masters."

MAID: "Good gracious! Who'd ever think you'd been married all those times, mum!"

FATHER: "A traitor is a man who leaves our party and goes over to the other side."

BOY: "Well, what's a man who leaves his party and comes over to your side?"

FATHER: "A convert, my boy."

ELDERLY GOLFER (on a Miami course): "Notice any improvement since last year?"

CADDY: "Had your clubs shined, haven't you?"

 YOUR GOVERNMENT—AND MINE

IN the nation's history, the numerical strength of the Supreme Court has been changed half a doz. times—from 6 members to 7 to 9 to 10 to 7 to 9. Who read 'em, we dunno, but last yr. the govt. printing office whirled off 5,806,276,860 copies of various publications.

Just why, we dunno, but: If a U. S. Senator dies in office, the Governor of his state can appoint his successor. But if a Representative dies in office, they have to hold an election to obtain a successor. Cablegrams sent and received by the state dept. in Washington cost around \$700 a day. Always butting in: The U. S. govt. has landed its troops on foreign soil on more than 100 occasions in the past 115 yrs.

Efficiency in Washington: The original tabulating machine was first tried out in the census of 1890 and although the govt. spent \$750,000 for the layout, it cut 2 yrs. from the previous census tabulation record and saved \$5,000,000. This nation was stunned and bewildered in 1890 when Congress appropriated a total of \$1,000,000,000 to run the federal govt. Today it's only a question of months when it will cost Uncle Sam \$1,000,000,000 per yr. just to meet the interest on his national debt.

The grasping hand: The Standard Oil Co. of Indiana

reports that in 1937 its total taxes amounted to 50 per cent more than all the wages paid its 32,000 employees. With strings attached: Because the U. S. govt. made such generous land grants to struggling R.R.s yrs. ago, Uncle Sam has since got a 50 per cent reduction below the regular rates when those R.R.s transport the troops of the govt. The saving amounts to from \$7,500,000 to \$10,000,000 a yr. nowadays.

Although West Point cadets are allowed \$760 a yr. by Uncle Sam, it's against regulations for them to carry any money with them on the military academy premises. All their purchases are made with credit cards or "chits." The federal govt. is still holding out vs. Hollywood's pleas to make a movie with Alcatraz island as a background. Doesn't want the secrets of its super-prison registered on film.

It costs on an average of \$3,000,000 a yr. to run the U. S. Senate and \$7,500,000 for the expenses of the House of Reps. Our benevolent govt. offers pamphlets on the following intriguing subjects to its citizens: (1) drug plant cultivation, (2) elimination of bats from buildings and (3) mountain lion trappings.

The Federal Trade Commission keeps a very strict eye on the automotive industry to see that it doesn't show cars in advertisements with various accessories attached which accessories aren't included at the price listed when the car is actually delivered. Side racket: Every yr. your Uncle Sam collects from \$5,000,000 to \$8,000,000 from the tax on playing cards.

Biography in holes: There's one card in the govt. census bureau for each of 122,775,000 persons in the U. S. But

since each card is run through tabulating machines several times for different sets of data, taking the complete census is the equivalent of adding up a total of 3,000,750,000 book entries. And without those tabbing machines, it would take more than a doz yrs. to carry out the various calculations of a modern census.

Windfall: More than \$50,000,000 worth of U. S. bonds that have matured have never been redeemed. It was 26 long yrs. before the basic patent on the cash register was finally issued by Uncle Sam, the main question having been just who was entitled to the patent. Every roll call made in the lower House of Congress costs the govt. \$54.

Point of view: In suits resulting from damage to goods in transit, U. S. courts decreed that the Johnstown flood was an act of God, but that the Great Chicago fire was not, inasmuch as it was caused by a human agency. The U. S. Dept. of Labor's definition of a strike is an affair involving at least 6 workers and lasting at least one day. Horticultural protection: Uncle Sam has to date granted more than 200 patents on flowers and plants.

Free service: You can find out anything you wish to about the U. S. govt. by writing the U. S. Information Service at Wash., D. C. The only 2 places where Old Glory is permitted by law to be flown at night during peace times are over the capitol at Washington and over the grave of "The Star-Spangled Banner's" composer, Francis Scott Key, in Maryland.

The largest public office bldg. in the world is the new Dept. of Agriculture edifice at Washington, with 4500 rooms, 7 miles of corridors and 39 elevators. For the pro-

tection of aviators, the govt. is ordering all broadcasting towers to be painted with a tint called "international orange," prepared by the Bureau of Standards.

Bargain: All the territory of the U. S. A. not included in the 13 original colonies cost the govt. only \$108,167,-622.

American genius, it would seem, got a slow start. During the first yr. following the U. S. patent act, only 3 patents were granted by Uncle Sam. Although all Governors are called "His Excellency," the President of the U. S. and the Gov. of Massachusetts are the only ones possessing that title by legislative act.

Neat profit: It costs your Uncle Sam about 5/100ths of a dollar (\$0.0069) for every postage stamp he prints, whether it's a one-center or a 25-ct. one. And over in the currency dept., a \$1 bill or a \$10,000 baby costs about 1/10th of a cent to print. It costs Uncle Sam an average of \$13,000 to educate a boy for the 4-yr. course at Annapolis.

Quick now, what's the difference between a post card and a postal card? Well, according to the U. S. Post Office Department, a card bought from the Post Office and containing a stamp printed on it is a postal card. But unstamped cards bought from private firms (and often containing a picture on one side) are post cards. It costs the average inventor from \$200 to \$500 to get a patent from Uncle Sam—and that includes the drawn description, lawyer's fee, etc.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 121 TO 135

121. What three nations of the world have the greatest rail-road trackage?
122. Identify Hippocrates.
123. Which element has the highest and which the lowest atomic weight?
124. At about what rate is the U. S. population increasing annually?
125. Which is longer, a radio wave or a light wave?
126. What country elects the President for only a one-year term?
127. About how long would it take a bomb dropped from a plane a mile high to reach the ground?
128. What do the initials PWA and WPA stand for?
129. What is a decibel?
130. Since when has "The Star-Spangled Banner" been our national anthem officially?
131. About how many vessels do you think go through the Panama Canal in a year?
132. Rank these cities according to population: Naples, Boston, Budapest.
133. What is often rated the most significant scientific development of the nineteenth century?
134. How many gallons should a barrel of beer contain?
135. Identify Sidney W. Porter.

Answers on page 104.

ANSWERS (to Questions 121 to 135)

121. *The United States, Soviet Russia, and India have the world's greatest railroad trackage, with Canada fourth.*
122. *Hippocrates was a famed Greek physician, living around 450 B.C., and sometimes called "The Father of Medicine."*
123. *Hydrogen has the lowest atomic weight (1), and uranium the highest (283).*
124. *The U. S. population is currently gaining at the rate of about 900,000 a year.*
125. *Radio waves can be as long as 3000 feet, while light waves are about 1/50,000 of an inch.*
126. *Switzerland elects its President for a one-year term but he is virtually a figurehead, the Federal Council actually running the nation.*
127. *Experiments show that, owing to air resistance, it takes about 19 seconds for a bomb to reach the ground after being dropped from a plane one mile in the air.*
128. *PWA stands for Public Works Administration, while WPA stands for Works Progress Administration.*
129. *Decibel is a term for one unit of sound intensity.*
130. *"The Star-Spangled Banner" has officially been our national anthem only since 1931.*
131. *From 4500 to 6300 vessels go through the Panama Canal in a year.*
132. *The cities rank thus: Budapest, 1,055,000; Naples, 860,000; Boston, 781,000.*
133. *Louis Pasteur's germ theory of disease is often ranked as the most significant scientific development of the nineteenth century.*
134. *A barrel of beer contains 31 gallons.*
135. *Sidney W. Porter was O. Henry's real name.*

MEMOS FROM THE MEDICOS

IT'S an eminent medico's theory that just as there are pathological liars, there are instances where a lack of essential fluids causes persons to be victims of truth-telling mania, tactlessly blurting out the naked truth, regardless of how much it hurts. Once hydrophobia is established in a human being, his doom is virtually sealed. There's no known method of treatment with that dread disease when it finally breaks out.

Vitamin D has finally been produced in pure crystalline form, so powerful that a teaspoonful of it would cure the rickets in 8000 children. It seems kind of silly, but any medico will tell you that the largest organ of the body is actually the skin. One-third of all the medicos now practising in this country are specialists.

An eminent Cleveland medico believes that the tonsils' function is to assure a proper chemical content of the blood and then observes that tonsil operations don't lessen susceptibility to common colds and that pneumonia occurs even more frequently to children who've had their tonsils and adenoids cut out. World wide statistics indicate that except for measles in an epidemic yr., syphilis is the most prevalent of all communicable diseases.

Four parts of helium (the stuff with which they fill

dirigibles) to one part oxygen produces anaesthesia faster than any other known agent and recovery from that mixture is also more rapid. In addition, the helium-oxygen mixture is easier for patients to breathe and is a preventive against asphyxiation. Maybe there's something in that "eat, drink and be merry" stuff, after all. Anyway, as the *N. E. Journal of Medicine* points out, very few persons ever attempt suicide on a full stomach.

Attention of parents: An eminent Harvard Medical school professor asserts a child as a rule should be at least 6 yrs. old before its tonsils or adenoids are removed. Health statisticians estimate the death rate from cancer in the U. S. will continue to rise for the next 35 to 50 yrs., then become stationary at approximately 1½ times the present death rate from that scourge.

Soothing: A celebrated Southern medico states that a nurse with a good reading voice is a most helpful factor in the treatment of illness.

Goat's milk doesn't require pasteurization because it's at all times free of tuberculosis germs. Twelve hours after a Chicago cancer victim committed suicide, newspapers received copies of a letter he had sent his doctor and which read in part: "If you had made a careful examination the first time I consulted you, the cancer could have been removed. You have seemed hard and unsympathetic, so it will not affect you much to know that you have shortened a human life by 10 or 15 years. I do not think this blunder of yours should be covered up."

Any life insurance actuary will tell you there's a lot of understatement in cancer statistics. Sympathetic medicos, on diagnosing a cancer, often soften the blow to the family of

the deceased by assigning death to another cause on the burial certificate. Ouch! When a Washington, D. C., medico summoned an ambulance for a woman with an acute appendix attack, the first one went to the wrong address, the second became involved in a collision and the third and fourth were sent to the scene of the crash. The fifth ambulance, the last one the hospital had, finally showed up and took the appendicitis victim away.

“Physician, heal thyself,” to the contrary, one out of every seven American doctors dies from diseased heart arteries, a particularly common cause of death among professional workers. Now they’re using electrical waves to diagnose brain diseases. Brain waves with a normal frequency of 10 per second will drop off as low as three per second when the brain’s tissue is injured and diseased. And when they drop off to less than three per second, it indicates a brain tumor.

Miracle: When a woman on a London operating table had an internal hemorrhage and stagnant blood threatened her life, there was no suitable blood donor available. Thereupon the surgeons took a 100 to 1 chance, drained three pints of blood from her own body, strained it through gauze to eliminate clots and then injected it into her arm. It worked and she lived.

A quarter century ago half the deaths from diabetes in the U. S. were due to coma. Today only one in every 16 diabetic deaths results that way. White spots on a person’s fingernails indicate excessive nervous irritability.

An eminent medico speaking: “Skin cancer is becoming much more common and can be traced to the sun-bathing fad. In many cases the consequences of foolish exposure may

be delayed for years. I've had cases where skin cancer developed 10 years after a severe sunburn."

A new alibi, as recounted by the Medical Record, states that when a person staggers and talks thickly, he's not necessarily intoxicated, but is merely allergic to alcohol—or a victim of "allergic alcohol sensitization," in medical language. A monopoly: After obstetrical forceps had been invented around 1600, they remained the secret of one medical family for the next 125 years before they were brought to public attention by Dutch physicians.

So heartily do Dutch physicians resent night calls that a patient had better be pretty sick before he puts in a nocturnal summons. And even then he must dispatch a taxicab to the medico's home before the M. D. will go out on the call. Such is the modern efficiency of blood transfusion that it can now be accomplished without the loss of a single drop of blood or a twinge of pain by either the donor or the recipient.

Because it accelerates the disappearance of alcohol from the blood stream, insulin, largely used for diabetics, would make a bang-up cure for hangovers if it could only be administered via the mouth instead of by a shot in the arm, eminent medical researchers report. False faces: During the great plagues of the 16th century, English physicians always wore a mask with long nose projecting—and in the false proboscis were spices which were supposed to purify the air they breathed in.

One of the world's first great physicians, Asclepiades the Greek, always maintained that a really good medico should never become ill himself. And Asclepiades himself never did. He lived without sickness to a ripe old age and

died when he fell off a ladder. The medicos will tell you that golf is perhaps the least harmful of all competitive games in that it can be played as strenuously or leisurely as one wishes. Health authorities in one eastern state uncovered the sordid fact that 17 cases of syphilis could be traced to a party of young folks at which kissing games were played.

Be of good cheer: Medical records show it's entirely possible for a victim of high blood pressure to live to be 100 yrs. old. The eminent Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller medical institute, speaking: "The importance of human life depends on its quality, not its length. If, for instance, our duration could be increased by a lowering of metabolism, as Loeb succeeded in doing with the fruit fly, the existence that obtained would not be worth living."

An eminent neurologist speaking: "Is a nervous breakdown a sign of weakness? Not at all! Sometimes a weakling goes through life without ever having a breakdown, simply because he has never been subjected to a critical test." Any experienced surgeon will tell you that a pulsating human heart, held in the hand, feels just like a fish out of water.

Lockjaw, or tetanus, is caused by an organism in the soil. The American family pays approximately \$100 per year for medical services. Deer, deer: While it takes about 3 hours for your stomach to digest beefsteak, venison steak is digested in half that time. An eminent medico asserts: Few things in a home are more dangerous than cracked dishes. They breed billions of germs.

Another thing for fond parents to worry about: An eminent medical authority asserts that rope-jumping by children is a contributing factor toward heart disease. Gelatine is the highest protein food. And speaking of food-value: The best part of a potato, so far as food-value is concerned, is the thin layer next to the skin, where most of the mineral salts are deposited. The inside of the potato, below the layer, is mostly starch, of course.

The medical profession doubts seriously if anybody was ever really frightened to death. A research covering 40 years, by an eminent medico, failed to turn up one authentic case, except when the victim of fatal fright was already in a weakened condition. It's estimated there are \$350,000,000 worth of unpaid doctors' bills in the U. S.

So deft are the hands of Cleveland's great surgeon, Dr. George W. Crile, that he has performed as many as 30 operations in a single day. That's at the rate of one every 13 minutes. For every 25 pounds of excess avoirdupois you put on, there are created some 20 additional miles of blood vessels in your body which must be fed.

A Mayo Clinic expert asserts that many persons who think themselves epileptic are actually only victims of tight collars, which, pressing against sensitive carotid arteries, cause spells of dizziness and sometimes unconsciousness.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 136 to 150

136. Name the smallest country in the world in point of area.
137. What is the second highest mountain peak in the world?
138. Who was the first woman to be elected to the U. S. Senate?
139. Which is heavier, gold or platinum?
140. What is a euphemism?
141. About how many couples are married in the U. S. each year?
142. Who was the first President to be recorded in news-reels?
143. Approximately how high was the celebrated Tower of Babel?
144. What disease was once called the "Black Plague"?
145. What university did the late John D. Rockefeller endow with \$35,000,000?
146. What is the largest U. S. Naval Base?
147. About how long did it take Magellan's ships to sail around the world the first time?
148. What are the three most densely populated states of the U. S.?
149. What country is the world's greatest exporter of lamb and mutton?
150. What do the 4 H's stand for in the 4-H Clubs?

Answers on page 112.

ANSWERS (to Questions 136 to 150)

136. *The world's smallest country in area is Vatican City, only 108.7 acres.*
137. *The second highest mountain peak in the world, which rises 28,250 feet, in Tibet, is unnamed but is designated on maps as K-2.*
138. *Hattie Caraway of Arkansas was the first woman ever elected to the U. S. Senate.*
139. *Platinum is heavier than gold.*
140. *A euphemism is a mild or inoffensive expression used in place of an unpleasant statement. Example: He is a trifle careless in handling the truth.*
141. *About 1,200,000 couples are married in the U. S. each year.*
142. *McKinley was the first President to be recorded in newsreels.*
143. *The famous Tower of Babel reached a height of 300 feet.*
144. *The bubonic plague was once known as the Black Plague.*
145. *John D. Rockefeller, the elder, endowed the University of Chicago with \$35,000,000.*
146. *The largest U. S. Naval Base is Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.*
147. *It took Magellan's ships 1083 days to sail around the world.*
148. *The three most densely populated states are Rhode Island, New Jersey and Massachusetts, in that order.*
149. *New Zealand is the world's largest exporter of lamb and mutton.*
150. *The 4-H Clubs are designed to develop head, heart, hands and health.*

LITERARY NOTES

ONLY beginners and amateurs receive printed rejection slips from the better magazines. Recognized writers always rate a personal note from the editor when their stuff is turned down. The best selling book just 400 yrs. ago was the "Colloquies" of the great Dutch scholar, Erasmus. It attained a sale of 24,000 copies. Not quite alphabetical: In the first edition of Samuel Johnson's celebrated dictionary, the words beginning with "V" came before the words beginning with "U".

Rewards of literature: S. S. Van Dine, who, under his true name, Willard S. Huntington, has written many fine and weighty volumes, sadly comments that each one of his Philo Vance detective stories made him more money than all his serious works combined. Thomas Gray, who wrote the immortal "Elegy in a Country Churchyard," also once tore off a poem entitled "On the Death of a Favourite Cat, Drowned in a Tub of Goldfishes".

Although today Voltaire is one of the most widely read French authors, nearly a dozen men lost their shirts publishing his works while he was still alive. One of them, Beaumarchais, composer of "The Barber of Seville," dropped a cool 1,000,000 francs on an early Voltaire masterpiece and then died broke. In Sir James M. Barrie's "The

Little Minister," chap. 3, par. 5, there appears this strange word: coffronted. It means, according to the book, "comparatively open," but dictionaries don't give it a tumble.

Abbé Dimnet, the philosopher, speaking: "One test of a book's quality is to read it out loud. No book that is trash could ever stand this test for more than a page." "We're all human: The average book contains about 150 typographical errors on its first printing. Edna St. Vincent Millay, America's greatest living femme poet, rises regularly at 5 A.M. each day and starts work in her library.

In the course of a yr., those erudite Bostonians spend more than twice as much per capita on books as the residents of any other U. S. city. A penny a word is still the average rate the pulp magazines pay the authors who supply them with stories. Mark Twain so loved his favorite novel, "The Prince and the Pauper," that he once wrote his wife: "I take so much pleasure in the story, I am loath to hurry, not wanting to get it done."

Robert Browning's first whack at poetry was a prodigious flop. Not a single copy of his first anonymous volume of poems, titled "Pauline," was sold. Edgar Allan Poe, at the height of his writing career, once lived for 9 days on boiled dandelions for lack of money. But we'll bet he was able to scrape up enough for a couple of pints of grog. Sinclair Lewis, who now gets \$5,000 for it when he feels like tearing off a short story, sold his first for \$75.

It was Washington Irving, in his tale "The Creole Village," who coined the term "the almighty dollar." If a publisher doesn't sell at least 2000 copies of any book he issues, he's bound to lose money on it. Milton got

\$50 for his "Paradise Lost." A precisian observes that "only" is the most misinserted word in the English language. There's about a mile of type in the average novel.

Here's how the current novel, "If I Die Before I Wake," was written by its starving author: Broke, Sherwood King made an arrangement with his Chicago landlady that he'd write a chapter a week of his book. She agreed to let him remain rent-free as long as each new chapter pleased her and the rest of the boarders. With such a desperate incentive, Author King rapped out a tale that really clicked.

Since Mark Twain's death in 1910, his publishers have paid nearly \$1,500,000 in book royalties to his estate. They have never dipped under \$50,000 per year and have hit as high as \$91,000 in a single year. Just the thing for your library: A recently published book, "Atlantic Salmon Fishing," sells for \$250 a copy. The height of indifference or something is that of a U. S. publishing company, issuing chiefly limited editions at lofty prices, which actually charges \$2.50 for a catalogue of the books it offers for sale.

S. S. Van Dine, the author, read 2000 detective stories before he felt prepared to write his first one—that smash hit called "The Benson Murder Case." Eugene O'Neill's plays in book form sell better than most novels, with his "Strange Interlude" tops at 100,000 copies sold. You can't help but like Sinclair Lewis's sobriquet for Gertrude Stein—"The Gas Goddess." Laurel wreath: Ultra-critical Sinclair Lewis picks Willa Cather as the greatest living American novelist and designates her "A Lost Lady" as her premier work.

Pioneer: Edgar Allan Poe, with his "The Murders of

the Rue Morgue" in 1841, invented the deductive type of detective story so popular today. And while we're at it—it's Sinclair Lewis's observation that Gertrude Stein thinks all Americans are either freaks or worshippers of herself or both. Since Emily Post became the American arbiter of etiquette 15 years ago, the public has spent \$1,500,000 on her books, to keep informed on the correct way to eat watermelon at Mrs. Vanderbilt's picnic, how to introduce a Brother Elk to your wife, etc.

Americans' reading taste in the past 5 years, according to public librarians, has lessened the demand for fiction, but has accelerated interest in proletarian literature and the drama. Triple threat man: Oliver Goldsmith is rated as the only English writer to excel in three branches of literature—as a novelist with "The Vicar of Wakefield," as a playwright with "She Stoops to Conquer" and as a poet with "The Deserted Village."

Spur-of-the-moment stuff: Elbert Hubbard's famed classic, "The Message to Garcia," which has since been translated and printed in virtually every civilized language, was written casually one night, and without any forethought, inside of a single hour. A survey by an Ohio State Univ. professor shows that stenographers and clerks read the most by volume of any class of workers and that business executives read the least. And, surprisingly, college students read less than high school pupils.

Prophets without honor: In the annals of American literature, such eminent figures as Mark Twain, Bret Harte, Edgar Allan Poe and Harriet Beecher Stowe won recognition and acclaim abroad before homeland critics gave them a tumble. Speedy poet: Robert Burns wrote his

immortal "Tam O'Shanter" inside of 24 hours.

The great Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley, when he felt his stuff wasn't up to scratch, used to sign it Benjamin F. Johnson. Although there are reputedly no words in the English language to rhyme with orange and month, a reader contributes "blorange" and "grunth." (Time out to look 'em up in the dictionary).

The late Arnold Bennett classed Dickens, Scott, Thackeray and Dumas as 2nd raters because he considered them as sentimental. (But they'll doubtless be read when Arnold Bennett's works are forgotten). Tyros with a typewriter: Mary Roberts Rinehart got \$35 for the first story she ever sold. Munsey's bought it. And Edna Ferber's first literary remuneration was 62.50 from Everybody's for a short story.

Conan Doyle's first Sherlock Holmes story was rejected so many times by magazine editors, he came near tearing it up and calling it quits. So unknowing of the ways of the world was Ralph Waldo Emerson that when he received his first check from his publisher, he asked the latter if he might use it.

Antiquity item: A first edition of Sinclair Lewis's "Main Street" (mint copy) was recently quoted as worth \$12. The first publication of Dickens's Pickwick Papers was a flop, less than 400 copies being sold. But Dickens persevered and shortly after started jazzing up the series. He introduced the smart-cracking character of Sam Weller, who soon tickled the Britons' fancy to the tune of 40,000 copies an issue.

Triumvirate: Thackeray, Kipling and Tagore are the only grade A writers who were born in India. The

famous Pepys diary wasn't published until a whole century after Samuel died. Addendum: Sinclair Lewis's front name is Harry.

