## ECE ABER Your Television Receiver-Page 1004 <br> 25 CENTS

## POPULAR MECHANICS MAGAZINE <br> WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT



# Make an Electric A.C.Set of your Present Radio! 

## NO CHANGES IN WIRING NO HARNESS OR ADAPTERS USE YOUR OLD TUBES

$O^{F}$ course you want electric operation of your radio. Everybody does! Radio was never so convenient. never so carefree as now when its only demand on you is the snap of an electric switch.

But if you have a good radio now, don't discard it. A good time-tried circuit, using efficient time-tried tubes is naturally better than new untried circuits and tubes. There isn't a better A. C. set made than your present radio converted to use A. C. power.
And Kuprox has made conversion so easy! You don't have to change a single wire or alter the set in any way. No harnesses or adapters . . . no tricky wiring not even new tubes are necessary. Just connect the Kuprox A. C. Power Pack to the battery terminals of your set, plug it into the nearest lamp socket, and your radio operates entirely from A. C.
Then compare your radio with the best A. C. set you ever heard. Compare the tone, the power, the dis-


Kupror Multi-rate Rectifier, for wichle charging, dynamic spealher operation, etc. Ad
iustable rate up to f.ampere stable rate up to J -ampere Price $\$ 11.50$


Kupror Replacement Unit, elemumates acids. Inquids. bulbs on all standard trickle chargers. Price $\$ 5.00$

tance getting ability, the selectivity and ease of control! In your set there's not the slight est hum, no distortion or crackling because of faulty tubes, none of the failings that varia tions in electric current can cause in A. C. sets A good battery set, Kuprox equipped, is A. C reception at its finest!
The Kuprox A. C. Power Pack contains no moving parts, nothing to wear out or break down. It is a permanent addition to your radio that does away with all attention. Se eral models are offered, some supplying fila ment (A) current only for those who alread have a "B" eliminator, some supplying plat (B) current only, and several compact units that supply all current ( $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}$, and C ) and make the entire set A. C. They are prices from $\$ 32.50$ up, and any good radio deale can show you the various models.

In case you first desire more information, specific information about your own set, : in the coupon, tell us exactly what set y have and the number of tubes. We'll recom mend the proper model Power Pack you nee and send you literature giving a full descri tion.
TELEVISION: Kuprox A. C. Power Packs are necom sary for operating television receptors, which requis perfectly amooth D. C. current for motor supply, filament plate and glow circuits.

Formerly the Kodel Radio Corporation

# Popular Mechanics Magazine 

WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

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By THOS. M. NELSON.

READY, station one?"
The man at the microphone flips the switch that transforms his broadcasting unit into a receiving set.
"Station one-O. K.," the answer comes back with similar replies from stations two and three and then follows the sharp order:
"Shoot!"
The shooter takes a final and hurried glance at the numerous dials and switches before him and jabs down the plunger of the detonator. There is a split second of silence, then, with a deafening roar, the earth quivers and huge rocks and clods leap hundreds of feet into the air. Such is the latest phase in the eternal search for that black gold-oil.

But this is all mere surface display. The
facts of real value in the hunting of oil with dynamite are gathered only by the use of very delicate instruments: portable seismographs that record the subsurface vibrations set up by the explosion on strips of sensitized paper, which are later interpreted by trained men.

At isolated points, lying in a strip about fifty miles broad which extends along the Gulf coast, are found curious manifestations of geologic phenomena known as salt domes. These are actually columns of rock salt which have forced their way toward the surface through the fairly soft sediments that make up the underground structure.

Salt domes, with some exceptions, are too deeply buried to give surface indications of their presence. Those that do,

that stratum is domed at any point, that will be the point where the oil will accumulate. In forcing its way upward a salt dome causes the surrounding layers of rock to tilt and bend, forming them into the desired structures. Hence the neverending quest of these subterranean pillars of salt.

The organization and field methods of seismic surveys or dynamite parties differ slightly, but in the main they are all the same. Each party is composed of from ten to twenty men in charge of a chicf who plans the shots, designates the seismograph locations and frequently computes and interprets the records. Each party generally uses three seismographs, so it is necessary to have three operators. Also there is a shooter and a loader. The former fires the shot at the time set and operates the radio that is located at his station. The latter is concerned mainly with the loading of the holes and the handling of the high explosives used. Assisting him use scientific meth. ods to find those domes which lie so deep as to be unsuspected from the surface. Many methods have been devised, but the most successful and popular is the seismic, employing dynamite.

All salt domes do not produce oil, nor, in a strict interpretation, does any salt dome proper produce oil. The oil really comes as an aftermath of the salt dome in this manner: For oil to accumulate in paying quantities, it is necessary that the containing rock is so warped and t wisted that it will act as a trap into which the oil may seep, but from which it cannot escape. A doming of the strata gives this condition in ideal form. Invert a bowl on a table top and you will have a good illustration of what is meant by doming. Underground, oil is always closely associated with water. Being lighter than the ground waters, it will always rise to the highest point in the stratum in which it is contained; so, if

At the Top, the Shot Firer Is Preparing His Dynamite Bomb; in the Center, a Diagram to Illustrate the Relation between Sale Domes and Oil, and, Bottom, the Explosion of One of the Shots
are two laborers, who dig the holes for the dynamite. Lastly there is an advance man. He precedes the shooting party by a few days as it moves over the country, buying leases and getting permits from land owners to shoot on their property.
When a shot is to be recorded, the seismographs are set up about one mile apart, each in turn being about one mile from the point where the dynamite is exploded. With such distances between the various members of the party, it is necessary to lave a system of communication if the work is to go off smoothly. Hence radio apparatus form a very important part of each seismograph party; radios that opcrate on a short wavelength. Each is within itself a masterpiece, small, compact and portable, with broadcasting and receiving set combined in one unit about the size of an ordinary suitcase.

The principle upon which seismographs work to locate salt domes is briefly this: The vibrations set up by exploding a large charge of dynamite travel through the sediments of the Gulf coast country at a speed of about 5,000 feet per second. If, however, the vibrations pass through a salt dome, they are speeded up until they travel about 15,000 feet per second. Hence, knowing the distance from the point of shot to the seismograph and the exact time at which the shot is fired, the computer can determine the exact speed at which the vibrations traveled when the instrument recorded them. If they show a speed in excess of 5,000 feet per second. the area is promising and the surrounding land is worked over with great thoroughness. If the speed is normal, the shooting party moves over a section or two and shoots again. In this way the entire country, or what is under it, is swept as though with a great broom.

Damage suits frequently come as a result of the dynamite blasts. In one instance a party was working through some extremely swampy country. A hole was loaded with 250 pounds of dynamite. The shot was fired: ripples formed in the jellylike earth, and traveled on to a small town where they broke windows and shook down chimneys. Each adult citizen of the town claimed damages. When all the claims were settled, it was found that the shot had cost about $\$ 20,000$.


Tower of Porcelain Cups Furnishes Brilliant Exhibit under Floodlights at German Trade Fair

## TOWER OF PORCELAIN CUPS FEATURE OF TRADE FAIR

Porcelain cups, 1.200 of them, were arranged on the sides of a tower that formed one of the most effective exhibits at the recent Leipzig fair in Germany, Illuminated at night by powerful floodlights, the tower was visible for many miles.

## ELECTRIC-LIGHT COMPANY MAY ROCK BABY TO SLEEP

The electric-light company may soon be in position to add the duties of nursemaid to its own services. A Milwaukee doctor has devised a motor-driven baby carriage which only needs to be plugged into the light socket to have the power company take over the work. The driving motor automatically provides a forward and backward movement of a few feet.

"Jap Squares," Big Timbers for the Orient, Stacked at a Western Mill before Shipment to Japan; Some of These Huge Pieces Contain 5,000 Feet of Lumber

ONE STICK OF LUMBER BUILDS TWO JAPANESE HOUSES
More than 5,000 feet of lumber, sufficient to build two Japanese homes of average size, is sometimes contained in a single huge timber, the "Jap square," shipped from a large western lumber yard. These pieces range from twelve to forty inches square and from twenty-four to forty feet long.

## BEST WORK DONE IN AUTUMN FACTORY SURVEY SHOWS

Fall is the season at which many persons do their most efficient work. At least this is the conclusion of engineers who kept a four-year record of the performance at various factories in England. The workers were paid on a piece basis, and their average over the period showed that there was a much greater output during September and October than at other
times of the year. Monday is a poor day, from a production standpoint, the survey showed, but Tuesday is generally the best. Actually, the peak in output was not infrequently reached at that time.

## FENDER SHIELD PROTECTS CAR FROM MUD AND TAR

A fender shield, a flexible extension to the regular equipment of the automobile, keeps the wheels
 from throwing up mud, oil, dust and tar on the bumpers, body or on persons in the rear The shield is made of a double thickness of imitation leather and is attached to the bottom of the fenders, the only tool needed being a pair of pliers.

## EXTRACT FROM ANIMAL GLAND MAY SAVE FIRE VICTIMS

Victims badly burned in fires may be owed by an extract from a tiny gland located at the base of the brain, according to a Detroit doctor. The extract would be obtained from animals. Its action, according to Dr. Oliver Kamm, is to help the body tissues retain water. Death from burns, according to the latest theories, results from drying out of the body tissue. Over or underactivity of this gland in human bodies, Dr. Kamm believes, may be responsible for a form of diabetes characterized by excessive thirst.

## TABLE AND SEATS FOLD AS ONE TO SAVE ROOM SPACE

Occupying only a few inches of space when closed, but affording ample room for four or six persons when open, a folding dining table, with benches attached, is one of the latest units devised for convenience in small apartments. The top folds down and one pair of legs, with the benches, swing under it. The table is opened or closed with a single movement and is solidly braced. When folded, the article serves as a convenient end table. The entire outfit weighs only a few pounds and consequently can readily be moved about the house.


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Combination of Gasoline Station and Dance Hall in a Replica of a Dutch Mill

## GAS STATION LIKE WINDMILL ALSO HOUSES DANCE HALL

One of the strangest automobile filling stations in Kansas is built to resemble an old-fashioned Dutch windmill. Attendants are dressed like Hollanders, and the building also contains a dance hall.

## TWO LOST GOLD MINES HUNTED IN OKLAHOMA HILLS

Somewhere in the hills of southeastern Oklahoma are two lost gold mines, one of which was never worked. Searching parties have prospected the hills for years, but only a few small nuggets have rewarded them. The gold mines are said to have been located by two Indians, who communicated the news to the Rev. W. J. B. Lloyd, a missionary. He and twelve Indians started to work the property, and all took an oath never to reveal the location. One mine was worked until all of the easily reached metal had been removed. Lacking equipment for blasting, the band prepared to open up the second mine when the interior department issued orders that development should stop. Eventually the thirteen in the company all died without revealing the location.

PICK-UP CHUTE FOR AIR MAIL SAVES LANDINGS


Mail bags and other packages can be delivered and picked up without the plane landing, by means of an interesting trap arrangement a dental surgeon has invented. It promises to extend widely the benefits of transportation by air, as places not included as scheduled stops will enjoy the advantages of airtransport service, and it will reduce the cost of operating the lines as well as helping to increase the revenue. The unit consists chiefly of a wide-mouthed trap, mounted on a turntable so that it can be revolved to the most favorable position for the plane. flying as the wind direction dictates. The mail bag or package is placed at the narrow end of the trap. To make a pickup, the pilot, before reaching the load, lowers a cable weighted by a ball, both of steel. The cable is wound and unwound on an electrically operated reel. The plane is brought down to a comparatively low altitude, the ball passes into the trap, is dragged to the V -shaped opening at the other end, where it engages a coupling arrangement, placed in a slot of the pickup and to which the package is attached. As the connection is made, a catapult

## NOISES MADE BY OYSTERS HAMPER SEA RADIO

Of all living creatures, the oyster has been popularly regarded as one of the quietest, and "shutting up like a clam" has been equivalent to a profound silence. But man has been stringing microphones at the bottom of the sea to help guide his ships, and now the bivalves are accused of creating noisy disturbances! The opening and shutting of their shells is registered on the sensitive wireless "ears," and the sounds interfere with the proper working of the apparatus, a radio expert recently reported. Something may have to be done, he suggests, for the microphone's service lies in its sensitiveness. It has broadcast the beats of the human heart. the sounds of beetles boring in a tree and of insects eating corn in a crib, and to decrease its "listening powers" would greatly impair its usefulness. Elimination of the sea noises would make the underwater radio outfit the greatest life-saving apparatus the world has ever seen, and would make it suitable for seas in any part of the world, the engineer points out.

## BICYCLE FOLDS INTO SUITCASE AND WEIGHS FEW POUNDS

Capable of making as much as twenty miles an hour, a folding bicycle that fits into a suitcase, has been introduced in France. It weighs but twenty pounds and saves the traveler the trouble of checking


Folding Bicycle for Adults; the Machine Can Be Carried on Journeys Packed into an Ordinary Suitcase
the vehicle, as it can be carried as an ordinary piece of luggage.


Food Dispenser Which Keeps Bulk Semiliquids in Sanitary Containers Instead of Open Jars

## DISPENSER KEEPS FOOD CLEAN AND REDUCES COST

For the distribution of semiliquid foods such as jellies, jams and salad dressings, a patented dispenser is a substitute for individual glass or other containers. A gallon glass jar fits inside the dispenser and. when it is empty, it is shipped back to the wholesaler for refilling. Its contents are removed through a special gate cap when it is turned upside down.

## DIESEL ENGINES FOR RAILROADS DECREASE FUEL COSTS

Three locomotives of the Diesel type burning heavy oils, are being used successfully on Russian railways for hauling freight at relatively low speed. As compared with gasoline, their fuel consumption costs three to six times less, the weight of fuel carried is half that with gasoline and only about one-sixth as compared with coal, while the cost is much less than that of the latter fuel. According to a Russian engineer, the railroads in the future will have to meet the competition of Diesel engines as adapted to automobiles, and will be able to do so by adopting the same kind of motive power while specializing in the hauling of freight and passengers over long distances.


Feeding the Sea Elephant at the Berlin Zoo; the Keeper Stands on Its Back and Drops the Fish

## SEA ELEPHANT LETS KEEPER STAND ON ITS BACK

The sea elephant has numerous interesting peculiarities, but none is stranger than the manner in which it is able to take its food. At the Berlin zoo, one of these huge pets permits its keeper to stand on its back, stretches its neck and head to the rear and the meal is dropped into the open mouth. A sea elephant of this size consumes more than 100 pounds of fish a day.

## LEAVES SERVE AS WIND GAUGE TO AID FOREST RANGERS

Estimating wind velocities is important in forest-ranger work, because their speed will determine, to some extent, how many men are needed in case a fire should break out. In conjunction with the weather bureau, the forest service has developed a means of judging velocities by observing the effects of the breezes on familiar objects. A light wind is one moving not more than seven miles an hour. It is felt slightly on the face, causes leaves to rustle and its direction may be told by smoke drift. Next comes the gentle wind with a speed of eight to twelve miles an hour. It
keeps leaves and small twigs in constant motion and will extend a small flag. Moderate winds range in speed from thirteen to eighteen miles an hour. They raise dust and litter and keep small branches moving. Fresh winds blow from nineteen to twenty-four miles an hour. Small trees in leaf will sway under their force and small waves will be induced on inland waters. Strong winds travel from twenty-five to thirty-eight miles an hour. They cause telephone wires to hum and make walking inconvenient. Gales vary from thirty-nine to fifty-four miles an hour. They break off small branches, make walking progress difficult and do damage to buildings. Stronger gales blow from fifty-five to seventy-five miles per hour. They will uproot trees and do considerable damage. A wind of greater velocity than seventy-five miles an hour is commonly classed as a hurricane.

## SAFETY SAW IS INSULATED TO GUARD ELECTRICIAN

For cutting live electric cables and performing other tasks where there ordinarily is considerable danger, a safety saw, recently introduced, is equipped with a
 thoroughly insulated frame. It is of wood, specially treated with a filling and insulating varnish that prevents the material from absorbing moisture or oil. The far end of the frame is designed to keep the saw from running over upon adjacent cables or other metal parts, an important feature when the work is being done in manholes, and the handle affords an effective grip.

## THE FIRST GREAT PASSENGER LINER OF THE AIR


Members of the Crew of the "Graf Zeppelin" Before the Dirigible Took to the Skies for Its
Voyage to Lakehurst from Friedrichshafen, Germany; the Photograph Gives a Clear View
of the Forward Control Room and Its Comparative Size; Inset, One of the Big 520 -Horse-
power Rohrbach Engines Being Hoisted into Its Gondola; There Were Five of These
Motors, Each Carefully Set so That the Propellers Would Not Interfere with Each Other
When All Were Working; the "Graf Zeppelin" Was Designed Essentially the Same as Its
Predecessor, the "Los Angeles," of the U. S. Navy, but It Is One and One-Half Times as
Large and Differs Especially in the Matter of the Fuel It Used; Instead of All Gasoline,
It Burned a Special Gas Which Has Approximately the Same Specific Gravity as Air

## SOME OF THE DETAILS OF GREAT RIVAL AIRSHIPS



> Close View of the Control Room of the "Graf Zeppelin," with the Passenger Compartments toward the Rear; Note the Spaces for the Gas Bags, the Fuel, Freight and Baggage Storage, the Crew's Sleeping Quarters, Kitchen, Dining Room and Lounge; the Dining Room Is Large Enough for Forty Persons at One Time and Is Handsomely Furnished and Ventilated through Large Windows, a Special Convenience When the Ship Sails over the Tropics; Below, the Air Liner in Its Hangar at Friedrichshafen with the Gas Inlet Attached; Use of Gas Fuel of About the Same Weight as Air Made It Unnecessary to Have Water-Recovery Apparatus Such as Was Devised by American Government Engineers to
Maintain Weight on the "Los Angeles," as Its Engines Burn Gasoline; the Recovery Units Condense the Exhaust


## AIR PILOTS AND VIEW OF EARTH FROM THE CLOUDS



GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION OF GIANT ZEPPELIN'S SIZE


How the "Graf Zeppelin" Compares in Size with the "Los Angeles" and the Woolworth Tower It Is Nearly 100 Feet in Diameter and Has a Gas Capacity of $3,750,000$ Cubic Feet

## DOCKING THE "ZEPP" AND ONE OF ITS GONDOLAS



Close View, Showing Robert Hartman, a Camera Man, at the Window of One of the Gondolas of the Giant Ship Just before the Second Test Flight Which Proved It Worthy for the Trip across the Ocean: Note How the Gondola Is Streamlined to Decrease Resistance; the Motors
Are 520 -Horsepower Rohrbachs and Functioned Splendidly throughout the Journey: a Minor Mishap to One of the Big Fins Was the Only Damage Suffered in the $\mathbf{1 1 2 - H o u r}$ Flight against Unfavorable Winds and through Fogs : All the Motors and Other Parts of the Ship Are Controlled from the Forward Cabin, the "Brains" of the Dirigible

## RADIO ROOM AND ITS WIND-DRIVEN GENERATOR



Radio Set in a German Commercial Airplane: the "Graf Zeppelin". Was Equipped with a Special Radio Cabin Fitted with the Latest Types of Receivers and Transmitters as Well as Radio Direction-Finding Apparatus Batteries Were Provided for Operating the Ship's Wireless in Case the Wind Generator Was Not Running, but They Were Out of Commission at First and the Ship Was Cut Off from Communication Until the Battery System Was Repaired

(c) Menry Miller

Interesting studies to determine the effects of underwater pressure on humans are being made at the Washington navy yard. One of the chief instruments used is a tank which is'closed after a man has entered, and the pressure inside is then regulated to correspond to that experienced at any desired depth below the surface of the water. Moisture condensed from the subject's breath is collected and analyzed to reveal some of the results of the test on his system. The investigators have also been studying the effects of helium, mixed with oxygen, in treating divers suffering from the "bends," a serious ailment that often develops after remaining in high pressures. Another valuable aid is a telephone without batteries, more sensitive than the ordinary instrument.

