

Do You Know?

So-called China isn't really China at all. China is just a name given it by the Malays.

"Tehina" is what the Malays called it centuries ago, and to the outside world the name has stuck, but not to the native.

Up until a few years ago, when the country became a republic, its name was constantly changing to fit the name of the king's family.

"Thising" was its name a hundred years ago, while just before it was called "Tchesing," and before that was "Tchesing," and that was how the Malays got their "Tehina."

Funeral is a common word, but the origin of the word is decidedly interesting as showing how funerals were held in olden times.

Most ancient peoples cremated their dead, but about two thousand years ago the Romans began to bury their dead.

Getting rid of a body was not considered a very pleasant sight, so the friends of the dead buried the bodies at night.

In order to see just what they were doing the friends carried big torches, which were called "funes," from the Latin word "funa."

That word "funes" has stuck all through the centuries, so when we speak of a funeral we really speak of torches.

Scissors were unknown two thousand years ago, and previous to that era all cutting was done with a knife.

Some knives were made especially sharp and were called razors because they were used by men for cutting hair and beards.

Beards and hair were allowed to grow quite long, but when they became too long they were cut down with these razors.

Shaving the chin did not come into fashion until nearly a thousand years ago, and then men shaved only their chins, evidently to keep their whiskers out of the soup.

Chinese races, Indians and Eskimos at first did their cutting with sharp stones, and as these would not cut hairs the various races pulled the hairs out as fast as they appeared.

This discouraged the hairs of the face and Nature began to stop making facial hairs.

And this, by the way, is one of the most interesting things about Nature. Tails of rats are usually long, acting as feelers as well as balances.

All rats in their natural condition have long tails.

In the scientific University buildings known as the Wistar Institute, in Philadelphia, Dr. Greenman, probably the greatest living scientific biologist, has kept thousands of rats for a score of years.

Once Dr. Greenman took a number of rats and carefully and painstakingly cut off the tails of all rats as they were born.

He kept doing this for many years, and each new generation came to life with shorter and shorter tails.

Now this great scientist has a race of tailless rats, because nature has become so discouraged that she stopped putting tails on them.

Why should cats, squirrels, foxes and such animals have such big and long tails?

Because they need them in their business. Cut the tail off a cat and he can't walk on the top of a fence to save his life.

He can't balance himself. Cut the tail off a squirrel and he would fall from a tree the first time he tried to run along the branches.

Watch a cat as he strolls along on the thin, narrow top of a fence.

Watch his tail swing from side to side as he balances himself, just a little twist, but enough to keep him from falling.

Dogs and foxes, as well as many other animals, run very rapidly and turn corners at full speed.

Turning sharp corners is the greatest stunt of the fox, who suddenly changes his course to throw his enemies off his track.

Dogs do the same thing because, while they are more or less tame now, they were originally wild wolves and had to turn as does the fox.

Try to get a bobtailed dog to turn a sharp corner at full speed and see what happens.

He cannot do it, and if he tries he will, just as he makes the sharp turn roll over and over—all because he has no tail to give him the balance necessary to turn sharply.

All bobtailed dogs slow up when they come to corners, and if they do turn they have to make a wide sweep in order to escape being thrown.

Unsuitable

Mrs. Sniffens was interviewing a young man with a view to engaging him as her chauffeur.

"I must tell you just the type of man I want," she commenced. "And you must tell me if you fit the description."

"Right, ma'am," replied the applicant. "I'll tell you."

"The man I engage must be strong, straight, and, above all," said Mrs. Sniffens, "he must be sharp and as tough as steel."

The applicant shook his head. "Sorry, ma'am, I won't do," he replied. "What you want is a screw-driver, not a motor-driver."

"The trouble with our prisons is not to be found within the walls,"—Lewis E. Lawes.

