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SIZE NOT MEASURE OF BRAIN CAPACITY

Evidently Quality Is the Only Thing That Counts.

Homo Sapiens (1925 model) probably will not worry a great deal over the recently expressed opinion of Sir Arthur Keith, the great English archeologist, says the St. Paul Pioneer Press. Sir Arthur, who has just finished an examination of the prehistoric skull unearthed in South Africa, concludes that the tendency of man is backward in the direction of the animals whence he sprang. Man's brain capacity is diminishing. We are not threatened with super-intellectuality, but the reverse.

Now, there is nothing new about this melancholy situation. Man's brain cavity is smaller than it used to be. According to the archeologists, it reached its greatest size in Pleistocene times. Some of the Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon people had brain cavities as large as 1,880 cubic centimeters. Pithecanthropus erectus, the Trinit man, had a brain cavity of 1,000 ccm. This was the smallest, according to the scientists, of the prehistoric brain cavities. The Pittdown race had brains as large as the modern man—1,500 ccm. Since Upper Paleolithic times the brain cavity has diminished from upwards of 1,800 ccm. to 1,500 ccm.

Yet, despite these large brains, the Pleistocene races were monumental dumbbells, intellectually speaking. Thousands of years were required before they learned to pick up a stone and throw it at something. Other thousands passed before they found out how to chip pieces off the stone and give it a cutting edge. Still other thousands elapsed before they learned how to fasten this sharp stone to a stick and make an ax. The old Stone age lasted for hundreds of thousands of years, yet its people, all of whom had larger brains than the "best minds" in the ordinary Presidential cabinet, were able to master only a few rudimentary things.

If therefore, modern man has a smaller brain than his progenitors, obviously something is to be said for its quality. He learns much more quickly. Within the memory of those now living he has accomplished things far beyond the comprehension of the big-brained people. He can outfly the birds; outswim the fishes; send his voice around the world without wires; harness the lightning, and imprison sound in a box. Size clearly isn't everything.

Ex-King Freed From Exile

Ex-King Prempeh, of Ashanti, and sometime ruler, has been released from bondage in the Seychelles in the Indian ocean, to his old home in Ashanti, after 28 years' detention. The ex-monarch is a convert to the Anglican church and speaks excellent English. He has the most courteous manners. Nobody now talking with him would dream that he was once the terror of Ashanti-land. After the overthrow of King Prempeh in the Ashanti revolution of 1896 (when he was exiled), several of his chiefs hid the famous golden stool, the symbol of sovereignty corresponding to the throne. British attempts to find it led to the rebellion of 1900 and the siege of Coomassie. The stool was eventually found in 1921 by laborers doing excavation work for a new road 70 miles north of Coomassie. Ashanti rulers wear gold headbands and, on important ceremonial occasions, carry huge red and yellow umbrellas.

His Ignorance

"A feller driving along in an old Hootin' Nanny car last night with its lights out, ran onto a mule that was laying in the road in front of Hoot Holler's house," related Gap Johnson of Rumpus Ridge. "The darn mule started to get up just as the car ran onto him and knocked him over. The driver of the car gave a hoot of his horn and a yell from himself, and the mule laying on his back began to kick and squeal. 'Say, what'nell are you trying to do with my mule?' yelled its owner, running out of his house. 'You better ask him what he's trying to do to me and my car!' the feller bellowed right back. 'And as I'd seed and heered this much and hadn't no desire to mix in a fight, being as I was all down in the back, I just went on and never did find out the rest of it.'"—Kansas City Star.

Unconvinced

Owner of Property (sternly)—Do you see that notice, "Trespassers will be prosecuted"? Hobo (calmly)—No, I don't see it, for I can't read. Owner—Well, you know what it is now, so take yourself off. Hobo—Hexcuse me, mister, but I don't know what it is. I've only got a bare word for it an' you're a puffed stranger to me. For all I know the notice may be: "Milk and Eggs Sold here," or "Oranges and Kerriges for Rent," or "Welkin, Weary Wanderer."—Boston Transcript.