## WHY CYCLONES GROW STRONGER AS THEY MOVE NORTHEAST

Cyctonic storms, moving northeastward across the United States or along the Atlantic coast, have a tendency to increase


Using the Pressure Tank at Washington Navy Yard to Determine the Effects of the Deep Sea on Divers
in size and intensity. According to the weather bureau, this is due to the nature of the storms and also to the topograply of North America. The wind are essentially swirling passages of broad and relatively cold polar currents west and north, and equally broad, but much warmer, equatorial winds to the south and east. The storm itself increases in intensity with the contrast in temperature between the two currents. In the eastern part of the United States and Canada and over part of the western Atlantic, the storms move rapidly northeastward and in this region there is free access to the supplies of cold wind from the arctic regions, as there are no great mountain barriers. Warm air frem the Gulf of Mexico and the lower areas of the Atlantic, reaching this more northern and colder district, presents a distinct temperature contrast to the chilly currents, and the difference increases as the two air streams move farther north. Thus the cyclonic storms that result naturally gain in violence as the disturbances pass over the eastern part of North America.

VALVELESS MOTOR FOR AIRPLANES
fureresting departures the usual motor we incorporated in a wheless two-cycle airolane engine with but wenty-one moving parts. tecording to reports of is recent trial performance, it developed 200 Wrepower. It weighs but $251^{\prime}$ pounds and, at 2,00 revolutions per minme, showed a gasotine consumption of less than ten gallons an hour. The inventors declare they an reduce the weight some sixty pounds further by improving the design. Instead of values for the necessary cylinder charge ad exhaust, the engine has a specially deigned piston that passes over two openfings in the cylinder wall near the base. This action requires no reciprocating parts. A substitute for the usual carburetor has been introluced and ignition timing is operated directly off the crankthaft by two simple gears. The motor can be run dependably and efficiently in any position, horizontal, perpendicular or any intermediate angle, the inventors dechare; its light weight will permit quicker take-offs and four cylinders may be uncoupled, allowing but four to operate.


Two-Cycle Valveless Airplane Engine with a Minimum of Moving Parts


## CAMPERS' KIT HOLDS CHAIRS AND SERVES AS TABLE

But slightly larger than an ordinary suitcase, a kit for auto campers and other travelers contains folding chairs besides a complete outfit of utensils. The kit itself. when emptied and opened up. serves as a table which provides comfortable accommodation for four persons.

## "MAGIC CURTAIN" OF CHEMICAL HIDES CITY FROM AIR

A pilot flying over a German town near Stuttgart recently was surprised to see a group of factory buildings suddenly disappear in a cloud of fog that rose from the ground. The fog was the first demonstration of a new type of chemical smoke screen invented by Dr. Reddeman, a German gas expert, who has named it the "maric curtain." Ten containers were scattered around the buildings, all being wired to a central station so the gas could be released by pressure of a single button. The seaport of Cuxhaven is to be completely equipped so it can be veiled in fog to a height of 300 feet. German army officials believe the chemical for is a much better defense than that offered by the strongest anti-aircraft batteries.


IN M Y wildest dreams. I never expected to see anything like this!"
J. H. Baker, retired Pennsylvania railroad engineman, grinned as he bounced on the fireman's seat of engine 5480, hauling the "American" westward at a sixtymile clip. He was having his first ride in the cab of a modern locomotive and over rails guarded by automatic train control, the magic wand that now rules traffic along more than 15.000 track miles of eighty railroads in the United States.

Cornfields stirred in the summer wind and the original "Old Swimmin" Hole" of Riley fame flashed by, but Baker was oblivious to the scenery. He was looking out on almost fifty years of railroad progress as the "American's" 240 -ton engine shouldered up a gentle grade and skimmed down the other side.
"We hit seventy miles an hour for a few minutes," yelled Fireman J. P. Hartley, who was keeping the steam-gauge needle glued to the 200 -pound mark with mighty swings of his skillful shovel, and the engine cab free from dust with liberal applications of the hose.
"They used to call us on the carpet when
we did more than thirty. Fifteen was the regular gait with the old wood burners. Baker shouted, as 5480's eighty-inch drivers took a curve as smoothly as an auto rounds a bend, and then settled down to a long, straight dash under the hand of Engineer S. H. Boyle, who used to be a fireman under Baker.

Two generations of enginemen were in 5480 's cab. The representative of one havl started service at about the time the old wood burners were disappearing from the lines, to be replaced by the swifter and more powerful coal burners. The othet was in his prime now at a period when railroads are enjoying mechanical and other developments that put a modern train as far ahead of the one of fifty or seventy-five years ago as the horse and buggy was an advance over the oxcart.
As Engineer Boyle pulied the whistle cord and eyed the smooth stretch of track ahead, Baker was thinking of the days when passengers sometimes volunteered to get out and help the engine crew load the tender with wood. It carried but five or six cords, enough for a run of twenty miles or so, while the "American" was


The Little Box That Runs the Train if the Engineer Should Fail; Radio Tubes and Apparatus Play an Important Part in the Automatic Train Control, Which Checks Human Errors
thing along with enough fuel to carry it sto miles. Where the "American" was ofling on 130 -pound rails, the trains of his day traveled on sixty-pounders, comparavely slender threads that quickly would have given way under the steel giants of today. Fast passenger engines in those times had a heating surface of only 1,900 square feet or so. The fire roaring under $5+80$ reached 4,050 square feet of heating -urface and, besides that, the engine had a superheating surface of 1,215 square feet. The superheating feature alone, engineers regard as one of the most effective develppments in railroading. By means of the apparatus, steam is raised to an extrahigh temperature of 550 degrees Fahrenheit or more, and practically all the water is baked out of it so that it has tremendously greater efficiency.

Trains literally "ran wild" in Baker's day: Glance at the orders issued to J . Fred Wood, retired St. Louis division pasvenger engineman on his first trip, Dec.
16. 1872: "Run to Brazil wild. Look out for work train west of gravel pit." If the work train wasn't there. Wood was supposed to find it. "Meet train No, so and so the same place you did yesterday," was a not uncommon form of order. If one train went past the siding and met another, it often had to back up and enter the sidetrack from the other end, for many sidings were equipped with one switch only. The fast passenger engine of 1868 had a tractive force of 11.900 pounds, a modern engine, 65,000 pounds and more. while it carries 250 pounds or so of steam to the earlier locomotive's 125 .

Engineer Boyle had his orders but they were written in position light signals every mile and a half along the right of way, and were duplicated in his cab on a panel of small circles, a separate signal in dots for each circle. Three lighted dots at the top of the panel showed that the track was clear. The same signal appeared on the big target guides that flashed past on

the right of way. By this system, both engineer and fireman have the signals directly in front of them, a few feet from their eyes.

The "American" was running over a section protected by what is known as the "coder" system of train control. Under this arrangement, a code of signals is automatically relayed through the track by electrical impulses and into the engine cab, where the code appears in visible form on the panels on each side of the cab. If the signal should change to require a reduction in the speed of the train, a shrill whistle blows four or five seconds to warn the engineer. He must heed this alarm and acknowledge it by turning a switch which cuts out the automatic-stop apparatus, otherwise the train's brakes will be applied automatically and it will come to an immediate stop.

The current that transmits the signals is picked up from the rails by a receiving bar on the engine, just ahead of the leading pair of wheels and a few inches above the rails. It passes through amplifying units in a box in front of the locomotive. An essential part of the system is the coder
itself. This is located at the exit end of each track circuit and consists of an electric motor which turns a series of cams. Each one causes a certain number of interruptions in the current supplied to the track and the interruptions determine what signal will show in the cab and along the right of way. When the track is clear, the cam that gives 180 interruptions per minute causes the clear signal to show. Should the train enter a block but one behind another that is occupied, the coder is automatically shifted to interrupt the current 120 times a minute and the approach-restricting signal shows. At the next block, if the one ahead is still occupied, eighty interruptions per minute cause the approach signal to be given. Now if the train enters the block that is already


Evolution of Signals; the American Gate. Top, the English Ball Signal, Center, and One of the First Three-Color Lights on the New York Central


taking chances was a more or less common practice. A man appeared on the track not far from a signal tower. Hartley climbed part way down his side of the engine, hooked a loop of string over his arm from the waiting man and got back with a message from the station past which the train had thundered a few moments before. Engineer Boyle turned and others in the cab gathered around as Hartley opened the sheet. "Something dragging from your train. Better see what it is," the note read.

The train came to a smooth stop and Boyle got out to reconnoiter. Investigation developed that part of a leaf of a spring had broken off and dropped to the track, and it was this that attracted the attention of the alert station man as it bounded along the rock on the right of way. A minor trouble, and the "American" proceeded and rolled into Indianapolis on time to the second in spite of the short delay. It was a victory for the human eye, the detection of the flying fragment, but while the train was halted,
occupied, the coded signaling current cannot reach the engine. As soon as it stops, the caution, slow-speed signal appears and, unless acknowledged by the engineer, the brakes will be automatically applied after the warning whistle has blown. As soon as the block is cleared, the fact is registered on the cab signal panel and the engineer may proceed again.
The "American" had slowed down for a section of track where the coder apparatus had not fully energized the rails, and Baker was given an opportunity to see that human vigilance is fully as operative today as it was when engines were braked by hand, when run-wild orders often meant confusion and guessing, and
the automatic train-control apparatus was functioning, the caution signals would have shown in the block immediately back of the one on which the "American" was standing, and a rear-end collision would have been practically impossible unless the
ent neer of a train comine up behind had willitils ignored the slowspeed warning.

Things are a lot safer now than they were in my (ha). " said F. M. Williamson who recently retired aiter more than fifty years of continuous servfice with the Pennsylvania and who also was an interested passenger on the run of the "American" from Columbus, Ohio, to Indianapolis. "Whenever a train is flagged for any reason, I recall a certain day in September, 1893, when I was taking a train east from the world's fair at Chicago. McKinley, who was then governor of Ohio, and a number of French dignitaries were ott board. A brush fire hat been burning along the way, and the smoke partly obscured the track from time to time. Near Millgrove. Ind.. I saw a little girl in the middle of the track. She was waving a red flag with all her might. I stopped the train and got out to in-


About the Time of the Chicago World's Fair, Pullman Cars Went In for Marvelous Inlay Work in Contrasting Colors o! Rare Woods
vestigate. Just a few rods farther on, a wooden bridge was burning. The timbers were almost severed and the structure was ready to collapse. The little girl had climbed over a fence and was running away. But I ran after her, brought her lack and she was thanked by McKinley, the Frenchmen and all the rest of the passengers. We took up a collection for her. She had flagged the train with her red petticoat. A little later, the French government made her a member of the Legion of Honor."

Some of the romance has gone from railroading, both Baker and Williamson agreed, but in its place has come a new allurement in greater efficiency, better pay and far better working conditions.
"I never expected to see anything like automatic train control," Baker repeated
after the run, "and a lot of other things have changed, too. Did you see Division Superintendent Rill helping me on with my overalls in the baggage car? Say, in my time, most of us were scared to even look at a division superintendent."

## LEGLESS CHAIRS SLIDE EASILY OVER ANY TYPE FLOORS

A new type of furniture has been introduced in France for office and home use. There are no legs in the ordinary sense. Instead, chairs and tables are mounted on a framework of nickeled tubing, which slips easily over rugs or polished floors and leaves no marks. The office chairs are formed of a frame of bent tubing, with strips of leather slipped over the tubes to form the back and seat.

## EARTH IS SLIPPING WESTWARD ON CALIFORNIA COAST



A part of the California coast, north of San Francisco bay and about 150 miles in extent, is slipping toward the Pacific ocean, but. geologists explain, there is no cause for alarm as the movement is at a rate of not more than twenty miles in $5,000,000$ years. The phenomenon is believed to be due to a part of the earth's crust being pushed on top of the adjoining surface as one cake of ice is forced onto another. For some reason not fully understood, the action is still continuing. Mt. Diablo, 3,850 feet
above the sea level, was originally part of this overlapping earth movement and is estimated to be more than twenty miles from the position it occupied $5,000,000$ years ago, geologists assert. The peak has been cut off from the body of the thrust. section by the erosion of streams. One proof the scholars have that an overlapping such as they picture did occur, is the fact that rock strata that were formed $45,000,000$ years ago, are now on top of other strata developed at much later pe-

Left, C. L. Garner and Paul C. Whitney, of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, Examining a Fold in the Earth's Crust Showing That Westward Movement Is in Progress; Below, Measuring the Action at Government Monument on Mt. Diablo; the Slippage Is Estimated at About Twenty Miles in 5,000,000 Years

riods. Another proof to the same effect, which they think convincing, is that mine shafts which were sunk in the early days of California have now been closed by the slow but continuous movement.

## CONCRETE LAMP-POSTS "SPUN" TO GET HOLLOW FORM

Spinning concrete lamp-posts in order to provide a hollow form through which the wires can be run, is the method used in building the new street-lighting equipment of St. Louis. The poles were made in the local plant of the Westinghouse Electric company. A steel-and-wire reinforcing form was first assembled on a lathe mandrel and then placed in a pole form, made of two sections of metal. After
the form is locked together, it is stood on end and concrete poured into it. End blocks are then bolted in place and the filled form placed in a lathe and rotated for twenty minutes. The centrifugal force during the spinning throws the concrete outward against the form, so that, in set ting, it leaves a hollow through the center.

TWrite our Bureau of Information, you wish to know who makes or sells any article described in this magazine. Send no postage : the service is free.

## DASH NEON TUBES TELL TROUBLES IN SPARK PLUGS

A new French car, said to have the smallest traight-eight engine built for an automobile, has solved the problem of telling the driver whether all the spark plugs are working properly. A set of eight small neon tubes are fitted on the instrument board, with a switch by which they can be thrown into circuit with the plugs. Failure of any tube to glow indicates a faulty plug. The eightcylinder engine has a French rating of nine horsepower, or fifteen horsepower according to the English and American system of measuring. The cylinders are cast in a single block, with a bore of 1.11 inches and a stroke of 3.22 inches, and give thirty miles to the gallon. The gear box, like that of most foreign cars, provides four forward speeds in addition to the reverse. The car has a top speed of seventy miles an hour.

## GRIP PLATE FOR AUTO WHEELS HELPS CAR OUT OF RUTS

To provide traction for the wheels of the automobile in snow, ice or mud, metal grip plates have been introduced. They are made to fit various sizes of tires, the under side is ribbed to prevent slipping and the upper surface is also provided with circular ribs for the tire or the chains to secure a strong grip. The plate can also be used as a foundation for a jack in soft ground. They are practically indestructible, as they are made from malleable iron, and will afford even large trucks sufficient start to be run out of a rut.

CClover roots are known to penetrate the earth to a depth of nine feet.


Model City Being Developed by Coast Lumber Company Has Unusual Street Layout for Its Garden Homes

## MODEL CITY FOR LUMBERMEN AFFORDS MANY LUXURIES

Workers in a lumber mill at Longview, Wash., live in a model village of some 350 homes, each with ample garden and lawn and private garage. Seen from the air. the settlement resembles a toy city, and its special features are clearly revealed. Streets are arranged to afford maximum space for the lots and to facilitate access to the yards. While the houses have the same general appearance, each has a distinctive style. The entire city has been built in a few years under the auspices of a large lumber company.

## SAYS OIL WILL LAST WORLD THREE THOUSAND YEARS

There is enough oil in known deposits to last the world another 3,000 years, even at the present rate of consumption, Dr. Gustave Egloff. of Chicago, told the recent World Fuel conference in London. Challenging an announcement from Washington two years ago that the oil supply might not last more than six years, Dr. Egloff said that, with only $2.000,000$ acres of oil wells in production in the United States, this country alone had $1,100,000,000$ acres of possible oil land waiting exploration and development.


Landing under the Light of the $30,000,000$-Candlepower Beacon at Oakland. Calif., Airport; the Fence at the Top of the Picture Is a Half Mile from the One in the Foreground

## By H. H. DUNN

UTP AND DOWN invisible radio beams airplanes are flying over the Pacific ocean. Within the next year, probably ; within two years certainly, the birdmen will be guided across the United States by silent radio waves, just as they are now guided by 10.000 .000 -candlepower lights in lofty beacons. Before the end of 1928. airplanes will be dispatched and received by radio telephone at least at one American airport.

Radio lighthouses will perform for ships of the air the service that land lighthouses give ships of the sea, except that, where the lighthouse sends its beams fifteen or twenty miles, the radio lighthouse will make itself known to the aviator from 1,000 to 1.500 miles away. The first radio lighthouse in the world is operating now from the hill of old Fort Scott, on the southern rim of the Golden Gate entrance to San Francisco harbor. The second is
located at Honolulu, and the third, if present plans are carried through, will stand near Washington, D. C. All are under control and operation of the United States signal corps, but the city of Oakland, Calif., is coming into the field soon with a radio-telephone equipment which will establish and maintain verbal connection with planes while they still are 100 miles or more away.