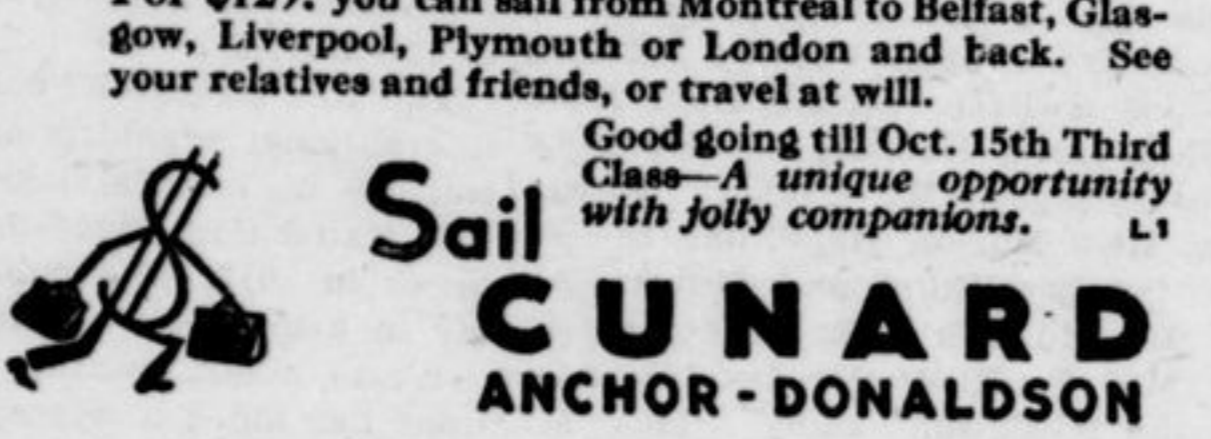
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The Outstanding Inventions Of the Past Eighty Years

- 1852—Elisha Gray Otis invents the elevator with automatic braking mechanism, later developed for office and building use.
- 1853—Glatf, an Austrian technician, shows how two messages can be sent over a single telegraph wire (duplex telegraphy).
- 1854—Henry D. Stone and Frederick W. Howe perfect the turret lathe so that a number of tools may cut metal mechanically. The general idea of the turret lathe goes back to Stephen Fitch (1845).
- 1855—Robert Wilhelm von Bunsen invents the burner now used in every gas stove.
- 1856—Sir Henry Bessemer devises the process for making Bessemer steel.
- 1860—Dr. Antonio Pacinotti conceives the first continuous-current dynamo but does nothing with it. It is independently re-invented by the Belgian, Z. T. Gramme (1870-1872).
- 1861—Coleman Sellers of Philadelphia patents and demonstrates the first motion-picture machine of the modern type. Edison brings out the commercial apparatus in 1893.
- 1862—William Bullock of Philadelphia builds the first press to print from a continuous roll or web of paper.
- 1867—Christopher L. Sholes invents the modern typewriter. Perfected in 1873.
- 1868—George Westinghouse demonstrates his airbrake.
- 1869—J. H. Greathead designs the modern shield used in tunneling under water.
- 1870—Sir William Siemens invents the electric furnace for melting iron and steel.
- 1871—Charles Goodyear Jr. invents the well-shoemaking machine.
- 1874—Thomas A. Edison devises the quadruplex telegraph, which sends four messages over a single wire. Sir William Thompson (afterward Lord Kelvin) devises the syphon recorder, which becomes indispensable in writing down cable messages.

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How many is a few?
When is by and by?
How low is low down?
How far is over yonder?
How good is pretty good?
How high is up?
When I say I don't want any how many do I want?

Gaspar—"Have you ever had a lesson by correspondence?"
Lennox—"Yes—I never write to women now."
He sent his precious poem to the editor. "Let me know at once whether you can use it," he wrote, "as I have other irons in the fire."
In a few days the answer came back from the editor: "Remove irons, insert poem."

Glady—"Dick's clever. I wish dad would give him a start in life."
Brother—"The next time your father finds him staying later than midnight, he'll need a head start."
Harry—"Whenever I see you I think of Jones."
Sam—"But I'm not a bit like Jones."
Harry—"Yes, you are. You both owe me \$10.00."