They're famous today, but: Keats the poet died of a broken heart. Shelley and Wagner were exiled. Beethoven and Schubert were left to starve. Huxley was denied a professorship. Walt Whitman was fed by a few Englishmen while his poems were banned as obscene in the U. S. And Poe lived and died a pauper.

Aversion: Shakespeare rarely mentions dogs in his plays without showing his dislike for them. The feminine mind, it would seem, matures faster than the male's. Anyway, in world history, women writers have produced the most masterpieces between the ages of 35 and 39 while most of the men's chefs d'œuvres have been written between 40 and 44 yrs. of age. The average American buys 2 books a yr., borrows 2 from the public library and reads slightly less than 2 that he borrows from his friends.

The pen is mightier than the sword: Gen. John J. Pershing made more money from writing his World War memoirs than he drew as salary all his yrs. as general. On June 22, 1854, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote in his diary: "I have at length hit upon a plan for a poem on the American Indian. It is to weave together their beautiful traditions into a whole." And that's how "Hiawatha" was born.

FAVORITE GAGS

A high school girl, seated next to a famous astronomer at a dinner party, struck up a conversation with him by asking, "What do you do in life?"

He explained, "I study astronomy."

"Dear me," said the girl, "I finished astronomy last year."

A tramp was sleeping behind the bunker on the fairway of a golf course when the club secretary, prowling around, kicked him none too gently and ordered him to clear out.

"And who are you?" demanded the tramp.

"I'm the secretary of the club," said the official.

"Well," replied the tramp, "that's no way to get new members."

There's the story of a stew who kept knocking on a lamp post one night and muttering. "There must be someone home—there's a light up there."

And then there was the obliging kitchenware clerk who got a smack in the face from the young housewife who had asked him for a little oven.

MERCHANT: "Listen, I wouldn't cash a check for my own brother!"

STRANGER: "Well, of course, you know your own family better than I do."

BELLHOP: "Telegram for Mr. Neidspondiavannci, Mr. Neidspondiavannci."

MR. NEIDSPONDIAVANNCI: "What initial, please?"

One day a clerk in a British shop remarked to his austere employer, "I think we're going to have rain, sir."

"WE!" snarled the employer. "WE are going to have rain? How long since you've been a member of the firm?"

JONES: "What were you doing outside the Ritz-Carlton yesterday?"

SMITH: "I live there."

JONES: "Where?"

SMITH: "Outside the Ritz-Carlton."

Little Willie rushed into the house and showed papa a new penknife he said he'd found in the street. "But are you sure it was lost?" asked papa.

"Of course, it was lost," said Willie. "I saw the man looking for it."

"Frequent water drinking," said the physician to the college student, "will prevent you from getting stiff in the joints."

"Yes," admitted the student, "but some of the joints don't serve water."

SPORTS, HOBBIES AND IDIOSYNCRASIES

THERE'S no doubt golf originated in Scotland, but for many yrs. after the game got a foothold there, the Scotsmen imported their golfing equipment from Holland. Mass production: Somewhere in the world, every 20 minutes, a golfer gets the thrill of his life and makes a hole in one. Observation of an eminent editor: "The American reader is better informed on sports and its practitioners than on any other domestic activity."

Dud: August circulation figures for U. S. newspapers show that the international yacht races, Ranger vs. Endeavor II, didn't mean a thing to the public pulse. Poetic justice: The English Derby of 1867 was run in a blinding snow-storm and won by Hermit, a 40 to 1 shot. A marquis who bet and lost \$500,000 on the race had only 3 years previously eloped with the fiancée of Hermit's owner, so it was a sort of double-jointed victory.

Six gallant race horses have each rolled up more than \$300,000 in purses—Sun Beau, Equipoise, Phar Lap, Gallant Fox, Zev and Mate. The govt. estimates the U. S. spends more than \$3,000,000,000 a yr. on sports of all kinds. Success secret: When Babe Ruth was at his prime as a home run walloper, tests proved his eyes functioned 12 per cent faster than those of normal human beings.

. When the Olympic games first started in 776 B.C., they consisted not only of track and field events, but contests in poetry and the drama. You never can tell dept.: Bill Tilden, probably the greatest tennis player America ever produced, couldn't even make the varsity tennis players' team when he was a student at the Univ. of Pennsylvania. Jittery indeed was Andrew Kirkaldy in 1889 when he only had to hole a one-inch putt to win the British open golf championship. And then darned if he didn't miss it!

It's the sage observation of Bobby Jones that long putts are easier for a golfer than short ones—because you try to hole the long ones, but with the short 2-footers, you try not to miss. Idiosyncrasy: One of America's great editors, the late Morrill Goddard, always expressed a contempt for the stage because the actors "didn't even create the lines they spoke."

Another idiosyncrasy (while we're at it): Rupert Hughes, the novelist, never starts writing till after 9 o'clock at night. Not a bad idea: It's the valid demand of Benny Friedman, ex-football star, that gridiron officials at the start of a season be required to take a physical examination to prove they have the wind, stamina and efficiency to get right down under a play.

Idiosyncrasy (III): So superstitious is Lily Pons that before singing her first song for an audience, she cuts a small piece out of the curtain and holds it in her hand till she's through her melody. There's hardly an opera house in the U. S. that hasn't been slightly damaged by the diminutive diva. In the course of a season, the major league ball clubs spend about \$128,000 for baseballs alone. Every

other major league city in the U. S. has had a pennant winner since a Boston team last copped a flag in 1918.

The man who invented basketball, Dr. James A. Naismith, played the game only twice in his life. Red isn't the only color Spanish matadors use to infuriate a bull. Their outer cloak, which they wave at the beast, is almost always of cerise and yellow silk. Deadlock: The longest baseball game every played in the major leagues went 26 innings on May 1, 1920, when the Boston Braves and the Brooklyn Dodgers finally called it off with a 1-1 tie.

It saves shooting them: A Hungarian just invented a scarecrow, equipped with photo-electric cells, which lets out blood-curdling shrieks when any bird, animal or human being comes within a 100-yard range of it. Nonchalance: When a committee called on Abraham Lincoln to notify him of his nomination for President of the U. S., they found him playing baseball. But Abe said, "They'll have to wait a few minutes till I get another hit."

The usual signals from a catcher to his pitcher in baseball are: One finger for a fast ball, two for a curve, a clenched fist for a pitch-out and waving all fingers for a change of pace. Idiosyncrasy: S. S. Van Dine, the most successful of all American detective story writers, always has a 6-letter word in his book titles, as witness the "Greene," "Benson," "Dragon," etc., murder cases of which he wrote. Intramural football was banned at Harvard in 1870 by the faculty because they felt it was "foolish to run around after a bag of wind."

Laurel: Babe Ruth is down in the history books as the greatest home run slugger the game ever produced. But

he also still holds the record for consecutive scoreless innings pitched in world series games. Not through the parimutuel machines, of course: The largest known bet ever made on a hoss race was the \$515,000 the Marquis of Hastings put on a nag's nose at Epsom Downs, England, in 1867. The horse came in 3rd.

What's become of the art of drop-kicking in college football games these last few yrs.? The place kick has apparently pushed it into disuse, and yet Charley Brickley of Harvard alone beat Yale by 15 to 5 in 1914 by plopping 5 drop-kicks over the crossbar. Ancient records dug up in Rome contain accounts of touts selling tips on the outcome of the chariot races.

The first Harvard football game was vs. McGill Univ. on May 14, 1874, at Cambridge, Mass. It was intended there should be 15 men on each side, but 3 of McGill's athletes couldn't leave Montreal, so 11 men played on each team. (And what did the other man on each team do? We dunno. Guess they were the subs.). Split-second stuff: It was the theory of the late John J. McGraw that baseball pennants were lost by the margin of the last step to first base.

The eminent sportsman and journalist, James Gordon Bennett, introduced pony polo in the U. S. Age's toll: At the height of his hitting prowess, Babe Ruth swung a 52 ounce bat with the greatest of ease. In his waning big league days, though, he eased off to a 32 ounce stick. When experts play at it (an expert asserts) chess is the most unsociable of games.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 151 to 165

151. Are there more bathtubs or more automobiles currently in use in the U. S.?
152. Which was invented first, the telephone or the incandescent lamp?
153. Who was the first widow of a U. S. President to receive a pension from the government?
154. What nation had the briefest participation in the World War?
155. What major league baseball team won the first World Series played?
156. With the diameter known, how is the circumference of a circle obtained?
157. Who composed the opera "Aïda"?
158. Give the half-dozen smallest prime numbers.
159. Just why does the Great Salt Lake have so much salt compared to the other American lakes?
160. How many miles away from the flash can thunder be heard, do you think?
161. Are all West Point cadets, on graduation, commissioned second lieutenants in the U. S. Army?
162. What king is on Uncle Sam's payroll?
163. Is the Suez Canal at sea level or does it have locks?
164. Are the British inch and the U. S. inch exactly the same length?
165. Does Uncle Sam employ any women letter carriers?

Answers on page 126.

ANSWERS (to Questions 151 to 165)

151. *There are in the U. S. approximately 25,000,000 automobiles in use against 20,000,000 bathtubs.*
152. *Bell invented the telephone in 1876, two years before Edison came along with the first incandescent lamp.*
153. *Mrs. John Tyler was the first widow of a President to be pensioned by the government.*
154. *Of all nations concerned, Honduras participated in the World War for the briefest time, three months and twenty-three days.*
155. *The first major league team to win a World Series was the Red Sox, who in 1903 beat Pittsburgh 5 games to 3.*
156. *The circumference of a circle is obtained by multiplying its diameter by 3.1416.*
157. *Verdi composed "Aida."*
158. *The half-dozen smallest prime numbers are 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 11.*
159. *The Great Salt Lake has such a high saline content because, having no outlet, it loses water only through evaporation, while the mineral content remains behind.*
160. *Thunder can be heard more than 20 miles away from the flash.*
161. *On graduation all West Point cadets except Filipino and foreign are commissioned second lieutenants of the U. S. Army.*
162. *The one king who is paid by the U. S. Government is the Sultan of Sulu, carried on the federal payroll to keep things running smoothly in his part of the world.*
163. *The Suez Canal, 100 miles long, has no locks.*
164. *There is a slight difference between the U. S. and the British inch, the latter being .000113 of a meter long.*
165. *There are about 250 women letter carriers on R. F. D. routes in sparsely settled sections of the country.*

TATTLE ABOUT TYCOONS

WHEN young Philip K. Wrigley has something to say to the chewing gum trade, he sends the same letter to 900,000 retailers, 43,000 jobbers' salesmen and 20,000 jobbers. In his lifetime, it's estimated the late John D. Rockefeller distributed \$3000 worth of dimes to acquaintances and bystanders—for which he accumulated a million dollars' worth of publicity.

5 terrific hours: In a single day during the 1929 market crash, Harrison Williams, the utilities magnate, saw \$90,000,000 of his paper profits go down the spout. Yet he ate a hearty dinner that night. Although he averages 30 trips to the metropolis per yr., the multi-millionaire Indiana industrialist, George A. Ball, never stops at the same N. Y. hotel twice. And he hasn't repeated himself yet. That pliable and floppy Panama hat worn by J. P. Morgan cost \$450.

The captain of J. P. Morgan's private yacht Corsair draws more salary for the job than the skipper of the Queen Mary. J. P.'s man reputedly gets better than \$11,000 a yr. Trying to borrow 5¢ for a phone call at a recent S. E. C. hearing at the New York Stock Exchange, an official put the bee on two big-shot J. P. Morgan partners, Thomas Lamont and Arthur Anderson, and neither had the neces-

sary nickel. (Or else they were holding out.)

They didn't follow his wishes, but the late Andrew Carnegie once remarked, "I wish to have for my epitaph: 'Here lies a man who was wise enough to employ men who knew more than he.'". From the "Fifty Years Ago" column of the San Diego (Cal.) Union: "W. R. Hearst arrived in the city yesterday morning. Mr. Hearst is a bright and intelligent-looking young man, with light complexion and a small mustache."

Before he got into the circus business and cleaned up a fortune, P. T. Barnum ran one of those Mississippi river showboats and lost his shirt in the venture. Prophecy fulfilled: Just half a century ago an Oberlin College professor announced to his chemistry class that the man who could produce aluminum commercially at a reasonable cost would make himself a millionaire. The casual remark intrigued one member of the class, Charles N. Hall, who, taking the professor at his word, toiled and studied for yrs. at his own special process and finally reached his goal. When he died at the start of the World War, he left a fortune of \$26,000,000.

This nation's No. 1 inventor, Carleton Ellis of Montclair, N. J., with more than 700 patents under his belt, is like Thomas A. Edison in that he rarely sleeps more than four out of every 24 hours. His chief difficulty, he complains, is trying to remember in the morning ideas he had in his sleep. London calling: When she is in England, the wife of Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy calls up her mother in Boston via the trans-Atlantic telephone—just for a homey chat.

Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., chairman of General Motors, washes

his hands from a doz. to 15 times a day. And while we think of it, he was such a bright lad that after he'd passed his entrance exams to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he was found to be under age and had to mark time till they'd let him in the following year. Then he did the stiff four-year course in three.

Another bit of "Sloaniana": He was elevated to the job, of president of General Motors, by J. P. Morgan because he did so well running the Hyatt roller bearing works, now a GMC subsidiary. Once fired as a vice president of Montgomery Ward, Gen. Robert T. Wood is now prexy of their greatest competitor, Sears Roebuck, at \$90,000 a year.

Pet name: Although Junius Spencer Morgan is closing on 50, his pop, J. P., still calls him "Junie." A lot of the big shot executives of the Woolworth Company get paid off only once a yr. The tremendous industrial, banking, land and shipping holdings of the Emperor of Japan foot up to nearly \$500,000,000, making him one of the richest rulers on earth (but not THE richest).

Idiosyncrasy: The volatile \$200,000-a-yr. president of the American Tobacco Co., Geo. W. Hill, wears his hat all day long in his office. Historic was the day on the New York Stock Exchange when, in the midst of the 1929 crash, Richard Whitney, now in Sing Sing, bid 205 for 25,000 shares of U. S. Steel, a couple of points above the market. Steel closed that day at 206 and the market steadied for 48 hours—and then resumed its terrible tail-spin.

Fortune designates Elizabeth Arden (christened Florence Nightingale Graham) as the woman who has probably

earned more money than any other American business woman. Laurel wreath: Henry Ford has contributed more to the purchasing power of the world than any industrialist in history. When a Washington dispatch disclosed that Tom Girdler, fiery head man of Republic Steel, received a salary of \$174,999 in 1936, members of the Johnstown, Pa., C. I. O. steel workers' organization raised \$1 among them and sent it by registered mail to Girdler—to make his income an even \$175,000.

Sir Edward Beatty, head man of the Canadian Pacific system, calls his "the world's biggest job." And to keep fit for it he has his private trainer give him an hour of pummeling each day.

Pioneers: The huge Huntington, Mark Hopkins, Crocker and Leland Stanford fortunes of California, which lumped together would total more than \$300,000,000, all sprang from a measly \$250,000 that those four gents raised among themselves to build the Southern Pacific Railroad. The public loaned the rest of the money for the great enterprise.

Scrumptious: If the G men are still tracking down gold hoarders, they may be interested to know that the Newport, R. I. villa of a N. Y. stock broker is equipped with solid gold faucets throughout—excepting only the servants' quarters.

Dr. John Dorrance, who founded the Campbell Soup Company, left even a greater fortune than J. P. Morgan—\$115,000,000.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 166 to 180

166. If you are a victim of alopecia what is the matter with you?
167. Who became President after Lincoln's assassination?
168. What is said to be the most valuable first edition in American literature?
169. Which of these girls' colleges was founded first: Wellesley, Radcliffe or Smith?
170. Name the three largest cities between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean.
171. Besides alligator pear, what is another nickname for the avocado?
172. Identify Mr. Paul C. Wilson.
173. What is asthenopia?
174. In what year, do you think, did the U. S. consume the most beer?
175. Just what is terrapin?
176. In the way that John Bull stands for England and Uncle Sam for the U. S., what name represents France?
177. What Presidents of the U. S., if any, have won the Nobel Peace prize?
178. What is the standard gauge for the rails on U. S. railroads?
179. For how many years has the U. S. Post Office Department offered air mail service?
180. What title does H.B.M. stand for?

Answers on page 132.

ANSWERS (to Questions 166 to 180)

166. *Alopecia is just a fancy name for baldness.*
167. *Andrew Johnson became President after Lincoln's assassination.*
168. *The first edition of Poe's "Tamerlane," printed in Boston in 1827, is reputedly the most valuable first edition in American literature.*
169. *Wellesley was founded in 1870, Smith in 1871 and Radcliffe in 1879.*
170. *The largest cities between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean are Los Angeles, St. Louis and San Francisco.*
171. *In addition to alligator pear, the avocado is also nicknamed "midshipman's butter."*
172. *Mr. Paul C. Wilson is the little-known husband of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.*
173. *Asthenopia is the word for tired eyes or sleepiness.*
174. *The peak year for the U. S. consumption of beer was 'way back in 1914.*
175. *Terrapin is a fresh-water turtle.*
176. *In the way that John Bull represents England and Uncle Sam the U. S., Marianne stands for France.*
177. *Teddy Roosevelt, in 1906, and Woodrow Wilson, in 1918, were awarded the Nobel Peace prize.*
178. *The standard gauge of U. S. railroads is 4 feet 8½ inches.*
179. *The United States Post Office Department will celebrate the 21st anniversary of its air mail service in May.*
180. *H.B.M. is the abbreviation for His Britannic Majesty.*

OLD HELPFUL AT THE BAT

YOU can remedy soup that's been over-salted by putting it back on the fire, adding a few sliced raw potatoes and letting it boil for a few minutes. A trick worth trying in your electric icebox is freezing ginger ale cubes for use in highballs. You can drive a nail into a plastered wall without crumbling the plaster if the nail is first dipped in hot water or melted paraffin for a few minutes.

You can easily warp aluminum cooking pans out of shape by repeatedly putting cold water in them while they're hot. By trimming an old whiskbroom into a sharp V point, you'll have a good implement for cleaning the floor corners and the like. Don't keep your spare tire unused. It should be alternated with all the other tires on the wheels.

Every 6 months you should remove your automobile tires from the rims and reverse them, so that the side formerly nearest the centre of the car is on the outside. A good way to get rid of ants is to spray crude petroleum oil over their retreats in two successive doses. Never kill a bat that makes your cellar its habitat. They prevent damage to rafters and other basement woodwork by devouring beetles and grubs that bore into them.

Here's how to fireproof clothes, curtains, etc., at home: Dissolve 10 oz. borax and 8 oz. boric acid in one gallon of hot water. Saturate garments by dipping in the solution, then drain and hang up to dry. The garment may be ironed when dry or slightly damp, but the iron should not be quite so hot as ordinarily. By mixing salt with the rinsing water, you ladies can prevent a loss of color in your silk stockings.

A bit of milk added to the water in which potatoes are boiling will make them lighter and fluffier when mashed. An omelet's fluffiness can be better maintained by putting a pinch of powdered sugar or corn starch in the mixture. You can prevent linoleum from cracking by cleaning it with equal portions of lukewarm vinegar and water.

Colored clothes, although guaranteed color-fast, should never be washed in water that's hotter than 110 degrees—and that's not so hot. Sugar is useful elsewhere than in your tea. An addition of 6 per cent of it to sandlime mortar increases its tensile strength by 60 per cent.

You can remove chewing gum from clothes by rubbing the spot with kerosene and then brushing the residue away. A small quantity of charcoal in a saucer on the top shelf will help eliminate food odors in a refrigerator. You can make a shabby umbrella look newer by sponging it with a strong solution of sweetened tea. Recipe: By mixing honey with whipped cream, you can get a swell sauce for baked apples. You shouldn't pierce meat with a fork while it's cooking. It allows rich juices to escape.

Recipe: To best maintain the tang of fresh oysters, you

should keep them from contact with water and ice at a temperature between 35 and 40 degrees. Cretonne slip covers will retain their colors better if you wash them in bran water. A cracked egg can be successfully boiled by first rubbing the shell with lemon juice. You can remove the deep brownish stain of iodine with a quick application of ammonia.

Add a few tablespoons of sulfurous (not sulphuric!) acid to each pint of water in which you place cut flowers and it'll bring out the buds better and make the leaves and stems greener. You can often improve the lighting of your house by dusting off the electric light bulbs, especially those frosted ones. You can remove alcohol stains from polished furniture by rubbing the spot with olive oil.

To prevent doughnuts from absorbing too much of the fat in which they're fried, put a couple of drops of vinegar in the dough when mixing it. Watch that cigarette butt: Among the known causes of fires in the U. S., careless tobacco smoking leads—to blame 14 per cent of the time. You can remove grass stains by saturating the spot thoroughly with kerosene and then washing it.

Pared apples won't discolor if you rub them with lemon or orange juice. If you hold a pin or needle in your mouth while peeling onions, you won't shed tears. If at times your iced coffee seems weak, be advised that more coffee grounds are needed to make the iced kind than hot coffee. For them as like it: You can readily tell real jade from the fake stuff by placing it against your lips or tongue. Real jade will feel cool.

To mothers: A University of Chicago expert on mental

hygiene, Dr. Mandel Sherman, warns against parents recounting the bright sayings of their children in the presence of the kiddies themselves. It often leads to a child becoming a troublesome, egocentric personality.

No handling required, or Old Helpful at the bat again: Place any doubtful egg in a pan of water. If it's absolutely fresh, it'll lie on its side. If a few days old, it'll tilt upwards. If stale, it'll stand on end. Don't store cloths saturated with polishing fluids away in closets. They often cause fires from spontaneous combustion.

It may be bad luck to kill a cricket, as most folks think, but the darn things, if they get into your clothes, are liable to chew holes in 'em just as moths do. Try mixing one part honey to four parts peanut butter the next time you make a sandwich spread.

Piling up left-over potatoes in a small dish causes them to sour quickly. Spread 'em on a large dish if you want to save 'em. The Germans' favorite remedy for winter colds is radish juice mixed with sugar candy. (We'd rather have the cold.). Fruits that are not quite ripe make the best jellies.

Old Helpful also begs to report from the kitchen that you can scale a fish a lot more easily if you dip it in boiling water for one minute before giving it the works. You can keep frost off your windows or windshield by a light smearing of glycerine over the glass.

A Ritz-Carlton chef advises: To serve strawberries at their best, first dip them in scalding water, then plunge them quickly into icy water. Then add a touch of lemon juice to cancel the berries' acidity and add a certain tartness. You can readily determine if an article is

solid gold by touching the metal with a glass stopper moistened with nitric acid. The acid won't cause any change in the color of the gold, but it'll change the color of base metals.

Bananas shouldn't be kept in a refrigerator. You can have our share, but for those who like 'em—prunes should always be stewed in the same water in which they were soaked. You can improve the flavor of old potatoes by adding a little sugar to the water in which they're boiled.

The way to roast beef exactly to your taste, advises the government bureau of home economics, is by using a roast-meat thermometer, which is thrust into the thickest part of the beef. A roast will be rare at about 140 degrees, medium at 160, and well done at 180. You can make your table linen stay whiter in storage by wrapping it in blue paper or putting it in drawers with a blue lining. Just why, we can't say.

If you want to preserve the tang, never place salt water fish in fresh water. And lemon juice, you might like to know, will dissolve small fish bones.

FAVORITE GAGS

JONES: "Did you fish with flies?"

SMITH (just back from a fishing trip): "Fish with them! Say, we fished with them, camped with them, ate with them and slept with them!"

OLD GENT: "What are you crying for, my little man?"

BOY: "My b-b-big brother d-d-dropped a h-h-hammer on his t-t-toe."

OLD GENT: "That's nothing to cry about. I should think you would have laughed."

BOY: "I did."

