

FOOTRULE AND YARDSTICK

CENTURIES OF CORRECTION TO ESTABLISH LENGTH.

Different Standards in Different Countries and Different Times.

Footrules and yardsticks are so common nowadays that not one person in a thousand ever stops to think of their origin. Yet the length of these common articles, says Popular Mechanics, was settled upon only after centuries of correction and contention, and after thousands of years of unsuccessful effort to find an unchangeable unit in nature.

The foot has been used by so many nations, both ancient and modern, that all scientists believe it was meant to be the length of the human foot. The Greek foot, for instance, was supposed to be the length of the foot of the hero Hercules. However, Hercules was a large man, so their unit measured 12.14 of our inches. The Macedonians probably took their unit from the foot of some giant leader, for it was 14.08 inches in length. In the middle ages the foot in Geneva became 19.21 inches, and one foot was discovered actually 23.22 of our inches in length. On the other hand, the foot was 9.72 inches in Pithia, and only 8.75 inches in Sicily.

The Germans, a few centuries ago, attempted to secure a better unit by taking the average of a number of feet. A surveyor of the sixteenth century prescribed this rule: "Stand at the door of a church on a Sunday and bid sixteen men to step."

Tall Ones and Small Ones, as they happen to pass out when the service is finished; then make them put their left feet one behind the other, and the length thus obtained shall be the right and lawful rod to measure and survey the land with, and the sixteenth part of it shall be the right and lawful foot."

The foot thus selected, though undoubtedly capable of considerable variation, was less elastic than the inch of our early ancestors. It was provided by law in 1324, during the reign of Edward II., that the inch should have the length of "three barley corns, round and dry, laid end to end." Barley corns differ much in length, even if round and dry; therefore, it must have been possible to vary the inch at will. Strangely enough, however, this old unit based on the barley corn persists to this day in the numbering of shoes. Number 3 shoes are a third of an inch—that is, one barley corn—larger than No. 2; and so with other sizes.

Our yard represents another unsuccessful attempt to find a satisfactory unit in nature. In the twelfth century Henry I. decreed that the yard should be the distance from the end of his nose to the end of his thumb; we are not certain, however, in what position he held his arm and head when the measurements were taken. He went so far as to have a metal bar of the proper length made, and then copies were prepared, stamped and declared to be royal measures.

The Earliest Yardstick now in existence was prepared near the end of the fifteenth century in the reign of Henry VII. This stick, made of bronze, measures 35.924 of our modern inches in length, and was used as the English standard until 1588.

The New British standard of 1855 was called the Winchester yard. It was made of brass and remained the legal standard until 1826. The bar is in existence to-day and offers ample evidence of the truth of the report made by a commissioner who examined it in 1742. "A Lichen pecker, filed at both ends, would make as good a standard. It has been broken and repaired so clumsily that the joint is nearly as loose as that of a pair of tongs."

Nevertheless, the British officials worried along with it until 1826, for the simple reason that they could not agree upon a new standard. The belief became common in the eighteenth century that such perishable things as the king's arm made unsuitable standards; but it was thought that a unit in nature might be found in the pendulum. Therefore, a committee of parliament, in 1790, had John Bird prepare a standard, which measured 36,000,000 of our inches, was not adopted for more than 60 years. Finally, in 1824, it was provided that Bird's yard should become the legal standard on the first day of January, 1829.

Damaged in the Fire. The British had not yet learned, however, that accurate standards are hard to make, and that once made they are worth careful attention. In the great London fire of 1824 the newly adopted standard was so badly damaged that it seemed worthless. Moreover, it soon disappeared completely, and was not found until 1881. No copies had been made, and the English were again without an accurate standard.

Bird had left directions for replacing the standard, if ever it should be lost, but different scientists following these directions produced sticks varying widely in length. Therefore, a new standard was prepared, as nearly like the old as possible. In 1855 parliament adopted the standard yard that remains to this day in England. It is provided that "the straight line or distance between the centers of the transverse lines in the two gold

plugs in the bronze bar deposited in the office of the exchequer shall be the genuine standard yard at 62 degrees F." Accurate copies were deposited in widely separated buildings, and two were sent to the United States.

SOLEISM IS THE LATEST.

Predicting the Future From Baby's Pink Foot.

Countess de la Rochefoucauld, who traces her ancestry back to the bluest blood of France, is the heroine of a new science. She reads the baby's foot. She predicts from the cradle the future of the tiny creature who reposes there. This latest science is called soleism.

Countess de la Rochefoucauld from her girlhood days has had a perfect mastery over palm reading, and so famous did she become in this vocation that whenever there was a dinner party or afternoon tea she was besieged by hostess and guests to lay bare the fearsome mysteries that leave their imprints on the hand.