The present radio lighthouses keep the aviator on his course by means of signals in the international Morse code. Future lighthouses will send radio beams in such a manner that, so long as the aviator is on the true course, a green light will glow on the dash. When he deviates from that course, to left or right, the light becomes red. This will obviate the use of headphones by the pilot, leaving his ears free to listen to the song of his motor, or to gauge the intensity of the wind, by its

## of the

whine among the struts of his wings.
Ultimately, there will be six nif these radio lighthouses on the maimland of the United States, with another in Alaska and one in Manila, which, with the one at present operating in Honolulu, will give aviators guidance all over this country and far out at sea on both sides. In addition, a steamship company, optrating liners on round-theworld service with home port in San Francisco, has prepared plans and appropriated funds for the construction of these lighthouses at the principal ports uf call for its ships. While these tations, of course, will be used primarily to maintain constant touch with the corporation's hhips at sea, they also will be of vital importance to aviators.
The government stations will maintain what is known as a "constant beam." This beam will be sent out at intervals of a few seconds, comparable to a "flashing light" in seaside lighthouses for the guidance of ships. The stations established by the private corporation will be operated at intervals, varying with the necessity of communicating with any one or more of the -hips, or with other radio light-
houses. Each of the radio lighthouses so far designed will have a receiving set as well, and the adaptation of radio telephones to this use is only a question of time. In fact, the signal corps is now at work on the development of this feature. though radio-phone equipment at present is too heavy for carriage on the average airplane.

While the signal corps is reticent regarding details of the radio lighthouses now in operation at San Francisco and at

Honolulu, it is known that they operate through directional antenne in umbrella form, raised on a single pole to a height of about 100 feet. They operate on a 1,037 -meter wavelength, sending at intervals of about three seconds. The San Francisco signal has been heard in Honolulu, and the Honolulu signal in San Francisco, but the average range by night is 1.500 miles and by day about 1.250 miles.

The two radio lighthouses send ont two beams, each about ten miles wide. The


Diagram of the RadioDiagram of the Radio-
Beacon System, Which Sends Code Signals That Blend in a Central Path into a Continuous Chain of Dots, and, Above, Arrangement of the Visual Signal Lights Which Convert the Beacon Signals into Green and Red Lights on the Plane's Instrument Board
northern beam carries the dash and dot; the southern beam, the dot and dash. Between the two beams there is a space about ten

lost on the South Pacific ocean. These radio lighthouses were of the greatest value in the flights from San Francisco to Honolulu and from Oakland to Australia, according to the pilots of the planes taking part. Yet they are merely somewhat crude forerunners of the stations which soon will be guiding aviators, silently yet effectively, all over the United States and all around the world.
One of the large oil-refining companies has appropriated $\$ 5,000,000$ for the establishment of thirtytwo lighthouses for aviators and motorists, extending in an unbroken chain from Blaine, Wash., on the Canadian border, to San Diego, Calif., on the Mexican, line. These land lighthouses, for the construction of which the contracts have been let and the sites purchased, will con- miles wide, on a direct line between San Francisco and Honolulu. In this space, the signals combine to form a continuous series of dashes. So long as the aviator gets nothing but dashes through his earphones, he knows he is on his direct course, the shortest route over which he can fly between the two points. When he gets the dash and dot, he knows that he is to the north of his true course; when he gets the dot and dash, he is to the south, and he may guide himself easily back into the path of the dashes.

The beams from the two lighthouses meet at a point approximately midway between the two cities, that is to say, about 1.200 miles from each. Similarly, the signals sent out by the San Francisco radio lighthouse, go back in a northwesterly direction across the United States, and are of benefit to the aviator flying toward San Francisco from an area of about onequarter of this country. Those beams sent from the reverse side of the directional antenne in Honolulu, of course, are


Unloading Flying Express at the Oakland, Calif., Airport, Including Packages from New York and Chicago
sist of metal columns, 125 feet high, the legs forming an eighteen-foot triangle at the base. Surmounted with globular electric lights, their rays will be visible fifty miles in the air and thirty-five miles on


Hotels, Shops, Garages, Drug Stores, and Other Facilities, Are Grouped around a Chain of Flying Beacons Being Erected the Length of the California Coast by an Oil Company
the highways, in clear weather at night, and thirty-five miles and twenty-five miles, respectively, in fog. From ten feet above the base, the triangular tower is brilliantly flluminated with neon lights clear to the top. These will furnish complete illumination for the airplane-landing field and automobile-parking spaces which are to -urround the towers.

These lighthouses are spaced approximately fifty miles apart, along state highways, but not in cities or towns. Twentynine of them will cover the main-traveled. north-and-south state highway in California, Oregon ąnd Washington. One will be placed on the Columbia river highway, far eastward toward the eastern boundary of Oregon; a second will be located near Reno, Nev., on the CaliforniaNevada line, and a third will stand at the point where the main southern highway crosses the Colorado river into California. These three will point the way to the main north-and-south chain, and to the large cities of the Pacific coast.

Surrounding each of these lighthouses, in addition to the airport and motor-parking spaces, will be a hotel, cottages, garages, service stations for airplanes and automobiles, with repair shops for both: drug stores, restaurants, automobile and airplane-equipment shops, and similar es-
tablishments necessary to travel by air or by land. All, including the hotels, will be operated on the chain principle, with standardized prices for all accommodations, meals and supplies. Similarly, flat rates for equipment, repairs and service will be established. Every traveler by airplane or by motor, following this chain, not only will be able to go on night and day, but will know when he starts just what everything will cost him at every station. In other words, a lane of light will be laid completely across the United States, north and south, from the Canadian to the Mexican borders.

While no radio equipment has been installed in these lighthouses, space and provision have been made in them for its use. They can be converted, in a very few days, to radio lighthouses, or radio beams can be added to their electric signals. It is announced that the greater part of the chain will be in operation before the end of 1928.

Recent experiments by the aircraft-radio laboratory of the United States army signal corps, at Wright field, Ohio, have developed the beam which produces the varying lights on the dashboard of the airplane, and have improved to a remarkable degree the so-called signal beam. such as is used by the radio lighthouses at San

Francisco and Honolulus. Formerly, the dash-dot and dot-dash signals were sent out at such intervals that, though they formed an indicator of the true course, they were audible to the pilot for only a second or two. Weak signals likewise often were lost. Now, under the new method, devised by C. C. Shanggraw, civilian radio engineer at the laboratory, the signals are sent out constantly, one loop sending a dash and the other a dot. so that the two combined form an uninterrupted series of dashes along the true course. This also is reported to have increased materially the range of the transmitter.
Comes now the airplane dispatcher, following the radio lighthouse. This official. whose first plant is being installed at the Oakland, Calif., airport, will use radio telephone and telegraph, the former to send his messages to the plane, and the latter for the aviator's reply. Like the train dispatcher, the main task of the airplane dispatcher will be to keep the planes flying, and flying in the right direction. Further than this, he will be able to locate and send aid to any plane in trouble within the range of his radio instruments.

These radio telephones will be used principally at night, when the pilots have to depend on their compasses, or on regularly spaced beacons, in their cross-country flights. From a ground radio phone, the dispatcher will speak messages to the air pilot, and the latter will reply by international Morse code transmitted by a key. To locate a plane, the dispatcher will ask questions which can be answered by "yes" or "no," until he eventually finds, within five or ten miles, the position of the flyer. With landing fields, as planned, at intervals of thirty to fifty miles, radio lighthouses at central points, beacons of high visibility at each field, and radio communication with each airport, much of the isolation and danger will be removed from air transportation in the United States and on waters surrounding it.

Along with these improvements, fogone of the greatest handicaps to aviation -is being conquered. The department of commerce, according to W. P. McCracken. Jr ., assistant secretary for aviation, is experimenting with mechanical means for the dispersal of fog over airports. When this is accomplished, radio will guide flyerto the ports and they will have such a


Architect's Drawing of a Neon-Tube Beacon for Flyers, with Service Facilities and Hotel and Shop Accommodations Erected around It ; the Red Neon Light Is Fog-Piercing


Fake Tanks Used as Shield for German Sharpshooters and to Fool the Enemy as to the Strength of the Attack

## FAKE TANKS SCREEN SNIPERS IN ARMY GAME

Sharpshooters taking part in recent army maneuvers in Germany, were hidden behind fake tanks to deceive the "enemy." The camouflaged units were in line with real tanks, giving the appearance of a stronger attacking force, and, from a dis. tance. could scarcely be told from the genuine. Soldiers pushed the blinds.

## SOUND-ABSORBING WALLS HELP DEAF TO HEAR

Rooms lined with sound-absorbing material may improve the hearing of partially deaf people, according to discoveries at Colgate Psychological laboratory. The
discovery was made by accident while showing a deaf visitor through the building The visitor could hardly hear shouted remarks in most rooms, but when he came to a soundproof room, he wa. able to hear words spoken in an ordinary tone of voice. The solution seemed to be that the walls thus treated hall taken up all the reverberation, and the deaf per son heard only the voice and not the echoes. Further experiments con firmed the tests. The sound-absorbing material is made from the waste of sugar cane.

## X-RAY MOVIES TO SHOW BONE KNITTING

X-ray movies, showing a broken bone in the process of knitting and similar subjects heretofore outside the realm of photography, are made possible by a new camera developed by Dr. Arthur C. Pillsbury, naturalis: and photographer of the University of California. Dr. Pillsbury ${ }^{\prime}$ experiments in photographing the life cycle of flowers were recently described in Popular Mechanics. His latest camera works on the same principle as the one used to photograph the unfolding of flowers, taking a series of single pictureat intervals, of a movement imperceptible to the human eye, and then ruming then. off as a movie to show movement which took hours or days, all encompassed in a few moments. The first movie with the X-ray camera showed the growth in the interior of a rose. It took seventy-two hours to film, taking one picture at a time in intermittent exposures. Dr. William D. Coolidge, inventor of the Coolidge tube. designed a special X-ray tuhe in order that the rose might not be damaged.


Walking Hobbyhorse Moves over the Floor as the Rider Swings His Weight Back and Forth, Alternately Advancing the Walking Legs and the Body of the Horse

## HOBBYHORSE THAT WALKS NEWEST CHILD'S TOY

A hobbyhorse that walks is the newest amusement device for the child. The horse is unusual in that it has six legs. The front and rear legs end in a short rocker arm. Between them are two other pairs of feet, joined by crossarms. In action, the toy is made to walk by the shifting of the body weight forward and aft and by this means advancing first the walking legs and then the horse.

## OXYGEN CHAMBER SAVES CATS POISONED BY GAS

Carbon-monoxide poisoning, suffered frequently by careless people who start automobile motors in closed garages, may be robbed of its terrors if a new process developed by Dr. Ludwig Schmidt-Keh1, of the University of Wuerzburg, works as well on humans as on cats. The deadly exhaust gas is dangerous because the red corpuscles of the blood, which normally carry oxygen, will absorb 250 times as much of the poison gas as of the life-giving one.


Cross Section of a New Connector for Electric Wires, Showing a Number United by Mechanical Joint

Experimenting with a small pressure chamber, Dr. Schmidt-Kehl found that cats rendered unconscious by the gas could be placed under pressure in the oxygen apparatus and revived by simply raising and lowering the pressure in time with their normal breathing rate.

## WIRE CONNECTOR DOES AWAY WITH TAPE AND SOLDER

A device which does away with twisting. soldering and taping electric connections has been placed on the market. It is a small mechanical connector, provided with a hole into which the wires to be joined are pushed. The device is then twisted, just as though it were a nut. Inside, a copper-coated steel spring, of sufficient size to give it a carrying capacity equal to the wires being joined, threads in with the wires and makes a positive contact. The connectors are made in two sizes, one of which serves for connecting groups of wires ranging from two of No. 18 size to four of No. 14, the other for groups of from four No. 14 to three No. 10. The wires may be either solid or stranded.

## BRIDGE TO LINK TWO NATIONS WILL HAVE LONG SPAN



The Ambassador Bridge, Linking the United States and Canada, as It Will Appear When Completed

Two nations, the United States and Canada, will be linked by the $\$ 20,000,000$ Ambassador bridge between Detroit, Mich., and Sandwich, Ont., which is scheduled for completion by July 1, 1929. Work on the structure, which will have a main span of 1,850 feet between the two chief towers, longer than any bridge yet buit, was started May 7, 1927, and construction has progressed so rapidly that the date for opening the bridge has been advanced more than a year. The link is the realization of plans that have been on foot for more than fifty years. The bridge proper will be 7,400 feet long, and the distance from entrance to exit slightly less than two miles. For a short space in the center, the clearance is 152 feet, so that vessels with stacks or masts twenty feet higher than those now commonly in use on the lakes, and sixty feet higher than those on
freighters, can pass under. A feature of the structure will be the custom and immigration terminals on each side. Parking spaces for many vehicles will be provided and it is estimated that 5,000 cars can be handled each hour by the inspectors. Some idea of the magnitude of the bridge can be gained from the quantities of materials required. These included 24,000 tons of structural steel and cable wire, 25,000 cubic yards of concrete masonry, 40,000 barrel of cement, 60,000 square yards of roadway pavement and 8,000 square yards of side walk pavement. To protect the suspension cables from the weather, they are being covered with a film of special material coated with zinc and several applicationof paint, and are then wrapped with a layer of soft wire.

## IMPREGNATED RUBBER WOOD MAKES BETTER VIOLINS

Modern violins rivaling the old masters instruments in tone are possible if the wood is impregnated with rubber latex before varnishing, according to a German investigator named Ditmar-Graz. Describing the process, he says that the rubber has the effect of rendering the wood permanently elastic.

## HEATER FOR SHOW WINDOWS KEEPS GLASS CLEAR

To prevent the formation of steam and frost on show windows, an electric radiator, operated from a lighting socket, has been introduced. It is of aluminum, does not obstruct the view and is designed to allow the heat to radiate from its full length up the side of the glass and to the top of the window. A steady circulation of warmed air is maintained, and the heater is thoroughly insulated to eliminate the fire hazard.


Electric Heater for Show Windows, to Keep Off Frost and Steam, Operates from Lighting Socket


America's Premier Pleasure Boat Is the Presidential Yacht "Mayflower"; Manned by a Naval Crew, She Enables the Chief Executive to Take Week-End Cruises down the Potomac to the Sea

IALL the yachts of America ever gathered together for a regatta, the flagship of the fleet undoubtedly would be the "Mayflower." the yacht of presidents, but behind the ig. comfortable steam vessel which has carried many White House occupants down he Potomac to the sea would come some of the world's finest pleasure craft.
There would be the world's biggest Diesel-motored yachts, a group of them ranging from 200 to 300 feet in length, fitted out with all the comforts of home, boats capable of cruising around the world or traveling 20,000 miles or more without refueling.

There would be the world's fastest big boats and the world's fastest little boats, sev-enty-five foot cruisers with speeds of forty miles an hour, like Gar Wood's "Gar Sr.," and little runabouts, seagoing automobiles, with forty, fifty and sixty-mile speeds.

And in the sailing division there would be the great bark "Aloha" of Commodore Arthur Curtis James, the cup defender "Resolute," and a host of others.

At the other extreme of size there might be a fleet of hydroplanes with outhoard motors. little craft costing $\$ 600$ or less, yet capable of making thirty-five or more miles an hour and running circles around Vincent Astor's new \$600.000 "Nourmahal" or Richard Cadwalader's $\$ 2,000,000$ "Savarona," probably the two largest Diesel yachts. "Nourmahal," finished a few months ago in the Fried-Krupp yard at Kiel, Germany, is one of the most unusual pleasure craft afloat, for straight stem, and cruiser stern make her look more like a passenger liner than a pleasure craft. How straight stem and stern are is indicated by the fact that her over-all length, 263 feet, is only three feet more than the length on the water line. With two 1,600 -horsepower Diesel engines, she can cruise at fourteen knots and make sixteen at full speed, while her fuel bunkers carry enough oil to keep her at sea forty-eight days without refueling. With a beam of fortyone and a half feet "Nourmahal" has plenty of room for comfortable quarters, including a living room 25 by 28 feet; a library 16 by 28 feet and a dining room 26 by 23 feet. She also has nine staterooms for owner and guests, each with private bath, rooms for two maids and one valet, and accommodations for a crew of forty men.


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Sails Still Keep Their Charm for Yachtsmen Who Like to Relive the Old Days of Wood Hulls and Canvas : Above Is Edward F. Huttin's Schooner "Humar" under Full Sail


(C) The Illustratel

When Dusk Falls over the Yacht Anchorage at Cowes and the Royal Yacht "Victoria and Albert" Steams In to Its Moorings, the Famous Yachting Week Gets under Way

1.mbon News

With the Royal Ensign at the Mainmast Head, the King's Seagoing Steam Yacht Sling between the Anchored Fleet to the "V \& A" Buoy. Where a Naval Crew Waits to Moor Her




## ELECTRIC MACHINE COOLED WITH GAS MORE EFFICIENT

Aiter extensive experiments, engineers have de-w-ed a way to cool electrical apparatus with gas. A rotary condenser at a large eastern plant, employed to increase the efficiency of alternating current, has been complately inclosed in an airtight casing and surrounded with hydrogen. The gas, being a good conductor, removes the heat almost as fast as it develops. It is then cooled by internal radiators supplied with circulating water and is used repeatedly. Other advantages, besides increased efficiency. are claimed for this arrangement. The gas is fireproof, unless mixed with a certain proportion of air, hence even a shortcircuit blaze would be smothered quickly for lack of oxygen.

## MODEL RAILWAY IN FRONT YARD DRAWS MANY VISITORS

Passers-by in a western town halt at a certain front yard, the property of a railroad man, to admire the model railway system he has constructed. The miniature line itself is ninety-five feet long on which tiny electric locomotives haul trains. A sixfoot trestle, supported on forty-five piles is a feature of the railway. A model town of ten huildings, small autos and trucks. 350 trees and midget airplanes are other displays, and the whole has been carefully landscaped to make the assembly more realistic.