Windy Wolfe says, "One of the biggest ricks I ever got was when the doctor's assistant told me to look pleasant as he proceeded to take an X-ray of my liver."

A Riddle of the Thames
At windows that from Westminster Look southward to the Lollard's Tower,
She sat, my lovely friend, A blur Of gilded mist,—('twas morn's first hour.)
Made vague the world; and in the gleam Shivered the half-awakened stream.

Through tinted vapor looming large, Ambiguous shapes obscurely rode. She gazed where many a laden barge Like some dim-moving saurian showed. And 'midst them, lo! two swans appeared, And proudly up the river steered.

Two stately swans! What did they there? Whence came they? Whither would they go?
Think of them,—things so faultless fair— 'Mid the black shipping down below: In through the rose and gold they passed, And melted in the morn at last.

Ah, can it be, that they had come, Where Thames in sullied glory flows, Fugitive rebels, tired of some Secluded lake's ornate repose, Eager to taste the life that pours Its muddier wave 'twixt mightier shores?

We ne'er shall know: our wonderment No barren certitude shall mar. They left behind them, as they went, A dream than knowledge ampler far; And from our world they sailed away Into some visionary day.
—William Watson, in "Collected Poems."

Canada is now the second largest gold-producing country in the world.

Homesickness Cured



There's a long grind between entering college and the graduation exercises. The telephone helps bridge many difficulties as the following incident shows:
"However do you get along without Horace?" asked Mrs. Sparkles who had called to console Mrs. Rathburn following the departure of her young son to boarding school.
"John and I were certainly very anxious and would have just worried our lives out had we not arranged for Horace to call us on the telephone twice a week. In fact Principal Chapman explained to us what an advantage it was to have students call their parents at regular intervals."
"In most cases he said the charges of these calls are reversed to be paid at the home telephone."
"He said, too, that it made the students more contented and homesickness has practically disappeared."
Just another example of the important part played by the long distance telephone in family life.

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Just this: "Your bathing suit, dearie, is shrinking to beat the band."
Golf was invented by somebody who was looking for something else to worry about.

Modern Family Has Wide Interests

Chicago—It is not only the laundry that the modern family sends out of the home in its trend away from self-sufficiency, a University of Chicago statistician has found, according to a recent report.

By comparing figures for 1900 and for 1930, Dr. John Dollard offers percentages to show that almost every economic activity of the family, from tending the furnace to planning the interior decoration, is gradually being put into the hands of specialists outside the home, as well as education, religious training and recreational and other functions. His conclusion, however, is that this trend does not necessarily mean the decline of the family, but results in an extension of its interests.

Some of the contrasts sketched by Dr. Dollard the university reports as follows:
"Where formerly women remained at home, doing house and family work, with only one woman out of every seven employed outside the home, one woman in every four was a breadwinner in 1930, and out of every three working women in 1929 one was married."

"Between 1900 and 1923 the average attendance of children in public schools increased 300 per cent, and expenditures for public schools increased 4.1 times as fast as did the number of families. Teachers are taking children away from their parents for longer periods and at tender ages."

"Between 1922 and 1927 the number of trained workers in a recreation program increased from 11,000 to 20,000. The weekly attendance at moving picture theatres tripled between 1922 and 1930. The number of Sunday school scholars increased 45 per cent during the last 20 years and the average contributions of church members indicated that at least 50 per cent increase was made in purchasing power, while such practices as saying grace at meals declined."

"The loss of certain functions by the family need not mean its decline, however. It will rather offer the opportunity for a more effective integration," Dr. Dollard declares. "The disintegration of family functions," he observes, "is undoubtedly accompanied by widened interests."

Food For Thought

The professor was lecturing on natural history.
"Yes," he said, "when I get close to Nature it makes me feel like a little crab."
Smart Aleck shook his head. "What, only a little, sir?" he spoke up. "It makes me feel like a lot. Anyway, when I'm in the country I eat like a horse."

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