Palm reading had its limitations, however. Length of life, the tragedies or felicities of love, portending accidents, etc., ceased to interest her. A yearning toward the forewarnings of impending crime obsessed her. She believed the foot would be the medium by which one could tell the future criminal in the baby or point out the undiscovered murderer in the man.

Tedious and long were her researches, and it is only now after thoroughly satisfying herself that her prognostications are absolutely sound that she consents to divulge her secret.

"Murderers are marked from birth," proclaims the countess. "Traits of viciousness and criminality are shown in the feet of the new-born baby; unreadable, naturally, to all but an expert in this study."

"I have not been able to follow the career of a child so marked, inasmuch as my experiments cover, practically, only a period of ten years; but whenever these signs of criminal tendencies have shown themselves, that baby has developed into a cruel, brutalizing boy, and as time passes I am convinced that a life will be forfeited at his hands."

"I was in Tunis a short while ago, and while there visited the jail. To put my theory again to a further test, I asked the warden if he could bring into the antechamber a number of prisoners who had been incarcerated for various crimes. This was done.

"The prisoners there are always bare-footed, so when a group were brought out I was not hampered by shoes.

"Four are murderers, I vouchsafed and indicated by my finger each case. An affirmative nod of the head from the warden proved the correctness of my diagnosis. It was the big toe that fastened the crime. In each case it was thick, short and blunt—undersized as to length in comparison to the other toes."

"And the knowledge gained by this study, do you think it will prevent crime?" the countess was asked.

"It will check it to a great extent. Naturally, when the signs of the criminal appear in the foot of the new-born baby greater care can be given to its moral teachings and brought to a measure counteract the possible fate of the terrible electric chair."

THE "BLUES."

A Lady Finds Help from Simple Food.

Civilization brings blessings and also responsibilities. The more highly organized we become the more need there is for regularity and natural simplicity in the food we eat.

The laws of body nutrition should be carefully obeyed, and the finer, more highly developed brain and nervous system not hampered by a complicated, unwholesome dietary.

A lady of high nervous tension says: "For fifteen years I was a sufferer from dyspepsia. I confess that an improperly regulated diet was the chief cause of my suffering. Finally, nothing that I ate seemed to agree with my stomach, and life, at times, did not seem worth living."

"I began to take a pessimistic view of everything and see life through a dark blue glass, so to speak. My head became affected with a heavy creeping sensation and I feared paralysis.

JACKSON, OF JACKSONBORO.

Buffalo Lumberman Who Secured Unique Colonization Rights.

Jackson of Jacksonboro, when he is home in his native State of New York, is just an ordinary, everyday lumberman, rich, it is true, rich enough to be ranked as a lumber baron. When he is in Canada William Jackson is, by the grace of the Ontario Legislature, king of the townships of Haggart and Kendry with his capital city at Jacksonboro.

Technically, William K. Jackson is president of the New Ontario Colonization Company, Limited, an Ontario incorporation with headquarters in Buffalo, but really, he is supreme lord and unquestioned dictator of two Ontario townships, and the decrees that he issues from his office at Jacksonboro are laws throughout the length and breadth of Haggart and Kendry.

Peter the Great from the swamps of the Neva made St. Petersburg. W. K. Jackson, of Buffalo, N. Y., from virgin bush lands on the banks of the Mattagami River in Northern Ontario has brought into existence Jacksonboro, the newest town in the province. The modern prototype of the great Russian has the bulge on the Czar, however. He not only rules his town, he owns it.

With that he was thrown upon his face, and a couple of sturdy lictors who had been looking at him with hungry and expectant eyes proceeded to administer with their bamboo a lesson in the art of ruling a ward that would keep him in a recumbent posture for at least a week to come.

This doctrine of responsibility is a very comfortable one to a foreigner when he is traveling through the country. The inkeepers where he lodges take the greatest care of him while he is under their roof, lest they be called to account for any injury done to him or his property.

On one occasion a certain Boniface pursued a guest, who left early in the morning, for miles along the road, with some article that he had left behind him. The inkeeper was panting and perspiring when he got up with the traveler, and the guest was always amused when the inkeeper, with a pleased and virtuous look, handed him an empty match-box.

Poor George! It didn't matter what he did, or how hard he tried, he was always late. Unpunctuality, was the bane of his existence, an incurable habit which had cost him opportunities, money, friends, and which almost cost him—But thereby hangs a tale.