As the train sped through western cattle lands a passenger kept jotting down figures and explained to a fellow traveler he had a ranch in Montana and was checking up on the stock Wyoming ranchers kept. He showed a neat row of figures on his paper—406, 592, 315, etc. Amazed, the traveler asked, "But how can you possibly count the cattle on each ranch as we whizz by at this speed?"

"Oh, that's easy," said the rancher. "I just count the legs and divide by four."

The little lad was going to Sunday school for the first time and his mother gave him a nickel for the collection. He returned with the money. "I didn't need it," he explained. "The minister met me at the door and let me in free."

SHE: "Did anyone ever tell you how wonderful you are?"

HE: "No, I don't think anyone ever did."

SHE: "Well, then I'd like to know just where you got the idea."

The frugal Scot, taking his son for a walk, asked, "Son, have you got on your Sunday shoes?"

SON: "Aye, father."

FATHER: "Then take longer steps."

WILLIE: "Please, teacher, what did I learn today?"

TEACHER: "Why, William, what a peculiar question!"

WILLIE: "Well, that's what they'll ask me when I get home."

WILLIE: "Mum, that apple I just ate had a worm in it and I ate that, too."

MOTHER: "Here, drink this water and wash it down!"

WILLIE: "Aw, let him walk down."

LAWYER: "Why are you so certain this man was drunk?"

OFFICER: "Well, I saw him put a penny in the patrol box on Main street, then look up at the clock on the Presbyterian church tower and shout, "Gosh, I've lost 14 pounds!"

The farmer's horse would start going slowly and then stop.

"Is he balky?" asked the city man.

"No," replied the farmer, "but he's so afraid I'll say 'Whoa' and he won't hear me, he stops every once in a while to listen."

POLITICAL POP-UPS

STYMIE: No speaker of the national House of Representatives has ever stepped up to the Presidency of the U. S. It's still whispered in Washington that Hoover, when President, only offered the Chief Justice-ship to Charles Evans Hughes because he understood Hughes would refuse it. It was Herbert's real intention to give it to his medicine ball companion, Justice Harlan Stone.

Embarrassing thought: That Old Joe Chamberlain, the father of the present Premier of Gt. Britain, time after time in his younger days had demanded that Queen Victoria be kicked off the royal throne and a republic installed.

Checker-upper: However much U. S. Senators garble Shakespearian and Biblical quotations in their speeches they always appear correct in the Congressional Record. For so steeped in the works of the Bard and the Bible is James H. Wick, official Senate stenographer, he can catch the slightest misquotation the instant it's uttered.

Aaron Burr, 3rd Vice President of the U. S., was the first boss of Tammany Hall after the U. S. became a nation. The 6 American statesmen sometimes called the unelected Presidents were Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, Stephen A. Douglas, James G. Blaine, Horace Greeley and

Samuel J. Tilden. Miracle man: Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City lives in a luxurious duplex apartment, has a \$150,000 summer home on the Jersey shore, rides around in a car half a block long and dresses fancier than Jimmy Walker—on a mayoral salary of \$8000 a year.

A candidate for President of the U. S. doesn't have to obtain a majority of the popular vote to get elected. In fact, Lincoln (1861), Hayes, Garfield, Benj. Harrison, Cleveland and Wilson (1916) received less than a majority. To prevent election frauds, a plan is advanced to make each citizen sign a receipt for his ballot, with checkers then comparing that signature with a permanent file that voters have previously signed when registering. It's an idea that political machines and ward bosses frown upon, naturally.

Back in 1907, when he was a rookie representative in the Massachusetts legislature, one Calvin Coolidge signed a petition of the Anti-Third Term League, protesting against a third Presidential term for Teddy Roosevelt and favoring the nomination of Wm. Howard Taft. In the closing months of Coolidge's 2nd term as President, when he was considering running again, the petition bearing his signature turned up in the hands of a Worcester, Mass., politician—and eventually led to the famous "I do not choose to run" in 1928 ukase. Had C. C. chosen to run, the petition would have been flaunted at the Kansas City G. O. P. convention to embarrass him and his supporters.

Another statesman who long ago dropped his first name is the Premier of Great Britain, Arthur Neville Chamberlain. With gestures: For \$250, you can get any one of virtually half the U. S. Senators to make a speech at any

function within 500 miles of Washington—whether the Senate is in session or not. They're booked through a N. Y. lecture agency.

Retort: When U. S. Senator Ashurst of Arizona received a letter from a constituent saying, "I think you are an ass," the Solon promptly replied, "You may be right. Fraternaly yours." Every once in a while Sec. of State Hull telephones Henry L. Stimson, who was Sec. of State in Hoover's cabinet, for the lowdown on Far Eastern matters, into which Stimson delved very deeply during his Washington tenure.

The crustiest member of the U. S. Supreme Court, Mr. Justice McReynolds, had the discourtesy to deliberately read a newspaper while his fellow member, Benjamin Cardozo, was taking his oath of office. Immune to ballyhoo: The political experts estimate that in a presidential election, all but 3 per cent of the nation's voters have made up their minds whom they'll vote for at least a fortnight before election day.

The long haul: It's estimated U. S. Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin will have to remain in that body for 12 or 15 more years before he acquires, by seniority, the desk once occupied by his father, Fighting Bob LaFollette. And Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., of Massachusetts will have to wait even longer than that before he sits in his grandfather's Senate chair. Two Negroes have served in the U. S. Senate, both representing Mississippi—Hiram R. Revels from 1870 to 1871 and Blanche K. Bruce from 1875 to 1881.

F. D. R. and Al Smith both use the phrase, "off the record," to indicate confidential stuff. But Jim Farley's term for secret information is "in the room." "Now this is

in the room, boys." U. S. Senator Hiram Johnson of California definitely deprived two men from serving as President of the U. S.—himself and Charles E. Hughes. At the 1920 G. O. P. convention, at which he was a hopeless candidate for the presidential nomination, he spurned to be the running mate of Warren G. Harding and let the honor go to Calvin Coolidge. Less than three years later Harding died and Coolidge went into the White House. And in 1916, while G. O. P. Candidate Hughes was campaigning in California, party leaders snubbed Johnson, who subsequently refused Hughes his benediction. Hughes lost California by less than 3000 votes; if he'd carried it, Hughes and not Woodrow Wilson would have been elected President.

When an amendment was offered in a recent session of Congress to slash the 20-cents-a-mile travel allowance to Congressmen to what they actually spent, just six patriots voted in favor of the measure.

Any Republican who'd like to see the White House without F. D. R. occupying it can do so by traveling to Biloxi, Miss., where the leading hotel of that resort is simply called The White House. Rated as the great statesman of ancient Athens, Themistocles would be called a politician today. He could call more than 20,000 Athenians by name, which is almost out-Farleying Postmaster-General Jim. Benjamin Franklin and Patrick Henry, using their political influence, set about to make a financial cleanup speculating in western lands in their day.

The Mayor of Milton, Wash., to prove most people have no idea for whom they're voting in an election, had a fictitious name listed among the G. O. P. candidates at a recent

primary and darned if the phantom candidate wasn't elected precinct committeeman over the flesh-and-blood contenders. A bill introduced in a recent Congress called for members of the House to wear uniforms bearing numbers, not unlike a baseball team, so visitors in the galleries could readily identify them.

Grab bag: One amendment to the U. S. Constitution (which fortunately was turned down) proposed that the President be chosen by lot with all retiring U. S. Senators drawing little balls from a box. One of these pellets was to be of a distinctive color and the Senator drawing it would be President for a year. And to make the plan work, it also proposed to limit the Senators' terms to three years, with one-third of the members retiring every 12 months.

Progress in the midwest: Chicago citizens once had voting machines. But the cagey pols quickly had them discarded on the plea that the voting apparatus could be "fixed," just like slot machines, for any percentage desired.

That famed G. O. P. slogan, "A chicken in every pot," was really a chestnut warmed over. Back in 1840 the Whigs boomed Harrison over Van Buren by shouting, "Van's policy—50 cents a day and French soup; our policy—\$2 a day and roast beef." And in McKinley's 1900 campaign, they revamped that and tom-tommed "The Full Dinner Pail." Although bigwigs of the Democratic party fight the ultra-conservative, anti-New Deal, Massachusetts Republican Congressman, Robert Luce, tooth and nail, nevertheless Jim Farley, himself personally, and the Democratic National Committee are leading clients of Mr. Luce's profitable press clipping bureau, with the latter spending as much as \$2500 monthly for cuttings during a campaign.

Birth of the spoils system: When the Postmaster General bluntly refused to discharge capable postmasters for political reasons, President Andrew Jackson said to him, "Mr. McLean, would you do me the honor of accepting a seat on the Supreme Court?" Mr. McLean quickly accepted and Jackson promptly fired a flock of enemies and hired a bunch of friends.

Incident: Pausing to shake hands with young U. S. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts in the national capitol, Vice President Garner observed, "You know, suh, everybody goes 'round saying I hate you Yankees from the North. But it isn't so. The fact is, I like to see you here." Then he paused and added, "That is, so long as there aren't too many of you."

It's never happened, but: If a successful candidate for President of the U. S. should die between election day and his inauguration, the national committee of his party would then select the man for whom the electoral college members should cast their votes.

Profligate, but no hypocrite: Daniel Webster threw away 3 good chances of becoming President—in 1836, when he rejected the Anti-Masons; in 1844, when he supported Tyler against his own Whig party; and in 1859, when he defied the radicals of his own party. Maybe they're worth it, but a U. S. Congressman gets 5 times as much pay as a member of the British Parliament.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 181 to 195

181. What is the approximate diameter of the moon?
182. About how many colleges and universities are there in the U. S.?
183. What is meant by China's "open door policy"?
184. What are homonyms?
185. What is an abstract noun?
186. Who was the last Sultan of Turkey to have a harem?
187. What are often called the chemical senses?
188. What is the figure of speech called synecdoche?
189. Was any President of the U. S. ever in a railroad wreck during his term of office?
190. Whose portrait adorns our \$5000 bills?
191. Is it possible for every ship afloat at present to get through the Panama Canal?
192. Where are most of America's walnuts grown?
193. Are snakes immune to their own venom?
194. What is chronic nephritis?
195. What lake is the highest navigable body of water in the world?

Answers on page 148.

ANSWERS (to Questions 181 to 195)

181. *The diameter of the moon is approximately 2000 miles.*
182. *There are approximately 650 universities and colleges in the United States.*
183. *China's "open door policy" means equal trade liberties for all nations in that land.*
184. *Homonyms are words pronounced the same but differing in spelling and meaning. Example: bier and beer.*
185. *An abstract noun is the name of an idea. Examples: honesty, thirst, hope.*
186. *Abd-al-Hamid II (Abdul the Damned), deposed in 1909, was the last sultan to have a harem. They let him take a half-dozen of his top notchers into exile with him.*
187. *The senses of taste and smell are often called the chemical senses because they are stimulated directly by the chemical attributes of food and other substances.*
188. *Synecdoche is the figure of speech in which a striking part of the objective is used to signify the whole. Example: The hearths (homes) of the nation.*
189. *President Franklin Pierce was once in a railroad wreck in which his son was killed.*
190. *The portrait of President James Madison is on our \$5000 bills (not that we ever owned one to tell).*
191. *Neither the Normandie nor the Queen Mary could get through the Panama Canal under present conditions.*
192. *More than 90 per cent of America's walnuts are grown in California.*
193. *Snakes are immune to their own venom.*
194. *Chronic nephritis is a form of kidney trouble.*
195. *Lake Titicaca, in Bolivia, 12,500 feet above sea level, is the highest navigable body of water in the world.*

 BON MOTS SNIPPED FROM SOMEWHERE

WISE old Ben Franklin once observed: "Experience keeps a very dear school, but fools will learn in no other." Observes a cynic: "The trouble with most men who worry about society's moral code is that they don't worry about it until they're too old to break it themselves." Definition by Editor Floyd Parsons: "Inflation dollars are like hat checks—you can increase the number, but there won't be any more hats on the rack."

Wise old Elbert Hubbard once defined an expert as a man "who decides quickly and is sometimes right." "A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else." A popular French proverb runs: "Maternity is a matter of fact, but paternity is a matter of opinion." "It's well and good for this country to care for its mentally incompetent, but it shouldn't get into the habit of doing so by electing and appointing them to office."

"Mussolini—the greatest seizer of them all!" Bon mot flipped off by Sir Philip Gibbs: "It is better to give than to lend—and it costs about the same anyway." A philosopher once observed: "Poverty may be no disgrace, but that's the only nice thing you can say about it." "An expert is usually just an ordinary fellow a long way

from home." "After months of labor, accountants have arrived at the conclusion the total cost of the depression was \$149,000,000,000. All we can say is it wasn't worth it." "A widow is the most fortunate woman in the world. She knows all about men and all the men who know anything about her are dead."

"Every married man knows there are two sides to every question—his wife's and her mother's." "Silence is not always golden; sometimes it's just plain yellow." "It's a great kindness to trust people with a secret—they feel so important while telling it." "We can't have a revolution after 1948. If the rate of increase continues as it has for a decade, in 10 years all of us will be working for the government."

"When you're stripped of your enthusiasms, you'll be dressed for the Great Beyond." "If the police only knew it, the quickest way to disperse a mob is to pass around the hat." "Arguing with a woman is just a case of 'He came, he saw, he concurred.'" "A well driven golf ball leaves the head of the club at 135 miles an hour. This is only slightly faster than a golfer leaves the office."

"For bituminous coal operators, the year consists of two seasons—winter and waiting for winter." A bon mot originating in Southern California: "New England has two seasons—winter and July. In the latter season it is said the sleighing is darn poor." Carlyle once observed: "The greatest of faults is to be conscious of none." The late Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes once remarked that freedom of speech doesn't mean the right to cry "Fire" in a crowded theatre.

Observation of a country editor: "Sometimes a man thinks he has a clean conscience when he only has a poor memory." "The power of reason enables you to see the right and the wrong in everything that doesn't affect your pocket-book." "A plagiarist is one who gives birth to an adopted child." "From England and Scotland we got sects; from France we got sex."

"Following the line of least resistance is what makes rivers and men crooked." "A green salesman will sell more than a blue one." Cecil Rhodes, the empire builder, once said: "I have never met anyone with whom it was not just as easy to deal as to fight. Always reach a compromise, if necessary, when no vital principle is involved." "Getting even isn't half so profitable as getting ahead."

"Knitting gives women something to think about while they're talking." After a career in show business, Producer Arthur Hopkins observes: "What many of us call friendship is only tolerant intercourse, and too frequently the tolerance is easily strained." "It ain't no disgrace for a man to fail, but to lay there and grunt is." Observation of Matthew H. Buckham, ex-prexy of the Univ. of Virginia: "A gentleman is one who thinks more of other people's feelings than his rights; and more of other people's rights than of his own feelings."

"Let's thank our lucky stars that we can't see into the future. It's bad enough to be able to see into the past." "An explorer says wolf meat is very nourishing. Gosh, here we've had a good meal on our doorstep all the time without knowing it."

Bon mot by Henry Ford: "There's only one way to

retire—that's to retire in time every night to get up early to go to work again." "Only one sound mind is needed to make a sound decision. 'Two heads are better than one' is a convenient excuse offered by those who are too lazy to think or too timid to make up their mind alone."

Philosophy of an eminent statesman, "Learn to cultivate a wallflower. The rich, the popular and the powerful get plenty of attention anyway, but most people neglect the less fortunate. They never fail to appreciate a little attention."

. Bon mot by Ellen Glasgow: "The only difference between a rut and a grave is in their dimensions."

An old Chinese proverb runs: "Be not disturbed at being misunderstood; be disturbed at not understanding."

Saying by Ambrose Bierce: "Prejudice is a vagrant opinion without visible means to support it."

An old Spanish proverb runs: "Go to friends for advice; to women for pity; to strangers for charity; to relatives for nothing." Some of the soundest words ever uttered by the late Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes: "The law is always approaching and never reaching consistency. It is forever adopting new principles from life at one end and it always retains old ones from history at the other, which have never been absorbed or sloughed off. It will become entirely consistent only when it ceases to grow."

"This is a great country. Over here they don't fight over minorities—they just take the postmasterships away from them."

Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch once flipped off this gem: "In literature, as in life, he makes himself felt who not only calls a spade a spade, but has the pluck to double spades and redouble." The celebrated Dorothy Parker once

wise-cracked that the only thing she learned in school was that if you spit on a pencil it would erase ink.

Old Dr. Sam Johnson once said, "Money and time are the heaviest burdens of life and the unhappiest mortals are those who have more of either than they know how to use." The wall motto of General Motor's super-genius, Charles Kettering, reads: "A man must have a certain amount of intelligent ignorance to get anywhere." Macaulay wrote, more than a century ago: "We know no spectacle so ridiculous as the British public in one of its fits of morality."

Smart and veracious crack is this: "The difference between death and taxes is that death doesn't get worse every time the legislature meets." "Remorse is something many persons claim to experience after they have been hopelessly caught." Laveter (whoever he was) once observed: "If you wish to appear agreeable in society you must consent to be taught many things you already know."

Admiral Moffett once got off this bon mot: "A second-best navy is like a second-best hand in poker—worthless when called." Sir James M. Barrie, discussing charm: "If you have it, you don't need to have anything else—and if you haven't it, it doesn't matter what else you have." "It was night clubs that discovered the relationship between gauze and effect." Wise old Ben Franklin once said: "They that give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

London's gloomy Dean Inge speaking: "The chief danger of the white man arises from his arrogant contempt for other races." The philosopher observes: "If your

foot slips, you may recover your balance; but if your tongue slips, you can never recall your words.”. . . . Said Gladstone wisely, during a financial panic: “Credit is only suspicion asleep.”.

The late multi-millionaire, Julius Rosenwald once said: “I never could understand the popular belief that because a man makes a lot of money he has to have a lot of brains. Some very rich men who made their own fortunes have been among the stupidest men I have ever met in my life. Don’t confuse wealth with brains.”.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 196 TO 210

196. What is the annual salary of the National Commander of the American Legion?
197. How may the softest water be easily obtained?
198. Just what is wind?
199. Which ranks higher in the British peerage, an earl or a duke?
200. What is the difference between a majority and a plurality?
201. On which side of the sun does an eclipse always begin? On which side of the moon?
202. Who is the ruler of Iceland?
203. What is the wife of an earl called?
204. What did the political term "Hunker" refer to?
205. What language is spoken by the largest number of persons?
206. Which of the forty-eight is called the "Old North State."
207. What President of the U. S. never stayed in one place long enough to become a qualified voter?
208. What is the principal ingredient of Roquefort cheese?
209. What is a megameter?
210. Just what does a bank do when it certifies a check?

Answers on page 156.

ANSWERS (to Questions 196 to 210)

196. *The National Commander of the American Legion receives \$10,000 a year salary and \$10,000 expenses.*
197. *Rain in summer and melted snow in winter constitute the softest water.*
198. *Wind is air, naturally and horizontally in motion, with a certain degree of velocity.*
199. *A duke ranks higher than an earl in the British peerage.*
200. *A majority is more than half the votes cast. A plurality is only the highest number when three or more candidates are running.*
201. *Eclipse of the sun always begins on the west side of that body and eclipse of the moon on the east side.*
202. *The present ruler of Iceland is King Christian X of Denmark, the Danish monarch always ruling over Iceland too.*
203. *The wife of an earl is a countess.*
204. *A "Hunker" was a conservative member of the Democratic party opposed to Congress.*
205. *The language spoken by the largest number of persons isn't English but Chinese.*
206. *North Carolina is called the "Old North State."*
207. *Zachary Taylor was the President who never stayed in one place long enough to become a qualified voter.*
208. *Roquefort is made out of ewe's milk.*
209. *A megameter is a million meters.*
210. *When a bank certifies a check it withdraws the amount of the check from the signer's account for the purpose of paying the check that it guarantees.*

 THESE UNITED STATES OF OURS

CENSUS headquarters: The most inventive state in the Union right now is Delaware, one out of every 870 of its inhabitants having patented some invention within the past 2 years. Up to then, Connecticut had been the top state. Illiteracy among the rural population of the U. S. has decreased only 2 per cent in the past 20 years. Monopoly: Of the 42 highest mountain peaks in the U. S., 35 are in Colorado.

Distinction: Arkansas is the only state in the Union where diamonds have actually been mined. Next to "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Ten Nights in a Barroom" is rated as having influenced American thought more than any other play. Blue law: Northfield, Conn., has an ordinance forbidding anyone to proceed along a public street while eating anything. (And it must be tough on local hot dog stands.)

Spotless Town: Keene, Tex., a village of 600 population, has never had a crime committed within its borders since it was founded 44 years ago. An eye witness reports this casual incident: When a Negro member of a Florida chain gang recently made a break for liberty, one guard quickly bet another \$1 he'd nail the escaping convict right between the shoulder straps over his overalls. The bet taken,

Guard No. 1 fired, the Negro toppled forward, they sauntered up to the corpse, inspected the bullet hole and the crack-shot guard collected. Odd names of bona fide towns are Rat, Mo., and Hole-in-the-Wall, La.

N. Y. state consumes 1/6 of all the beer drunk in the U. S. Service: The Springfield, Mass., public library not only lends books, but phonograph records, with a collection of 2000 to choose from. Some more oddly named communities in Texas are Loco, Grow, Noodle, Tow, Art, Sublime, Industry, Bluff, Jonah and Cat Spring. Distinction: Mississippi is the only state in the Union today having less than 1000 New England-born persons among its residents.

Some more odd Texas communities: Loving, Energy, Tarzan, Gasoline, Best, Goodnight. Living in luxury: A century ago Virginia's method of soaking the rich was to slap a \$30 annual tax on every bathtub in the state. It's a small world: Back in 1904 there were only two automobiles registered in Kansas City—and in the course of that year they met in a head-on collision.

Blot on the escutcheon: Reckoned on a population basis during the past quarter century, the American automobile death rate has been more than twice as high as that for neighboring Canada and for England. And it's more than five times the rates for Germany and Italy, despite the terrific speeds permitted in these totalitarian nations. Suffocation point: During the summer months, the temperature of the famed Death Valley ranges from 110 to 125 degrees day after day, and sometimes goes even higher. Chamber of Commerce item: "One advantage of living on Nantucket is that on one side of the island you can

see the sound and on the other side you can hear the sea."

A town that assesses no taxes on its citizens is Danville, N. H., which, thanks to 50 acres of woodland set aside for the town's benefit in 1760, now brings in enough municipal revenue from lumber to make taxes unnecessary. The Grand Canyon gets all the press notices but little heard of Snake River Canyon in Idaho is actually deeper than it.

Safety first: Only 20 years ago, when Nantucket island admitted automobiles there for the first time, the town fathers quickly sprang into action and established eight miles an hour as the speed limit for them. She knew what she wanted: A little old lady from Dubuque, or somewhere, who was visiting Chicago, asked the Travelers Aid to furnish her with police protection while she did a little shopping.

"Stenographer's Spread" and "Civil Service Hips" are the self-explanatory terms facetiously applied to the physiques of hordes of femmes who sit all day working for Uncle Sam in Washington, D. C. Street scene: A resident of a Massachusetts town who drove up to the town hall to collect his weekly \$6 welfare check was discovered to have spent \$4.50 of the previous week's allotment on gasoline. So now he's off the list, but still driving around.

Nightly a staff of a dozen erudite copy readers goes through the speeches delivered each day while Congress is in session and routs out all the "ain'ts" and other grammatical errors before they appear in the Congressional Record next day. Civic pride item: Yuma, Ariz., goes St. Petersburg, Fla., one better by offering not only free

newspapers, but also free restaurant meals on any day of the year when the sun fails to shine there.