## AUTOMATIC FIRE-ESCAPE ROPE HOLDS THOUSAND POUNDS

## FOLDING FOOT-POWER AUTO DEVELOPS HIGH SPEED

Operated by foot power, a folding auto mobile introduced in London develops a speed of twenty to thirty miles an hour and, when collapsed, is small enough to be taken through a door. It runs without great effort on the part of the operator, according to reports, has hand and foot brakes and side screens, and is not taxed. Attached to a reel which permits it to unwind at a moderate rate of speed when needed, an automatic fire-escape cable has been tested with success at an English school. The line is of steel and capable of supporting 1,000 pounds safely. The reel is attached within the room at the side of the window or other exit, one or more being provided at each of them.

## FIREMEN WALK IN DEEP WATER WITH RUBBER SUIT



For firemen along the docks, a rubber suit that permits the wearer to walk about in deep water has been demonstrated in Germany. An inflated portion keeps the man afloat while the feet are weighted to aid in maintaining the balance.

## DIESEL ENGINE FOR AIRPLANES IN SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT

The Diesel-engine principle of using oil for fuel and exploding it under high compression instead of with a spark, has been adapted to airplanes and successfully demonstrated in a series of test flights. Recently, a plane which was equipped with such a motor flew for twenty minutes, landed and took off again without the engine being stopped, and again soared, the engine performing satisfactorily. It was of the radial, air-cooled type, developing 200 horsepower. One of the chief triumphs attained in the unit is the great reduction in weight. Formerly such motors weighed 100
pounds and more to the horsepower, while this one weighed less than three. It has fewer parts than the ordinary gasoline engine, spark plugs, carburetor and the ignition system having been eliminated. Besides greatly reducing the fire hazard, an important factor when gasoline is used, a Diesel-motored plane can fly farther with the same fuel load, engineers declare; the cost of the fuel is less and there is less interference with radio apparatus. Though the engine's test satisfied its builders, it will not be put on the market until further trials have been made.

## PAPER PUNCHED FROM STAMPS SOLD BY GOVERNMENT

The tiny disks of paper punched from the perforations in postage stamps have assumed an unforeseen importance along with the government's policy of economy and are being sold to bidders for salvage as waste. They accumulate at the rate of 12,000 pounds a month and have been offered for sale over a period from last September to next June.

## TOY ELECTRIC AUTO FOLLOWS FENCE TO GET POWER

A toy racing automobile, driven by an electric motor, is the latest novelty for the child. Instead of a track, the automobile follows a fence, which carries two insulated strips to provide the power contacts. The car is provided with a steering arrangement so that it will follow the fence either on the inside or outside, depending on which way the rails are fitted together. A step-down transformer takes current from the house-lighting circuit.


Tiny Fence Supplies Power for This Electric Racer, Fitted with Steering Arrangement That Keeps It near Rails


An Air Picture of an Air Giant; Radio Photo of the Huge German Dirigible "Count Zeppelin" at the Time of Its First Trial Flight When It Carried Eighty-Two Passengers

## RADIO PHOTO OF DIRIGIBLE SHOWS TEST FLIGHT

Interesting photographs of the trial diight of the big German dirigible "Count Zeppelin," designed for transatlantic passenger service, were sent by wireless a few moments after the big bag had started on its first run. Eighty-two persons were carried on the first flight of two and onehalf hours' duration.

## PIRATE ISLE IN GULF OF MEXICO TO BE MODERNIZED

Linking an island fifty miles out in the Gulf of Mexico to the mainland by means of an automobile road, is one of the tasks the Louisiana state-highway commission is soon to undertake. The objective is Grand Isle, famous as a summer resort and celebrated in fiction as the scene of pirate and other adventure stories. The road will run from New Orleans, whence
travelers who now wish to visit the island set forth by canal boat through marsh grasses, drooping willows and other picturesque growths along the bayou district. At Grand Isle is a splendid sevenmile beach, pronounced the finest for surf bathing on the Atlantic coast. Oaks, now 300 years old, grow sturdily and there are homes more than 100 years old. The isle's geological history extends to the time when the Gulf of Mexico reached back to territory now occupied by the state of Michigan. It withstood the vast upheaval that practically fixed the present coast lines of the North American continent as they are today and has been inhabited since 1776. The proposed road, which was authorized recently by an act of the legislature, has been under discussion for several years. Not long ago, land on the island could be had for $\$ 50$ an acre but there were few buyers at that price until more recently, with the modern developments there, lots have advanced considerably.


Some of the Marble Tombstones in the
Cemetery for Pets, on a Small Island in Cemetery for Pets, on a Small Island in ${ }^{\text {the River Seine near Paris; Many of the }}$ Monuments Are Valuable Works of Art Carved by Noted Sculptors
The affection which was lav: ished on the departed pets is reflected in the fact that many of the graves are surmounted by tombstones which are rare works of art. Bizarre carved monuments, magnificent marble mausoleums, and, in many cases, life-size carved effigies of the pet, are quite common. It is not unusual to see luxurious limousines halt at the cemetery gates and their owners descend to place a sheaf of flowers on

## PARIS PET CEMETERY DISPLAYS MONUMENTS TO ANIMALS

One of the strangest cemeteries in the world is located on a tiny island in the river Seine, near Paris. There, connected with the mainland by the Pont de Clichy, is the necropolis of Parisian pets-dogs. cats, doves, monkeys, and other animals.
one of the tombs. A regular, almost daily, visitor keeps fresh flowers on the grave of a little fox terrier that died recently from too much rich food, lack of exercise and complications due to inhaling too much rich perfume. In life, the little terrier had its own apartment, a private maid, cook and butler, as well as a "beautician" to look after its toilet. When it died, the re-
ains were buried in a casket of silver ul ebony, placed in a marble vault, with long inscription inlaid in gold to tell of mistress' grief.

## UNCLE SAM GUARDS OYSTERS

To protect the consumer of oysters hipped in interstate commerce, an elaborate inspection system has been built up, with the result that epidemics due to polluted shellfish are almost unknown. The nyster beds are watched by state authorities, the water examined and passed as free from taint, and the oyster gatherers and flants where they are prepared for shipthent inspected. The plants which have the state approval are then certified to the United States public health service, and if the latter finds conditions are proper, the name is added to an approved list sent to all state health departments.

## HAND-LIFTED BALANCE BRIDGE STILL USED IN ENGLAND

An old hand-operated balance bridge is still in use over a canal at Rickmansworth, Buckinghamshire, within twenty miles of London. To open the draw, it is only necessary to give a slight tug on a chain hanging from the balancing beams, and to close it, a chain on the opposite side is pulled, or the beams may be lifted.


Old-Style Balanced Bridge Still in Use over a Canal within Twenty Miles of London, England

## WATERPROOF MAIL BOX SAVES CONTENTS FROM DAMAGE



Inventor Pouring a Glass of Water into His Rainproof Mail Box, Built to Protect the Contents

A waterproof mail box with its interior so arranged that rain penetrating it is carried out through an opening in the back without coming into contact with the mail has been demonstrated before post-office officials by a Baltimore inventor. It is possible to pour a glass of water directly into the box without wetting the contents.

## AIRPLANE TAKES NON-STOP RECORD FROM BIRDS

Man has at last outdistanced the birds, and now holds the undisputed non-stop flying record of the world. The late Arturo Ferrarin. Italian flyer, whose recordmaking flight from Rome to Brazil covered $4,736.7$ miles, beat by about 700 miles the flight of a giant albatross which flew from the Crozet islands to Rottnest island, off the coast of Australia, carrying about its neck a frantic message from thirteen shipwrecked sailors of the French vessel "Tamarais." Proof that the bird had not stopped for food lay in the fact that the wire holding the message was drawn so tight it could not swallow. Aviators also hold both speed and altitude records over the birds. The highest a bird is known to have flown is 20,000 feet, while aviators have gone to more than 38,000 . Birds never fly faster than sixty miles an hour, except before a gale.

# GlassHOuseto 

 ings, streets and industrial plants during that nocturnal respite when the sun sleeps is accomplished efficiently as a result of many years of investigation, but the problems of daytime illumination have been neglected.Near the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington, England, British scientists several years ago started interesting daylight-illumination studies. They, however, experimented exclusively with the steel skeleton of a building minus inclosing sides, ends and roof. It remained for Uncle Sam to experiment exhaustively with the nor-


A Movable Ceiline, Adjustable from Six to Fifteen Feet, and a Big Photo-Electric Cell. to Measure the Amount of Light. Are Features of the New Sunlight Test Building
mal illumination which can filter through glass and provide poor, medium or good reading conditions at various points within the house, factory or office.

SaveYour Eyes
in the glass house were white. However, as the research progresses, various other wall colors will be experimented with. Data of vital importance to builders and interior decorators will be obtained from this scientific research.

It will take from one to two yearspossibly longer-for the government specialists to complete the research which they have outlined for the glass house. No news about the results will be available until the conclusion of the tests. It is Uncle Sam's invariable policy to make haste slowly in such fundamental experimentation. Tests are repeated, results are checked and rechecked and all sources of possible error are eliminated from the picture. Suffice to say that the data already obtained prove that the glass-house tests will revolutionize and standardize


I:: Changing Indoor Shutters the Engineers Can Duplicate All Possible Light Conditions in Any Part of the Test Building
age occupant lowers the awning or pulls down the shades and thus protects the room against any glare from this source.

National scientists have originated a portable photo-electric cell somewhat similar to the one used in the pioneer television tests as a reliable recorder of light values. It registers the intensity of illumination at any point to which it is moved. This movable apparatus is linked by a coiled cable with a continuous chart recordera mechanical penman which inscribes in black and white the data derived from each experimental set-up. This automatic bookkeeper is as faithful as time, and more accurate than any human recording agency.

A shutter may be removed, for example, from one window on the north side of the building. The portable recorder is then moved from one to another of the floor stations until all have been cov-
but king design around the whole world. The wooden floor of the experimental building is divided into thirty-six test stations identified by black lines. The stations are six feet apart. In each test of light exposure of varying amount and direction, technical readings are mate at every station of the illumination at that particular spot at a distance thirty inches above the floor-the height of the ordinary deck or table.

Illumination observations are made only on bright and sunshiny or overcast cloudy days. Work is discontinued on days when the sun is alternately bright and shrouded hy clouds. This is due to the fact that light values vary within a surprisingly wide range in brief intervals on such days. The influence of direct sunlight is also neglected on the assumption that the aver-
ered. The complete story of the possible light values in different parts of the room is had in the data recorded automatically in the form of diagrams and tables. Two shutters on the same exposure may then be lowered and the test repeated, or one shutter on the north and one on the east may be removed. Every possible combination of light ingress is being tested out.

The amount of illumination at any point in a certain room depends directly on the brightness of the sky visible from that station through the intervening window. Hence the brightness of the sky governs the daylight intensity in home, office, shop or school. Sky brightness varies widely, being from ten to twelve times greater at some points in the heaven than at others. Science reports that the brightest sections
tre close to the sun while minimum brightno $\leqslant s$ is found at locations ninety degrees from the sun. Brightness increases again tuarkedly from this point of minimum to the horizon.
On the roof of the glass house near Washington, a brightness meter is mounted in order that the light intensity of that section of sky which is the source of indoor illumination in each test may be measured. This device consists of a photo-electric cell fitted in a revolving rectangular case and attached to a large metal houd which resembles the bellows of a camera. It is connected by insulated wires with a second chart recorder, within the glass house, which writes the record.
As a result of early tests in the campaign to prevent eyestrain, some states now specify that the window-glass area must be equal to at least one-fifth of the floor space in a schoolroom.
Modern factories that consist of huge shells of glass set in steel frames also are stepping stones of building progress. Future manufactories will be better lighted than ever because of the present glasshouse experiments.

In the future, the health, size, stature and stamina of the human family may be increased correspondingly by the use of special glass in houses which lets the ultraviolet rays indoors. The normal health of the sedentary worker may be improved materially by the use of similar glass in factories, offices and warehouses.

The government plans to initiate some such experiments in its curious glass house. As a result, future generations may become a stronger race of human beings, more efficient workers, endowed with greater resistance against disease, and will live much longer than the normal man of the present age.

## STEAM STORAGE IN FACTORIES INCREASES EFFICIENCY

Improved methods of storing steam generated to operate engines have been developed in England and Germany, enabling plants to operate at greater efficiency, according to reports. The basic idea of the system is to store up exhaust steam or that which would otherwise be wasted when more is being generated than is used.


The Glass House in Which Uncle Sam Is Attempting to Solve the Problem of the Best Arrangement for Daylight Illumination; the Sunlight Recorder Is Shown on the Roof


Diving Outfit Used in Hunting for Diamond Treasure Believed to Be on Sunken Liner: Note the Grappling Hooks at the Ends of the Sleeves; Compressed-Air Bottles Inside Supply the Diver with Fresh Air, and He Has a Phone Cable to the Ship

## DIVING FOR DIAMONDS HIDDEN IN DROWNED LINER

Where are the 10,000 diamonds, worth about $\$ 6,250,000$, satid to have been sunk with the Belgian liner "Elisabethville," torpedoed in forty fathoms of water off Belle Ile, near the port of St. Nazaire, on the French Biscay coast? This is a mystery about which a band of puzzled deepsea divers were asking themselves last Augi-t when they were hunting for the treasure of this drowned liner. The insurance company says that the jewels were put in the liner's strong room. while the owners are positive they were in a safe in the captain's cabin. The first diver dvnamited a way into the mail room but found no treasure. Then the divers forced a way into the captain's cabin and brought
to the surface a safe which was placed under seals. For the work under the great sea pressure at forty fathoms, the salvage ship carried two of the latest diving suits of cast-steel cylinders with jointed iron legs. No outside air supply is needed, because these suits are equipped with compressed-air bottles, and are connected with the ship by cable and telephone. A week after it was brought to the surface, the safe was opened. It contained a few banknotes, but no diamonds. The salvage company still thinks the jewels lie somewhere in the wreck, but just where is not known. Salvage operations are to be continued, not so much to find the lost diamonds, as to practice for the attempt to salvage the "Lusitania,"

## RUBBER-TIRED DISK USED FOR HOME BOWLING GAME

A bowling game that can be played in the home recently has been placed on the market by an eastern manufacturer. Instead of bowling balls, a light discus, covered with a rubber tread, is used, wood blocks mounted on rods taking place of pins. When the disk strikes a pin the latter revolves on its shaft, but,


Bowling-Game Outfit That Uses Rubber-Tired Discus Instead of Balls; the Pins Are on Bar
the mounting hole is shtly off the center, always comes to rest a, in in a vertical posi(toin. A rod behind the targets checks the disk and throws it back, so that there is a chance of striking another pin on the rebound.

## LIFE STORY OF BIG DIAMOND TO BE FILMED

The life story of a diamond is to be filmed in Fingland, with the convent and assistance of the king and queen. The diamond is the famous Kohinoor, which was precented to Queen Victoria by the East India company after it had come into the company's possession through the death of the Rajah of Lahore and the annexation of the Punjab. The film will trace the recorded history of the tone from 1304, when it came into the hands of Ala-ud-din, emperor of Delhi, Legend carries the history back much carlier, but from the time of the Delhi emperor its successive owners are more or less known. Two centuries after Ala-uddin the stone belonged to the son of Babar, the founder. of the Mogul dynasty. It was probably this stone that Aurungzebe used as an eye in the peacock throne, though some authorities hold the eye stone was the Great Mogul, from the Golconda mines, and that the Kohinoor is only a fragment of it. In 1739, the diamond belonged to Nadir Shah, the Persian conqueror, from whose descendants it passed to Runjit Singh. At one time in its history it was sent to the laundry in the pocket of a pair of trousers and rescued by an Indian servant who thought it a pretty piece of glass. When it came to the English crown jewels, the stone weighed $1861 / 2$ carats, but it was improved by recutting, which reduced the weight to $1061 / 2$ carats. It is still the sixth biggest diamond in the world.

CThe largest existing bird is the ostrich.


Boxing Arena with the Ring on Platform, Which Can Be Raised or Lowered with the Fighters and Referees

## DISAPPEARING RING IS LATEST IN BOXING CIRCLES

The idea of the disappearing orchestra in movie theaters has been adapted to the prize-fight ring with a new installation in San Francisco. The ring is the platform of an elevator. It is lowered to the basement, the fighters and seconds, with the referee, step aboard, and then the ring rises into view, with the principals already seated in their corners. The arrangement saves the fighters the trouble of elbowing their way through the crowd going to and coming from the ring.

## CHAIN LINKS EASILY PARTED THROUGH PATENT SLOT



A new type of chain which can be lengthened or shortened at will. without the use of tools and without marring the finish, is being made, particularly for use in chandeliers. The links have a small opening on one side, and when the openings of two links are brought together at right angles, they can be slipped apart or joined.


Parachute Jumper with Portable Broadcasting Outfit Used to Describe the Thrills during the Descent

## CHUTE JUMPER BROADCASTS DURING HIS DESCENT

Broadcasting a description of how it feels to be floating down to earth with a parachute was tried recently at Los Angeles, when a jumper leaped from a plane at 20.000 feet carrying a tiny portable transmitter which weighed less than twen-ty-five pounds. The messages were picked up be a local station and rebroadeast on a wavelength for home reception.

## EIGHTEEN-CARAT RED DIAMOND FOUND IN SOUTH AFRICA

An eighteen-carat red diamond, the rarest tint of all, has been found in the Lichtenburg diamond field in the Transvaal, South Africa. It has been valued at $\$ 20,000$. Diamonds are found in all colors of the rainbow, including blue, green and yellow, but red is the rarest of all. The diamond is a curious case of fault being worth more than perfection, for the red tint is due to impurities within the stone. Blue stones rank next to red in value, the largest known one being the famous "Hope" diamond. The biggest known green stone is a forty-eight and a half carat one. slightly paler than an emerald which is now in the Dresden museum.

## PLANTS SUBJECT TO SUNBURN SCIENTISTS FIND

The browning of plants under the hot rays of the sun is akin to human sunburn, according to reports made to the botany section of the British association for the advancement of science. Dr. E. M. Delf, secretary of the botany group, reported that exposure of plants to the ultraviolet rays from a quartz mercury-vapor are caused the plants' skin to turn brown, and that microscopic examination showed a breakdown of the outer layer of cells.