George, in fact, was engaged to be married, and, in due course, his wedding-day arrived. But, alas! the marriage was arranged to take place from the bride's home, which happened to be some thirty miles from George's home. Hence, needless to say, George failed at the critical moment to put in an appearance.

Picture the unhappy bride-elect waiting at the church for her tardy lover. Of course, she knew about the latter's little failing. Still, as the minutes passed, and no George arrived, she rapidly sank into a condition bordering on nervous collapse.

Then came a telegram: "Go sorry; I've obviously missed early train. Will be with you at 2:30. Don't get married till I arrive. George."

A SECOND LIVINGSTON.

Spent Twenty Years in the Interior of Dark Africa.

Dan Crawford, who is held in England to be the successor to Livingston, when a young man of twenty was threatened with lung trouble and was ordered to Africa. It was in 1859 that he first saw the coast of Africa slipping past under the port rails of a big steamer as she rolled to the long combers of the Atlantic. He landed, believing that he had come for a brief sojourn. As a matter of fact he was not to return for twenty years.

His first expedition was 300 miles inland. After it, what he terms the boring in to the interior began. Thirty-two months after leaving Great Britain he reached the savage town of Benguela, 1,000 miles from the coast. There he lived with the great King Mushiidi, whose rise to power he graphically describes. He helped to establish the mission station at Luauza, built on a cliff overlooking the Great White Lake. Here, with unflinching success he preached the Gospel to the uttermost parts of Africa, drawing the natives to him from far distant places.

His interpretation of native modes of thought, of native customs, native secret processes is something entirely new in social discoveries. He has much to say on the subject of the tendency to degradation in the white man who finds himself isolated in the jungle. One white woman he found, a Portuguese, the queen of an African Nero. He became aware of a secret society which flourishes in Central Africa. It is a sacred institution with hidden rites and ceremonies. Its purpose is to keep husbands in subjection. This is hardly the idea which the civilized world has of the place of woman in Africa, but as Mr. Crawford says, very nearly everything there is reversed according to white notions.

Very True. A teacher had explained the meaning of the word "pair." To impress it further she asked, looking out of the window at the newly fallen snow.

"Frank, when Peter and you are going home to lunch what will you make?"

RULING A WARD.

In China the Head Man Is Held Responsible for Good Order.

After you have lived in China for some time and studied its institutions, the one thought that strikes you is the feeling of responsibility that pervades every phase of Chinese life. Mr. John Macgowan, a missionary in China for fifty years, tells in "Men and Manners of Modern China" how this sense of personal responsibility makes useless the ordinary excuses that weigh with European or American.

Two men were gambling in an obscure part of the town, in a room hidden away from observation. A dispute arose over the game; it ended in a fight, and one of them got a fatal stab. It was two o'clock in the morning when the incident took place. The whole city was asleep, and the Tipao, the head man of the ward, and his family were in bed, so that he was entirely unaware of what was going on.

His protestations that he knew nothing of the matter were received with sneer, and with the remark, "Well, then, you ought to have known."

"But how could I?" he modestly replied.

"Never mind how," was the official answer; "that is your business. The ward is in your charge, and you are the responsible person to look after it."

With that he was thrown upon his face, and a couple of sturdy lictors who had been looking at him with hungry and expectant eyes proceeded to administer with their bamboo a lesson in the art of ruling a ward that would keep him in a recumbent posture for at least a week to come.

That Soft Answer.

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SUMMER COMPLAINTS KILL LITTLE ONES

At first sign of illness during the hot weather give the little ones Baby's Own Tablets, or in a few hours he may be beyond cure. These Tablets will prevent summer complaints if given occasionally to the well child and will promptly cure those troubles if they come on suddenly. Baby's Own Tablets should always be kept in every home where there are young children. There is no other medicine as good, and the mother has the guarantee of a government analyst that they are absolutely safe. The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brookville, Ont.

UNIQUE MOVEMENT.

Financier Says Work Is Better When Laborers Sing. A movement to increase the efficiency of workers by inducing them to sing while working has been set on foot by Jacques Vernes, the well-known French financier.

M. Vernes argues that France's industrial decline, as compared with other nations, is largely attributable to the fact that modern Frenchmen have neglected the arts of song and dance. This theory has aroused lively discussion in the artistic as well as the industrial circles of Paris.

"What is chiefly needed in the industrial pursuits," says M. Vernes, "is a knowledge of rhythmical movement.

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SECOND CENTURY MARVELS.

A British Savant's Excavation Work in the Sudan.

Prof. John Garstang of the Institute of Archaeology of the University of Liverpool has been for the past four seasons conducting with his assistants some interesting excavation work in the Sudan. In the treasures already disclosed he has traced, as yet more or less haltingly, the civilizing influence of the mysterious Nile.