Maybe you can make it out: One of Cleveland's banks is the Fifth Third Union Trust Company. Only 12 states have names of English origin while 26 are Indian names. The remaining 10 are French or Spanish. It's always the way: An Illinois radio station puts on a weekly quiz entitled "Know Your Government," putting a group of foreign-born persons against one of native-borns. So far, the foreign-born group has won every match. On a motor trip to California, Rev. C. C. Hill of New Orleans stopped to take on a hitchhiker whom he promptly engaged in conversation. In a couple of minutes the clergyman learned he was talking to his own 76-year-old father whom he had never seen before.

In the half century Washington, D. C., has had a police harbor squad, they have failed in only one instance to recover the bodies of the many suicides who have leaped into the Potomac river—believed to constitute a national record. Land of the clean: We Americans consume one-third of all the soap manufactured in the world. Credit where it's due: It is the announced opinion of a British member of the board of the Oxford dictionary that the best English spoken in the U. S. is in Virginia and Massachusetts—respectively.

This great land of ours: The United States, with 6 per cent of the world's population, consumes three-fourths of the world's silk, half the world's oil, one-third of the world's coal and contains half the world's communication facilities and electrical energy capacity. Revolting ratio: For every 9 criminals killed in the commission of crime in the

U. S. nowadays, one officer of the law loses his life.

Land of the Free: In Mayor Frank Hague's Jersey City, the Disorderly Persons Act is so fulsomely worded that a person can be arrested for merely frowning at a policeman.

FAVORITE GAGS

The proud father of triplets called up the local weekly to report the event. The fellow at the other end, not quite hearing what he said, asked, "Will you repeat that?" Snapped back the proud papa, "Not if I can help it."

FAITH HEALER: "How is your father, George?"

GEORGE: "He's pretty sick."

FAITH HEALER: "Nonsense. He just thinks he's sick. You tell him he just THINKS he's sick!"

Six months later:

FAITH HEALER: "Well, George, how's your father now?"

GEORGE: "Not so good. He thinks he's dead!"

CITY MAN (on tour of countryside): "What time is it?"

FARMER: "Twelve o'clock."

CITY MAN: "Only twelve? Why I thought it was much more than that."

FARMER: "It's never much more than that, around here. It goes up to twelve and then starts all over again."

The family and its guest had just seated themselves at the table. "Susie," said Maw, "why didn't you put a knife and fork at Mr. McKlunk's place?"

Replied little Susie, "He don't need any, Maw. You said he eats like a horse."

YOUNG WIFE: "What's the price of your hamburger steak?"

BUTCHER: "It's 25¢ a pound."

YOUNG WIFE: "But at the corner store it's only 13¢."

BUTCHER: "Well, why didn't you buy it there?"

YOUNG WIFE: "They didn't have any."

BUTCHER: "Oh, I see. Well, when I don't have it, I sell it for 10¢ a pound."

"How much for the mule?" asked a stranger of a Texas farmer.

"Just a hundred dollars," was the reply.

"I'll give you \$5," came the counter-offer.

"Stranger," said the farmer, "I ain't a-goin' to let a little matter of \$95 stand between me and you. The mule's vourn."

The lawyer was examining a conscientious witness in a pig stealing case and asked him to repeat the exact words of the defendant.

WITNESS: "He said, sir, that he took the pig."

LAWYER: "Did he say, 'He took the pig' or 'I took the pig?'"

WITNESS: "He said he took it. Your name wasn't mentioned."

TEACHER: "Lucy, I'm disappointed in your examination. Didn't you tell me your father promised you a bicycle if you came out on top?"

LUCY: "Yes, ma'am."

TEACHER: "Then why didn't you work harder? What have you been doing these last eight weeks?"

LUCY: "Learning to ride a bike."

TEACHER (to pupil): "Spell the word 'straight.'"

PUPIL: "S-T-R-A-I-G-H-T."

TEACHER: "Correct. Now, what does it mean?"

PUPIL: "Without ginger ale."

SOME VERY VITAL STATISTICS

THE psychiatrists have definitely established that sex insanity begins in childhood and has no connection with heredity. National shame: Of every 3 U. S. infants who die during the first yr. of their lives, at least one succumbs in the first 2 days after its birth. Some master mind has figured it out (without revealing his exact system) that the economic value of a male child at birth is \$9333 and of a female baby \$4600. No wonder they always hope it's a boy.

There are 6,000,000 blind persons in the world not including those in love. The hesitant stork: Last fall 1,000,000 fewer children entered American elementary schools than in the peak year of 1930. And it's readily explained by the statistic that U. S. births are now falling off at the rate of 50,000 annually. The great majority of giants (which includes all persons over 7 feet 6 inches in height) have glandular defects and as a group live far shorter lives than normal persons.

The world's largest life insurance company asserts that poor obstetrics are primarily responsible for the majority of stillbirths in the U. S., which is a blot on the medical profession's escutcheon. You'll be surprised to know that accidents in U. S. homes caused more deaths (38,500)

last yr. than motor vehicles on U. S. highways (37,800).

The rate of suicides along the Pacific slope is higher than in any other section of the country. And in New England, fewer persons go in for self-destruction than in any other group of states. Observation of a naturalist: "Animals do not often die long deaths, of broken hearts and inner sickness and slow despair, but mostly fast and uncomprehendingly, with torn jugulars or cracked spines or the breath crushed out of their lungs."

1936 accident statistics show that in the daytime there were twice as many instances of a locomotive hitting an automobile at a grade crossing as at night. But at night, more automobiles hit locomotives than in the daytime. And no particular reason for it is advanced. One of Britain's outstanding psychologists asserts that folks with lots of iron in their blood are intellectual and artistic, those with a high calcium content are strong, quiet and plodding, those with too much carbon are dull, lazy and plump, those with excess of oxygen are optimistic and friendly and those with surplus sulphur are unstable and emotional.

It isn't until a baby is 9 months old that it begins to distinguish some simple words and to discriminate between sounds and really start to learn the language. So up to then, you're wasting your time talking sense to Baby. Tired of it all: The largest percentage of suicides occurs between the ages of 65 and 75 years.

Woman ahead of her time: On Dec. 6, 1898, long before the days of high-powered publicity, Mrs. Henry Gephart of Little Bear Ridge, Idaho, gave birth to quintu-

plets—all boys and all alive. But all the publicity she garnered from this feat of maternity was a 3-inch item in the county's weekly paper. Fish, reptiles and birds are all known, in specific instances, to have outlived the oldest men.

After an exhaustive survey of 25,000 names in "Who's Who," insane asylum rosters and the like, a Univ. of Illinois professor arrives at the conclusion that children conceived in the first half of the year are more likely to be geniuses or insane criminals than those conceived in the latter half. It's not quite a 100-to-1 bet that an expectant mother won't bear twins. Currently, duplex births occur once every 93 times in the U. S.

U. S. statistics show that a divorced woman who remarries more often chooses a widower than a divorced man for second mate. The safest of all places to be is in bed, the accident statistics show. But they still didn't help the woman in Salamanca, N. Y., who broke her right leg just turning over in bed. Fly-time statistic: It's estimated that one person out of every eight snores.

The U. S. consumption of cigarettes increased 51 per cent in the past decade, with femme addicts taking a bow for the major share of the upward trend. It's estimated that of the approximately 1,000,000 persons who die in the U. S. each year, some 300,000 might have been saved by proper medical attention.

Bossy's peak: During the eight months after their calves are born, cows whose offspring arrive in February give more milk than those whose calves are born in any other month, research at Yale has recently revealed. According to the most recent government figures Novem-

ber and December, in that order, account for the smallest percentage of the year's total of babies, while July tops all months for keeping the stork on the hustle.

A survey shows that 15 per cent of the money borrowed by Americans from small loan companies is to defray doctors' and hospital bills. How about a Babe-of-the-Month Club? Anyway, American babies born in March by and large have better minds than those born in any other month, an exhaustive research by Prof. Ellsworth Huntington of Yale reveals. The more, the unmerrier: Statistics show that the larger a U. S. city is, the higher its suicide rate is also likely to be.

Life insurance statistics show that women are the chief victims of diabetes these days. Who, me? Only one in 10 snorers is aware he has the habit until informed by someone else. The greatest factor in longevity, the life insurance statistics show, is heredity—having parents who live to a ripe old age. But, of course, that won't help you in an automobile accident. Both experiments and statistics prove that the safest motorists are those of middle age, who are most likely to combine judgment with dexterity.

Despite the old gag of papa always whacking his thumb with a hammer, the statistics show that home accidents occur most frequently to women, infants and elderly folks. Youths reaching the military age of 20 in Germany dropped from 644,000 in 1932 to 315,000 in 1937—a decline to be traced directly to the World War. Last year in the U. S., only 7 per cent of all the drivers arrested in fatal motor accidents were intoxicated while 9 per cent of the pedestrians killed were under the influence of liquor.

Statistics show that the average man with only a high school education reaches his maximum earning power at 40, with a salary of \$2200 a yr., while college men are averaging nearly \$3000 only 5 yrs. after they're graduated.

The old statistics show that 1,600,000 American children (about one in every six) have defective hearing. And of that number about 300,000 have to resort to lip reading.

December is highly favored as a month for weddings in Scotland and Norway, where a large part of the population is engaged in the fishing industry and marriages are accelerated with the return of the fishing fleets the last month of the year. Scourge: Fully 5,000,000 more persons died during the world-wide influenza epidemic of 1918-19 than lost their lives in the World War.

The venturesome nature of the male asserts itself from birth. Which accounts for the fact that the accident rate of U. S. boys in the first year of life is 20 per cent higher than that of baby girls.

Brains and longevity: Phi Beta Kappa men have the lowest death rate of all classes of college men. (So bone a little harder, boys; it may prolong your life.). Every year, Americans lose about \$1,250,000,000 in wages due to absence by sickness. So prolific are white rats, that a sturdy pair of them can become the ancestors of 15,000,000 white rats in only 5 years.

Terrific toll: Of all the combatants in the World War who survived that cataclysm, more than 15,000,000 have since died from the effects of their war service.

Paris operates a municipal stud farm for cats. Its object is to breed the type of cat most efficient for catching rats. The dangerous age: Among U. S. and Canadian

children between the ages of 5 and 19, accidents are the greatest single cause of death. And from the age of 20 to 34 in the U. S. and Canada, tuberculosis ranks as the No. 1 killer.

“Three Blind Mice” is understating the case. At birth, every mouse is blind. No outstanding man in world history has been a twin. Man obtains 85 per cent of his knowledge through his eyes—excepting the blind, of course. Grim statistic: 3 times as many men as women commit suicide in the U. S. each year. And among cases past 45 years of age, the ratio mounts to approximately 6 male suicides to one woman.

Stork protection: You can insure yourself against having twins for a premium as low as 5 per cent. In other words, they’ll bet you 20 to 1 you don’t score a parental double. Each year, more than 500,000,000 tons of soil from American farms reach the sea, with the Mississippi river sucking along more than 60 per cent of it. The potassium, nitrogen and phosphorus contained in that much soil is worth \$2,000,000,000 at current prices, so you can see what a bill we have against Ol’ Man River.

This awesome statistic is offered by the world’s largest life insurance company: One out of every ten adults in the U. S. will become infected with the most ravaging of all social disease sometime during his or her life.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 211 TO 225

211. What is the standard length of a cigarette?
212. What is absolute zero?
213. Just what is the function of a gland?
214. What scientist discovered vaccination for smallpox?
215. What artist painted the famed picture of "Washington Crossing the Delaware"?
216. How many pounds are there in a long ton?
217. Who invented the piano?
218. What happens to money found in dead letters whose senders cannot be traced?
219. Do you happen to know what causes a hangover after the big night before?
220. Who was the first woman to serve in Congress?
221. About how many tons would all the gold in the world weigh?
222. What are said to be the three essential needs of man?
223. What were the seven wonders of the Middle Ages?
224. What is the hardest substance in the human body?
225. What is the approximate total population of South America?

Answers on page 172.

ANSWERS (to Question 211 to 225)

211. *The standard length of a cigarette is $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.*
212. *Absolute zero is 456.69° Fahrenheit.*
213. *A gland is a secreting place which abstracts material from the blood and makes a new substance of it.*
214. *Edward Jenner discovered vaccination for smallpox.*
215. *German-born Emanuel Leutz painted the famed picture, "Washington Crossing the Delaware."*
216. *There are 2240 pounds in a long ton.*
217. *The piano was invented in Italy by Bartolomeo Christofori.*
218. *Money found in dead letters which cannot be traced back to the sender is turned into United States currency.*
219. *A hangover is caused by the lactic acid staying in one's blood long after the alcohol of the night before has been absorbed.*
220. *Jeanette Rankin of Montana, elected in 1916, was the first woman to serve in Congress.*
221. *All the gold in the world at present would form a cube of $33\frac{1}{2}$ feet and weigh 22,238 tons.*
222. *The three essential needs of man are food, clothing and shelter.*
223. *The seven wonders of the Middle Ages were the Coliseum of Rome, the Catacombs of Alexandria, the Great Wall of China, Stonehenge, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Porcelain Tower of Nanking and the Mosque of Santa Sophia at Constantinople.*
224. *The dental enamel is the hardest and most indestructible substance in the human body.*
225. *The population of South America is about 92,000,000.*

TRENDS, FORECASTS AND PLAIN
CRYSTAL-GAZING

REAL estate dealers with a vision prophesy that 10 yrs. from now every home valued at \$7500 and up will be air-conditioned. We roving Americans: Travel in the U. S. this yr. will average more than 2000 miles per inhabitant. One of India's rich and canny maharajahs is dickering with a leading London dept. store to buy for around \$100,000 its now discarded coronation decorations. The maharajah intends to use 'em all over again for George VI's Durbar celebration in India if and when it happens.

And the height of something or other is N. Y. city worrying that it won't have hotels enough to accommodate the crowds flocking there to the 1939 world's fair. It's bruited among their friends that Col. Lindbergh is writing a book of his memoirs these days, with Friend Wife Anne helping him to whip it into literary shape.

Rehabilitation: Americans will buy \$500,000,000 worth of new furniture this yr., which is a big improvement over 1932 when we bought only \$206,000,000 worth, but doesn't hold a candle to 1926, when we splurged and bought \$800,000,000 in furniture. Observes a leading cinema authority: The Hollywood trend is to make even more expensive pictures, with the \$2,000,000 mark now being ap-

proached. But as soon as a few super-super-films flop, the producers will snap back to sanity.

Dr. Morris Fishbein, eminent editor of the American Medical Association Journal, predicts the time will come when birth control technique will cause women to be sterile for 2 or 3 yrs. at a stretch by the injection of a certain substance in the blood stream. You don't have to worry about it right now, but 200 yrs. hence, if nothing further is done to conserve America's topsoil, this land will be suffering from famines as devastating as those that plague China now.

With a practical and suitable glass joint now available, the glass industry expects that glass piping will soon be adopted by homes and factories as a substitute for metal pipes. The word from Washington is that John Hamilton, the \$25,000-a-yr. national G. O. P. chairman, will be out of that job long before the next presidential campaign is cranked up.

Back to bottles: Via grapevine telegraph from the brewing centres (or should we say hopvine?) comes the word that beer in tin cans has seen its peak days and the swing is back to glass containers. It was inevitable, of course, that some leading makes of electric refrigerators should come out with a radio set built in the icebox. So now the happy housewife can hear "September in the Rain" while she's frying doughnuts in June.

One eminent educator, President Walters of Cincinnati University, predicts the year 1943 will mark the beginning of a long and steady decline in American college enrollments. Indeed, the number of pupils in the six lowest grades of U. S. public schools is already declining. Igor Sikorsky, big shot aircraft executive, estimates that by 1950

airplanes whizzing in the stratosphere will be making three or four-day cruises from New York to the North Pole and routine trips to Asia or Australia in less than two days. And as for New York-European traffic, that'll be a matter of only 15 to 18 hours.

Scarfpins, or what grandpa called stickpins for neckties, are on their way back to fashion, our spy in London's Bond Street reports. When aerodynamically designed planes reach a flying altitude of 40,000 feet (as they will within a few years), they'll be able to glide to a landing place anywhere within a 120-mile radius if anything should stop the motors.

Don't be surprised if out of the old Literary Digest its present aggressive owners in the near future fashion a magazine to invade the field of the amazingly successful Reader's Digest. When television is finally established in the U. S., only the largest cities will be serviced until the prohibitive costs are cut down.

One cosmetics manufacturer is now shooting at the juvenile market with a line of lotions, creams, lipsticks, powders, etc., for use of adolescents between 10 and 16 years of age. Get set, mates: Any day now, Hitler will be frankly and definitely offered to the German public as a substitute for God. (It's been in the works quite a while already.) And although Adolf likes to think of his humble origin as a paperhanger as not unlike Christ's as carpenter, he never gets around to explaining why the streets have to be lined with S. S. black shirts every time he makes a public appearance, for fear someone may knock him off, while Christ required no bodyguard. But at the proper time, Joe Goebbels will probably give the rational answer.

One of radio's biggest shots observes: "Television will never supplant sound broadcasting. You can't watch television while you're eating, dressing, playing bridge or doing odd jobs around the house."

When it's put on sale, there'll be a market for this gadget: It's a small connection with your telephone and radio set—and when you lift the receiver of the phone, your radio is automatically silenced till your receiver is put back again. Sakes alive! The tin bathtub of your granny's day is coming back—only it's ultra-modern in design and coated with baked enamel in various tints.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 226 to 240

226. What is the difference between egoism and egotism?
227. What is the capital of Portugal?
228. What causes an eclipse of the sun? Of the moon?
229. About how many Quakers do you suppose there are in the world?
230. What was the last state necessary to ratify the U. S. Constitution and make it operative?
231. Which has the strongest explosive power, gasoline or dynamite?
232. What three parts of the world are the most thickly settled?
233. Name the highest mountain in Europe.
234. How many acres are there in a square mile?
235. What vegetable is canned in the largest volume in the United States? And what two fruits lead the canning field?
236. In his political career, on the tickets of how many parties did William Jennings Bryan run for President?
237. How long, high and wide is a standard cord of wood?
238. What nation is often called the "Land of the Gods"?
239. Who first officially fixed 6 per cent as the legal rate of interest?
240. What three nations are the largest source of crude oil today?

Answers on page 178.

ANSWERS (to Questions 226 to 240)

226. *Egoism is the ethical theory that views self-interest as the end of moral action. Egotism is the 'practice of self-praise.*
227. *The capital of Portugal is Lisbon.*
228. *An eclipse of the sun is caused by the moon coming between the sun and the earth and shutting off sunlight from the earth. An eclipse of the moon is caused by the earth coming between the sun and the moon and cutting off the moon's supply of sunlight.*
229. *There are about 170,000 Quakers in the world, mostly in the United States.*
230. *The last state necessary to ratify the U. S. Constitution and make it operative was New Hampshire.*
231. *According to a University of Michigan professor, gasoline has ten times the explosive power of dynamite.*
232. *The three most thickly settled parts of the world are eastern U. S., western Europe and China.*
233. *The highest mountain in Europe is Elbrus, in the Caucasus—18,465 feet.*
234. *There are 640 acres in a square mile.*
235. *The tomato is canned in the largest volume in the U. S., with peaches and pineapple leading the fruits.*
236. *In the course of his career, William Jennings Bryan ran for President on the tickets of 36 different parties.*
237. *The standard cord of wood measures 8 feet long, 4 feet high and 4 feet wide.*
238. *Japan is sometimes called the "Land of the Gods."*
239. *When money lenders in Rome waxed greedy, Julius Caesar finally fixed the legal interest rate at 6 per cent.*
240. *The three nations having the largest source of crude oil today are U. S., Soviet Russia and Venezuela.*

FAMOUS BUM GUESSES

A BOSTON newspaper of some 54 yrs. ago reported: "Joshua Coppersmith has been arrested for trying to exhort funds from ignorant and superstitious people by a device which he says will convey the human voice over wires. He calls the instrument a telephone." (We wish Joshua had stuck our ancestor with a big block of that stock.) No hurry about it: George B. Selden, the father of the automotive industry, built his first automobile in 1877, and he didn't bother to patent it until 18 yrs. later.

An idea that went busto was that of "packaged securities" offered by a Wall Street brokerage firm, with the investment parcel containing one share each in 25 to 50 low-priced issues. It was the Junkers, the big German land owners and the major industrialists, who actually put Hitler into power—and not because they wanted him but at the time Germany was in a turmoil and Adolf was making the most noise and causing the most trouble. (And do they wish they had a second guess!).

In a book published in 1933, Dorothy Thompson related it took her just 50 seconds after meeting Adolf Hitler to decide that that "formless, almost faceless man" would never become dictator of Germany. ("Oh, Dotty!"—as Charlie McCarthy would say.). Unsung genius: Among the many nutsy things your Uncle Sam has granted

patents on is a self-tipping derby hat, invented about 40 yrs. ago.

A Connecticut woman whose neck was broken in a railroad wreck back in 1913 settled for \$10,000 cash and \$700 monthly during her lifetime when doctors said she had only a few months to live. But, though a helpless invalid, she's living today, with the railroad having paid her \$193,000 to date, plus \$161,000 which provides an \$8400 annuity for the next 20 years. When forks were introduced in civilization, many preachers ranted against their use on the grounds that God had provided human beings with hands and it was impious for man to substitute artificial fingers of steel for his own digits.

The inventor of the safety pin sold all rights to his idea for \$400. He could have become a millionaire by holding on. Critique: Here's how the Chicago Times of 1865 evaluated Lincoln's Gettysburg address and commented on it the next day: "The cheek of every American must tingle with shame as he reads the silly, flat and dishwatery utterances of a man who has to be pointed out to intelligent foreigners as the President of the United States."

So little faith did C. Latham Sholes have in the future of the typewriter, which he invented, that he sold all his rights in the machine for \$12,000. Hanging on would have made him a millionaire. When the telephone was first exhibited, a N. Y. editor put himself out on the limb with this prophecy: "Well-informed people know that it is impossible to transmit the human voice over wires . . . and that, were it possible to do so, the thing would be of no practical value.

The nation's leading game manufacturer turned down "Monopoly" when it was first offered them, but months later reluctantly took it on. It turned out to be the best seller of the decade. When radio broadcasting hit the atmosphere in a big way 15 yrs. ago, that outstanding journal of show biz, the N. Y. Clipper, predicted that the wireless concerts would "die a natural death" and folks would soon revert to their phonographs for musical divertisement.

On the U. S. entering the World War, our experts feared Germany might seize the Virgin Islands, so we promptly bought them from Denmark for \$25,000,000. It was later discovered that not a harbor of the islands could accommodate a modern warship of any appreciable size. When Maryland granted a patent on a steam-propelled wagon (the precursor of the locomotive) in 1787, it officially commented that "it would doubtless do no good, but certainly could do no harm."

Half a dozen yrs. ago our British cousins felt talking pictures would sound the death of Hollywood. Exulted, one of London's big shots said: "Hollywood has played into the hands of Ellstree (Britain's film-making centre). Nobody (in England) will wish to listen to American speech when we can hear the pure English of our own players." When Edison first demonstrated his incandescent electric lamp, the prexy of the Stevens Institute of Technology, Henry Morton, sneered, "Everyone acquainted with the subject will recognize it as a conspicuous failure."

Coronet magazine, established to lose (for income tax purposes) some of the huge profits rolled up by its big

brother, Esquire, fooled its publishers and turned in a profit of \$115,000 in its first six months. Back in 1827 the Boston Courier printed the discouraging observation that the then proposed railway from Boston to Albany was "a project which every one who knows the simplest rule of arithmetic knows to be impracticable and which if practicable, every person of common sense knows would be as useless as a railroad from Boston to the moon."