Antecedents of Modern Writing Paper Told

The credit of making the first sheet of paper is due, according to the American Forestry association, to a scholarly eunuch named Tsai-lun of China, in the year 75 A. D. For this achievement he was 40 years later raised to the rank of marquis.

It appears that Tsai-lun, believing that old bamboo tablets and styli had outlived their usefulness, set for himself the task of making new writing materials. After 30 years he produced the first hand sheet of paper, and it was made from the bark of a mulberry tree.

Prior to Tsai-lun's day leaves of trees and various barks used in crude form had served the Egyptians, Romans and other nations as paper.

Tsai-lun, however, did not use the crude inner bark of the tree as the final material on which to make his records. He did use the bark, but merely as a raw material from which he produced a finished sheet of paper by a series of processes which, crude as they may seem now, were the forerunners of paper manufacture today.

Heine, Like Others, Felt Charm of Don Quixote

Heine, a later magician in laughter and tears, has narrated his own alternating attitudes toward Don Quixote. It was the first book he read after he had really learned to read; and he took the tale, he has told us, with the unshaken faith and seriousness of childhood. . . . he wept, bitter tears over the ridicule and rebuffs of the noble-hearted knight. He re-read the book every five years or so with ever-varying feelings. As a youth he was, he confesses, bored by it. Later he saw in it only the comic side, and laughed at the follies of the mad knighterrant. Older yet again and wiser he made friends for life with Quixote and Sancho. Afterward he had but to glance over his shoulder to perceive attending him the phantom forms of the thin knight and the fat squire—more particularly, he adds, when he himself hung irremotely at some parting of the ways. What Heine felt by turns, the world has felt by classes.—Times Literary Supplement.

Miracles of St. Leonard

If there were such a personage, St. Leonard would certainly have been the patron saint of prisoners. He was originally a French nobleman at the court of Clovis I, and became a monk and founded a monastery which, after his death, about 599, was known as St. Leonard le Noblat. He was famed for his charity toward prisoners, and is reputed to have worked many miracles on their behalf. These miracles in releasing unhappy captives continued after his death, according to tradition, which was very convenient, as his festival happened to be the first day of the Michaelmas term, when writs were made returnable.—Family Herald.

Early Adding Machines

That the ancient Inca civilization in Peru possessed an adding and calculating machine has been revealed in the recent discovery by excavators of a knotted cord, or "quipu," in the ruins of a prehistoric tomb. The cord is sixteen yards long and contains 100 knots. Divided into ten unequal sections these knots represent the odd numbers from one to nineteen. The sections are of different colors, including red, brown, yellow, blue and green, and are separated by silver beads, which represent the even numbers from two to twenty. By using this simple way of counting, based on the decimal system, rapid calculations can be made.—Montreal Star.

Marriage Ethics in East

"Proudly the first wife stands on the river bank while at her feet the 'second wife' washes all the plates and all the dishes. She is training the young second wife, whom she had herself advised her husband to take, to wash the dishes and plates. She was tired of being the only wife of her husband, who was earning quite enough to take a second young wife. Her jealousy is dead. She herself found the girl, and her husband was quite pleased with this charming little second wife, and the first wife has a maid at last. Never again will she wash dishes and plates in the river."—Eastward.

First Recorded Divorce

A German magazine suggests that Thebes may have been the Reno of ancient Egypt. According to this paper, a papyrus document found in a tomb excavated on the site of that city contains the first divorce decree in recorded history which is thoroughly authenticated. The document is probably two thousand years old. It bears the signature of a notary named Thut. On the reverse side of the papyrus are the signatures of four witnesses. The grounds for the divorce are not stated.—Pathfinder Magazine.

Lightning and Radio

Lightning is one of the causes of the "static" that worries radio listeners, though probably not the principal cause, as was formerly supposed, says Nature Magazine. While lightning flashes cause clicking noises in the receiver, the heavier and more troublesome rumbling sounds known as "grinders" are believed to be due to electrical disturbances in the upper atmosphere far above the level of the thunderstorm.