Four seasons investigation at the Royal City discovered at Meroe, in Ethiopia, have helped to establish the fact that the buildings and objects found represent three distinct periods of evolution in the city's history, and of course in the Sudan's. The first, the Royal City, in the seventh or eighth century B.C. In that age Egyptian ideas dominated Meroitic art, but after the battle of Issus, when Alexander entered Egypt, Greek motives and methods supplanted those of Egypt.

The Sudanese seem to be a race of more than ordinary intelligence, if not of great originality. This is proved by their ready adaptation of new ideas and customs. The wave of Hellenism that made so powerful an impression on the local arts of Meroe may also have been responsible for the introduction of burial by cremation and its consequent innovations in religious belief. The Middle period lasted from B. C. 300 to B. C. 22, and it is inferred that between this period and the early Meroitic (600-300) some catastrophe overwhelmed the city, which, as Prof. Garstang says, may have remained deserted for some time.

An exhibition of antiquities recently discovered at Meroe has just been opened at Burlington House, London. Here there are to be seen plans indicating with perfect clarity the successive period of this royal city. Of the objects brought to light by pick and shovel after long centuries of burial is a well carved statue, on the waist belt of which the name of King Neteq-Amen is preserved. This work recalls the characteristics of Ptolemaic art, so that the date of this king may be placed early in the second century B.C.

Another significant discovery is the fragment of a good style red figure vase (great 400 B. C.), which was found together with pieces of incised ware of coarse style and examples of early painted vases.

To the middle period also belongs a cup painted with curious scenes of torture. One shows a figure garrotting, another somewhat in the fashion of the coup du Pere Francois, the second represents a figure trying to force on its body what appears to be a spiked instrument, or it may be a drum held in front of the body—the artist may have been a primitive cubist. Nor are the earlier and later periods without fresh evidence.

Archie—In so serious a matter as matrimony, Arabella, you had, of course, a perfect right to the most deliberate consideration; but you need not have made quite such a perfect ass of me! Arabella—How cruel to say so. You know I was only assisting the natural course of nature, Archie!

Live Wires, Barbers, Hotel Keepers write for Booklet "Billiards as a Business." Clearly explains costs, easy terms, and how to start the best-paying business on earth. Every town over One Hundred population should have its Billiard Room, Social or Church Club, and every home its Brunswick Table. Write Dept. A, Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co., 80 York Street, Toronto. Largest makers in the world.

The woman who does her own house work has the servant girl problem solved.

Try Murine Eye Remedy

If you have Red, Weak, Watery or Granulated Eyelids. Doesn't Smart—Soothes Eye Pain. Druggists Sell Murine Eye Remedy, Liquid, 25c, 50c. Murine Eye Salve in Aseptic Tubes, 25c, 50c. Eye Books Free by Mail. An Eye Tonic Good for All Eye Conditions. Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

Few men reach 60 without wishing they had been more economical.

Wyer—Lend me a dollar, old chap. If I live until Saturday I'll pay you. Smyler—Couldn't do it. You couldn't live until Saturday on a dollar.

Wee girl—Mamma, we've got an awful nice ice man.

Mother—Is he, dear? Why do you think so.

Lawrence Sugar

Get Your Sugar Today!

Every grain, no matter its size, is finest extruded pure cane sugar, always bright, analysis 99.99% to 100% pure.

The weight is guaranteed as well as the quality.

Bags 100 lbs., 25 lbs., 10 lbs. Cartons 5 lbs., 2 lbs.

St. Lawrence Sugar Refining, Limited, Montreal.

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At once to do picture coloring for us in our home with our wonderful "Coloring Process." We furnish the Process and materials. No experience necessary. We pay you for your work. If you want clean, pleasant work the year round or spare time, write us and we will send you contract and the price we pay. COMMERCIAL ART WORKS, 216 COLLEGE STREET, TORONTO, ONT.

ANTISEPTICS AS POISONS.

Bichloride of Mercury Should Not Be Included.

To have a medicine chest in every household is a great improvement. It makes for better health. The application of an antiseptic in time may often prevent a serious case of blood poisoning. It may, some time save not only a limb, but life. But the line must be drawn between household remedies and those to be applied only upon a doctor's prescription.

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Apply for a few more. Catalogue, Ontario, only Seven Cents. Harbs Stamp Company, Toronto.

RAHAM BROS. FUR BARRERS

Will give highest prices for Fur, Beaver, Coyote, Marten, Fisher, at all times. Douglas L. Graham, Strathroy, RR. No. 1, Ont.