An eminent clergyman once went on record that the introduction of railroads into the U. S. would require many additional insane asylums for folks driven stark mad with terror at the sight of locomotives rushing across the country with nothing to pull them. And railroads were likewise denounced by rational people because they weren't foreseen in the Bible. When the world's first mutual savings bank was founded in Scotland in 1810, a leading economist, William Cobbett, promptly called it "The great fraud, the cheat of all cheats." (Those economists are always calling their shots wrong).

Eight eminent N. Y. business men conferred in 1883 to decide whether to buy up the rights to Alexander Graham Bell's telephone or another invention, both of which were offered at the same price, \$300,000. They decided there'd be more money in the other contrivance.

At a recent banquet, Louis B. Mayer, Hollywood film magnate, spoke thus: "Thirty years ago, back in Massachusetts, B. F. Keith said to me, 'My boy, motion pictures are a fad; they're like the bicycle. They won't last long.'" Man without vision: There's a legend in Uncle Sam's patent office that half a century ago one of its examiners resigned because he figured inventors were too

swiftly exhausting every conceivable idea for new inventions. He wanted a job that would be permanent.

Following discovery of the first American oil well back in the 1840's, its crude petroleum was sold as medicine.

Following the killing of Archduke Ferdinand, which immediately precipitated the World War, a leading N. Y. newspaper said this editorially on June 29, 1914: "While it is only natural that one should be stricken with horror at the brutal and shocking assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, it is impossible to deny the fact that his disappearance from the scene is calculated to diminish the tenseness of the situation and to make for peace both within and without the Dual Empire." (Oh yeah!).

When Samuel Pepys, the old time diary keeper, first saw Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet" presented, he said it was the lousiest play on the boards—which may have made him a famous diarist, but a lousy drama critic. When New York's Y. W. C. A. in 1881 announced typewriting lessons for women, there were vigorous protests from reform groups that the female constitution would break down completely under the strenuous six months' course offered.

Over a stretch of years, the great New York merchant A. T. Stewart spent more than \$500,000 in a fruitless fight against replacing the old stage coaches of that city with "modern" horse cars—on the grounds that street cars would keep his fashionable patrons from driving their carriages to his store.

In many a public speech, the great Daniel Webster expressed his doubt of the ultimate success of American rail-

roads, arguing that frost on the rails would prevent a train from moving—or if it did move, from being brought to a stop. Speaking before the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1896, the eminent A. R. Sennett contended that horseless carriages (automobiles) could never be widely used because so much skill was required of the driver, who would not have the intelligence of the horse for shaping his path.

A sketch of him in the *New Yorker* in 1932 said it seemed as if Richard Whitney, now of Sing Sing, "had been selected early by some eugenic process and groomed for a place at the top of the financial heap." When Carrie Jacobs Bond, as a young widow, composed "I Love You Truly" and offered it to a succession of publishers, they all turned it down. So she borrowed some money and published and personally peddled it herself. To date it has sold more than 1,000,000 copies—one of the world's classics.

Most persons who lent money to Robert Fulton to pursue his plans for a steamboat did so with the stipulation that their names be kept secret—for fear they might be ridiculed for backing such an absurd idea.

FAVORITE GAGS

Johnny was told to invite a sissified boy to his birthday party. When he failed to show up for the occasion, Johnny's mother became suspicious. "Are you sure you invited Reginald?" she asked.

"Of course I did, mother," assured Johnny. "I not only invited him to come; I dared him."

WILLIE: "Grandma, when are you going to start playing football?"

GRANDMA: "Why, darling, I can't play football. Why?"

WILLIE: "Well, papa says he's going to buy a new car just as soon as you kick off."

TRAFFIC COP: "Pardon me, lady, but didn't you see me wave my hand?"

FEMME DRIVER: "Of course I did. And didn't I wave back to you? What did you expect me to do—throw you a kiss?"

"Hello," said a feminine voice over the phone. "Is this the humane society?"

"Yes," replied the official in charge. "Well, there's a book agent sitting out here in a tree teasing my bulldog."

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER: "Can you tell me who made you, Jimmy?"

JIMMY: "Yes; God made part of me."

TEACHER: "Just what do you mean by that?"

JIMMY: "I mean He made me real little, and I just growed the rest myself."

FRESHMAN: "Where've you been the last two hours?"

SOPHOMORE: "Talking to the blonde at the cigar counter."

FRESHMAN: "What did she say?"

SOPHOMORE: "No."

A doctor, receiving an urgent call from a man who said his son had swallowed a fountain pen, said, "Okay, I'll be right over. But in the meantime just what are you going to do?"

Replied the man, "Oh, I'll use a pencil."

The distinguished visitor to an insane institution had difficulty getting the right phone number. Finally, in desperation, he shouted to the operator, "Young lady, do you know who I am?"

Came back the voice calmly, "No, but I know *where* you are!"

JONES: "What are you running for?"

SMITH: "To stop a fight."

JONES: "Who's fighting?"

SMITH: "Oh, just me and another guy."

The enthusiastic golfer came home to a late dinner. During the meal his wife remarked, "Willie tells me he caddied for you this afternoon."

"Well, I'll be darned," said Willie's papa, "I thought I'd seen that boy somewhere before."

PRESS PRATTLE

J. H. WILLARD, publisher of the Tyler County (Tex.) Booster, managed to get a fortnight's vacation in Utah this summer by printing up 2 issues of his weekly paper in advance of his going away. "You see," he explained, "we knew all about the local news and what social events were scheduled, so we wrote them up ahead of time." (Is that a system!).

What the layman calls a "scoop" is a word never used by newspaper men themselves. They usually call it a "beat" or "exclusive." Recently a reporter on an eminent N. Y. morning daily tried to dig up clippings in the paper's reference library on the Wall Street bomb explosion of some 15 yrs. ago in which 36 persons were killed. But looking through the filing system under "Explosions," "Disasters," "Bombings" and "Wall Street," he couldn't find a thing. The envelope of clippings finally turned up under the heading "Mishaps."

Classified adv. snipped from a midwest journal: "Green colored girl wants work as gen. maid." And this classified adv. recently appeared in a Bergen County (N. J.) daily: "Man (elderly) for kennel work; \$15 a month with room and board." Frank admission of a famed and conservative newspaper editor: "Sex is something you can't down by ignoring it, because it will always be with us—I

hope". . . . The English language edition of the Osaka (Japan) Mainichi recently contained this pip: "The (Japanese) army and navy must go arm in arm like the two wheels of a cart."

When a Johnson City, Tenn., citizen finally came in to cancel an advertisement in the local paper for a lost cow, he explained advertising's power this way: "The first day you ran my ad, a man brought my cow home and I forgot about it. That night the cow kicked down the rails and escaped again. The ad kept on working and another reader brought her back, but I couldn't get here to stop the ad. Last night the cow knocked down the rails and got away again and another fellow brought her back. Now I finally got down here to cancel the ad for sure, because I'm going home and kill the dad-blamed cow."

Light-hearted: When a Newark newspaper recently received bombing threats, it posted a sign on its editorial floor with an arrow pointing and these words printed on it: "Offices of Ledger Editor. Throw Bombs That Way." Unhurried: It wasn't until 1905—67 years after it was founded—that the celebrated Baltimore Sun got around to hiring its first advertising solicitor.

It was a chance visit of a newspaper editor, Carl Magee, of an Albuquerque, N. M., sheet, to the ranch of Albert B. Fall (where he noted vast improvements and signs of prosperity) that led to the opening of the famed Teapot Dome scandal. Monopoly: All governmental news beats in Italy are handed to Mussolini's own newspaper, *Popolo d'Italia* of Milan, on a silver platter. Then all the other papers have to print the news and credit its origin to *Il Duce's* sheet.

Bouquet for Dixie: In a recent speech to editors, John Martin, head man of "Time," asserted time-worn phrases and clichés appear less frequently in Southern newspapers than elsewhere in the U. S. Just another paragraph: When Samuel F. B. Morse sent the world's first telegraph message, "What hath God wrought," from Washington to Baltimore, the esteemed Baltimore Sun was so unexcited by the news, it gave the epochal item just 11 lines under "Local Matters" on page 2.

To keep it functioning in high, membership newspapers kick in more than \$10,000,000 a yr. to the Associated Press. Latest! Extra! A Fascist newspaper in Bologna is out with the news that Buffalo Bill was an Italian, born in Barbigarezzo in 1840 and whose real name was Giovanni Tambini. Two-thirds of the nation's newspapers have no competitor in the morning, evening or Sunday field. And that reminds us: News-stands report that almost any new magazine the size of Reader's Digest sells readily on its first appearance but it's the repeat sales in subsequent months that lick most of them.

When Stanley Baldwin was made Premier of England, the editor of the powerful London Times (which later backed him to the hilt in the abdication crisis) remarked, "He's discreet enough to be 'safe' and stupid enough not to intrigue." The largest single issue of a U. S. daily newspaper ever published was in 1925, in the midst of the Florida land boom, when the Miami Daily News came out one day with 504 pages.

Fair question: The son of a nonagenarian recently called up the city editor of a midwestern daily and proudly proclaimed, "My father will celebrate his 92nd birthday to-

morrow. In all his life he has never touched liquor or tobacco. He's never used profanity. He's never been mixed up with women. He indulges in no vices and excesses. And tomorrow he will celebrate his 92nd birthday." "Just how?" asked the city editor simply.

Der Tag: For 19 yrs. the Daytona Beach (Fla.) News-Journal had type all set to rush an extra to the street on the occasion of Neighbor John D. Rockefeller's death. But on the day when the oil king passed away, the motor that runs the News-Journal's presses was dismantled for repairs and not a cylinder rolled.

When British newspapers merge they almost never hyphenate the titles of the anschlussed sheets (like New York Star-Gazette), but stick an "and" in between the two names (like Sheffield Telegraph and Star). A recent sub-headline in the Woburn (Mass.) Times read: "President Roosevelt Achieved Most of What He Attempted to Accomplish—Congressman Dies Suddenly."

Wm. Allen White's famed Emporia (Kan.) Gazette declines to run those husband-refuses-to-be-responsible-for wife's-debts advs. for this stated reason: "We don't want the money of the poor devil with a fool wife and we don't want the money of a tightwad husband with a good wife." An inspired desk man on the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot dashed off this piquant headline: "IN SPELLING BEE VIRGINIA GIRL SITS ON 'POSTERIOR.'"

Remarkable operation reported in the Des Moines Tribune: "They lengthened one leg several inches shorter than his other." Although the Madison (N. C.) Weekly Messenger is dated Thursday each week, it often doesn't come out till Friday, which sometimes creates a dilemma.

As to how a Friday fire was recently handled in an issue dated Thursday: "Fire Tomorrow at Hawkins." And the story went on to say, "Tomorrow at 3:30 P.M. fire fighters will go to Jack Hawkins's place where they'll find a big barn in flames. A calf will have been burned to death and the building will be nearly a total loss."

That was a good gag of a Texas editor recently making a critic of his eat his words. Ye ed clipped a flock of his editorials, reduced the newspaper to dextrin and glucose by a chemical process and made the critic eat them as a slice of cake—which really didn't taste so bad. A recent item in the Staunton (Va.) Leader read: "Dr. Beverly D. Tucker, as bishop coadjutor of the Ohio diocese, will be eligible for succession to the Bishop's position, with Wallace Beery and Jackie Cooper in the costarring roles." Public notice in the Tell City (Ind.) News: "If my shovel isn't back by Tuesday, I will have the person I saw take it arrested. Not just on account of taking my shovel but anyone that will steal a shovel will take anything else he can get hold of. MARTIN WOLF." (That's telling 'em, Mart!).

A recent advertisement in a suburban weekly read: "Will launder and stretch curtains and return them, if desired." What could be fairer than that? When a New York store recently ran some misspelled words purposely in its newspaper advertisements, the manager explained, "Oh, we just did it for the hell of it."

When a citizen recently wrote a classified ad to appear in the Peru (Ill.) News-Herald, offering \$50 reward for the return of his wife's pet cat, the clerk observed, "Isn't that a rather big reward for a cat?" Replied the citizen, "Not in

this case. You see, I drowned the cat.”. . . . A recent headline in the Athens (O.) Messenger read: “Woman Shot by Deceased Is Recovering.” It was about a man who shot a woman and then killed himself.

A columnist on a Philadelphia paper groups his brightest comments under the modest heading: “Too Much For Two Cents.”. . . . A recent headline of the Poughkeepsie (N. Y.) Eagle-News read: “7 Alcohol Bottles Found by Dead Man.” (Of course they meant “found beside dead man,” but space was tight.). A recent headline in the Bloomington (Ill.) Pantagraph read: “Near Riot Flares as Bloomers Split.” The Bloomers is what the local ball team is called and the riot happened when they split a doubleheader.

That was a friendly crack out of the London dailies made about our Ambassador Kennedy’s white tie and tails instead of knee breeches at a court presentation. The Fleet Street rag commented that our envoy, at the Buckingham palace shindig, was “dressed like one of the less important servants” (Deah! Deah!).

A symposium of crack newspapermen recently agreed that the biggest DOMESTIC news event of the past century in the U. S. was the drawing of draft numbers in the World War, since it interested every family. Recipe of the late Arthur Brisbane: “You have written a good editorial if your reader says, ‘That is what I have thought a thousand times.’”.

As always: Fifty managing editors, queried as to the 10 biggest news stories of the year, all ranked the weather in the list. Here’s how a New York newspaper (the Sun) scored a tremendous beat on the outbreak of

yellow fever among the U. S. troops at Guantanamo, during the Spanish-American war, despite rigid censorship: An innocuous cable to the paper from its chief correspondent read, "Everything O. K. with the Sun boys. Anderson gone to Kingston. Lloyd is here. Carroll on yacht. JACK OCHRE is with troops at Guantanamo. Richardson is in camp." In the home office Jack Ochre was cleverly translated to mean yellow jack (a nickname for yellow fever) and that's all the editors wanted to know.

U. S. newspaper chains pale into insignificance when you consider 3 British groups who control 177 publications in England, Scotland and Wales. N. Y.'s leading society editor gets \$500 weekly salary, a better income than some of the hoity-toits he writes about enjoy. Some rag: At one time in the 90's, an obscure Montana newspaper, the Anaconda Standard, used more linotype machines than any N. Y. or Chicago paper. The sheet was owned by Marcus Daly, the copper king, who spent dollars like coppers.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 241 to 255

241. Are executions in the U. S. Army now performed by a firing squad or how?
242. Where is the geographical center of continental U. S.?
243. Where is the population center of the U. S.?
244. Just how do you change the centigrade temperature into Fahrenheit?
245. Do U. S. ships of any kind have to pay tolls for going through the Panama Canal?
246. Of how many karats is pure gold?
247. Of what do hailstones consist?
248. What food product is eaten more than any other in the world today?
249. Can the President or Congress declare a legal holiday for the U. S.?
250. Of how many guns does our national salute consist?
251. What is the difference between albumen and albumin?
252. How much of your bodily weight consists of water?
253. What is meant by the actor's term "milkman's matinee"?
254. What Harvard, Yale and Princeton men have been Presidents of the U. S.?
255. Is Niagara Falls a city by itself?

Answers on page 196.

ANSWERS (to Questions 241 to 255)

241. *Not since before 1870 have executions in the U. S. Army been performed by a firing squad. It's nowadays done by hanging.*
242. *The geographical center of continental U. S. is in Kansas.*
243. *The center of U. S. population is in western Indiana.*
244. *You can change the centigrade temperature into Fahrenheit by multiplying by 9/5 and adding 32 to the product.*
245. *U. S. ships pay no toll when passing through the Panama Canal.*
246. *Pure gold is 24 karat and anything less than that indicates that an alloy has been used.*
247. *Hailstones consist of alternate layers of snow and ice.*
248. *More rice is eaten today than any other food product in the world.*
249. *There is no constitutional power for the Federal Government to declare a legal holiday except for the District of Columbia.*
250. *Our national salute consists of one gun for each state, or 48 as of today.*
251. *Albumen is the white of an egg and albumin is a chemical substance that is contained in many living tissues.*
252. *Water constitutes about two-thirds of the weight of your body even though you're a violent anti-prohibitionist.*
253. *A vaudeville show that starts near the so-called supper hour (around 6 p.m.) is known as the milkman's matinee.*
254. *Four Harvard men have been Presidents of the United States, the two Adamses and the two Roosevelts; Princeton has had two, Madison and Wilson; and Yale one, Taft.*
255. *Niagara Falls is a city of about 80,000 population.*

HOW IT ALL BEGAN, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

REAL estate promotor: Eric the Red falsely named it Greenland as an inducement to colonists from Iceland to migrate there. Genesis: The first press agents in history were the avant couriers of the middle ages who bragged how brave and bold their masters were just before those jousting tournaments started. And a hand-down of that custom is still pursued in Japan when a champion wrestling match is to take place. The champion wrestler makes a speech to the audience telling them how good he is—and maybe he doesn't lay it on thick!

The Earl of Sandwich invented the thing that bears his name because he was a card fiend and hated to take any time off for eating. So he had to dope out some way to eat meat without soiling his hands and messing up the cards—so there you are. Wall Street got its name from a wall of cedar palisades built in lower N. Y. during an Indian scare.

Pioneers: The great Francis Bacon died from a chill contracted while stuffing a fowl with snow—one of the earliest experiments in refrigeration. The founder of the Borden Milk Co., Gail Borden, got the idea of condensed milk in 1851 when he crossed the Atlantic in a liner that had to take cows along to furnish the passengers' milk.

Soda got its name from the fact that at one time it was obtained by pouring certain acids on baking soda. But nowadays it's obtained as a gaseous by-product of the fermentation process in the production of industrial alcohol. Christening: When samples of the substance we know as rubber were first given to the British scientist, Priestley, he found he could erase pencil marks by rubbing it over them. Hence he termed the substance rubber.

Origin: The tune of "The Star Spangled Banner" was swiped from a folk song of the French province Brittany. The monkey wrench gets its name from the fact it was invented by a London blacksmith named Moncke—pronounced "mun-ke."

It was James Madison and his charming wife Dolly who established the custom of holding an inaugural ball in honor of a new President. U. S. postal money orders were first issued in 1861 that the folks back home might send funds to the Union soldiers during the War Between the States.

The word "blimp" crept into the language during the World War when Britain classified her non-rigid airships as the B-limp type. Eventually the hyphen was omitted. Denim derives its name from the phrase "serge de Nim," given the name of a textile made in the French city of Nim.

The word "boudoir" is derived from the French word "boudier," meaning to pout. In other words, a boudoir originally was a place a woman scrambled to when she had the sulks.

The family name of the famed House of Rothschild was Bauer. They derived their present name from the fact

that the original Mayer Bauer distinguished his little shop in the Frankfort (Germany) Ghetto by a red shield—and rothschild is German for that. The word “bunkum” got its place in the language 115 yrs. ago when a Southern Solon, who continually tired out Congress with his windy speeches, always announced he was speaking for “Buncombe county, North Carolina.”. . . . A young drug clerk, Isaac E. Emerson of Baltimore, picked up a formula for a headache cure in the course of his work, marketed it under the name of bromo seltzer and died leaving \$40,000,000.

Because of tradition, seven bells are never struck in the British navy. That was the appointed time for mutiny on an English ship in 1759. But the ship’s officers got wind of it and seven bells was never struck; nor has it struck on any British naval vessel since. The idea of placing halos around the heads of statues (and later of oil paintings) originated with the Greeks. They were not at first used to denote divinity, however, but simply to protect the statue’s head from rain and lightning.

Gin was originally called Geneva, a corruption of the French word “genievre,” meaning juniper berry, one of its ingredients. Limburger cheese is named in honor of a town in Belgium—if you’d call it an honor. The expression “tickled to death” derives from an old Chinese form of torture—tickling the soles of a victim’s feet until he went crazy or death ensued. The English word “pretty” is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word “preat-tig,” which meant tricky or sly.

Origin: Cigar bands came about when Cuban ladies who smoked cigars started wrapping narrow bands of paper around them so their dainty fingers wouldn’t get stained.

. Not a Yankee idea: The first troupe of undressed gals to play—and shock—America was an importation, Lydia Thompson and Her British Blondes. Nothing new under the sun: 'Way back in 1859 a scientist advanced the theory that tobacco gives one a "lift."

Origin: The slang term "to get his goat" has been traced back as far as 1585, when French wisecrackers used the phrase "prendre sa chevre." The beautiful poinsettia is named after our American Minister to Mexico, 1825-29, Joel R. Poinsett, who first brought the plant to this country from there. Origin: The idea for individual safe deposit vaults was copped by a New York banker in the 1860's from the method of keeping guests' valuables at the New England hotel in Boston.

Although it was spawned in Japan, the jinricksha was invented by a European, Rev. M. B. Bailey, a Church of England clergyman in the early 70's. It's the little things that count: The great mutiny in India, in which 100,000 lives were lost, all started with the British introduction of a fat from pigs and cows for greasing of cartridges. The native soldiers, outnumbering the British 5 to 1, considered that a curse and revolted. They call 'em blue laws because the book in which Connecticut's rigid statutes were bound (and Connecticut was the original blue law state) had blue covers.

Good guess: In 1908, when banks in other cities refused to finance a corporation that had acquired 10 or 20 small-fry automobile companies, a group of Boston capitalists advanced the money that finally put the organization on its feet. The corporation was General Motors.

When it comes to the odd name of that city in Washing-

ton state—Walla Walla—well, “walla” is the Indian expression for “many waters,” and the proud natives boast that the original settlers liked the place so well they named it twice. Chicken à la king gets its name from the fact it was first prepared for King Edward VII of England, from his own recipe.

The Injuns nicknamed whiskey “firewater” not because it tasted like fire when they swallowed it, but because when whiskey was spilled over a fire, its alcoholic content caused a blue flame to leap into the air. When yrs. ago, scurvy was prevalent in the British navy, lime juice was served as a cure. That’s when the British gobs (and later all Britons) got the sobriquet of “limeys.”.

The word tobacco is derived from tobago which was an Injun pipe. The ancient Romans created the superstition about seven years of bad luck for breaking a mirror because they believed a human being’s health changed every seven years, and since the mirror reflected the health and appearance of a person, to break it meant to break the health line for seven years.

Roquefort cheese was discovered 800 years ago when a Frenchman left some cheese in a cave, forgot all about it for some time, then returned to find it so much improved in flavor that cheese has been ripened in caves ever since.

If you’ve wondered about the origin of jitter-bugism, you might like to know that the first jazz band started getting hot in New Orleans in 1895. And billed itself “The Razy Dazzy Spasm Band.”. The name “John Barleycorn” became a synonym for liquor because the best beer is made from barley.

Col. Martinet was a French army inspector. And so well

did he do his stuff that he left his name in the dictionary as a synonym for a strict disciplinarian. The word "ballyhoo" comes from Ballyhooly, a village in Cork county, Ireland, long famous for its party fights. And ballyhoo, its contraction, at first meant to berate, not to boost.

How a big-time college was born: In 1884, rich Gov. Leland Stanford of California approached the then President of Harvard, Dr. Charles W. Eliot, and asked this startling question: "How much, Dr. Eliot, would it cost me to duplicate this Harvard University of yours on the Pacific Coast?" Dr. Eliot quickly flashed the reply, "At least thirty million dollars." Turning to Mrs. Stanford the Governor casually remarked, "I guess we can afford that, can't we, mother?" And then he founded Stanford University.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 256 to 270

256. Identify Frederick J. Noonan.
257. How long is a fathom?
258. Name the heaviest gas that is used in warfare.
259. Just what is meant by one horsepower?
260. What is gingivitis?
261. What are the three primary colors?
262. How many Presidents of the U. S. have died on the 4th of July? And who were they?
263. Would it be possible to make the Panama Canal a sea-level passageway?
264. In what language was the first Bible printed in America?
265. Is the rank of commodore ever bestowed in the U. S. Navy?
266. How many yards are there in a skein of yarn?
267. How many First Ladies of the Land have been produced by Massachusetts?
268. What was the real name of the author of "Alice in Wonderland"?
269. Is sterling silver composed solely of pure silver?
270. What is the singular of *dice*?