Eyeglasses in Profusion

The late Giacomo Puccini was forever looking for his eyeglasses. His wife, that he might give free rein to his genius, therefore invested in a supply. In his study alone there were not less than five sets of glasses, one on the piano, another on his desk, a third on a little table near the fireplace, a fourth on his bookcase, and a fifth on a music rack.

Queer Siamese Delicacy

A missionary returned from Siam tells of a queer food the natives are very fond of. Bee-bread, made from wild bees with the larvae in it, is broken up and cooked until it is a pulpy mass. "It is really quite delicious," says the missionary, "with a sweetish nut flavor. If one didn't happen to know the ingredients he would probably take a second helping."

Immense Statue

J. W. McSpadden in his book on American sculptors says that to carve such a huge figure as the statue of Lincoln in the Lincoln memorial from a single block would be impossible. Twenty-eight blocks of Georgia marble, perfect and without fissures or seams, were used in creating this statue. The total mass measured over 4,000 cubic feet. The statue weighs 270 tons.

Times Have Changed

In the good old days, when a wagon broke down in the road we used to gather around it and put in several hours apiece inquiring how the contraptions occurred, sympathizing with the owner of the vehicle, and recalling and describing in the most minute detail sundry incidents of similar character which had transpired in the past. But nowadays when a motorcar blows out a tire we go right on.—Eh-yah!—Kansas City Star.

History of Lace

Lace was first made in the Sixteenth century. Before that time the term lace described such articles as cords, narrow braids of plaited and twisted threads, used not only to fasten shoes, sleeves and corsets together, but also in a decorative manner to braid the hair and to wind around hats. Later it was used as a trimming for costumes.

National Revenue

The principle sources of revenue of the United States are from excise duties on imports and exports, taxes upon liquors, tobacco, certain luxuries, such as theater admissions, and income tax, which is at present by far the greatest source of revenue. No part of the taxes raised by the states is turned over to the federal government.

Less Error Next Time

Astronomy has never fallen down yet on any prediction. This does not mean that we pretend to know it all, not by any means. Astronomy is advancing at every step. Every observation that is made helps it along, makes it a little more accurate and enables us to predict with increased precision.

The Brute Again

"This poet has written some beautiful lines to 'The Silent Night,'" remarked Mrs. Grouch, looking up from a book of poems she was reading. "Suppose he wrote them after his wife had gone home to visit her folks for a while," growled her husband.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Guineas

In the days of the merchant adventurers the coins minted from the gold brought from territories clustering around the Gulf of Guinea were styled "guineas," and they thus became as famous throughout the world as the Gold Coast itself.—Theodore Ruete in the Empire Review, London.

Hate and Love

When I hate, I take something from myself. When I love, I become richer by what I love. To pardon is to recover a property that has been lost. Misanthropy is a protracted suicide. Egotism is the supreme poverty of a created being.—Schiller.

Long-Lived Patriots

Five signers of the Declaration of Independence lived to be over 90 years old. They were Charles Carroll, Maryland; William Ellery, Rhode Island; Francis Lewis, New York; James Smith, Pennsylvania, and John Adams, Massachusetts.

READ AND SMILE

Conversation Safety

"So she married a lawyer?" "Yes. She said they would always have somebody's divorce to talk about."

Question of Honor

Caller—"Are you sure Mrs. Snip is not in?" Maid—"Do you doubt her word, ma'am?"—Judge.

Great Mystery Solved

"Pa, what does Santa Claus do between Christmases?" "Hides from his creditors, my son."

He Ought to Know

Fan—What are some of the hobbies of a motion-picture actress? Press Agent—Hobbies.

Something to Show for It

May—"She spends a lot on evening gowns." Jack—"But she has something to show for it."

Natural Attraction

"Why do all the old maids go to church?" "Because of the hymns, I presume."

His Secret

First Waiter—"Did you ever get a tip that satisfied you?" Second Ditto—"Yes, but the donor never knew it."

Had to Leave It

"I hear Bill died and left a fortune." "Yes, a policeman shot him as he climbed out of a bank window."