## STEREOPTICON IS COMBINED WITH PHONOGRAPH

A stereopticon which can be operated in synchronism with a talking machine to produce an illustrated lecture has been invented by an El Paso photographer. The two units can be placed in a single console cabinet, or operated separately, at any distance from each other. The stereopticon also can be used by lecturers to present slides without the aid of an assistant, as the lecturer can change the slides at any distance and without the audience being aware of the operation.


Combination of Phonograph and Stereopticon Which Delivers an Illustrated Lecture without Human Aid

## SPECIAL BOATS FOR AUTOSCARRY MANY CARS

Approximately 150,000 automobiles made in Detroit were delivered to distant dealers by water this year, according to reports from the steamship operators on the Great Lakes. Water delivery was first tried in 1918, during a railroad emhargo, but has only come into general use since 1925. Several boats specially designed for the service carry nothing lut automobiles, while other tars are shipped as deck loads on ore and grain boats bound up the lakes for their usual cargoes. and still more on ordinary package freighters. The special attomobile boats carry from 500 to 650 cars while from 150 to 175 car can be loaded on the spar deck of the ore and grain boats. The deck loads are not lashed down or fastened in any way. When the cars are driven aboard, under their own power, the gears are put in low and the brakes set. As no blocking and bracing is necessary, and the ship freight rates are lower than the rates by rail, the automobile dealers save considerable money.

## COLLAPSIBLE MAIL CASE GIVES ROOM FOR SORTERS

A collapsible mail case, providing space for the sorting of a large volume of mail, after which it can be folded into a small space and put away until needed again, has been invented by a North Dakota man. While intended primarily for rural-route post offices, it also can be used in large offices and factories.


Looking Toward the Pilot's Compartment in the Sikorsky Amphibian Yacht Built for a New York Millionaire

## AIR YACHT HAS ALL COMFORTS OF A RAILROAD PULLMAN

An air yacht with all the comforts of a fine railroad car or seagoing pleasure craft has been built by the Sikorsky company for John Hay Whitney, son of the late Payne Whitney. The craft, a twin-motored amphibian, is similar to the airplane which carried Gene Tunney from his iraining camp to New York for his last fight. The pilot's compartment has dual controls for two pilots. Back of it is the passenger cabin, with a divan, pillows, chairs, table and lockers.

## GERMAN AIR LINES OPERATE 40,000 MILES DAILY

Germany's air lines, grouped in the Luft Hansa organization, are doing the bulk of the civil flying in Europe. The summer schedule this year called for 160 big passenger planes flying daily, and covering routes aggregating 40,000 miles a day. Twenty thousand passengers were carried in one month, as well as 123 tons of freight, 163 tons of baggage and 102 tons of mail. During the same period the English lines flew but 112.750 miles in the entire month, and carried 6,531 passengers and 100 tons of freight. Subsidiaries of the company are operating throughout the continent.


The Shaded Lines at the Left of the Picture Form the Sound Track, Recording the Roar of the Battle Planes in the Distance

ABUCKET of water poured on the shoulders of a feminine film player, sounded, in the "talkies," like dropping popcorn. Then somebody discovered that a cymbal, borrowed from the orchestra and played at a distance, sounded just like falling water. Not important, in itself, but just one of the million and one new problems encountered in giving the silent drama a voice.

More startling still is the change in studio atmosphere. In the days when the celluloid drama was still silent, directors went around armed with megaphones to make themselves heard above the din, and a studio stage might be as noisy as a boiler shop, for the camera didn't care.

But now that the movies are being heard as well as seen, a talkie studio is the last word in silence. A sound not much louder than that of a dropping pin is enough to cause the perpetrator to be banished forever, for one extraneous noise may force the junking of thousands of dollars' worth of work.

Hollywood is embarked on the greatest experiment of its career. Voice-culture establishments are springing up in every street to teach actors and actresses the proper way to speak. Enterprising radio engineers are coining money with recording apparatus that enables every actress to carry along a talking-machine record of her speaking voice to demonstrate to the director just how she sounds when recorded. And the producers are staging a wild race to build the best and most soundproof studio stage first.

Where it all is going to end none cen predict. Recording a musical accompantment for a standard film is one thing. Fitting the characters out with dialogue and slowing the action down to a speaking rate is another. What the rest of the world thinks about the great speaking movie rush was summed up recently by G. A. Atkinson, movie critic of the London Express, when he wrote:
 nor American dialogue might be acceptable to English audiences.

The great stampede, as Mr. Atkinson so aptly names it, has been just that ; as wild an upheaval as a Klondike gold rush.

On the technical side, an entirely new art has had to be learned, and it could be learned only by bitter experience. The problem of making falling water sound like itself was not an exception, but the rule. Practically every sound that had to the recorded was successfully registered only after painstaking experiment to determine which wrong sound would produce the right effect. What goes into the microplone and what comes out of the record or the light band on the film, depending on which of the two processes is used, sometimes differ entirely.

No one has yet solved the problem of taking outdoor scenes for the talkies. It is quite simple to make a news-reel shot of a parade or a cheering baseball crowd
but try to record a dialogue between two actors and every passing atutomobile, pedestrian or street car is going to be heard and distract the audience's attention.

Absolute quiet is so essential that directors who learned the game yelling through a megaphone now have to talk with their fingers. Soundproof studios, with eight-inch concrete walls. hermetically sealed doors, and deeply padded walls and ceilings are used. To eliminate the clicking of the camera, it is operated inside a padded chamber and shooting through double plate-glass windows. After the action has been rehearsed, a whistle blows and from then on absolute silence must reign.

In a padded lookout room, bigh up on the wall of one studio, an observer checks the action while listening to the voices coming through giant loud speakers, ex-
actly like those which will be used in the theaters. In the recording room, experts stand at mixing panels and blend the output of the various microphones, regulate the volume and pass the current on to the recording apparatus, where the master record is made.

When the other talkie process is used, recording the sounds on the film itself, the result is achieved in a somewhat dif-
crete walls are separate layers of acoustic plaster, with a dead-air space between the two. The roofs are six inches of concrete and steel, with inner ceilings of acoustic material. The doors weigh two tons each. run on ball-bearing tracks and are built of steel and acoustic material to make them soundproof. Ventilation is taken care of by ducts between the double walls, supplied with air from a distant fan house,

ferent way. The current from the microphones passes through the mixing and control stages and then back to the camera, which contains a sensitive light playing, through a narrow aperture, on a strip at the edge of the film. The variations of the current from the microphones cause the light to fluctuate, and when the film is developed it shows bands of shading. A light of constant strength in the projector will then fall on these, and that part of the light which passes through actuates a photo-electric cell, the output of which, amplified many times, is transmitted to the loud speakers.

At the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios there is a main stage, 100 by seventy-four feet, a control room, fifty-four by fiftyeight, a second stage of the same size, and a two-story recording building to house the electrical apparatus. The recording building is almost as large as the main stage. All the buildings have thick concrete walls, going down to vibrationless piers, and floors sixteen inches thick, consisting of a six-inch sand cushion, four inches of concrete, four inches of cork, and a double wood floor. Within the con-
the air passing through filters that remove all the fan hum.

Such elaborate precautions are necessary because some of the microphones used are so delicate they can pick up the footfalls of a fly and amplify them until they sound like hammer blows.

Talking movies are not new, in fact they were demonstrated years ago, but it was not until the fall of 1926 that the industry became vitally interested. Curiously enough the father of all talkies-the tele-phone-is the parent of the speaking movies, for, in their present form, they are a by-product of the telephone laboratory. Engineers of the Bell Telephone company were hunting ways to improve the telephone. As a result of their experiments they developed various side issue: which included the public-address system of huge loud speakers used to carry a speaker's voice to 50,000 or 100,000 people in a single audience; the electrical method of registering phonograph records; the orthophonic phonograph horn, and, finally, the talking movie.

The latter was turned over to the Western Electric company, which builds all

 graph-disk method, obtained a license and the exclusive use of the name Vitaphone.

Fox followed with Movietone, the filmband process. Its development, however, dates back nineteen years, when Theodore Case, a Yale student, began experiments which led to its development. Needing money to carry on his work, he obtained a million from the Fox movies, and now the Fox-Case corporation controls a veritable gôld mine.

How is a talking movie made?
Activity inside the stage is well-ordered.
talks through a hand telephone to the operator, who photographed the scene from inside the movable booth, and finds out whether a retake is required or the sho's were all right. It is here that the monitor operator or mixer, a new figure in the film world, has his place. He has heard the voices of the players through a speaker just as they will register on the screen. He is an expert on voice culture. He tells the director, for instance:
"Miss Jones' voice was a bit shaky, and Mr. Smith's 'hupph' wasn't very emphatic.

 fect than anything else."

So the scene has to be shot again. And, remember; this recording is done under ideal conditions. Outdoor scenes with sound aren't even being thought of as yet. Innumerable things may spoil recordings, A passing airplane, a loud-toned automobile horn on a neighboring street, the habit of people of yelling at passing picture folk, a twig snapping under the feet of one of the camera staff ; all these, or any one of them, may ruin a scene. The microphone knows no distinction between a $\$ 5,000-\mathrm{a}-$ week woice and the bark of a mongrel dog.

Cost is indeed a decisive factor in the talkies. There is not only the terrific item of installing stages and equipment in studios, but the wiring of theaters as well. Variety, the theatrical magazine, estimates that one-third of a billion dollars will be invested by motion-picture companies in these two divisions. Of this amount, $\$ 200,000,000$ will go into the wiring of playhouses and $\$ 100,000,000$ into studio installation, it is reported.

Experiments are being made with double films, taking the picture on one and the sounds on another, the two films running through the camera side by side to keep them synchronized. One of the movie companies has been working on the process for some time. Its advantage lies in not reducing the size of the picture to make room for the sound track, and in providing a better recording of the sounds, When the sound track is used along the edge of the film, the density gathering left along the outer edge of the film in developing extends into the sound path and produces a lowfrequency hum in reproduction. In using two separate films, it is not only possible to record the sound in the center of the film. where development is best, but it is likewise possible to record several sound tracks, one for each microphone.

When this is done, a whes of separate photoetectric cells are used, wach focused on one of the parallel tracks. In reproduction, the output of each sound track can 1. amplified separately and played separately in a loud speaker, so that the volume can be regulated. In this way, if the violins are too loud, they can be toned down, and if some other part of the orchestra is too weak, it can be amplified.
That problem of regulating sounds is one of the biggest facing the talkies. Whistles or high piping noises are never reproduced well by the microphone. Violins and flutes have to be kept at a distance. The sound of breaking glass is enough to ruin a record. Kettledrums are fairly easy to reproduce, hut bassdrums have to be mounted on -prings to prevent their vibrations being taken up by the building.
The human element offers as great difficulties for directors, scenario writers and actors all have to learn a new technique.

## IRAIN TO CONTROL WHEAT SMUT SAVES FARMERS MILLION

Pennsylvania farmers whose crops have been depleted by the ravages of wheat smut, have been saved over $\$ 1,000,000$ besides enjoying financia! increases due to higger yields, as a result of the smut-control train operated by the Pennsylvania state college and the Reading railway system. The train carries a treatment plant for the cleansing of seed wheat and makes one stop a day at stations designated by a previously announced schedule. Farmers who do not have access to other treatthent plants, bring their wheat to the train, where it is handled and returned to them at the rate of 100 bushels an hour. About the oally direct expense required of the grower is the purchase of a chemical dust with which the wheat is treated.


Electric Hoist for Elevating Boats from Illinois River to Docking Space on Bank; It Will Lift Two Tons

## ELECTRIC ELEVATOR FOR BOATS SIMPLIFIES STORING

One of the chief objections to pleasure boating, the taking out and storing of the craft, has been solved by an Illinois yachit club with a lift constructed from an ordinary freight elevator. A small electric motor furnishes the power, and the hoist is capable of handling a load of two tons.

## GEAR-SHIFT INDICATOR AIDS BEGINNERS IN DRIVING



A gear-shift index that alway, shows the position in which the gear lever should be for any speed is a new aid to the beginner in learning to drive. The device consists of a slotted indicator, mounted several inches above the floor on a supporting bracket. The slots are the proper length for the gear in any position.


Miniature Grain Elevator Used to Demonstrate Dust Explosions ; Such Blasts Have Wrecked Gigantic Concrete Storage Bins and Done Enormous Damage Before Their Cause Was Learned

GASOLINE being so high in price, why not drive the automobile engine with corn flour? As fuel, it costs only about one-third as much.

Already the thing is being done. At Arlington, across the Potomac from Washington, some remarkable experiments have been made in that line-feeding a mixture of corn flour and air to the engine, and thereby, with the electric spark, producing a series of explosions.

The idea was evolved in a rather curious way. For several years past, government scientists have been trying to find out all there was to know about the dust explosions which wreck so many flour mills, grain elevators and factories.

For experimental purposes they had built toy-size models of such structures, and had produced explosions by blowing flour or grain dust into them, the ignition
usually being furnished by a lighted candle placed inside.

A newly constructed model of this kind represents in miniature a first-class modern grain elevator, and an improverl method of setting off the dust inside of it is to ignite it with an electric spark. The little elevator has a tower at one end, open at the top. A piece of strong paper is fastened tightly over the top, and the explosion bursts it outward, with a loul report and a cloud of smoke.

Until quite recently it was not imagined that dust of any kind could explode spontaneously. Even after the fact had been pretty well established, mill owners and others who had suffered from disastrous accidents of the kind refused to believe it. The most important usefulness of the experimental models has been to give convincing demonstration to the incredulous.

# RunAutos 

It will presently be seen how direct is the bearing of this phenomenon upon the operation of an automobile engine by explovions of corn flour mixed with air, for this is, under suitable circumstances, an explosive, comparable in power to dynamite.

If a housewife were to go into lee kitchen with a few pounds of corn flour, and scatter the stuff b.y throwing handfuls of it into the air, she would only have to light a match in order to blow up the house.

Under such conditions, the corn flour being suspended in a cloud of finely divided particles, every individual one of the latter in direct contact with the oxysen of the air, a flame spreads through the whole cloud so instantaneously that in a moment a kreat volume of gas is generated, the power of its expansion so great as to burst the walls.
The housewife of today keeps on her pantry shelves a variety of things which, though they seem to be the most innocent imaginable, are capable of acting as high explosives. Not even TNT can he more destructive than ordinary wheat flour, if the latter be set afloat in quantity in the air of a room and ignited. Rice flour, under like circumstances, is equally dangerous.
The same is true of oatmeal. One of the most frightiful explosions was that of the Oliver oatmeal mill in Chicago, five years ago. Equally harmless, on the pantry shelf, is starch powder. Yet it may act as a high explosive. Not very long ago, at Pekin, Ill., a starch-powder factory hew up, with a loss of many lives. Five men in box cars, thirty feet away from one of the buildings, disappeared entirely, while nothing was left of the cars but splinters.

Every now and then a candy factory is blown up; for powdered sugar is a high explosive even more dangerous than any of those mentioned above. In a Boston candy shop several girls were engaged in coating marshmallows with sugar. The air of the room was full of it. One girl lit a cigaret, and instantly there was a frightful explosion. The building was blown up.

What more harmless than a cake of soap? To make it burn, one would have to put it into the furnace. But the soap powder used by every housewife is capable of as tremendous destructiveness as any high explosive known. For soap is fat, and therefore combustible; and, if dry and distributed through the air of a room, the
powder invites ignition, and a mere spark will set it off.

Any combustible substance in powdered form, if so mixed with air as to be supplied with plenty of oxygen, will, in a confined space, explode if a match is lighted. There have been disastrous explosions of hardrubber dust and of fish meal.

The method of using the electric spark to produce explosions in a miniature grain elevator suggested the experiment, at Arlington, of utilizing a mixture of corn
 Flour and Air to Form an Explosive Product, and the Auto Engine, with Head Removed, Showing, at Right, the Pipe through Which the Mixture Is Sucked
metal box, using for the purpose an electric fan inside the box. From the box a stream of the flour-laden air is drawn by suction through a pipe into the automobile engine, producing a series of small explosions as it is ignited by the electric spark.

How tremendous is the power developed by the explosion of cereal dust mixed with air may be judged from a statement by Prof. Charles E, Munroe, the government's chief expert in explosives,
flour and air as fuel for the automobile engine. In this way, by a series of small explosions, the engine is operated successfully, the corn flour required for the purpose being bought in cartons at a grocery store.

Rice flour, wheat flour, or powdered sugar might be used just as well instead. The problem, however, has been merely to determine how far it might be practicable to run an engine by dust explosions: and the idea in immediate view is to ascertain the practicability and cheapness of this method for application to stationary engines, rather than to those of motor cars.

The method adopted is to mix a quantity of corn flour with air in a large sheet-
who says that the contents of a twenty-four-pound sack of wheat flour, mixed with 4,000 cubic feet of air in a closed place. will, if ignited, generate in an instant enough power to throw a mass of iron weighing one ton to a beight of five miles.

A phenomenon that has to do with spontaneous combustion has but newly attracted the attention of the chemical-engineering division, the experts of which are greatly puzzled by it. And no wonder. inasmuch as it relates to the starting of fires by water!

As a consequence of the recent floods in Vermont and Massachusetts, many barns were burned. Masses of stored hay, wetted by the water, underwent a fermentation that was productive of a heat so
wh as to start fires. ven while the barns are surrounded by flood ater to a depth of sevcral feet, in some intances, the hay stored h ove took fire.
On one farm near Middlesex, Vt., located in a narrow valley where the flood waters rose exceptionally high, there was a barn that held about fifty tons of meadow hay and alfalfa. The crest of the flood arrived early Friday morning, Nov. 4. On the following Monday a charred odor was naticed; some hours later the barn burst into flome and was burned.

The flood waters in Vermont and Massachusetts reached the haymows of hundreds of barns. Excessive heating set in almost immediately after the flood receded, endangering the farm buildings. In many cases stores of hay steamed so alarmingly that the farmers hastened to remove them into the open. A large number of students of the University of Vermont, at Burling-


A Farm Silo near Middlesex, Vermont, Blown to Pieces as a Result of Spontaneous Combustion Igniting the Gases during Fermentation
ton, volunteered to help pitch the hot hay out of the barns.

The chemical-engineering division is at a loss for an explanation. It is easy to say "spontaneous combustion," but how account for it? Nobody knows. Apparently some chemical action in moistened hay is capable of generating a temperature high enough to start a fire.