Answers on page 204.

ANSWERS (to Questions 256 to 270)

256. *Frederick J. Noonan was the navigator who disappeared with Amelia Earhart.*
257. *Six feet equal one fathom.*
258. *The heaviest gas used in warfare is bromine, nearly six times heavier than air, and that is why it rolls along close to the ground when liberated by gas bombs in an attack.*
259. *One horsepower is the amount of power required to raise a weight of 35,000 pounds one foot in one minute.*
260. *Gingivitis is inflammation of the gums.*
261. *The three primary colors are red, yellow and blue.*
262. *Three Presidents of the United States have died on the 4th of July—John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James D. Madison.*
263. *If it were worth the huge sum it would cost, the Panama Canal could be made into a sea-level passageway, but it is more economical to use the locks as they are now installed.*
264. *The first Bible printed in America was the Indian translation made by John Eliot, printed in 1663.*
265. *The rank of commodore in the U. S. Navy was abolished in 1899.*
266. *There are 256 yards in a skein of woolen yarn.*
267. *Only one First Lady of the Land was born in Massachusetts—Mrs. John Adams.*
268. *Lewis Carroll was the nom de plume of "Alice in Wonderland's" author but his real name was Charles Lutwidge Dodgson.*
269. *Sterling silver consists of 925 parts pure silver to 75 parts copper.*
270. *The singular of dice is die.*

SCRAPS ABOUT SCHOOLS

EVERY yr. American colleges give out around \$30,000,-000 worth of scholarships, with students at Columbia, Harvard, Princeton, Penn., Swarthmore and Yale getting the lion's share of them. Recipe: Dean Gildersleeve, eminent educationalist of Barnard College, Columbia's femme appendage, advises her girl students that the best way to prepare for exams is reading a detective story.

Catching up: At Cairo, Egypt, a university which is older than either Oxford or Cambridge ceased teaching only a few yrs. ago that the earth is flat. Here's smugness for you: Oxford University calls itself "the world's greatest institution of learning." Columbia Univ. reports that law graduates annually are at the bottom of its employment list, with only around 25 per cent of the law students being offered positions on graduation.

Proceeds from lotteries helped out such great institutions as Harvard, Yale and Columbia in their early days. In a Wellesley College psychology class recently, girl students were shown on a screen, front and profile views of four masculine faces, one of whom was a moron, another a criminal, another a college professor and the fourth a policeman. They were asked to identify each as such. Nearly all picked the policeman correctly, but a majority of the class dubbed the college professor as a moron!

The University of California, with 22,955, has the country's largest enrolment of full-time students. A flock of colleges regularly subscribe to those weekly services dishing up the inside dope and dirt from Washington. The Big Three of American women's colleges, from the standpoint of enrolment, are Hunter College, N. Y., Texas State College for Women and Smith College, in the order named.

The exhaustive research by Dr. F. C. Packard, Jr., professor of public speaking at Harvard University, reveals that the famed "Harvard accent" is actually brought to Cambridge instead of being developed there. Voice recordings of an entire freshman class of Cambridge, carried through annually up to and including the senior year, brought about this startling conclusion.

The late Justice Holmes of the U. S. Supreme Court once observed, "After I get back to Boston it takes me several days to realize that the reference 'the President' refers to the President of Harvard and not to a minor official in Washington." Britain's famed Oxford Univ. is not exclusively a stronghold for men. Four of its colleges are for women students. Pioneer: The first women's college in the U. S. was Georgia Female College, now known as Wesleyan, at Macon, Ga., founded 101 yrs. ago.

A new wrinkle at the Univ. of Illinois is a course in appreciation of the movies. To pass the final exam, its members are asked questions on a dozen movies they've studied during the preceding term. In the good old days at Harvard, slightly less than 300 yrs. ago, lecture classes were from 5 to 9 A.M. and the remainder of the day was spent in serious study.

High-pressure culture: A Cambridge, Mass., tutoring school, which crams not-so-bright Harvard students with sufficient data to pass courses, averages \$1000 a day in gross income while the university is in session. Not a bad idea: A noted educator suggests that pronunciation bees would be even more helpful to both young and old than spelling bees.

Booked solid: The enrolment list of the fashionable Eton school in England is already full until 1947. **Smoke-room statistics:** A questionnaire answered by 200 members of this year's Columbia Univ. graduating class listed "sex" as their favorite topic of conversation. After having been fined for a traffic violation a 16-yr.-old N. Y. high school lad piped up to the judge, "And now will you give me a note to the teacher explaining why I'm late for school?" (Hiz-zoner complied).

Patriotism—with brakes: A recent survey of 4 large U. S. universities reveals that only 11 per cent of the male students feel it would be their duty to enlist unreservedly in any war that Congress might declare. The 2 richest girls' colleges in the U. S. are Wellesley and Vassar, each with an endowment of approximately \$8,500,000. Which is still pretty puny compared with Harvard's \$130,000,000 and Yale's \$97,000,000.

Lacrosse being the No. 1 sport of Johns Hopkins Univ., a squad of more than 300 turns out for it annually whereas they're lucky to get 50 to 60 men competing for the varsity baseball and football teams. Not one in 100 college men knows that the degree of S.T.D. means Doctor of Sacred Theology. Romance is in the air and so the Princeton Tiger reports this fact: A student of that

university regularly wears a pair of pale green silk pajamas, very exotic. Pressed for an explanation, he confessed, "They're my girl's. She's at Vassar and I don't get to see her much, so we exchanged pajamas to have some reminder of each other." (Now there's a thought!).

The University of San Marcos in Peru is 87 years older than Harvard. Fortune observes that the Annapolis naval academy is probably the only boarding school in the nation whose inmates actually like the food served them there. A student at South Dakota State College, contemplating a course on typesetting, approached the professor and said, "I can typewrite, but I make a lot of mistakes. Can you erase on a linotype?".

Dunno if Harvard graduates are the most prosperous of all college men, but Harvard has the best supported alumni fund of any American institution of higher learning. Smart Stanford University lads froze water in molds the size of nickels and used the ice slugs to pay for their telephone calls—until the phone company's collector found water in the boxes instead of coins. They had to threaten to remove all instruments from fraternity houses to call the boys off.

Just so the Dartmouth College lads will have no distraction, the town's only movie theatre closes up tight during the period for final exams. Holdouts: Harvard and Princeton are the only two major Eastern colleges that still spurn the blandishments of heavy coin and refuse to have their football games broadcast on commercial programs.

FAVORITE GAGS

HUSBAND: "Why, darling, I didn't make a sound when I came in last night."

WIFE: "Nonsense, the noise woke me up."

HUSBAND: "Well, don't blame me. It was the three fellows carrying me that made all the racket."

MOTORIST: "I had the right of way when this man ran into me, yet you say I was to blame."

COP: "You certainly are."

MOTORIST: "Why?"

COP: "Because his father's the mayor, his brother's the chief of police and I'm engaged to his sister."

HUNTER: "Hey, Bill!"

BILL: "Yeah?"

HUNTER: "Are you all right?"

BILL: "Sure."

HUNTER: "Then I've shot a bear."

SAILOR: "Don't bother me. I'm writing my girl."

MARINE: "But why are you writing so slowly?"

SAILOR: "She can't read very fast."

William, in what condition was Job at the end of his life?" asked the Sunday School Teacher.

"Dead," was William's calm and explicit reply.

FATHER: "Well, Son, you flunked that course again."

SON: "Well, what did you expect? They gave me the same exam."

Willie, seriously ill, refused to take from his mother the medicine the doctor ordered, whereupon she wailed, "Oh, my darling boy will die!"

But Willie, from his sick bed, said gently, "Don't worry, mother. Father will be home soon and he'll make me take it."

SHE: "How can you talk to me like that when I've given you the best years of my life?"

HE: "Yeah? And who made 'em the best years of your life?"

SALESMAN: "Is your mother at home, my little man?"

SMALL BOY (playing in the yard): "Yes, sir."

SALESMAN (after ringing doorbell): "Are you sure she's home? She doesn't answer my ring."

SMALL BOY: "I'm sure she's home, mister, but I don't think she'll answer the bell till you reach our house four doors down the street."

A Negro lad read this inscription on a tombstone: "Not dead, but sleeping." Scratching his head, he remarked, "He sho' ain't foolin' nobody but hisself."

The prospective juror pleaded they were very busy at the railroad shop and he really ought to be there. "So," sneered the judge, "you're one of those that think the Union Pacific couldn't get along without you!"

"No, your honor," said the shopman, "I know it could get along without me, but I don't want them to find out."

Snapped the judge, "Excused!"

This notice appeared in a country weekly: "Anyone found near my chicken coop at night will be found there the next morning."

THE LAW

UNDER common law you need at least 3 persons to have a riot. If you decide to put up a fence in Massachusetts, the property owner next door can be made to bear half the expense. And the town official, called the fence viewer, has the job of adjusting difficulties between owners when they come to an impasse.

The famed lie-detecting machine has no legal standing, by which is meant that no defendant can be forced to submit to a test of his truthfulness and then have the evidence used against him in court. A survey of U. S. jury awards in recent yrs. shows that in various damage suits, as much as \$40,239 has been awarded for the loss of an eye and as little as \$1500 for the loss of the same organ.

90 per cent discount: A N. Y. man who suffered from loss of memory after an automobile smash forgot to go to his own wedding, causing the bride-to-be to call the whole thing permanently off, sued the accident insurance company for \$50,000 and collected a verdict of \$5000. One of Pennsylvania's blue laws prohibits an auctioneer from handing out free drinks of liquor to stimulate the bidding.

It's unlawful to carry a cane in Texas. But they don't pay much attention to the statute. Because its definition of evolution was objectionable to the fundamentalists,

Webster's dictionary was once barred from the entire state of Arkansas. Under a screwy Rumanian election law, a party getting 40 per cent of the vote is entitled to a 50 per cent representation in the national parliament.

Pigs is pigs, but: Pigs that are to be made into genuine Smithfield hams are required by law to be "peanut-fed hogs raised in the peanut belt of Virginia and North Carolina." A Manchester, England, judge ordered a man to pay off \$513 to a creditor at the rate of one shilling (25 cents) a month. Which means the debt will be all cleaned up by the year 2108 A.D.

No woman is allowed to give evidence in Hindu courts of justice. Good law: A city ordinance of Dunn, N. C., prohibits a person's snoring so as to disturb his neighbors. Erie, Pa., has a city ordinance forbidding any one going to sleep while in a barber's chair.

12 of the 48 states require the reading of a passage from the Bible each day in the public schools, while 11 other states specifically prohibit the reading of any Scriptures in the public schools. Ruling favorably on a citizen's right to wear shorts in Yonkers, N. Y., the Court of Appeals observed: "The Constitution still leaves some opportunity for people to be foolish, if they desire".

In the civil court at Athens, Ga., is a deed recorded 117 years ago bequeathing the land on which a certain white oak tree stands to the tree itself. It was in the will of Judge W. H. Jackson, once Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court. Observation by Bolton Hall, octogenarian N. Y. attorney: "The law is a game played by us lawyers under complicated rules made by ourselves for our own benefit—at the expense of our clients." (Double check.).

A decision of the Bermuda Supreme Court declares that a woman is not a "person." But the jurists didn't go on from there and define just what she is. A motion to fix the time at which to adjourn takes precedence over all others under parliamentary law. Sanitary, no end: A Los Angeles city ordinance makes it unlawful for a meat market customer to poke a turkey to see just how tender it is.

We like that system of a Spokane jury which, to decide a gambling case, took a slot machine and a quantity of nickels into the jury room and played the thing. When the nickels were exhausted, they came out with a verdict of guilty. A liberal Illinois regulation states an employe of the liquor commission may enter a taproom only to inspect the license. Then it's up to him to scam.

A peculiar West Virginia liquor regulation forbids anyone taking an alcoholic swig from a bottle in an alley. But it's O. K. on a public thoroughfare. Petticoat paradise: The laws of the Bamba tribe in Rhodesia, Africa, require a man, when he marries, to live with his wife's parents and work for his father-in-law. The wife and her mother run the whole shebang, totally ignoring Mr. Hubby.

Sage observation by Fortune: "Previously, a law was a law until it was overturned; now a law is not the law until all attempts to overturn it have failed." Fair enough: A Hungarian law calls upon Gypsies to take a bath at least once a month. Distinction: The California resort city, Ocean Park, has an ordinance legalizing draw poker, but stud poker is beyond the pale of the law.

A blue law never wiped off the statute books requires that the sheriff, at any murder trial in Worcester county, Mass., shall wear a sword, tall silk hat and cutaway coat.

Fair enough: It's agin the law to have a radio set turned on after 11 P.M. or before 7 A.M. in Trinidad, South America.

Because a stenographer inserted just one extra comma in a legislative act, it's illegal today to sleep in any hotel in North Dakota. Because the law reads: "No hotel, restaurant, dining room or kitchen shall be used as a sleeping or dressing room by any employe or other person." (The comma that gummed up the works occurs after the word "hotel.").

Indicted on two counts, assault with a pistol and illegal possession of a pistol, in a Southern court, the defendant was tried separately in each charge. The jury found him guilty of the first and innocent of the second—in short, it found him guilty of committing a crime with a deadly weapon which it also found he had not in his possession. Testament: A will drawn in 2550 B.C. by an Egyptian citizen is cited as the oldest on record. And so closely does it follow the legal form of today, it could almost be probated now.

No, my darling daughter: A city ordinance of Mammouth, Ore., makes it unlawful for a young woman to enter an automobile with a young man unless accompanied by a chaperon.

An act of Congress, still on the books, but never enforced, is the one passed in 1856, providing for deductions from the pay of any U. S. Senator or Representative who may be absent from sessions on account of anything but illness. Uncle Sam could save plenty of bucks per year if he thus checked up on Congressmen playing hookey.

Real estate given outright in a will doesn't pass through an executor's hand, the will in such a case operating as a

deed. Under English law, once a person is arrested, no newspaper may make any comment about him until his trial is over.

Getting the matter straight: While the Supreme Court of the U. S. passes on the constitutionality of any law with a federal application, it never does so until some person objecting to the law violates it and thereby creates a test case. Fussy: A political party must have not more than 11 letters in its name to get on the ballot in Ohio. For your information: There's no law on any statute book in this country requiring a witness to answer either "yes" or "no" to a question, despite any attorney's apoplectic insistence.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 271 to 285

271. During what part of what two months are day and night of equivalent duration all over the world?
272. Are any of the Great Lakes entirely within the United States?
273. Which can be heard a farther distance, cannon fire or thunder?
274. Who first said, "Lafayette, we are here"?
275. What are the maximum and minimum ages for becoming West Point cadets?
276. About how tall are giraffes on an average?
277. What is the largest battleship in the world?
278. What President of the U. S. was called the "Little Magician"?
279. What President of the U. S. was named "Rough and Ready"?
280. What fish swims backwards?
281. Who first called Ireland the "Emerald Isle"?
282. What planet comes nearest the earth?
283. What is the oldest public school in the United States?
284. Who founded the Girl Scouts?
285. What is a zebroid?

Answers on page 218.

ANSWERS (to Questions 271 to 285)

271. *Toward the latter part of each March and September, When the earth's axis is at right angles to the direction of the sun, day and night are equivalent in length all over the world.*
272. *Lake Michigan is the only one of the Great Lakes whose area is wholly within the U. S.*
273. *Thunder cannot be heard unmistakably more than twenty miles from the flash. On the other hand, cannon fire has been heard as far as one hundred miles distant.*
274. *It was Col. Charles E. Stanton, filling in for General Pershing on a speaking date, who actually said "Lafayette, we are here!"*
275. *By properly qualifying in other respects, one may become a West Point cadet any time between his seventeenth and twenty-second birthday.*
276. *The top height reached by a giraffe is 21 feet, but from 16 to 18 feet is pretty lofty for the average long necker.*
277. *The world's largest battleship is the British Navy's Hood, 42,000 tons.*
278. *President Martin Van Buren was called the "Little Magician."*
279. *President Zachary Taylor was nicknamed "Rough and Ready."*
280. *The squid, a relative of the octopus, swims backward.*
281. *In a book of poems published in 1795, William Drennan first called Ireland the "Emerald Isle."*
282. *Venus is the planet that comes nearest to the earth.*
283. *The oldest public school in the U. S. is Boston Latin, founded more than 300 years ago.*
284. *The Girl Scouts were founded in Savannah, Georgia, by Juliette Low, a native of that city, in 1911.*
285. *A zebroid is a cross between a zebra and a horse.*

 THE GALS, GOD BLESS 'EM

LIFE in the old gals yet: Five American women past the age of 50 hold licenses to pilot airplanes, the oldest being Edith Clark of Santa Monica, Calif. Half of U. S. feminine population is married by the age of 22. Attorney General Bennett of N. Y. State observes that women are the most successful swindlers—and then goes on to add that they seldom swindle another woman because it's so much easier to take over a trusting man.

Summer's summarization of a life guard: Women swimming in the water are much more sensible than men. They're minus the vanity that causes cocky males to swim farther from shore than they're physically able and they refuse to show off by going into deep water and ducking. A survey of 400 recent cases of women embezzlers turned up the fact that the great majority of them were married. And the dangerous age of pilfering and being found out is 35 yrs.

On the back of a blonde society woman's photograph sent in to a midwestern newspaper was this note: "Please darken hair, as the subject is now a brunette." The weaker sex: Although only one ex-President is still alive (Hoover), the wives of six former Chief Executives still live a placid existence. American women have been granted more

than 15,000 patents on their inventions, among the most useful of which is the modern paper bag that one bright femme thought up.

An Indianapolis movie theatre tackled one problem by periodically flashing on its screen this announcement: "Ladies over 50 may wear hats; all others please remove them." And wow! The female customers protested so vigorously that the management promptly discarded the gag. Trigger minds: Because the plasticity of the female brain enables it to assert itself on one side with more facility than the male brain, there are far less femme stutterers in America than masculine ones.

It's the leisure sex: It's estimated 65 per cent of all America's bridge players are women. It's estimated U. S. beauty parlors give 40,000,000 permanent waves each year. Gallstone trouble occurs to women much more than to men. Despite heavy advertising outlays, they've never been able to inveigle the women of Ireland in for cigarette smoking.

They're the same throughout the ages: In Queen Shub-ad's tomb, built 5000 years ago in Samaria, was found a vanity case containing a spoon for scooping rouge, a metal stick for manicuring and a pair of eyebrow tweezers. The height of something or other (maybe it's nerve) is the New York woman who's suing a movie theatre for the loss of a pivot tooth, which came out when she bit the doorman's arm in a row.

When subscribers on a telephone line at North Bay, Ontario, complained of someone constantly listening in, a trouble shooter discovered the offender was an old lady who was using the phone receiver as a darning egg to mend stock-

ings. Ah, we thought so: Although women are sick oftener than men, their illnesses are less important from the standpoint of endangering life.

We thought it a lost art, but a recent survey reveals that 79 per cent of all American women do more or less sewing. 89 per cent of the adult female population of the U. S. marries at least once. Observation of the veteran editor, Anna Steese Richardson: "American women's primary interest is to get a man—and if not to keep him, then to replace him with one more desirable." (You're telling us, Mrs. R.?).

Aye, aye, madame: Many a Soviet ship sailing on the Baltic sea these days has a woman for its captain. Subtle but effective: A custom still adhered to by the Mennonites who inhabit eastern Pennsylvania is to paint their front gate blue when a daughter becomes of marriageable age. They call 'em the weaker sex, but among the world's white races, the ratio of deaths from heat prostration is 3 men to 1 woman. Scented cigarettes for women, once a big seller, have virtually disappeared from the market today. The femmes like the same brands as the males.

When a romance in Turin, Italy, recently went busto, the ex-fiance sued his sweetie for the entire cost of his courtship and darned if the court didn't assess her \$681. (They split up because she found just before the wedding he wasn't as rich as he'd pretended to be.). It was a woman, Sara Hale, editor of the famed "Godey's Lady's Book," who really put Thanksgiving Day over on a national basis. For years she hounded four Presidents to issue a proclamation for Thanksgiving to the country, but Fillmore, Pierce and Buchanan turned her down. Abraham Lincoln finally gave

her the nod in 1863 and the November festival came into its own.

Fancy, we calls it: The beautiful queen of ancient Egypt, Nefertiti, had her lower eyelids painted green and her upper ones black, while her fingernails, toenails and even the soles of her feet were colored with an orange-red dye.

Vanity by the ton: The average American woman uses 3 times her weight in cosmetics during the course of her life.

Girls make better pearl divers than men, larger lung capacity being the reason. Despite the gore they'll witness, two women to one man, apply to be shown through the slaughterhouse of a leading Chicago packing plant. An educational survey showed that girls are superior to boys in ability to remember in a related way the main thoughts after reading a paragraph.

Hope the wife doesn't see this, but here's what Mme Schiaparelli says every woman should have in her wardrobe: One fur coat, one tweed suit, a silk dress for afternoon wear, at least four hats and as many more as she can afford, six pairs of shoes and all the accessories to match.

Another mystery solved: Women talk more than men because their vocal cords are lighter and move more easily. The nimble sex: Women assemble most of the speedometers built in the U. S. because the gals are faster and more accurate with their hands. A most surprising survey reveals that a city-dwelling housewife devotes more time to her home-making duties than a farmer's wife. The urban gals turn in an average of 66 hours, 48 minutes of housework a week, compared with 63 hours, 32 minutes for the rural spouses.

Twice as many women as men have migraine, which is a

fancy name for a sick headache. Dexterous darlings: The crack box office girlies of the de luxe movie theatres can push out (and collect for) as many as 1600 tickets an hour.

In 14 states, a wife can legally be made to pay alimony to an ex-husband. But the privilege is rarely invoked. Ladies prefer 'em, too: A New York service that supplies male guides and escorts to lovely ladies, reports that calls for blond youths exceed those for brunet lads by 2 to 1. They may call 'em the weaker sex, but of 1,000,000 persons considered in an insurance survey, 30 had lived to be 100 years old, and 21 of them were women.

Leap Year all the time: In the Ukraine, it's the maidens who do the active courting, even calling at the homes of their boy friends for an evening's necking. Distinction: Only four women have ever had their faces engraved on U. S. postage stamps: Martha Washington, Pocahontas, Queen Isabella of Spain, and James McNeill Whistler's mother. From time to time, other women have appeared in scenes pictured on U. S. stamps, but they were un-named.

The Flighty Sex: After questioning 3,000 women, a Columbia professor arrived at the conclusion that 98% of them are influenced by some superstition or other. A woman in her thirties is three times as likely to die from diphtheria as a man of the same age. Accounted for by the fact that mothers, older sisters and nurses, in caring for younger children attacked by diphtheria, catch it themselves and die in larger numbers than the men folks.

Surprise: Soviet scientists, after much survey, assure us that, by and large, men's brains are not superior to

women's. 60 per cent of American women use a single brand of nail polish. Cheerio statistic: A survey of cases running back 20 years, revealed that more women commit suicide on Wednesday than any other day.

Femmes beware: For no special reason the circus folks have ever been able to discover, giraffes in captivity have an intense dislike for all women. When a woman runs for President of the U. S., it won't exactly be a novelty. For a woman has already run twice for that office: Belva Lockwood, who tried for the White House in 1884, running on the Equal Rights ticket, and again in 1888, with like success.

Buzz-buzz-buzz: If you've wondered what it is, a statistician brings in the report that women talk most about clothes, with children 2nd, gossip 3rd, husbands 4th and movies, bridge and weather 5th. And while we're tattling: Another statistician reports that a woman spends 1/6th of her life shopping for this and that.