Had the Advantage

"Heaven won in our golf match." "The best player, is she?" "No, the poorest adder."

The Only Exception

Benton—Shelton never repeats the cute things his baby says. Newton—No; he hasn't any baby.

Sermons in Stones

"There are sermons in stones." "I know. My farm is a 100-acre tract."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Out and Out

Rub—The wife and I had it out today. Dub—How out? "Loud!"

Right of Trial by Jury

Trial by jury was introduced into England during the Saxon heptarchy, mention being made of six Welsh and six Anglo-Saxon freemen appointed to try causes between Welsh and English men of property, and while responsible to the extent of their whole estates for false verdicts. In Magna Charta juries are insisted upon as the great bulwark of the people's liberty. The right of challenging men called as jurors has always been possessed by the accused by virtue of common law.

That Proofreader, Again!

"What do you mean by implying that I have dishonestly covered myself with the people's money?" demanded the city treasurer, as he rushed into the office of the local paper. "What's the trouble?" casually queried the city editor.

Professionalism

The seance was proving a great success. The new member of the circle, an Oldham pigeon fancier, had been brought into touch with the lately departed father-in-law, who had just announced he was an angel. "Wings an' all?" asked the son-in-law. The reply was in the affirmative. "What dosti measure fra' tip to tip?" asked the pigeon fancier.—Vancouver Province.

Hard on the Ball

She—Wasn't mother pumping you last night? He—Yes, and I think she'd better. She—What's that I need? He—Your dad has been using me for a football.

Loses His Tithes on Races

An English churchman recently promised to give his week's winnings on horse racing to the church's lighting fund, but announced later that he could not carry out his plan because he had lost on every race.

Method Unchanged

Ancient Egyptian noblemen speared fish in much the same manner as do Americans today. The spear handle was tied to the wrist and the weapon was thrown at the fish.

Humble Frog Friend and Benefactor of Mankind

Among creatures most useful to mankind the pollwog must take his place with the cow, the horse and the dog, writes the World's Work.

More books have been written about the frog than about Shakespeare or Lincoln or Napoleon, or as Dr. Samuel Holmes put it in his book, "The Biology of the Frog":

"Perhaps no animal, except man, has been subject to so many scientific investigations. . . . In fact, most of what is known in certain departments of physiology is derived from study of this animal."

"Startling, but true, that this insignificant creature should have contributed so much to medical science, when mention of the frog usually raises the obvious queries on the edibility of its legs or why it makes so much noise when men crave sleep. In literature the frog is no hero and is always represented as being 'unnecessarily raucous, except by Aristophanes, who, in 'The Frogs,' makes Charon remark to Bacchus as they start their river journey: 'Thou'lt hear sweet music presently of frogs with voices wonderful as swans.' But see what company Charon had!

To the scientist the voice of the frog is just as sweet as it was to Charon, even when Bacchus is not present. Without the frog, the pollwog and other marine animals, the study of the endocrine glands would be much more difficult, and the sudden and widespread extermination of the frog would retard the solution of many of the problems confronting medical science. In the study of cancer and some other diseases the mouse is a favorite; the guinea pig also is a good servant of science. But the frog is leader.

Fish That Sing and Hoot

The Iglad of Ceylon produces an anomaly in a shellfish of the mussel type which sings. While it does not warble like a bird or an opera singer, it produces a long, low, flute sound, which has a musical quality. Seeing that these bivalves do not possess a throat in any accepted sense of the word, and certainly no vocal cords, this singing sound must be produced by some manipulation of their double shell. It is possible that increasing it produces a long, low, flute sound, only occurs after the tide has been down for a considerable time, leaving the bivalves high and dry on the rocky beach. There is a fish which hoots, too. The Scotch fisherman calls this fish the butterman, when caught by line or net, it makes a noise from the back of its throat when landed. Hoots also make a noise when the hook is being removed from their gills. The common and very ugly gunard of our coast grunts loudly when hauled to the surface, a strange croaking noise more like the caw of a crow than the sound a fish seems likely to produce.