CANCER, TUMORS, LUMPS, ETC.

Internal and external. Cured with our special pain-free treatment. Write before too late. Dr. Thomas Medical College, Toronto, Ont.

ALL STONES, KIDNEY AND BLADDER STONES

Operated by the new German Remedy. "Band" price \$1.50. Another new remedy for Diabetes, Rheumatism, and Gout. "Band" Anti-Diabetic. Price \$2.50. Druggists or direct. The Canadian Limited, Winnipeg, Man.

MALE HELP WANTED

MEN WANTED

YOUNG MAN BE BARBER. I TEACH you quickly, cheaply, thoroughly and furnish tools free. We give you actual shop experience. Write: "Men Wanted," Moler College, 219 Queen St. East, Toronto.

MEN WANTED

Basoon, long clear, 15.50 per lb. in lots. Post-short cut, 8.50 to 8.75. Etc. Etc. Heavy, 12.50 to 12.75. Roll breakfast bacon, 21 to 23c. Bacon, 5c. Lard-Tierces, 15c; tallow, 14.50 per lb. 14.50.

THE BRITISH IN INDIA.

A British Writer Scores Their Rule of That Country.

A note of alarm under the title "The Coming Catastrophe in India" is sounded in London Everyman. The article shows that British rule in India is unsympathetic and unjust, harsh and tyrannical politically, ruinous economically, and that it has done all that was possible to crush Indian initiative, to destroy Indian culture, to stunt Indian agriculture and manufacture, and to drive the wealth of the peninsula to Great Britain.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, Etc.

"Having a place for everything is a good idea," said Uncle Nat, "because when you want to find a thing you know just where you need not waste time looking for it."

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Mrs. Justed—"Robert, just think what the neighbors will say when they hear that I do my own work." Mr. Justed—"Whose work do you want to do?"

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Few men reach 60 without wishing they had been more economical.

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Wyer—Lend me a dollar, old chap. If I live until Saturday I'll pay you. Smyler—Couldn't do it. You couldn't live until Saturday on a dollar.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Wee girl—Mamma, we've got an awful nice ice man.

CIRCULARIZING

Fortune-Telling Literature Denied Use of

A despatch from Ottawa says: A number of new regulations have just been promulgated by the Post-office Department. To begin with it is vigorously suppressing lotteries and prohibiting their use of the mails. Money orders payable to them, also, are not to be issued. Instructions have been issued to postal clerks to forward to the Reading Letter Office all matter originating in such sources. The correspondence condemned are: The Great Hamburg Lottery; Great Danish International Lottery; Great Hamburg Money Lottery; Credit Universal; Royal Hungarian and Royal Danish Lotteries.

Prices of Farm Products

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES OF AMERICA.

Price of Cattle, Grain, Cheese and Other Produce at Home and Abroad.

Butter—Choice dairy, 22 to 23c; inferior 17 to 18c; creamery, 15 to 16c for 100 and 24 to 25c for 50. Roll, 18 to 19c; heavy, 19 to 20c; light, 17 to 18c. Eggs—Fresh, 20 to 22c, and second, 18 to 19c.

Country Produce

Butter—Choice dairy, 22 to 23c; inferior 17 to 18c; creamery, 15 to 16c for 100 and 24 to 25c for 50. Roll, 18 to 19c; heavy, 19 to 20c; light, 17 to 18c. Eggs—Fresh, 20 to 22c, and second, 18 to 19c.

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The Best Treatment for Itching Scalps, Dandruff and Falling Hair

To allay itching and irritation of the scalp, prevent dry, thin and falling hair, remove dandruff and itching, and promote the growth and beauty of the hair, the following special treatment is most effective, agreeable and economical. On retiring, comb the hair out straight all around, then begin at the crown and make a parting, gently rubbing Cuticura ointment into the parting with a bit of soft flannel held over the finger. Anoint the scalp with Cuticura ointment on the next morning, shampoo with Cuticura soap and hot water. Shampoo alone may be used as often as agreeable, but once or twice a month is generally sufficient. This special treatment for women's hair. Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold throughout the world. A liberal sample of each, with 25-page booklet on the care and treatment of the skin and scalp, sent post-free. Address "Cuticura," Dept. 223, Boston, U. S. A.

LITTLE TO O

Hon. A. L. Sifton, Alb in the

A despatch from Ottawa says: Hon. Arthur L. Sifton, Premier of Alberta, is not one of the men who takes much stock in the "blue ruin" cry which money conditions have produced. He arrived in Ottawa on Thursday and to the Canadian Press, that general business in the country is good, with a hopeful outlook even better things. "Among