## FIRE FIGHTERS TO GET COFFEE FROM SERVICE CAR

A service car manned by a crew of five women will serve hot coffee and sandwiches, and render first aid to Pasadena
firemen. The car was donated to the department by the women's auxiliary, composed of wives, sisters and mothers of firemen. It has a complete kitchen on wheels, with its own water, light and fuel systems, an ice box, sink, table, cabinets, hot plate, serving dishes, staple food supplies and a fivegallon coffee urn, with room for a crew of four women, besides a fifth at the wheel. A thirty-gallon tank of fresh water is carried on the roof. One compartment is equipped with a complete first-aid kit and most of the women of the organization, who take turns in volunteering for duty at fires, have taken first-aid courses, so as to be able to attend injuries.


With His Boat Full of Water, This Oarsman Can Still Row Ashore, For the Rubber Tube Surrounding It Carries Enough Air to Keep the Craft from Going to the Bottom

## LIFE RING FOR BOATS SAVES THEM FROM SINKING

A rubber life ring, like a greatly enlarged inner tube, is the latest safety device for the rowboat. The ring can be blown up and attached around the outside of the boat, following which the craft can be filled with water and still rowed ashore.

## WIRE FENCE BAR TO INSECTS PLANT STUDY SHOWS

How a barbed-wire fence acts indirectly as a barrier against grasshoppers and other insects, as well as against cattle, was one of the interesting observations made by Prof. A. O. Weese of the University of Oklahoma. Studying buffalo pastures in the Wichita national forest, he found that the associations of insects were as distinct on the two sides of the fence as were the associations of plants. The reason was the difference in the plant life. Where animals had been permitted to graze. there appeared grasses and other growths
quite different from those found on the native prairie. Insects frequenting the pasture lands were seldom found on the other side of the fence.

## OIL YIELDS FLAVOR OF PEACHES AND KIND OF SOAP

Soap and an extract with a peach flavor can both be prepared from petroleum. chemists report. They do not anticipate that crude oil will be diverted from its present chief use as a source of fuels, but the experiments are considered especially important as showing a way to obtain a substitute for various vegetable acids and other materials that might be utilized for food instead of for making soap. Other interesting facts were brought out at a recent meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry-coal burns slowly all the time. even when it is stored in the basement. but the reaction is so slight as to be unimportant, and also that, by using a thin film of color in lacquer, it is possible to protect auto finishes from sunburn.

## BIRDS SO STUPID THEY ARE CAUGHT IN FISH NETS

More than 100,000 little auks, birds so tupid they cannot tell the difference beaveen a man standing still and a pile of stones, were observed on Hakluyt island iif the Arctic ocean by Dr. R. M. Anderson, Canadian government zoologist, on an expedition into the far north last summer. Taking advantage of the birds' stupidity, the natives catch them by sweeping them up in the ordinary landing nets used by fishermen. The little auks stand uptight, resembling the penguin, and, like their larger relative, form in lines of almost martial array. Dr. Anderson trapped two lemming voles, a rodent so rare that hardly a dozen specimens are known, and found four white-footed fieldmice near F'ort Burwell, on Hudson strait, in a land where it would seem almost impossible for them to find food to exist. He also watched the Eskimos capture white whales hy beating on pans in the mouth of a little hay, so frightening the whales they floundered around until the tide went out and left them stranded.

## NEW SOLAR-HEAT MACHINE GETS FIRE FROM SUN

A new solar-heat machine is being tried in the search of science for cheaper fuel sources than coal. The mirrors focus the sun's rays in one spot, concentrating the heat in a small area, and giving a much greater effect than a burning glass.


Solar-Heat Machine Which Collects the Sun's Rays over a Large Area and Concentrates Heat in One Spot


This Stately Clock Tower, Built as a War Memorial, Is Really the Chimney of a Heating Plant

## CHIMNEY USED AS CLOCK TOWER AND WAR MEMORIAL

Using the chimney of a heating plant as a war memorial, and at the same time making it a graceful addition to the campus instead of an unsightly obstruction, is the unique result achieved at the University of Detroit. A tall square tower, pierced with narrow slit windows and topped with a gothic design, below which is a four-faced clock, hides the smokestack of the new university power plant.

## MILK CAN BE SOLD BY YARD IN NEW SHEET FORM

Milk may be sold by the square foot or the lineal yard if dairymen adopt a new process invented by a Copenhagen, Denmark, milk producer. His machine rolls dried milk into sheets like tissue paper. and in this form it is claimed the product will keep for several years without any change in quality.

CA total of 7,698 miles of airways have been marked for night flying, with 1,284 electric and acetylene beacons in use.

## MOTOR AIR CLEANER DRAWS SUPPLY INSIDE CAR



Carburetor Air Intake Which Draws Clean Supply from the Inside of the Automobile

A motor air cleaner that draws the air supply for the carburetor from within the car, where the air is practically free from the dirt sucked into the engine compartment through the radiator, is the latest accessory for the automobile. The cleaner is attached to the dash, and has a removable filter. A flexible connection leads down to a horizontal passage to the carburetor intake. A trapdoor, normally kept closed by the engine suction, blows open in event of a back fire.

## TEST SHOWS FAMOUS BRIDGE STRONG AS NEW

Recent examination of the fifty-four-year-old Eads bridge across the Mississippi river, at St. Louis, shows the famous structure to be in as sound condition as when it was last inspected, in 1902, twentyeight years after it was built. The bridge is noted not only because it was the first in America in which steel was used for main members, but because its huge $520-$ foot arches carry a double line of railway on one deck and a highway and interurban tracks on another, a total load that required special materials. The main members of the arches are eighteen inches in diameter and are unusual in that they are
made of six staves of chromium steel two and an eiglith inches thick, fitted together like the staves of a barrel inside a sheath of quarter-inch steel boiler plate, riveted around them. The result is a hollow tube of thirteen and a quarter inches' inside diameter and eighteen inches' outside made up of six segments. In the recent examination, inch holes were drilled into these tubes to see whether water and rust had penetrated inside, but they were found to be perfectly dry. Capt. James B. Eads, who designed the bridge, was a versatile engineer, who achieved success in glass manufacture and gunboat building, and later in life supervised the flood-control work on the lower Mississippi. He had to surmount almost unconquerable obstacles to get the special steel for his bridge.

## RAZOR-BLADE STROPPER USES TWO STEEL BALLS

Knife sharpeners which utilize the principle of drawing the blade between two hard-steel surfaces are more or less common, but now one manufacturer has brought out a razor stropper employing the same principle. Two steel balls are mounted in a handle so that they revolve easily in cups while their inner surfaces are in contact. Either an old-style blade


Razor-Blade Sharpener Uses Two Steel Balls to Strop Either Safety Blades or Old-Style Razors
or a safety-razor blade can be drawn back and forth between them to strop its cutting edge. Because of their shape, the balls are especially adapted to stropping hollow-ground blades.


Babies in a Hebrew Home in New York Entertain Themselves in This Spring-Operated Chair, Which Bounces Up and Down and Hops over the Floor at the Slightest Movement of the Occupant

## SPRING-OPERATED SEESAW AMUSES THE BABY

A seesaw for one person, operated by a spring, is the latest device for amusing infants in the Hebrew infant asylum in New York. One end of the balanced hoard, which carries a seat and tray for the child, is held down by a spring. The slightest movement of the baby is sufficient to start it bobbing up and down and moving about in hops over the floor.

## MOVIES MOVE WHEAT FIELD TO GET PICTURE EFFECT

Filming a story in the eastern Oregon wheat country recently, a movie director discovered his script called for a miserly farmer who utilized every available inch of land by planting grain up to the very walls of his house. No such farmer or grain field could be found, so it became necessary to move two acres of wheat to fill in the vacant spaces. The technical department solved the problem by mounting clusters of wheat in plaster of
paris. After the material had set, the clusters of grain could be moved around at will. The job cost $\$ 3,000$, besides what was paid the farmer for the use of his grain and fields, but when it was done, the eye could not tell where the growing grain left off and the transplanted stalks began.

## AUTOMATIC PANCAKE MACHINE COOKS AND TURNS THEM

An automatic pancake machine that measures out the batter, cooks the cake, turns it and delivers it ready to be served has been invented by a Portland, Oreg., man. Compressed air operating on a cylinder containing the batter, regulates, by its pressure, the quantity to be released for each cake. The batter is discharged

Automatic Pancake Machine; Batter Container at the Right, and the Cake-Turning Arm at the Left
 - on a revolving hot plate, heated by electricity. One revolution of the plate requires ninety seconds. Halfway around, the cake slides onto a metal shelf, which is flipped over by power from the driving motor, and the other side is cooked the last half of the revolution. when a gate slides it off the plate.

(c) National Geographio Society

Taking Tidal Observations at Etah, Greenland, the Port Made Famous as the Base for Arctic Explorations

W$\mathrm{T}^{\text {HAT }}$ science now knows about the tides constitutes as fascinating a story as anything ever devised by the versatile pen of Jules Verne, fanciful French romancer who several decades ago delighted the youth of the world.
Knowledge of the tides affects the safety of all the vessels in every ocean port in the world; it enables the deep-sea fisherman to plan his expeditions most profitably, the dock engineer to determine the level at which breakwaters and piers should be built, as well as how to salvage and lay large pipe lines; the expert on sewage disposal to know just how far out to deposit a city's sewage without endangering the health of thousands of people.
Why is a tide and what is it? The explanation starts with the fact that it is the periodical rise and fall of the ocean waters caused by the peculiar attraction of the moon and the sun on the earth's
dred steel shaft, several hundred miles in diameter, connecting the globes. When the earth swings the moon around it, the earth must back off, so to speak, in a little circle (or ellipse) of it own.
Theoretically, every star and planet in the universe raises its separate tide in our oceans. Actually, however, even Jupiter the greatest of our sister planets, is so far away and relatively so small, that its influence cannot be detected. To all intent. therefore, it may be said that only the moon and the sun, respectively our near est and our most powerful neighbor in space, have a share in making the earth's tides.
The evolution of maritime traffic from the shallow-draft sailing vessels of an earlier generation to the great fleets of speedy deep-draft steamers of today has revolutionized the needs of the mariner making imperative the utilization of im-


Fourtesy U, S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
Reedy Island Pier and Tidal Indicator in Delaware Bay, as It Appears by Moonlight; Tidal Fluctuations Are, in the Main, Accurately Charted but Occasionally the Predictions Are Wrong
proved methods and instruments whose development has proceeded simultaneously. In the early days of light-draft vessels, advance knowledge of tidal conditions was of slight importance, but as the draft approached the depth of the water over bars and into harbors, such knowledge has become almost indispensable in the navigation of a modern vessel upon leaving and entering port.
Each of the leading nations issues tide tables. These now cover the entire maritime world. Of course, it would be impracticable to predict the times of the tides for each one of the eighty-eight principal ports of the world. A number of the main ones, therefore, having representative types of tides, have been selected as standard reference ports. Daily predictions are made for these, and all other localities are referred to them, allowing. of course, for differences of time. For instance, the tides at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., come four hours forty-five minutes later than the daily predictions for the tides off New York City.

These predictions are issued a year in advance in handy booklet form for the
mariner. The booklet also contains tidal information for some 3,500 secondary ports, which, in connection with the daily predictions for the principal ports, gives the navigator all the necessary tidal data for any part of the world. The publication contains over a million figures and each must be absolutely correct so as to insure the safety of life and property.

The U. S. coast and geodetic survey maintains what are known as primary tide stations at the main cities along all our coasts. Working from these bases, the engineers make surveys from time to time so as to keep absolutely up to date the chart which guides the mariner. Such surveys involve many soundings, in order to make an accurate profile of the bottom and indicate on the chart a visualization of the bars, channels and shoals over the charted area, so that the mariner may readily avoid dangerous points.
Among the remarkable instruments used by the survey engineers, are the automatic tide gauge and the tide-predicting machine. The first consists of a clock that moves a sheet of paper forward automatically, and a float that rests on the water

and rises and falls with the tide. This float causes a pencil to move up and down the paper so that the combined motions of the paper, due to the clock movement, and the pencil, due to the actuation of the float, automatically produce a curve from which the height of the tide at any desired instant may be obtained. In some gauges, the time is indicated by cross-section paper; in others, a second clock indicates the time on the curve at hourly intervals.

The float is inclosed in a long vertical cylinder, or well, that is water-tight except for a small opening in the bottom, allowing the water to rise and fall in unison with the slow tidal movements. In order to insure accuracy of the gauge record at all times, it is compared daily with readings taken directly from a staff placed near the gauge. The staff is a board with graduated markings showing the height of the tide.

Most of us have heard of the tide-predicting machine, described as a "mechanical prophet with brains of brass." The device, weighing about 2.500 pounds, is some eleven feet long, two feet wide and six feet high. It was conceived, designed
and constructed by government scientists back in 1910 and has been in continuous use ever since.
The prophet's operation is nothing short of marvelous. It was designed to calculate simultaneously the effect of thirtyseven factors which go to make up the tide, a feat that would require the services of from fifty to 100 expert mathematicians and the computation of more than a million figures. The factors depend on the relative positions of the sun, moon and earth, and also on the shape and size of the harbor for which predictions are made. Its greatest error has been only six onehundredths foot.
The machine will foretell the tides a hundred years in advance as easily as it will those of two orthree yearsahead. and will likewise prophesy the times of slack water of

Tidal Gauge at Anchorage, Alaska, at High and Low Water, Difference Thirty-Three Feet, and, Center, Close-Up of the Moon, Which Causes Tides
tidal currents and the velocities and strengths of these currents. Already a striking practical instance of its value in this connection has taken place. Even before the recent deepening of the Chesapeake and Delaware canal, the automatic prophet predicted what the times of slack water would be in the canal a hundred years hence.

Tests are now being made with a new device that promises to revolutionize the science of tide surveying. It is a current meter, not yet fully perfected, which is esentially an automatic motion-picture camera, recording current velocity and direction beneath the -urface. When improved a little more, the device is expected to take the place of a complete observing unit composed of one boat, one officer and six men. It has the added advantage of operating continuously for a week without attention and works as follows: Inside the

Courtesy U. 8. Coast and Geodetle Surrey
Box Tide Gauge at Lynnhaven. Va.; Dr. Ralph E. Wilson, of the Carnegie Institution, with Device Illustrating Tides, and Workmen Erecting Gauge and yet there would be enough material left for something like 10,000 planets the size of the earth. One would naturally suppose, then, that the sun would exert a correspondingly greater attraction on our globe than does its far tinier neighbor. And so it does. But there is a vast difference between the total pull of a body on another and its tide-producing force. As was mentioned earlier, the tide on the earth results from the difference between the pulls on the center of the earth and those on the near and far sides.

Why do we have the greatest tides at the full moon? Because, whereas ordinarily the moon and sun are pulling in different directions, they now are pulling


Courtesy U. S. Coast and Gendetic Surrey High and Low Tide in the Bay of Fundy, Showing a Ship on Dry Land at
having three and ninetenths feet, and the latter, three and eight-tenths. The highest tide in the world is about fifty feet. at Minas Basin, Bay of Fundy. The lowest tides occur in the Mediterranean and at the Virgin islands, averaging commonly less than a foot.
Contrary to popular belief, especially that long cherished by many seamen, tides exert no inflitence whatsoever on the weather, according to the U. S. weather bureau. A, a matter of fact, close observers have discovered that extreme weather conditions affect the tides to some degree. Tides ebb and flow at every point on the coast with clocklike regularity. Nevertheless, the weather continues to be fair or foul, regardless of these tides. On the other hand conditions of extremely low barometric pressure and very strong winds from favorable directionmay cause either unusually low or unusually high tides as the case happens to be. Take a somewhat fantastic instance:
together, in the same line. On the other hand, we have the smallest range of tides at the first and last quarters because then the moon and sun are pulling at right angles to each other, each force tending to neutralize the attraction of the other body.
It is interesting to note the wide range of differences between the average tidal heights at certain of our eastern seaport cities. Eastport, Me., has the highest tide, normally about twenty feet, while Galveston, Tex., has the lowest, about one foot. New York City has four and one-half feet at high tide, whereas there is scarcely any difference between the tidal waters at San Francisco and Los Angeles, the former

If it were possible to eliminate from this earth the Isthmus of Panama, an interesting speculation is whether or not the waters of the Pacific would start flowing into the Atlantic. The answer is that they would do so during high water. At low water the current would be reversed flowing from the Atlantic into the Pacific.

As a matter of fact, the average height today of ocean waters at the Pacific end of the Panama canal is about three-fourthof a foot higher than the average height at the Atlantic terminal. This point actually has been settled beyond all question by the precise leveling operations of the canal engineers. The cause of the differ-
ence in tidal height at the two extremities is thought to lie in meteorological condithins, principal among them the direction of prevailing winds.
Now and then we hear mention of land tules. Just what they are is explained thus h.) W. D. Lambert, eminent mathematician of the coast and geodetic survey: "The materials of the earth's surface are elastic. They can be disturbed by natural causes, but they will tend to go back to their original shape when the forces acting upon them have ceased or changed. The same forces of the moon and sun which cause the tides of the oceans cause the tides of the land. But the latter are smaller because land tides are due to the distortion of the earth rather than to the free-moving water along its surface. The maximum distortion or tide of the solid earth is not greater than one foot, and absolutely imperceptible to any of us. But the tides of the oceans would be slightly higher or lower if the earth's surface were so rigid as not to have land tides. In other words, the land moves upward just as does the water, but the difference between the extent of the two movements is what we call the water tide.
""The smallness of the land tides is a fact that in itself serves to indicate that the earth is virtually solid down to a depth of at least one-half of its total radius, and may even be solid clear through its center."

## BOAT AND BOOTS COMBINED FOR THE HUNTER

A combination of rubber boots and boat is the latest aid for the hunter. The legs are water-tight compartments secured to the wearer by straps. A seat in the compartment which the hunter occupies enables him to rest while in deep water, and he can propel his craft either by kicking his feet or use a paddle. Lightweight plates attached to the feet of the boots protect them when the user is walking.


Rubber Boots and Boat in One Unit for the Duck Hunter, Who Can Propel Himself by Kicking

## ELECTRIC COMB AND FUR IRON RENOVATES OLD COATS



Renovating Fur with the Combination Electric Iron and Comb; Heat Kills Moth Larvz

A combination of heated iron and comb for renovating fur coats takes the place of the old-style flatiron, and, it is claimed, does a better job in less time. Shaped like a large dagger, weighing sixteen ounces instead of the several pounds weight of an ordinary iron, the device is light, and easy to use. It is applied with a forward and backward motion, never being lifted from the fur, except to turn and use the comb to smooth out tangles. The heat is said to kill all moth larva.