A French philosopher once said that women spend two-thirds of their lives in waiting. First, she waits 18 or 20 years for a husband, then she waits for her children to come, then she waits for them to grow up, then she waits till they obtain husbands and wives, and after that she waits for her grandchildren. (But of course she washes a few dishes in between.).

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 286 to 300

286. Which is the harder, platinum or aluminum?
287. What is the longest river in the U. S.?
288. What is a defective verb?
289. What city within a 25-mile radius of New York City is more densely populated than the metropolis itself?
290. What nation had more casualties than any other during the World War?
291. Which would weigh more, a cubic foot of ice or a cubic foot of butter?
292. What is the chief difference between battle cruisers and battleships?
293. If you had \$1000 in silver dollars, how much do you think they'd weigh?
294. Which is the larger in area, Canada or Australia?
295. Who were the only brothers to sign the Declaration of Independence?
296. What President of the U. S. was called "Young Hickory"?
297. What is the correct position of the flag on its staff on Memorial Day?
298. What falls in the U. S. are nearly ten times as high as Niagara Falls?
299. How many different executive mansions have Presidents of the U. S. occupied?
300. What is called the most beautiful monumental building in the U. S.?

Answers on page 226.

ANSWERS (to Questions 286 to 300)

286. *Platinum is more than twice as hard as aluminum.*
287. *The Missouri is the longest river in the U. S., 2945 miles against the Mississippi's 2486.*
288. *A defective verb is one which lacks some of its principal parts. Example: ought.*
289. *Jersey City, New Jersey, across the river, is more densely populated per square mile than New York city.*
290. *Russia had more casualties during the World War than any other nation—9,150,000.*
291. *A cubic foot of ice would weigh slightly more than a cubic foot of butter.*
292. *Battle cruisers have high speed and the offensive power of battleships, but to gain the speed their protective armor is reduced.*
293. *If you had \$1000 in silver dollars they'd weigh 59 pounds (about).*
294. *Canada is larger than Australia by about 100,000 square miles.*
295. *The only two brothers to sign the Declaration of Independence were Richard and Francis Lee of Virginia.*
296. *President James K. Polk was known as "Young Hickory."*
297. *On Memorial Day the flag should fly at half staff until noon and then be raised to the top until sunset.*
298. *Ribbon Falls in Yosemite Park are 1612 feet in height as compared with the 167 feet drop of Niagara Falls.*
299. *Presidents of the U. S. have, in all, occupied four executive mansions, two in New York, one in Philadelphia, in which George Washington lived during his two terms, and the present White House.*
300. *The National Capitol at Washington, D. C., is called the most beautiful monumental building in the U. S., but the Lincoln Memorial is not far behind.*

BIG BUSINESS

FROM the thousands of sightseers who go to see the Dionne Darlings, Mamma and Papa Dionne are reputed to have run up a fortune of \$75,000 from vending souvenirs and the like. We Americans spend \$1,700,000,000 a year just replacing the bulbs in our electric lights.

Age of specialization: An enterprising citizen of Coopers-town, N. Y., still makes a neat living by supplying, at a modest price, box tops, labels, wrappers, etc., enabling folks who don't want to buy quantities of certain products to enter merchandising contests. A \$500-a-year tax per unit on chain stores, which many states propose, would actually wipe out 40 per cent of the average chain's net annual profit on a store.

The superliners, Normandie and Queen Mary, have to earn more than \$4,000,000 cash each year to keep out of red ink. The R. R.'s of the U. S. employ more men than the steel and automotive industries combined. The third largest stock exchange in North America, in point of shares traded, is the Toronto exchange, which ranks right after N. Y.'s Big Board and the N. Y. Curb.

The spirited march "Stars and Stripes Forever" reputedly made its composer, John Philip Sousa, \$250,000.

Negroes of the U. S. are currently operating 15 banks and 41 insurance companies. And it wasn't worth it: It cost the U. S. \$1,000,000 an hour to participate in the World War. In the interests of safety for its workers, the U. S. Steel Corp. has spent \$25,000,000 in the last 29 years. But they figure it was well spent, that it saved \$117,000,000 in accidents prevented and claims avoided.

Phooey to new-fangled notions and modern office equipment, says the rich and powerful First National Bank of N. Y. It requires all its officers to sit at those old-fashioned roll-top desks. By-product: Thanks to chemistry, the seeds of the U. S. cotton crop which once were useless now have a value of \$200,000,000 a yr. from the cotton-seed oil that goes into soaps, candles, cooking preparations, etc.

You can't work for the Lannom Mfg. Co. of Grinnell, Ia., unless you save part of your salary. A \$75-a-month man, for instance, must live on \$50 a month and put the remainder in the savings bank—or else. The nation's lowest commercial broadcasting rate is offered by a small station in Dublin, Tex.—5 minutes of time for 75 cts. or a whole hour for 5 bucks.

You can spend as much as \$50,000 for a single aerial camera. Expensive blueprints: Just the plans of a modern battleship cost from \$75,000 to \$150,000. Horn of Plenty: Father Divine, Harlem's "God," is reputed on high authority to have disbursed funds at the rate of \$1,500,000 a yr. in the past 3 annums. Idleness industry: The pool parlors and bowling alleys of the U. S. take in around \$45,000,000 a yr.

Not only weatherwise but financially is March lamb-like. For a Wall Street survey shows that in the past 20 yrs.

that month has seen declines in N. Y. stock exchange prices 50 per cent more often than rises. Less than 10 per cent of the U. S. retail establishments are chain stores, but they do about 42 per cent of the business.

Windfall from the air: Americans spend approximately \$425,000 a day for electricity to operate their radio sets.

Concentration: A single Detroit motor plant employs more aliens than there are Americans working in all the factories of Europe. One of the most compact sales organizations in the world is that of the St. Joseph Lead Co., which, with one sales mgr. and 2 assts., sells \$50,000,000 worth of metal in any average yr.

Doubling the U. S. standard: You aren't rated in the millionaire class in Gt. Britain unless you have an annual income of at least \$100,000. To keep its various plants in the Detroit area running, General Motors foots an electricity bill of around \$10,000 a day. The wear and tear on Uncle Sam's metal money amounts to about \$7,000,000 a yr., representing the difference between the face value of the coins returned and the amount the coins produce in new coins after being melted down and reminted.

It costs around \$20,000 a yr. to give the White House a thorough cleaning. Although the \$10,000 bill is supposed to be tops, Uncle Sam also prints \$100,000 bills, but they're gold certificates used exclusively in transactions between the U. S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve Banks.

To collegians home on vacation: No matter what high marks you get in college courses, you'd better have some extra-curricular activity, too. Because when talent scouts for the big corporations eye the records of potential employes,

they regard with suspicion anyone, however lofty his marks, who has no interests outside the classroom.

Philadelphia's finest cinema temple, the Mastbaum, built about 10 years ago at a cost of \$5,000,000, was torn down recently to make room for a parking lot. Czecho-Slovakia got a start with its tremendous shoe manufacturing industry when a canny Czech, an adventurer, took a plane to India and started spreading propaganda that persuaded the Hindus to wear shoes after centuries of barefootedness. In a jiffy it opened a huge virgin market. The Interstate Commerce Commission requires every railroad to send it a monthly or annual report on freight train performance, passenger train performance, yard service, revenue traffic, fuel and power for locomotives, car equipment, revenues and expenses, number of employes, service and compensation, accidents, hours of service, automatic train control performance, locomotive inspection and repair, assignment of engines and a vast number of income and balance sheet items. (Are you listening?).

Look, girls: The marcel wave is named in honor of its inventor, Marcel Grateau. And he started in charging only one franc (then worth $9\frac{1}{2}$ cents) for his waves. But when he got famous he tilted the price as high as \$275—ouch! Research shows that in department stores doing from \$2,000,000 to \$5,000,000 annual gross business, the corset department, in relation to sales, is usually the most profitable one in the store.

The customary royalty a land owner receives when oil is struck on his property is $\frac{1}{8}$ the value of the black gold pumped out of it. The leading bank of Pikeville, Ky., a mountain town of 4000, starts the day's grind with a

hymn and a Bible reading and then, throughout the day, soft music is played through amplifiers all over the place. But it's still just as tough as any other bank to raise a loan. Vanity statistic: To keep his hair cut and his face shaved and smelling pretty, the American male spends \$30,000,000 a year more than the American femme spends in beauty parlors.

Mouthful: The actual name of Phila.'s largest bank is the Pennsylvania Company for Insurance on Lives and Granting Annuities. To catch the public's fancy: In the course of a single yr., the nation's largest cracker mfr. will try out as many as 150 new brands of cracker and discard as many more.

That problem of distribution: It requires more men to handle N. Y. City's daily milk supply than are employed on all the farms that the milk comes from. The Big Three among U. S. soap makers control 78 per cent of the nation's business in that line. Some 400 other mfrs. whack up the remaining 22 per cent among them.

Up-and-down item: The cost of running the various elevators in N. Y.'s Rockefeller Centre runs to \$10,000 a wk. Analysis—by a great firm of industrial engineers: Most gentlemen's agreements fail because 60 per cent of the agreers are not gentlemen, 30 per cent just act like gentlemen and 10 per cent neither act like nor are gentlemen.

For every \$22 it takes in from retail sales, the average dept. store spends \$1 on its window displays. Commercial rivals though they are, the great French brandy firms of Hennessy and Martel once a wk. let the rival company open and inspect all their mail—just so they can

check on each other's doings and show there's no skullduggery in violation of their trade agreements.

Sideline: The R. C. A. bldg. in Radio City, N. Y., takes in around \$80,000 a yr. as admissions from visitors seeking a view from the top. Blot on the escutcheon: American industry spends more than \$75,000,000 a yr. on strikebreakers, union spies and the weapons and ammunition used in labor conflicts. Calling all margin: One of the greatest of stock market nosedives was made by Deere & Co., farm implement manufacturers, which skidded from an all-time high of \$790 a share in 1930 to the equivalent of \$3.50 a share in 1932.

Experts in retail merchandising estimate 60 per cent of their feminine customers and 40 per cent of all customers buy goods on impulse. Which is why such things as trinkets, handbags, toilet goods, etc. are known in the trade as impulse items. On an average banking day, the nation's largest, Chase National of New York, collects a total of 370,000 checks with a total value of \$250,000,000.

The largest single real estate mortgage in the U. S. is one for \$44,300,000 on the Radio City, New York, group of buildings, held by the world's largest life insurance company.

FAVORITE GAGS

JUDGE: "Well, Sam, I see you're back in court for fighting with your wife. Liquor again?"

SAM: "No, sah, Jedge; she licked me dis time."

The old farmer looked moodily at the recent ravages of a flood. "Hiram," yelled a neighbor, "your pigs were all washed down the creek."

"How about Flaherty's pigs?" asked the farmer.

"They're gone, too."

"And Larsen's?"

"Yes, he lost his."

"Humph!" ejaculated the old farmer, "tain't as bad as I thought!"

PARSON: "My friend, I'se got a call to another church."

DEACON: "How much does you-all git?"

PARSON: "Three hundred dollahs."

DEACON: "Parson, you-all hasn't got a call, you'se got a raise."

"We shall make our permanent residence at the Old Manse," said the bride to the newspaper man. Whereupon

the reporter wrote in his story: "When they return from their honeymoon the newlyweds will reside with the bride's father."

SANDY (to employer): "I've been around here 10 years, sir, doing three men's work for one man's pay and now I want a raise."

ANGUS: "I canna gie ye that, but if ye'll tell me the names of the ither two men, I'll fire 'em."

A defense attorney in a Pennsylvania drunken driving case asked the arresting policeman, "But if a man is on his hands and knees in the middle of the road, does that prove he was drunk?"

Replied the cop, "No, sir; it does not. But this one was trying to roll up the white line."

The British actor Barrett once asked a group of workmen decorating his home how they'd like to see his play. They said they would and he provided them all with passes for a Monday night. At the end of the week, going over the payroll of his estate, the actor saw this entry on one man's bill: "Monday night, 4 hours overtime at Princess theatre, 8 shillings."

SCIENCE FOR AVERAGE CITIZENS

SO sensitive to weather variations is brass that a one-inch bar of it will expand as much as a 10,000,000th of an inch for every rise of one degree in temperature. Over in Holland the canny Dutch scientists are now making glass from potatoes. So flexible is pure platinum that it can be drawn into a wire with a thickness of only 100,000th of an inch. And 2 ounces of platinum could thus be drawn out to encircle the globe.

But folks still try 'em: The seven so-called follies of science are the duplication of the cube, quadrature of the circle, trisection of the angle, transmutation of metals, fixation of mercury, perpetual motion and the elixir of life.

Kilowatt Bill Klem: A Texas genius has just patented a robot baseball umpire which never calls them wrong. Photo-electric cells, arranged for vertical and horizontal beams, form a strike zone in front of each batter, adjustable to his height. When a baseball from the pitcher penetrates this zone, it's a strike; if it fails to, it's a ball.

Diamonds can be completely burned in oxygen of a high temperature—and a pure diamond will leave no ash whatsoever. Although virtually all chemical elements expand when melted, bismuth behaves like water and contracts in volume. Dust may take the shine off your car

and your shoes, but without it there'd be no life here on earth. For there'd be no rain, and consequently no water, except for grains of dust in the air which precipitate as rain, with a speck in the centre of each raindrop.

Eureka long delayed: Luther Burbank grew 65,000 hybrid bushes before his patience was rewarded and he managed to grow a white blackberry. Cycle: Every 23 yrs. we start having the same succession of weather conditions all over again.

Using high-pitched musical notes, a scientist of the Univ. of Penn. medical school has aged whiskey in 7 hours as effectively as 4 yrs. in wood would make it. And with similar vibrations he has sterilized milk. Back 39 yrs. ago when Madame Curie discovered radium, she named it "polonium" in honor of her native Poland, but the term didn't stick.

A hurricane may last for days, but even the most lingering tornado is usually over within an hour. It seems sort of fantastic, but most odors have weight. By which is meant that the sensation of nearly all odors is caused by tiny particles of a substance contacting the olfactory organs of the nose, such particles having escaped from a volatile substance by evaporation. And these particles do have weight, however infinitesimal. Due to the effect of centrifugal force, an object at the equator loses 1-289th of its weight.

Two identical whistles sounded together don't make a noise twice as loud as one, but a combined sound only three decibels louder than one whistle. Thus, if each whistle makes a 50-decibel sound, the two together will give a sound of only 53 decibels. Description: Some scientists call cosmic rays the death rattle of dying stars.

Good for the long pull: A five-cent balloon, filled with hydrogen by the chemistry class in a Quebec high school, and released in the air with a return tag tied to it, was picked up six weeks later in Singapore, 13,000 miles away. If the earth were represented by a single grain of salt in N. Y. City, the nearest star, in proportion to size and distance away, would be represented by a 6-inch globe in Juneau, Alaska. (Or do you get the idea?).

Swish: A single lightning bolt has 5 times the horsepower of all the power plants in the U. S. It's not the force of the lightning itself, but the expansion of steam from the water they've absorbed that cause wood to splinter and rocks to shatter when struck by a lightning bolt. The longest possible duration of a total eclipse of the sun is 7 minutes, 31 seconds. But so far as science knows, a total eclipse of that length has never occurred.

Light particles setting out from distant stars toward the earth in many cases finally get tired and quit without reaching us, a Notre Dame scientist reports. Gosh, they're almost human. A radio signal from London to N. Y. will not only travel westerly, but will also go around the world in an easterly direction from London. The direct signal, having a much shorter distance to travel, will reach N. Y. first, with the reverse-path signal, traveling farther, arriving slightly later and producing a sort of echo.

Trick of the month: You'd have hardly believed your own eyes if you could have witnessed a recent experiment in London when a big slice of raw beefsteak was frozen in the middle of an ice cake, then radio short waves turned on and the beefsteak cooked to a turn—while still enclosed in the block of ice. Although mighty radium's strongest

emanations can penetrate only a fraction of an inch of lead, those lively cosmic rays can easily dance right through a foot-thick layer of that metal and keep on going.

Most of the stars of the Milky Way are so distant from us that the light we may see from them tonight started coming toward the earth in the year 6000 B.C. We call 'em shooting stars: When it enters the earth's atmosphere, from 50 to 75 miles above the ground, a meteorite generates so much friction sweeping through the air that it gets heated and lights up.

The wages of speed: If an aviator making 400 miles an hour in one of those naval planes should stick his hand out, it would be blown back violently enough to break his wrist. At that velocity, pressure on his hand would be 70 pounds to the sq. inch.

There is virtually no pure radium existent in the world today. Solar system in one lump: If all the known stars of the universe were brought together and packed closely, they'd occupy a space the size of a cube measuring 60,000,000,000 miles each way.

Lost, strayed or stolen: When the de Vico comet was discovered in 1844, the astronomers computed that it would continue to show up every $5\frac{1}{2}$ years. But instead, after its first visible appearance, it swung its 5,000,000-mile tail off the estimated orbit, dashed off into space and has never been seen since. Soothsayer: The first man in world history to predict an eclipse was the Greek philosopher Thales, who back in 585 B.C. called the shot on an eclipse of the sun. The closest he came was naming the year in which it would occur, but that still made him a scientific hero.

The way science rates the feeble-minded, an idiot has an intelligence quotient of from zero to 20, an imbecile from 20 to 50 and a moron from 50 to 70. And when you get above that mark, you're almost bright. Because of the earth's rotation, smoke rising from a camp fire will always revolve counterclockwise.

Science has determined that the length of a lightning bolt varies from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 4.7 miles. Scientifically, the sweet potato doesn't belong to the potato family at all, but is a member—can you beat it?—of the morning glory family. The British scientist Faraday discovered the basic principle of the electric generator when he got a reaction by thrusting a magnet inside a wire coil. And then, having made this important discovery, he didn't know to what practical use to put it—and his idea lay dormant for months. The word "gas" is really a simplified "ghost." When Van Helmont discovered he was able to produce spirit by distillation of various fuels he named it "geist."

The Mt. Wilson observatory has a photo-electric photometer so delicate that the instrument can measure the heat of a candle burning 2000 miles away. It's used to measure the brightness and color of stars. It's still just around the corner, but more than half a century ago, 1884, one Paul Nipkow applied to Uncle Sam for a basic patent covering television.

It's the caffein citrate, an alkaloid, in your coffee and tea that tends to keep you awake. Science asserts that when one of the 5 senses is being used, the others are, at the same time, being stimulated. Thus, your vision will be improved if music is played and incense burned while your

eyes are concentrated on reading. All of which may be so (who are we to asperse science?) but a radio blaring while we're reading drives us nerts.

During its brief life, a 20,000 volt spark of electricity is 50 per cent hotter than the sun and 100 times as bright. Atmospheric analysis: The air you breathe is composed of $1/5$ th oxygen by volume, $3/4$ ths nitrogen, $1/2500$ th carbon dioxide, and a variable portion of water vapor. Neighbor: The star nearest the earth is still 25,300,000,000,000,000 miles away.

Buzzing in the dark: They've just discovered where mosquitoes go in the winter time. Thousands of them were recently captured by college researchers in Tennessee caves, where earth heat protects 'em till warm weather comes along. Your geometry to the contrary, a curved line on a chart, drawn on a Mercator projection represents the shortest distance between 2 points on the earth's surface. If you don't believe it, count 'em: The Milky Way contains approximately 30,000,000,000 fixed stars.

The mean temperature on the planet Pluto is 380 degrees below zero. (We'll say it's mean.). A pint of Sirius, the star, would weigh 50,000 pounds. For that star is denser than any metal or stone—and is neither solid nor liquid, but pure gas. Such is modern science that a strand of glass can now be spun out until it has $1/20$ th the thickness of a human hair.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 301 to 315

301. Could a Mohammedan become President of the U. S.?
302. What two famous French authors were partly of Negro blood?
303. Is it illegal to destroy a U. S. coin?
304. Just how can a fly walk upside down on a ceiling?
305. What is a manuscript *U*?
306. Can the President of the U. S. be put under arrest for any cause whatsoever during his term of office?
307. Are the Atlantic and Pacific oceans of the same average levels?
308. Is there any basis of fact in that celebrated poem, "The Charge of the Light Brigade"?
309. When was the Declaration of Independence first read to the people of Philadelphia?
310. What is the approximate distance between Africa and Europe?
311. On his voyage to discover America in 1492, how many days did Columbus sail before sighting land over here?
312. What is the only state in the Union that has never voted Republican in a national election since the Civil War?
313. What is the proper disposition for worn-out American flags?
314. Can an ice boat sail faster than the wind that propels it?
315. Since its inception has the Government of the U. S. ever been entirely debt-free and if so, when?

Answers on pages 242 and 243.

ANSWERS (to Questions 301 to 315)

301. *Since the Constitution says no religious test shall be required as a qualification to any office, a Mohammedan could be President of the U. S. provided he fulfilled all other qualifications.*
302. *Alexandre Dumas the elder was of one-fourth, and Dumas the younger one-eighth, Negro blood.*
303. *It is illegal to deface a U. S. coin but there is no federal law against the total destruction of a coin by its possessor.*
304. *Membranous pads on a fly's feet secrete a sticky, viscous fluid which enables that insect to walk upside down on a smooth surface.*
305. *When a capital V is used for a U it is known as the manuscript U.*
306. *Technically, the President of the U. S. cannot be placed under arrest for any crime or misdemeanor during his term of office. He has to be impeached by Congress.*
307. *At one end of the Panama Canal the Pacific Ocean is on an average 8 inches higher than the Atlantic Ocean level on the other end.*
308. *A tragic incident in the Crimean War inspired the poem about the Charge of the Light Brigade.*
309. *It wasn't until July 8, 1776, that the people of Philadelphia were summoned to listen to the first reading of the Declaration of Independence.*
310. *The width of the strait between the southernmost point of Spain and Africa is $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles.*
311. *On his first voyage to America, Columbus sailed for seventy days before sighting land.*
312. *The only state which has never gone Republican in a national election since the Civil War is Georgia.*
313. *The Government disposes of its worn U. S. flags by burning them.*

314. *An ice boat can sail faster than the wind that propels it; sometimes it can travel twice as fast.*
315. *For two years—from January 1, 1835, to January 1, 1837—the federal treasury had funds on hand sufficient to meet its outstanding indebtedness to the U. S. Government.*

FISCAL FACTS

IT'S easier to predict an upturn in Wall Street than a decline. Anyway, analysts of the market trends for the leading brokerage houses have a group batting average of 85 per cent right for prophesying a financial upbeat, but only 75 per cent for calling the shot on market declines. Tut-tut, mere bagatelle: During the War between the States, Abraham Lincoln was down in the dumps plenty when the national debt reached \$2,845,907,626.

All the gold in the world at present would form a cube of 33½ feet and weigh about 22,238 tons. Of last year's receipts of \$1,671,800 for the Springfield, O., post office \$1,236,800 was paid by the Crowell Pub. Co., which prints a group of magazines in that town.

Rate of exchange: The shekel of gold, often mentioned in the Bible, was worth about \$8 in our money today; the silver shekel, about 50 cts. Thrifty: Although New England has only 6½ per cent of the nation's population, more than 30 per cent of the country's savings deposits are in N. E. banks.

Nest egg: The Gulf Oil Co., controlled by the Mellon family, has rolled up \$375,000,000 in earnings since it was founded 30 yrs. ago.

The saintly directors of the N. Y. Curb Exchange refuse

to list the stock of any corporation engaged in operating a pari-mutuel horse-racing track. (Gosh, that would be close to gambling!).

Practically pin money: The father of the present J. P. Morgan, on his death in 1913 left his son \$19,000,000, which would seem pretty small to the Whitney family, which inherited \$200,000,000 from Payne Whitney and \$140,000,000 from Harry P. Whitney. A tabulation reveals the U. S. had 27 millionaires before the War between the States; 2348 just before the World War; 5526 just after the world conflict; and 14,818 in 1929. But some of the latter are now doubtless living on welfare.