Wireless Typewriting

Typewriting by wireless has been successfully demonstrated in Berlin. At one end of the hall was a sending set, consisting of a typewriter, which operates a wireless transmitter which transmits the messages in two frequencies for each letter sent or key of the typewriter pressed. At the other end of the hall was a receiving set, consisting of a special form of wireless receiver which was connected to the typewriter tape machine. For each of the two frequencies received a selector, tuned to these two frequencies, operates the same letter in the tape machine as the key did in the typewriting machine at the sending station. Messages were transmitted successfully, and messages have been transmitted several miles by the same apparatus. "There is no reason," said the demonstrator, "why the transmission should not be made over any distance. It only requires a more powerful apparatus."

Meteorite Showers

The naval observatory says there was a remarkable meteorite shower, terrifying to the ignorant and possibly the most brilliant on record, beginning about midnight November 12-13, 1833, and lasting until daybreak, visible in North and South America, maximum brilliancy in latitude 22 degrees north. The most brilliant display of the preceding century was in 1799, one day earlier, visible in the same part of the earth at the same time of the night. The earth encounters this stream of meteors in November of every year; but they are more numerous at intervals of 33 or 34 years.

Where London Is Dry

London is far from being dry on top of the ground, but there are large chalk strata areas underneath it where no amount of digging will find water.

Highest of All Ideals

The human ideal will be the desire to transform life into something better and grander than itself.—Charles Wagner.

Saw Economy

Circular saws in common use put 66,000,000 cubic feet more in the nation's sawdust pile than bandsaws would put there if they were used.

"Presence" Means Much

A graceful presence bespeaks acceptance, gives a force to language, and helps to convince by look and posture.

Well Expressed

My definition of a proverb is, the wit of one man and the wisdom of many.—Earl Russell.

Women of Influence

The two most influential ladies are the one on the dollar and Mrs. Grundy.—San Francisco Chronicle.

From the Camp

Harvey Firestone was describing to a Plymouth reporter his camping experiences with Thomas A. Edison and Henry Ford.

"Henry," said Mr. Firestone, "loves camping, all except the sleeping part. He's a light, nervous sleeper, you know, and his fellow campers' snoring always bothers him.

"Usually he puts up with it—for he's a long-suffering geezer—but I'll never forget one night, about 2 a. m., when he roused the whole outfit of us. 'Here, wake up! Wake up, you fellows!' he said in a despairing kind of voice. 'We're all going to go to sleep together.'"

Life Budgets Proposed

Several colleges, looking to modern needs in the curriculum, have included in their new courses one for "life budgeting" which means not only training on how to budget and spend financial income, but also on budgeting time, including leisure, work, reading and other pursuits. This is felt necessary partly because organized labor is getting a gradual reduction in working hours, leaving more and more leisure, a great deal of which, it is said, is now wasted in a way that does as much physical harm as the surcease from too much work does good.

Her Impression

A woman from the country was taking her five-year-old girl on her first visit to the zoo. The child had never been in the city before, nor ridden in a motorbus, and she looked around in amazement, which was deepened when her attention was called to a group of giggling flappers, who were boastfully exchanging reminiscences as to "He sez to me," etc. Suddenly the child turned to her mother and asked in a penetrating voice, "Say, mumsie, is this the zoo?"

Village of "Torches"

A village near Swansea, in south Wales, lays claim to the world championship as a red-haired community. The Auburn predominance has remained unchanged for centuries. Definite types persist in many villages in south Wales; because they are conservative in their marriage relations, rarely going outside their own "clan" to find a partner, according to a local medical officer.

Long Time in Asylum

There is in a lunatic asylum near Paris a woman 108 years of age, who has probably beaten all world records for a long sojourn in an asylum for the insane. The woman became insane when she was eighteen and has been confined in the asylum for the last 90 years.