CThe life of an airplane may exceed that of an automobile: one plane flew 225,000 miles between 1920 and 1928.

(c) P. \& A.

Putting the Finishing Touches on "Eric," the Mechanical Man Who Delivered the Opening Speech at a London Exposition

## ROBOT THAT MOVES AND TALKS OPENS EXPOSITION

"Eric," a man of tin who moves and talks, stood up, when asked to, on a platform in London recently and formally declared open the annual exhibition of the Model Engineer society. Looking like a suit of ancient armor borrowed from the London Tower, the mechanical man, in response to the invitation to address the audience, made a whirring noise and slowly arose until he stood more than six feet tall. He bowed stiffly from the waist; fire, furnished by concealed electric lamps, flashed from his eyes; a spark jumped across his teeth, and, turning his head from side to side. Eric began his speech. The words reached the robot's loudspeaker throat via wireless from a small broadcasting plant off stage. Twelve-volt
storage batteries, two electric motors, and a system of belts, shafts and pulleys constitute the working mechanism.

## OUNCE OF METAL SAVES PHONE MILLIONS

How slightly more than half an ounce of a comparatively rare metal is earning more than $\$ 7$.000,000 a year, is one of the romances of the telephone industry. The metal is barium, which is used as a mixture to coat the filaments of repeater tubes, important units in long-distance and other phone systems, to preserve the volume and clarity of the sounds. Its particular service is to greatly increase the number of electrons emitted at a given temperature. thus improving the tubes' efficiency. A bariumcoated filament requires less than one-tenth of the power consumed by one of tungsten, effecting a saving of $\$ 120$ for the life of each tube. which is approximately 10,000 hours. In the process of manufacture, a mixture of barium and strontium oxides is prepared as a paste with paraffin. It is then applied to the platinum filament base, and the paraffin is later burned off, leaving the oxides clinging to the filament. Barium is not classed among the precious metals. but since it performs such a great service in such small quantities, its working vaiue reduces that of other metals-and even of the precious jewels-to that of dust by comparison.

TPopular Mechanics Magazine does not publish the name of the maker or seller of any device described in its pages, but this information is kept on file and will be furnished, free, by addressing our Bureau of Information.

## DENTAL PROBES WRAPPED BY MOTOR

A sanitary way to wrap cotton around the braaches, the sharppointed instruments used to cleanse and medicate cavities in the teeth, has been developed by a Chicago dentist. As a substitute for the fingers, he has devised a motor to wrap the tools, thus preventing dirt and germs from the hands and finkers from coming in contact with the material entering the patient's mouth. The cotton is wound evenly and in any quantity desired, and the operation takes but a few seconds. The motor is placed on a pedestal or within a cabinet, and the outfit includes units for thoroughly sterilizing both the cotton and the broaches.

## SIDECAR BICYCLE FOR CHILDREN ADDS TO OUTDOOR FUN

Patterned after a motorcycle, a child's bicycle, recently patented, has a sidecar for an extra passenger. Rubber tires insure comfort, and the unit is designed to afford even more healthful exercise for the "perator, as well as to increase the children's fun.


Fun for the Rider and Tiny Passenger on Child's Bicycle That Has Sidecar Attached


Sketch to Show How School Buildings and Shops from Old Street-Railway Cars Will Appear When Completed

## SHOP FROM OLD RAILWAY CARS TO AID SCHOOL BOYS

Four abandoned street cars are to be converted into a machine shop and industrial school for boys by the Kiwanis club of Cincinnati, as a tribute to one of their members. The cars are to be grouped in the form of a Maltese cross, mounted on concrete bases and will have woodworking, machine, clay-modeling and electric shops as well as a room in which general instruction is to be given.

## NEW ALLOY-STEEL TOOLS NEAR DIAMOND IN HARDNESS

An alloy steel manufactured by the Krupp works, at Essen, and now being marketed in this country for use in tools and tool bits, is claimed to be only slightly inferior to the diamond in hardness, far surpassing usual tool steels. The material does not require heat treatment, and, as it has no temper to lose, can be operated even when the cutting edge has reached a bright red heat. Tips of the new metal can be brazed to carbon tool steel, but not to high-speed steel. Comparative cutting tests are claimed to indicate it is 200 per cent better than high-speed steel in cutting hard cast iron and 600 per cent better in cutting soft castings ; 800 per cent better in cutting brass, and 500 per cent better in cutting hard rubber and similar materials. To maintain the necessary sharp edge, special grinding wheels are used for rough and finish grinding.


LIVING in a world that is revealed to us largely by our eyes, ears, fingers, tongues and noses; traveling over country that is well marked with roads, traffic signs or places to ask the way, we mere human beings have difficulty in approaching the problem that every bird, animal or fish must face and solve in order to exist.
Psychologists and laymen alike have realized that animals often differ from human beings in their keenness of senses and their development of instincts. A faint whiff will sensitize the nose of a dog; the eye of many birds is more observant than the keen sight of a marksman, while a wild animal starts at the mere crackle of a distant leaf. But the ordinary senses are not enough to explain to the entire satisfaction of many students some of the wonders of animal behavior and accomplishment.

What guides the migrating bird on its spring journey northward? How does the salmon with unerring accuracy find its way up branching rivers to the scene of its childhood? How does the banished dog or cat find its way over strange terrain to the home of its master? To ex-


Diagram of the Eye and Brain, and Sketch Showing Course Follewed by a Blindfolded Man Trying to Walb in a Straight Line to a Distant Flag
plain these mysteries of animal naturd scientists are tempted to explore the realms beyond the ordinary senses. The search for a new sense is under way.

The occult sense is one name suggeste for this phenomenon. But this is a mi-
uch are some of the terms that have been applied to this possible addition to the recognized sensory equipment of the animal world.
In the laboratories of Columbia University. New York City, the search for the new sense is now being most actively prosecuted. Dr. Frederick Tilney is the director and stimulator of the research. Although experiments are difficult and arduous, the results inconclusive in many cases, and the whole project just begun, one interesting result has emerged.
Rats or mice are used on account of their intelligence and ability to find their way about in puzzling surroundings. The cientists have devised mazes, with blind alleys-enticing but false corridors that make their journeys to the food reward difficult and slow. This is a rat scale equivalent to the labyrinth of the amusement park in which pleasure seekers pay to become lost. But the rodent uses its lirains and its memory and, after a period of trials, gradually learns the maze in all its ins and outs, dashing through it in ruite att expert way if hunger ur 3 and the food is tempting.

With such maze-rumning rodents, Dr. Tilney and his associates are doing their preliminary work on determinins the nature of what Dr. Tilney calls the "ninth sense." The first clue to the nature of this sense is the fact that if the maze is thwed, the rat or mouse, expert in its
knowledge of the maze, is forced to start at the beginning again and learn all over. This is true despite the fact that great care is taken not to change in any way the surroundings of the maze that are visible to the rodent.

This would seem to support the idea of earlier experimenters that the sense is bound up with geographical position, possibly through terrestrial magnetism, the same force that affects the compass needle. Certainly another and unknown sense, besides those commonly recognized, is possessed in high degree by certain birds if we are to explain and understand the remarkable flights that they make over oceans and lands totally strange to them. Even Lindbergh is a novice compared with the arctic tern which wing, its way over trackless oceans some 11,000 miles from the antarctic to their nesting grounds near the North Pole. Even the tiny warbler. no bigger than a man's thumb, flies across the Gulf of Mexico, and the golden plover makes a marvelous non-stop flight of 2.400 miles over the Atlantic from Nova Scotia to the northeast coast of South America, Common and unappreciated are achievements of homing and carrier pigeons which can be liberated over a thousand miles from their home cote and still return wing-weary a few days later.

The hirds fly high, so high that they can see their home cote or other objective, some persons contend. This explanation

"Cher Ami," Army Carrier Pigeon, Delivered Message from Verdun Though Its Leg Had Been Shot Away
point of departure unless they had maintained an exact memory of the length of the lines traversed in this or in that direction. The mariner, navigating by dead reckoning, has to write down the length as well as the direction of all his rhumb lines. Such a view demands at least a constant perception and a prodigious memory and does not correspond at all to the simplicity of the notion of which I spoke above. But terrestrial magnetism furnishes other indications. If we suppose that an animal is capable of perceiving influences which actuate the needle of the compass of inclination, and that the position of this animal remains always the same with respect to the vertical of the place he will be able to recognize the differences in intensity which cause the variations in the angle
was made before man first flew, and a few minutes of figuring upon the spherical shape of the earth will show that even the keenest of bird eyes in the clearest of weather cannot look below the earth's curve to the distances covered. Moreover, some birds are known to fly at night and in fogs with unerring accuracy.

Most inviting and most plausible is the theory that magnetic sensibility is the secret of the ninth sense. The French scientist, C. Viguier, many years ago maintained that the physical force that enables animals to direct their course must be everywhere present. "in the heights of the atmosphere as well as in the depths of the sea." Even Darwin gave attention to this idea and raised the objection that a compass without a chart avails but little. Vigyier replied in the following analysis of the problem: "Is this objection insurmountable? I think not. The compass gives to our mariners a simple direction. They need to know the angle that this direction makes with their route in order to direct themselves. It is the chart which serves this purpose: and if one conceives of animals endowed with a sense which permits them to recognize only the direction of magnetic north, these animals would have a constant notion of north, but would not be capable of returning to their
which we measure with this compass.
"Finally, there are other data which we may gather from the use of our instruments, and which one can suppose perceptible through an appropriate organ. We have in mind variations in magnetic intensity. If one disturbs the position of equilibrium of the needle of the compan


A Noddy Tern Come Home to Its Tagged Nest after Trip over Unknown Seas


An Elaborate Maze Constructed at the University of Michigan to Test the Intelligence of Rats and Mice: Such Devices Are Used by Dr. Tilney in Studying the Ninth Sense
nif declination, the needle comes back, by a series of oscillations, which show a variahle force according to the place. By imining all the points where this force is equal we can trace on our maps a series of lines. One can then admit that a line can be determined for an animal, endowed with the magnetic sense as complete as we are assuming it to be, by the value of the magnetic actions in inclination and declination, just as fairly as it would be determined for us by the intersection of given magnetic lines. These magnetic conditions once known, the animal will be capable always of going directly to this point. Carry it to considerable distances, cause it to describe complicated circles. stop it even during transport, it will be able always to come back to its point of departure. This sense is supposed to give the animal general direction. It will suffice to bring it into a neighborhood where the five senses can be employed."

Pigeon fanciers and those who train the racing carrier pigeons have in some cases made observations that support the magnetic theory. On days and on routes that are beset by magnetic storms the
pigeons often go astray. Just as the telegraphic lines and the compass are affected by these invisible electrical storms, so the directional faculties of the birds seem to be paralyzed while the magnetism of the earth is affected.

Some of the most interesting and informing experiments upon the directional sense in birds were performed by Dr. J. B. Watson. Upon the Dry Tortuga islands. off the southwest coast of Florida. noddy and sooty terns make their nests, coming to these islands from the south each spring. These islands are the most northern breeding places of these birds, and they are not known to wander much farther north. In one of a series of tests. Dr. Watson captured twelve sooty and twelve noddy terns. decorated them with gaily colored paint as identification marks, and sent them by ship to Galveston. Tex., a thousand :riles of unbroken water away from their home . They were carried below deck where they could not see the sea. Some were released 400 miles away from the islands, others had to travel much farther. Thirteen of the birds retur:ned to their nests. These tests, and other similar flights, are con-
vincing evidence that birds can fly long distances over a sea wholly unfamiliar to them and attain their desired objectives.

Everyone is familiar with the conventional five senses, sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell. To these five Dr. Tilney adds three others that are not so easily appreciated. We have a skeletal sense and a visceral sense, both of which originate within the body itself. As the eighth sense, Dr. Tilney lists what he calls the hurt or pain sense, which, unlike the other guiding senses, is protective in its function.
The directional, homing or magnetic sense, when it is authenticated, will be the ninth sense. In what organ of the body this sense is seated is at present unknown. Dr. Tilney has suggested tentatively that it is associated with the retina of the eye. Older theories have suggested that it is related to the fluid of the ear in which the earth's magnetism may induce currents like those in a magnetic needle.

Perhaps, when the ninth sense is better understood, it will be discovered to be one of the endowments of certain fortunate men and women. Aviators contend that there is a feel for flying with which some are gifted. Now that man is launched upon an aerial existence by machines of his own creation, his new environment may enable him to understand himself more thoroughly.

## GATHERING ALOES bitterest job

The bitterest job in the world is gathering the sap of South Africa's aloe plants for American and English medicine manufacturers. Each year 250 tons of the sap is gathered by native collectors in the Albertinia region of Cape Province. Aloes comes from the leaves of the plant, which grows in isolated clusters along stony hillsides. The leaves are cut off with sickle-shaped knives, and piled in a hole, dug in the ground and lined with old
sacking. For hours the juice drips from the leaves. After they have run dry the leaves are removed and the congealed chemical poured into an old gasoline can to be boiled down over a fire. When the cans reach Cape Town the tin is cut away with shears and the dried product, looking like glue, packed for shipment. The collectors get $\$ 5.50$ a hundred pounds, but as a single plant only yields about eight cents worth of aloes, the pay is very small. While the ostrich-feather industry was at its height the Boer farmers would not allow their plants to be tapped, as they believed the ostrich feathers acquired an extra sheen when the birds were allowed to eat the aloe leaves.

## SEVEN-FOOT STEAM PIPE MADE BY ARC WELDING

A steam pipe seven feet in diameter, claimed to be the largest ever built, has been completed at the Westinghouse factory for installation in a large power plant. The pipe will carry $1,600,000$ pounds of steam per hour at a pressure of forty pounds. To make it, sections of rolled steel were welded together, producing the required strength without the great weight and expense of a casting.


Giant Steam Pipe. Seven Feet in Diameter, Formed by Arc Welding of Stecl Plates, a New Time and Money-Saving Method

## COAST-GUARD PATROL TRACKS ICEBERGS TO LAIR



Gun of Coast-Guard Cutter "Marion," Used to Break Up Icebergs, and, Right, Deep-Sea Sample Taker

Back from an exploring trip to the lair of the North Atlantic icebergs, a little 125foot coast-guard cutter recently reported the discovery of the spot from which a large majority of the towering ice mountains come down into the Atlantic steamhip lanes each year. The Eskimos of the Greenland coast in the vicinity of Diske island have their own name for the annual movement of the ice into the open sea. a native word that means "catastruphe" when translated into English. The vatt fields of glacial ice break off each year and fill a huge basin between the island and the mainland, until a tremendously fast current sweeps them out through a four-mile channel into the sea. From the heights above, it looks like a vast railroad vard, filled with moving monsters, and the grinding and crashing of giants whose weight runs into hundreds of thousands of tons can be heard for miles. The cutter "Marion," which spent six weeks between labrador and Greenland studying the mcean currents and the iceberg formations, was commanded by Lieut. Comm. Edward 11. Smith, who has been on the internathonal ice patrol, established after the "Titanic" disaster, since 1920. As a result of deep-sea soundings and the collection of water samples from far beneath the ocean's surface, the expedition discovered a stream of cold water which flows up from the Antarctic ocean along the bottom of the sea. rises and flows back to the south again.

Its presence was established when thermometers disclosed a difference in water temperatures at great depths. The expedition also studied the salt content of the northern waters. One way of detecting icebergs is to measure the salinity of the water, as a near-by berg, melt-

ing in warmer waters, releases so much fresh water that the salt content of the ocean in its neighborhood is reduced. The "Marion" also carried a gun to blow up stray icebergs in its path.

## RED ANT ENTERED IN FIGHT AGAINST BOLL WEEVIL

A new entry in the fight against the cotton boll weevil has been found in Kaufman county, Texas, where a species of red ant has been discovered that attacks the weevil, and always wins. Experts from the state department of agriculture are studying the insect further to see whether it can be generally used in the war to save the cotton crop.

# WATER "WATCH DOGS" GUARD LOGS FOR PAPER 


(c) Factory Mutual Record

Streams from Monitor Nozzles around Big Pile of Logs for Paper Pulp Drench Every Portion of the Heap and Can Be Turned On Instantly to Extinguish a Blaze Before It Gains Headway

Modern methods of fire fighting aim at halting a blaze before it gets a good start. and this plan is well illustrated at some of the mills where large piles of logs for paper pulp are stored. Batteries of "monitor nozzles" have been installed so that as much as 1,000 gallons of water per minute could be directed from a single hose instantaneously at the discovery of the blaze, eliminating the delay that would occur if the fire department had to be summoned and hose lines laid. The nozzles are distributed so as to cover the tire pilc and protect every part of the heap. Although such an installation is costly, owners consider the investment a wise one where as much as 20,000 cords, representing a value of $\$ 300,000$, may be included in one pile.

## SHAPE OF EARTH UNDER THE SEA GAUGED FROM SUBMARINE

What is the shape of the earth under the ocean? Scientists have made many charts on the basis of soundings, but more accurate maps are to be prepared of the
region off the Atlantic coast and about the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean sea, by means of special apparatus carried on the submarine "S-21." One of the most interesting instruments to be used is a pendulum arrangement which determines the force of gravity at any point on the earth's surface where it is set up and operated. It cannot be used satisfactorily from an ordinary vessel because of the swell of the water, but it is practical when applied from a submarine. Accompanying the expedition will be two "eagle" boats from the navy department. They will be employed as the surface healquarters for the submarine, which will also be used in taking accurate soundinuby means of the sonic depth recorder. The pendulum apparatus is the invention of Dr, F. A. Vening Meinesz, of the Netilerlands, who has come to this country as the guest of the Carnegie Institution at Washington to aid in the under-sea meaurements. He designed the instrumen for use on the comparatively shaky soll of certain parts of Holland, where ord -
n.ry apparatus was not accurate. It proved so satisfactory that the applicatuin to sea measurements was immediately vugrested. The submarine was therefore pressed into service and has become a freat help to the scientists in the important task of charting the floor of the sea.