When they closed their books on the fiscal year, nearly every London newspaper found its 1937 profits had been hacked into by the heavy extra expense incurred in printing special issues during the coronation ceremonies. Reputedly the oldest savings bank account in the U. S. is one of \$15 deposited in a N. Y. institution in 1819. Interest has increased it to \$3450 today. The 3 rarest animals in the world's jungles (and therefore the most valuable for zoos) are the giant panda, the okapi and bongo, each of which will fetch \$20,000 a copy on the auction block.

Out of \$5,000,000 worth of checks a leading N. Y. hotel cashes for guests in the course of a yr., it averages only \$2000 worth that bounce. The good old days: The Rockefeller family's investments in the various Standard Oil companies alone, at their 1929 highs, were worth \$1,100,000,000. Mustn't touch: If you drop a chip on the floor of the Monte Carlo casino you're not allowed to pick it up.

Benevolence: Whenever a member of the N. Y. stock exchange dies, all surviving members kick in with \$15 each to the deceased member's estate, regardless of how rich he is. In the aggregate, the gift amounts to better than \$20,000. **Discrepancy:** A diamond may be worth from \$50 to \$12,000 a carat, a ruby from \$10 to \$15,000 a carat, and an emerald from 10 cts. to \$10,000.

The interest from \$9,000,000 left by the inventor of dynamite pays for those Nobel prizes. **High cost of carelessness:** The American Petroleum Institute estimates that if every carburetor in the U. S. automobile were properly adjusted, American motorists would save \$250,000,000 a yr. in gasoline bills. **Discoveries in Canada** recently of radium deposits have depressed the world price of that precious element from \$70,000 to \$30,000 a gram. You can get a private pullman car made to your order for around \$90,000.

Since their legalization, Florida's slot machines have gleaned an average of \$60,000,000 a yr. from hopeful suckers. All the gold mined in the world since Columbus discovered America would amount to (at \$35 an ounce) about \$41,850,000,000—or just enough to pay our national debt with a little change left over.

The \$200,000 worth of tungsten used in making a year's supply of incandescent electric light bulbs for the U. S. results in a saving of more than \$350,000,000 in our annual electric bills. The world's most powerful telescope (that one of the 200-inch lens being set up on Mt. Palomar, Calif.) will represent an investment of \$6,000,000 before it starts functioning sometime in 1940.

More than \$25,000,000 worth of United States coins are

in circulation in foreign countries. In the heyday of its career, 1920 to 1925, the Ku Klux Klan took in \$90,000,000 from the booboisie in dues, for regalia, etc. Burden: Every second of the day and night, the railroads of the U. S. pay \$9.45 in federal, state, county and municipal taxes.

Monopoly: More than 99½ per cent of all bond sales in the U. S. are made on the floor of the N. Y. stock exchange. Although no expense was spared to make it a first class fighting ship, the original cost of the frigate Constitution (Old Ironsides) was only \$302,718. Nowadays a good battleship sets Uncle Sam back about \$25,000,000 or more.

It isn't much to worry about, but a postal money order becomes invalid if not presented for payment within one year from the last day of the month in which it was issued. And you'd be surprised how much money Uncle Sam makes by that rule. Bargain: The United States made the Louisiana Purchase at the rate of 4¢ an acre. A billion dollars in \$1 bills, laid end to end, would stretch around the world 46 times. (And if we had that many, that's about the number of times we'd go around the world.).

Despite things are booming, it's estimated that \$1,000,000,000 worth of Uncle Sam's currency is still being hoarded, chiefly in the larger denominations. Transferring \$6,000,000,000 of gold bullion from New York and Philadelphia to the government's new stronghold at Fort Knox, Kentucky, was done by the P. O. department at the special rate of \$100,000 for the job—a tremendous bargain.

It's the little things that count: \$1 placed at 4 per cent

compound interest in the year 1 A.D. would amount to approximately \$600,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 to-day—a nice little nest-egg for someone. International country club: The dues for belonging to the League of Nations amount to around \$9,000,000 a year.

Chief industry: Reno, Nevada, figures its divorce mill brings about \$2,000,000 a year into the town that would be spent elsewhere. Pilfering at random, shoplifters take \$10,000,000 worth of goods each year out of American retail stores. The yearly sugar bill of us Americans nowadays is likely to average about \$698,000,000.

One road to riches: Obtaining the property by foreclosure of a \$420,000 loan on it, John D. Rockefeller later sold it to U. S. Steel for \$79,000,000 worth of their securities. Things were cheaper in the old days: All the Napoleonic wars, lasting from 1790 to 1815, cost slightly more than \$3,000,000,000. Whereas the direct cost of the World War was about \$186,000,000,000—and we hate to think of the bill for another major world fracas.

FAVORITE QUESTIONS—AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS 316 to 330

316. Did any or all of the U. S. Presidents who have been assassinated die instantly?
317. What are the only countries having Emperors today?
318. Which foot of the rabbit is the only one that's supposed to be lucky?
319. What is the proper way for a woman to salute the flag?
320. What nation once used platinum coins?
321. On what day does Canada celebrate Armistice Day?
322. What two words do you suppose are most often used in telephone conversations in the U. S.?
323. Have diamonds ever actually been mined anywhere in the United States?
324. Who first spanned the Atlantic Ocean in an airplane?
325. How many cubic inches are there in one gallon?
326. About how much does a gallon of pure water weigh?
327. Which country is the more populous, Argentina or Brazil?
328. What does the abbreviation "ign." mean?
329. How many broadcasting stations do you guess there are in the U. S. right now?
330. What does Mardi Gras mean when translated into English?

Answers on page 250.

ANSWERS (to Questions 316 to 330)

316. *Lincoln died the day after he was shot, Garfield lingered for ten weeks, and McKinley lasted eight days before succumbing.*
317. *The only countries having Emperors today are Japan, British India, Italy and Manchukuo.*
318. *It is only the left hind foot of the rabbit that's supposed to be lucky.*
319. *The proper way for a woman to salute the flag is to place her right hand over her heart.*
320. *Between 1828 and 1845 Russia put into circulation \$1,250,000 worth of platinum coins.*
321. *In Canada, Armistice Day is celebrated on the Monday of the week in which November 11th falls.*
322. *The two words used more often in the U. S. telephone conversations are I and You.*
323. *Arkansas is the only state in the Union where diamonds have actually been mined.*
324. *The first spanning of the Atlantic by airplane was achieved by Lt. Comdr. A. C. Reid and a crew of 5 in the U. S. Naval plane NC-4, in May 1919, with a stop en route at the Azores.*
325. *There are 231 cubic inches to one gallon.*
326. *A gallon of pure water weighs 8.345 pounds.*
327. *Argentina's approximate population is 13,000,000; Brazil's 31,000,000.*
328. *The abbreviation "ign." (for ignotus) means unknown.*
329. *There are approximately 730 broadcasting stations in the U. S.*
330. *Mardi Gras is French for "fat Tuesday."*

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

GETTING the matter straight: The pass at Thermopylae, famed in ancient Greek history, was defended not by a mere 400 men, as the legend has it, but by a force of from 7000 to 12,000, which makes their brave feat slightly less thrilling. . . . Historic: The first words ever written on a typewriter were, "C. Latham Sholes, September, 1867"—tapped out by its inventor.

The long arm of coincidence: In 1832, when the Black Hawk war was raging, a young army officer named Jefferson Davis, who was later to become President of the Confederacy, gave the oath of allegiance to young soldiers at Dixon, Ill., and among them was a gangling fellow named Abraham Lincoln, who was destined to be President of the United States when the Confederate States seceded and Davis became their President. . . .

Historic check-up: What Longfellow never mentioned in his poem is that just before Paul Revere got to Concord on his famous midnight ride, a small group of British soldiers halted him and took away his horse. Paul had to walk the rest of the way. (And that's backed up by notations in his own handwriting, presently owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society.) . . . Whether he intended starting an "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show or not we dunno, but on

that 1492 trip to America, Columbus brought about 20 bloodhounds along with him.

Debacle: Napoleon started out to conquer Russia with 500,000 picked troops and staggered back to France with a mere handful of 22,000. History in the changing: But for a leak in a boat, Mayflower descendants might now be sharing honors with Speedwell descendants. For the boat Speedwell would have carried half the Pilgrims who came to Plymouth in the Mayflower in 1620 if it hadn't sprung a leak shortly after leaving Southampton, Eng. Both ships repaired to Plymouth, Eng., where the Speedwell's passengers transferred to the more seaworthy craft and the Mayflower sailed alone to these shores.

As you might expect, old Benjamin Franklin was the first person to cook with an electric stove. Before B.C.—Before Cables: It took 48 days for news of Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown to reach London—and even then it was only an unauthenticated rumor. The philosopher Aristotle, equipped with one of mankind's greatest brains, always preached that the brain's chief function was to cool the human body's warm blood to the proper temperature.

Cheerio note: The depression that followed the War between the States didn't end till 14 yrs. afterward. Of so little interest were the American colonies to the British that the story of the Declaration of Independence, 6 lines long, was tucked under a theatrical notice in that great organ of the Tories, the London Morning Post.

Versatile Paul Revere made the boilers for the world's first steamboat, Robert Fulton's Clermont. Something Uncle Sam has overlooked: The first year of her reign

in England, Queen Elizabeth had a law passed taxing beards that had grown for more than two weeks at the rate of 4 shillings a year.

Distinction: Nicholas Brakespeare, elected in 1154, was the only English Pope. Over-rated: The famed Boston Massacre resulted in the death of only 5 persons and injuries to 6—and probably wouldn't have created a ripple in the newspapers today. Premiere: The first wireless distress signal at sea was sent out in January 1909, when the White Star liner Republic collided with the Florida off Nantucket.

Hate to take away credit from the women folks but Francis Hopkinson of Phila. is generally credited with having designed Old Glory, not Betsy Ross. When the Revolutionary War was successfully ended, Congress ordered all continental troops discharged, with the exception of only 80 soldiers to guard the public stores. Members of the Supreme Court of U. S. used to wear wigs on the bench till Thomas Jefferson kidded them out of the idea.

Turning point: At one stage of the War between the States, Ulysses S. Grant had packed his belongings and was on the verge of going home because, as he told Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman, he felt he was only in the way. Sherman had a tough job persuading him to stick. Cornwallis didn't surrender to Washington at Yorktown in person. It was Gen. O'Hara (!) acting for Cornwallis, who surrendered his superior's sword to Gen. Lincoln, who had been designated by Washington to receive it.

Shortly after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the British Crown put a price of \$2500 on the head

of each patriot who had scrawled his name on the document. This nation would be known simply (and officially) as the States of America if it hadn't been for Benj. Franklin. He insisted that the adjective "united," with a capital U, be added and thus it became incorporated in all official documents.

Part of the state of Colorado was once the state of Jefferson, from 1859 to 1861. N. Y. was the only one of the original colonies not to vote for independence in 1776. Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation didn't free all the slaves in the U. S. Those in West Virginia and some parts of Louisiana were excepted.

The bankers' friend: When money lenders in ancient Rome waxed too greedy, Julius Caesar finally fixed a legal interest rate at 6 per cent. When eyeglasses first came into use in Europe, nobody thought of attaching them to the ears for support. Instead, the early models were held in place by 2 small gadgets that gripped the wearer's temples.

Distinction: The first living being to make a flight in a lighter-than-air craft was a dog. In 1783, two Frenchmen, the Montgolfier brothers, filled a large cloth bag with hot air and let it loose in the air with Fido as a passenger. When balloon and dog shortly returned to earth in safety, it encouraged one of their friends, Mons. Rosier, to try it and be the first human being to take flight in the atmosphere.

Only 2 men signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776—John Hancock and Charles Thompson. The other delegates to the congress didn't affix their signatures till Aug. 2 of that year.

In 585 B.C., while the ancient Medes and Lydians were en-

gaged in a terrific battle, a total eclipse of the sun took place. It so frightened the soldiers on both sides, that they threw down their arms and fled the battlefield and peace was signed before the day was over.

Better late than never: Gen. Andrew Jackson, in command of the American forces in the War of 1812, didn't know a peace treaty between the U. S. and Gt. Britain had been signed on Dec. 24, 1814, until 26 days afterward—and then he found it out from a paragraph in a London newspaper that turned up in Mobile, Ala., nearly a month later.

The conquest of Peru in 1532 was a cinch for Pizarro, who accomplished the coup with only 177 men, less than half of whom were mounted. No. 1 man: The first pirate on the Atlantic seaboard was Dixie Bull. He got busy in 1632 and looted Pemaquid, Me. Getting the matter straight: President Monroe, who promulgated the document, gets his name on it in history, but John Quincy Adams, his Sec. of State, actually thought up and worked out the famed Monroe Doctrine.

Its composer, Francis Scott Key, didn't christen it "The Star Spangled Banner." Its more prosaic name, when first written, was "The Defense of Fort McHenry."

Besides horseback riding and silversmithing, Paul Revere did a little dentistry on the side. He advertised that he fixed teeth "in such a manner they are not only an Ornament, but of real use in Speaking and Eating."

Taxicabs loaded with soldiers saved Paris in the first battle of the Marne, you may remember, but it wasn't the first time such a trick was worked. In our war of 1812, when the British threatened Washington, D. C., United States sailors on ships at Philadelphia were loaded into stage-

coaches and rushed south, too late to save the national capital, but just in time to repulse the subsequent attack on Baltimore. And if they hadn't arrived, Francis Scott Key wouldn't have had any Star Spangled Banner to write about.

David and Goliath stuff: Spain, which ruled half the world from 1567 to 1684, came to her downfall when she picked a war with Holland, then one of the smallest European nations. Still, he finished what he started: It'll surprise most patriots to know that George Washington, when he took command of the Continental Army in Cambridge, Mass., wrote that he "abhorred the idea of independence" for the American Colonies.

Monument: The remains of the enemy's fleet, which the U. S. Navy destroyed in the Spanish-American War, can still be seen on the coast of Cuba, west of Santiago. Getting down to basic facts: The box-score shows Germany won the celebrated battle of Jutland, losing only one battle cruiser, one dreadnaught, four light cruisers and five destroyers. But—the British retained control of the sea, the loss of which would probably have meant the loss of the World War.

The so-called Father of the American Navy, John Paul Jones, joined up with the Russian Navy as a Rear Admiral right after the Revolutionary War, but later quit and returned to France, where he died. One-fight ships were the Monitor and Merrimac; for after their single celebrated battle during the War Between the States, the Monitor foundered at sea, while being towed to Charleston, S. C., and the Merrimac was destroyed by the Confederates when they abandoned Norfolk, Va.

Nothing new under the sun: A pyramid recently un-

covered south of Cairo, Egypt, proves that the tourists were scrawling their names on walls as far back as 6000 years ago. The famed Whiskey Rebellion of 1791 was inspired by a government tax of only 7¢ on all hard stuff. Today the federal slug is \$2 a gallon—and no rebellion. During the California gold rush of 1849, the quickest trip there from N. Y. city consumed 141 days. Today you can reach there in under 16 hours by plane.

The lowdown: That naval battle in which Lawrence got off his immortal command, "Dont give up the ship," lasted only 15 minutes—and his subordinates did give up the ship to the British.

Heroine: It was Dolly Madison herself who saved the original of the Declaration of Independence and a portrait of George Washington just before the British invaded and burned the White House in the war of 1812. Payoff: Each of the 88 men who sailed on his America-discovering expedition got \$29 for the trip. Christopher's cut for the epochal voyage was \$320. And the entire expense of the argosy was \$7,250—and well worth it.

Warfare in the old days: In the midst of the Battle of Manila Bay, Admiral Dewey temporarily withdrew the American ships at 7:30 in the morning to give the crews their breakfasts, and then returned to the fray.

Sesame: When Admiral Perry and his U. S. fleet opened up Japan to world trade in 1854, he achieved the miracle by giving high Japanese officials, among other things, toy trains on circular tracks. The toys pleased the high Nipponese officials immensely and smoothed the way for Perry's subsequent international trade agreement.

FAVORITE GAGS

Dorothy, attending church the first time, was surprised to see the people all about her kneel suddenly and turned to her mother to ask what they were doing.

"Hush, darling," said Mumsie, "they're going to say their prayers."

"What!" piped Dorothy, "with all their clothes on?"

Said the kind old gentleman to the little newsie who carried a heavy load of newspapers under his arm, "Don't those papers make you tired, little man?"

"Naw," replied the kid, "I don't read 'em."

NEWLYWED WIFE: "Don't you think I put too much salt in the soup, dear?"

HUSBAND: "Not at all, darling. There's perhaps not quite enough soup for the salt, but that's all."

TEACHER: "Harold, if there were 11 sheep in a field and six of them jumped over a fence, how many would there be left?"

HAROLD: "None."

TEACHER: "Oh, yes, there would."

HAROLD: "No, ma'am, there wouldn't. You may know arithmetic, but you don't know sheep."

WOMAN DRIVER: "Can you fix this fender so my husband will never know I bent it?"

GARAGE MECHANIC: "No. But I can fix it so you can ask him in a couple of days how he bent it."

When the great Henry Ward Beecher was once told he used poor grammar in a sermon, he replied: "Did I? Well, all I have to say is God help grammar if it gets in my way when I'm preaching."

CIRCUS OWNER: "Where's the Human Fly today?"

RINGMASTER: "He's in the hospital. His wife swatted him."

COP (shaking hobo on park bench): "Wake up there; wake up!"

HOBO: "Can't."

COP: "Why not?"

HOBO: "I ain't sleeping."

WIFE: "Where have you been all evening?"

HUSBAND: "At the office."

WIFE: "Then you must be made of asbestos. Your office building burned down three hours ago."

LONG-WINDED PROFESSOR: "If I have talked too long, it's because I haven't a watch with me and there isn't a clock in the hall."

STUDENT: "Yes, but there's a calendar behind you."

ODDS AND ENDS

WHEN those volatile Frenchies decide nothing but a duel can satisfy their honor, do they use guns like those toted by American bandits? Don't be silly. Their duelling tools are usually old-fashioned, muzzle-loading weapons and the seconds take good care that only light charges of powder are put in them. Sometimes the bullet hasn't enough velocity to break an egg.

A distraught citizen explained to the Louisville federal income tax bureau just why he couldn't pay his \$7.40 assessment thus: "My salary was \$400 a month. Somebody got my job, the finance company took my car, the bank took my home, my wife took the furniture and somebody took my wife. All I have left is my health and education and I'd be glad to work out the bill in your department."

For 50 years in the 19th century, Dr. James Barry was an eminent British medico, serving a brilliant stretch as Inspector General of Hospitals for the British Army. On Dr. Barry's death, the autopsy revealed "he" was a woman whose sex had been concealed successfully throughout "his" life. Up in Alaska, a Father Llorento advised a class of young missionaries never to bring up the subject of hell's fire to the Eskimos. "When the first preachers told them

about hell," the dominie warned, "the Eskimos expressed a desire to go there to keep warm."

The cultivation of cotton by white men in the U. S. dates back to 1821 when cotton seeds were brought to America from Siam and planted in Talbot county, Maryland. But they were planted only for the ornamental value of the flower—raising cotton being farthest from their mind. A mad bull closes its eyes when it rushes at an object of its wrath, which makes it easier for a person to dodge.

Change of mind: Lanny Ross, of the movies and air waves, studied for three years at the Columbia Law School, but he has never picked up a law book since. On a road in which there are no hills to climb or descend, a tired horse has no chance to rest one set of muscles while another works, so long stretches of level highway aren't the boon to Dobbin you might think.

Communists may be interested to know that 2 Frenchmen, back in 1885, wrote the words and music of their Soviet hymn, the "Internationale." The fingerprints of leprosy victims change constantly. The modern way: To wham over a sales message, a Newark, N. J., advertising man dispatched a two-page folder to hundreds of prospects. The first page contained an actual slice of boloney, wrapped in cellophane, with the caption: "This is boloney." The second page was captioned, "This is not"—and contained the sales message.

From a recent blotter of the Phoenix, Ariz., police department: "12:08 P.M.—Officer wanted at 727 Moreland Street to investigate suspicious character who has been sitting on curb all morning. Officers Slaughter and Spain dis-

patched on call. Report by officers: 'Man is O.K. Works for PWA.'".

A veteran and articulate citizen of Audubon, Ia., hasn't uttered a voluntary word in the past 50 years. It seems that when his bride-to-be deserted him at the altar in 1887, he vowed he'd never speak till she returned. She never did. Oh yes, and he's worn his wedding suit to church every Sunday since.

Federal agents who raided a counterfeiting plant of a negro, Andrew Dickson, for making spurious silver dollars found he'd been gypping himself—he'd been putting more silver in his phoney coins than the govt. in its good ones. In the course of an ordinary 6-man bowling match lasting about two hours, the busy pin-boy will have picked up some 30 tons of maple pins.

This ingenuous advertisement just appeared in a trade weekly: "Situation wanted. Age 23. College grad, but hard worker.". If the U. S. ever split up its territory equally, each of us would have 18 acres. (We'll take ours in downtown N. Y.) When it's noontime in N. Y. City, it's 3 A.M. the next day in Sydney, Australia.

Aviators have reported condors soaring at a height of 22,000 ft. above the Andes mountains, which is probably the greatest height at which birds fly. When John D. Rockefeller, Jr., instructed a N. Y. dealer in second hand books to get him a certain obscure hymnal, with expense no object, the honest book dealer went through his stock, found the desired volume on his shelf of 10-cent items, sent it pronto to J. D. R., Jr.—and charged him only a dime.

The real motto of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is in French and means, "Maintain the right." (They scorn "They always get their man."). . . . Distinction: There's only one piece of furniture existent that is positively known to be the personal handiwork of the ace cabinet maker, Sheraton. . . .

A taxpayer's paradise is Newfoundland, where no taxes whatsoever are collected except customs duties, which supply all needed revenue. . . . The kisser, a stringed musical instrument played in Central Africa, is made from a human skull plus the horns of a gazelle. . . . You can't reverse the charge of a U. S. telephone call to Scotland—or to any other country overseas. . . . What we call chain stores here are known as multiple shops over in England. . . .

Reward: Eli Whitney, who invented the cotton gin, which should have made millions, went broke trying to protect his valuable patents. He recouped his fortune only by making guns for the U. S. Army. . . .

Price list: The manufacturers of counterfeit money usually sell their stuff to the middle men and distributors at 11 cents on the dollar. And the ultimate passers of phoney currency pay from 25 to 35 cents per \$1 for it. . . . 90 per cent of all the payments made in the U. S. are by check, currency and coin accounting for only 10 per cent of the total volume. . . .

14th man: Boston's famed Parker House has as part of its equipment a clothing dummy to be placed at a banquet table when only 13 are present. He has a name, too—McTavish Finklestein. . . . To get a \$20 to \$30-a-wk. job with the public library board of erudite Boston, one

must take an examination testing his knowledge of literature, music, fine arts, history, science, technology, philosophy, psychology, religion and the social sciences. (Better stick to digging ditches.).

Prison patois: A bank is called a "big top." The Supreme Court is "the big boy." A judge is a "Blackstone." To hide away until things blow over is "Waiting for the moon to go down." A burglar alarm is a "bug." Forging is called "paper-hanging." And the death house is "the dance hall.".

Insomnia by appointment: A rather exacting post is that of Patriarch of the Coptic church, residing in Alexandria, Egypt, who has to be waked up every 15 minutes, night or day, whenever he falls off to sleep.

A spelling test given New York public school teachers revealed they have the toughest time spelling such words as irascible, plebiscite, dirigible, mementoes, incorrigible, hockey, cellar, gauge and ecstasy. (We had a tough time typing that item ourself.). You may be inclined to doubt it—and we don't blame you—but three-quarters of the world's population uses soap.

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