Opium Common in India

It is said by a writer defending the work of Gandhi in India that the average income of the people of India is about 5 cents a day, and that opium is also said to be used almost as a household remedy among the poor for every ailment in infancy and childhood. There are about 200,000,000 people in India engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Regicide Fought Indians

William Goffe, one of the judges who condemned King Charles I to death, came to New England after the restoration of the monarchy in England, and took part in the Indian warfare in western Massachusetts.

Old Roman Idea

Every Roman household was supposed to be under the protection of one lare and several penates. Their symbols were kept in a special part of the house called the "lararium."

First Patent

The first inventor to take advantage of the first national patent act, which congress passed in 1790, was Samuel Hopkins of Vermont. His patent was for an improved method of "making pot and pearl ashes." In those days the potash industry was important. Potash, which was used in making soap and glass, was produced by leaching wood ashes and boiling down the lye. To make a ton of potash, which was worth about \$25, the trees on an acre of ground had to be cut down and burned, the ashes leached and the lye evaporated in great iron kettles.—Youth's Companion.

Koran Inspired Work?

The Koran or Alcoran, the sacred book of the Mohammedans, was written about 610 by Mahomet, who asserted that it had been revealed to him by the Angel Gabriel in 23 years. It was published by Abu-bekr about 635. The leading articles of faith preached is compounded of an eternal truth and a necessary fiction, namely, that there is only one God, and that Mahomet is the prophet or apostle of God. The Koran was translated into English by Sale in 1734. It was a rhapsody of 6,000 verses, divided into 114 sections.

Method of "Starting at Bottom" Given Up

For many generations the only way one could learn to be a business man was through apprenticeship. We called it "starting at the bottom." Most of us were reared with a conception of a business career derived from the Alger books—from train boy to president," writes Richard J. Walsh in Century Magazine.

"That this idea still persists is apparent when we look at the stories of success in some of the popular magazines. Steadily, however, formal methods of education have gained ground, replacing the apprenticeship or "watch me, my boy," system.

Commercial education first appeared in our public schools about 1895. It grew naturally out of the multiplication of industrial occupations. At least one-fourth of the jobs today are utterly unlike any that our grandparents had to do, and many of them such that the boss could not teach them, because he never mastered them himself. F. V. Thompson says:

"Commercial education was perhaps the first subject to be adopted by the high school as a concession to the public desire that the school should furnish preparation for vocations."

By 1915 we were spending more for the commercial course than for any other in our city high schools, and at least one-third of all pupils in the high schools of large cities were enrolling in commercial courses, while business training for adults was being offered in evening and continuation classes.

Early Gatherings of Baptists in Alabama

Lorenzo Dow, who is said to have reached the distant frontier settlements of Alabama along the Tombigbee as early as 1793, at the age of twenty-seven, preached as a son of thunder, says a staff correspondent of the Birmingham News. He was a Baptist. The first trace which the writer finds of the presence of the Baptists in Alabama is around Huntsville, but shortly after they found a footing in the southwestern part of the territory in the neighborhood of St. Stephens, the first capital of Alabama.

Rev. John N. Holston had the honor of organizing the first Baptist church in the state. It is said that in the fall of 1831 a number of families met and spread their tents near Elyton and held the first campmeeting ever held in Alabama. There were unusual demonstrations among those who became interested in the matter of religion. One who witnessed these peculiar manifestations thus described them: "It was not unusual to have a large part of the congregation prostrated upon the ground, and in some instances they appeared to have lost the use of their limbs. No distinct articulation could be heard; screams, cries, groans, shouts, notes of grief and notes of joy, all heard at the same time, made much confusion, a sort of indescribable concert."

Source of Quinine

Chinchona, or cinchona, is the name of the South American tree, the bark of which produces the well-known drug called quinine. The virtues of the bark were discovered about 1535, and in 1635 a decoction made of the bark cured of fever the wife of the viceroy of Peru whose name was Cinchona. The bark was introduced into France in 1649, and is said to have cured of fever the dauphin, who later became King Louis XIV. The bark came into general use in 1690, and Sir Hans Sloan introduced it into England about the year 1700. The chinchona tree has been planted in India and Ceylon and thrives there.

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