## BIG SHIP AS FLOATING FACTORY HAULS WHALES ABOARD

With a novel landing grating in her queer-looking stern and with powerful winches aboard, the whaler "Antarctic" recently left Cardiff, Wales, for the waters off South Georgia in quest of the riches that come from blubber and other products of the big sea mammals. If the season proves favorable, the "Antarctic" is


Once harpooned and subdued, the whale is hauled into the steamer up the special slipway at the rear by winches. An ironlattice door is dropped down to keep out the waves. The vessel has twenty-two big boilers for the manufacturing of oil. Experienced whalers say that it is useless to fish in the same waters two seasons in succession because attacked whales that succeed in making their escape shun those districts for at least three years.

## PEARLS FOUND BY THE BUSHEL IN AMERICA'S EARLY DAYS

Prehistoric American Indians probably picked up pearls by the bushel along the Ohio valley, and diamonds were found in many localities, according to Dr. George F. Kunz, research curator of precious stones of the American Museum of Natural History. Tracing the use of the gems by the early inhabitants of North and South America, he has concluded that the Mayan aborigines were far behind those of Africa and Eurasia in the working of metals and precious stones. Although diamonds were available, the Indians did not employ them, he said. Jade was used by early settlers in Alaska, copper by Indians near Lake Superior, turquoise by pioneers in New Mexico, and in Chile there were quantities of lapis lazuli. Most of the gold and copper was picked up in the streams. Dr. Kunz points out that it is strange that the Indians evidently knew little of the rich stores of gold in California later developed by the white man.

[^2]expected to capture 1,000 whales. They should vield about 60,000 barrels of oil, which alone would be worth some $\$ 1,500,000$.



Huge Trestle of Squared Timbers Built to Carry a Logging Railroad over a Deep Ravine; the Investment in Equipment for Modern Logging Makes It an Enormous Industry

## By WALTER RALEIGH

TTHE LOGS that provide the mills with the lumber for your house, furniture and interior decorating are factory-produced these days. The great forests are merely the source of supply from which modern mechanical equipment develops the product demanded.

Gone are the days of the rough-looking lumberjacks living on baked beans, salt pork and molasses, whose ability rested chiefly in wielding a long snake whip over several teams of stubborn mules.

The modern logger is an efficient worker and uses the latest mechanical methods to accomplish his purpose. The present-day woodsman is a product of a new age and as such is satisfied with nothing but the best. Even his food and physical comforts must be first-rate, although he may live for weeks far from large cities. The logging camp has advanced from the salt-pork-and-molasses era to the diet obtained at the best hotels. The bunk houses are
electric-lighted, there are showers, laundry, library, radio, and all the essentials of city life.

The modern logger has progressed even as the farmer. The latter does not use a crooked stick to plow, the logger has ceased to demand muscle as the essential in getting out the timber. In the great western forests not an animal is found about the logging camps. Under the new mechanical methods employed, a mule or a horse would be as alien to the requirements as they would if placed in an autcmobile plant to help move the assembled cars about.

It takes skillful engineering and large capital to tackle the great wooded mountains of the western coast. As only largescale methods are considered, railways of standard gauge must be built. Deep ravines must be bridged, and the rough ground made smooth for track laying. Roadbeds, as smooth as the ballasted lines


Carried Down from the Hills by Special Railroads, the Logs Are Dumped into Streams Where They Can Be Lashed Together in Great Seagoing Rafts for Distant Delivery
of the crack flyers of the eastern states, are provided for the strange engines that pull the timber trucks from the hills.

But before any logging can be carried on, much must be done, including the transporting of all the equipment to the chosen camp. Since the modern loggers want "every modern convenience," this means an investment of large sums of money before a single tree is cut.

With the railroad in operation to the very site of the logging camp, with the power car that will provide electricity ready, with shower car and drying car and commissary equipped, the next step is to put up a rig for collecting the logs.

The modern logger, in selecting his camp. first hunts a particularly tall and straight tree at least eight to twelve feet at its base. This is the spar tree chosen by the head rigger as the key to the work in that region. Early in the morning he will don his long spurs, and using a rope which he flips about the tree as he works himself
up, he begins his long climb toward the top. Sometimes the rope or the spurs will encounter loose bark and then there is the doubtful thrill of slipping back down the great trunk for ten to fifteen feet. Working slowly and carefully, he will, by noon, be up to the first great branches of the spar tree, a monarch of that forest region. Properly knotting the rope and securing his seat, he will signal for his lunch. His meal will be sent by a helper using a rope which he has carried tied to his back.

After lunch, the rigger will proceed to the sawing off of the lower branches of the tree. Working evenly, consistently. he will cut the limbs away for about 200 feet above the ground. Then he will drill for the placing of a dynamite charge. Fastening the electric wires, he is lowered to the ground by means of the donkey engine. A connection is made with the power car and the whole top or whip part of the tree is blown off.


The Fall of a Forest Giant; the Pygmy Figures at Its Base Give an Idea of the Immense Height of the Tree
one end may strike a smaller tree below, and because of the speed of their flight and their great weight, the smaller trees may be completely knocked down. Frequently trees several feet around are thus uprooted.

In some cases where it is not possible to string the cable so that the log. travel high, one end of the $\log$ is allowed to drag along the ground. With one end free, the ground is hit and the stones and dirt fly with great violence. Stones as big as baseballs are hurled through the air when even the knot on the end of two cables drags through the woods. The winch doing the pulling has enormous power.

Generally the logs are next loaded on flat carready for transportation to the mills near some large cities. These carhave separate trucks and. spacing them apart as desired, it is possible to

While working in the spar tree, the head rigger has prepared for the guy cables which stretch out to other trees in all directions till the giant looks like the center pole of an enormous tent. From well up on this tree, the overhead cable is strung out to a "tail" tree which may be 200 feet from the spar tree. If the contour of the ground is favorable, it may be as much as 5,000 feet away.
The logs to be brought in are lifted by power to this great cable stretched from spar to tail tree, and by means of a method which the loggers call "bicycling." are drawn into the "yard." which is the region about the base of the spar tree. By such methods the trees are cut out in the whole region within a radius of this center pole. After being cut, they are transported by means of the great cable. Oftentimes they go Hying through the air on their overhead tramway. As the giant logs travel,
send the logs around the curved track. using a spiked ridge along their top to keep them from pulling apart. The draw is thus through the logs themselves from railway truck to railway truck.

Logging trains, usually operating on a steep grade, have a special problem in providing efficient braking power. It is impracticable to use air brakes owing to the fact that the trucks must be spaced at irregular intervals according to the length of the logs. Thus the braking is done by hand, and it is the most dangeron. of all the occupations connected with $\log$ ging. If a $\log$ should roll from its place. there is likely to be a wreck. As the loadare very great, the engines are often built with several vertical pistons which drive a rotating horizontal shaft geared to the drivewheels. The speed of such an engine is small, but to make up for this, it has enormous driving power.



Photos Courtesy U. S. Forest Service
Toppers and High Riggers Remove Branches and Top of a Tall Tree and Place the Rigging That Brings the Timber through the Air, Ready to Be Loaded from One Central Position

The railroad delivers the $\log s$ to the nearest waterway where they are stored in an inclosed quiet region known as the "boom." As rapidly as possible, they are made up into huge cigar-shaped rafts that rival an ocean liner in size, running up to lengths of as much as 1.000 feet and drawing thirty feet or more of water. The whole is held together by a cradlelike con struction of timbers and lashed with chains. Towed by a tugboat, the rafts often make 1.000 -mile journeys.

Using such modern production methods, logging is now a year-round industry. Instead of waiting for ice and snow for the purpose of making it easier to haul the logs out, the winter impedes the work of the men. Yet, with all the mechanical efficiency of wheel, steam power and electricity, there still survives the pride of the individual woodsman whose stout sinew can wield his ax so skillfully that only a stump as smooth and polished as a table without a mark showing, will be left.

## YIELD OF DIAMONDSINCREASING FROM BELGIAN CONGO

Since the World War, the Belgian Congo has assumed increased importance as a diamond producer, the yield growing from about 15.000 carats in 1913 to more than $1,000,000$ carats in 1926. These results have been attained largely by the installation of improved machinery and the adaptation of better methods of mining. Steam units have supplanted the pick and other hand implements, and the latest types of
washing machines have been acquired so that many more diamonds are found with scarcely any increase in the number of workers. The Congo fields, however, do not compete with those of South Africa in point of size of the stones discovered. Not long ago, a diamond weighing 412 carats was unearthed at the latter fields and sold for $\$ 25,000$. When it is ready for the market, it is expected to bring twice that sum. After the Congo stones are separated from the mud and soil, many of them are sent to Antwerp for cutting.

## SILK IS MADE FROM COTTON IN HUGE PLANT

A plant costing $\$ 53,000,000$ is being completed in the hills of eastern Tennessee to make artificial silk from cotton. The product has no relation to rayon, the synthetic silk made from cellulose extracted from wood fiber. The new artificial silk is said to look like real silk, feel like it, and also to wear like it. The plant was located at Elizabethton, Tenn., because a mammoth spring of chemically pure water there furnished one of the necessary materials. The other is cotton linters, the hort fibers which adhere to the seeds when they are extracted from the raw cotton in the gin. The linters are removed from the seeds before the latter are reduced to extract cotton-seed oil, and are more or less a drug on the market, as their uses in the past, at least in peace times. have been limited. In the new process, the invention of a German chemist, the cotton is put through a chemical treatment that breaks down the cotton cells. The material is then processed again to reconstruct new cells closely resembling real silk. From the new material, the silk thread is formed in much the same way as rayon thread is made by squirting the raw material through small holes.

## MIXER MOUNTED ON SPRINGS CHURNS BUTTER AND FOODS



A springmounted churn, food and drink mixer now on the market produces butter, cake batter, whipped cream and meringues, and mixes all sorts of drinks. The food to be mixed is placed in a sealed glass container, mounted hetween two vertical coil springs. The operator then grasps the top spring near the middle and forces it up and down until the container acquires a vertical movement of about five inches. Approximately one minute is required to produce butter.


Motor-Driven Brush to Wash Auto Top Does Job Automatically as Car Passes through Laundry

## BRUSH TO WASH AUTO TOPS SAVES HAND LABOR

One of the serviceable units in a western automobile laundry is a motor-driven revolving brush that cleans the tops of the cars as they pass along on a moving runway. This does the work of one or more attendants, gives a thorough cleansing, as the bristles are adjusted to reach all parts, and helps maintain the output of the laundry on a regular basis, since no delay is necessary for washing the top.

## GOLF-STROKE METER CLOCKS LENGTH OF DRIVE

A new golf-stroke meter, recently placed on the market, measures the yardage of the heftiest drive. The ball is attached by a rod to the meter, and rests on a protecting support, which is wide enough to keep the golfer from striking the floor. After each drive, it returns automatically to its position.



Metal Boat for Slow but Safe Travel and Water Sports; Note the Handles with Which the Paddles Are Operated
the height of a candle's, on a swamp near an iron mine. Their light had no heat and was sufficiently intense to permit reading the face of a watch. They lasted about fifteen minutes. There are several radioactive springs in the vicinity. The next day, the scholar could find no source of the odd flames, but concluded that they were caused in some way by the at mospheric and other conditions, the air pressure being a special factor. The higher the pressure. the less the light. The lights appeared to be independent of air temperature. During the war. a German officer saw pale greenish and yellowish flames shooting up from both sides of a rough road through the woods over which heavy artillery had been passing shortly before. The flames, twelve to eighteen inches high, were pro-

## METAL BOAT IS CIRCLE-SHAPED AND WON'T TIP OVER

For water sports with a minimum of danger, a metal boat, of circular shape and holding eight persons, has been introduced. It is kept afloat by an air-filled pontoon as an additional aid to stability, and is propelled by paddles. Because of its shape and size, it can be rocked without hazard and is not likely to tip over.

## MYSTERY OF WILL-O'-THE-WISP DUE TO PRESSURE?

That there may be a relation between the occurrence of the will-o'-the-wisp, the strange, luminous phenomenon sometimes observed in the woods and other places, with the pressure of the air, is the conclusion of a German scientist who has been studying the mystery. Not long ago, he observed four small bluish flames, about
duced by the great pressure caused by the passing guns, scientists believe ; that factor. combined with the heat and the rain and the gases that streamed from the moist earth, producing the phenomenon.

## SAFETY CHAINS FOR SHOE SOLES PREVENT WINTER ACCIDENTS

Chains attached to the underside of the shoe soles have been introduced for wear
 on slippery walkand other places where falls are likely to happen. They are furnished for men. women and chitdren and a more rugged type is made for hunters. climbers and railroad men. The links are especially adapted to give a firm grip.

## FLYERS FIND NEW SUGAR CANE IN HEAD HUNTERS' LAND

In airplane expedition into New Guinea, thid of the head hunters, has yielded 171 listinct varieties of sugar cane for the L'. S. department of agriculture, including t enty wild kinds and one species wholly Hew to science. The expedition, under the leadership of Dr. D. W. Brandes, was unusual as it marked the first use of the aiplane by plant hunters to explore new crritory. Fourteen lakes not on any map were located, and a number of other new seographical features discovered. The expedition spent seven weeks on the upper Fly river, three weeks in the Owen Stanley range, and two weeks on the upper sepik river.

## CIRCULAR WALLS OF CONCRETE BUILT BY MACHINE

A machine for building circular storage tanks, silos and similar structures of monwhithic concrete, reinforced with steel, has heen invented by a Cincinnati engineer. Adjustable to structures from ten to wenty-four feet in diameter, the machine includes a "spider" placed in the center. moving up a mast, and carrying extension arms which support the circular forms. Four men can operate the machine.


[^3]
c) Henry Miller

Dictating Machine Which Records Messages on a Fine Steel Wire Instead of a Wax Record

## WORDS ARE RECORDED ON WIRE BY DICTATING MACHINE

A new dictating machine which records the dictation on a fine steel wire has been introduced in Germany. Dr. Kurt Stille, the inventor, is shown demonstrating the apparatus to his stenographer. One use predicted for the machine is the recording of two-way wireless conversations.

## NEW METAL FOR AUTO USES OUTLASTS IRON

Most of the grood qualities of cast iron and steel are claimed for a new metal being employed in automobile motors and for oiher purposes. It is lighter than iron and tougher, so that cylinders of it would not have to be rebored so often, it is said. The material is marle by placing a certain substance into a ladle of cast iron. The normal qualities of the iron are changed, although it retains practically the same chemical nature.

COur Bureau of Information will answer all questions regarding articles appearing in this magazine.


Government Sculptor at Work on Plastic-Wood Model of Prairie Schooner. Our First Transcontinental Vehicle, for Exhibition in the Transportation Exhibit at Seville, Spain

By G. H. DACY

A GIANT cow of cardboard, which talks with the fluency of a public lecturer. is the latest creation of the government exhibit builders at Washington.
Mechanized "Bossie" is taller than the average man and is twice as long as high. She resembles a normal cow which has been inflated like a rubber tube to thrice her normal size. By means of a projection lamp, the slide picture of a cow was focused on a large piece of wallboard. The outline of this image was then traced with crayon on the board. Subsequently, the figure of the cow was cut out with a scrollsaw and prepared for educational exhibition purposes.

Beginning with the 1929 season, this talking cow will be displayed at state and interstate fairs throughout this country, and will be heralded as a star attraction. Some $20,000,000$ Americans will be entertained by her antics and lectures on how milk is produced. The talking cow is manipulated by a concealed attendant who operates four electrified switches, five
strings, a control lever with a universal joint and a talking machine with a dynamic power amplifier. The cow, as a four-legged actress, engages in an ani mated dialogue with her owner-a dummy dressed as a farmer. This conversation explains in popular language how the animal manufactures milk from the gener ous amounts of grass, grain and other forage which she consumes. This inter esting exhibit explains a mystery which has long baffled the public. It removes the riddle from that old saying popular among stockmen: "There is nothing darker than the inside of a cow."
The inventor of Uncle Sam's first and only talking cow sits behind the scene and actuates "Bossie" in performing her set of tricks, such as switching her tail, moving her jaws as she talks, chewing her cud and bobbing her head. This "show" cow talks by radio although by near rather than remote control. Her power of speech i centered in a talking-machine attachment hidden behind her body. It is provided


Building a Mechanical Man Who Will Talk by Radio, Gesture, Move Jaws and Turn Head Back and Forth; These Figures Are Used to Attract Attention to Government Exhibits
with an amplifier which steps the power up to 400 volts. A dynamic speaker, consiting of a large coil of wire in a steel case, provides the deep bass voice which "Bossie" uses in telling her story to the crowds, which stop, stare and study in puzzlement when they first see this scientific "sideshow."

Mechanical inserts and light boxes have been placed in the big cow as visual educators which will show to the audience at a glance how the food is handled and digested in the different stomachs. These "sight-of-eye" demonstrations, linked to the lecture facts which spout from the cow's mouth, tell a very technical tale in simple. condensed manner that all can understand.
There is a realistic appeal about lifelike manikins that gesture and gesticulate Which draws the crowds. The office of exhibits of the U. S. department of agriculture reports that talking dummies that move their arms, heads and mouths are "wows" wherever shown. They fascinate young and old alike. Folks return several times to look at their antics and
to listen to their words. Such manikins hammer home scientific facts of importance which otherwise are spurned by the average farmer, stockman and layman.

That is why Uncle Sam and Aunt Sarah are employing the cut-out effigies of human beings as the newest assistants of scientific teaching. A case in point is that of a pair of talking manikins dressed in tailor-made suits, which will be shown on the 1929 fair circuit. They were made in the same way as the cow by projecting lan-tern-slide images on wallboard, marking the outlines and eventually cutting out the figures.

Each automaton gesticulates emphatically to stress his arguments concerning methods of dairy feeding, breeding and pure-milk production and marketing. One dummy holds a paper in his hand while the other grasps a short stick. A small electric motor, concealed behind the manikin in each case, operates the gesturing arm. This motor also actuates a mechanical plunger attached to the lower jaw of each effigy. The face of the imitation man is made of dental rubber tinted


A Corps of Sculptors and Artists Are Kept Busy Making Uncle Sam's Educational Exhibits Different from All Others
with water colors of the proper hue. Oil paints were impractical as experiments showed that they caused the rubber to harden and deteriorate. The plunger and the rubber, which alternately is stretched and loosened, move the mouth of the dummy in accurate simulation of movements accompanying human speech.

One model stands in a comfortable pose with a foot resting on a box, while the other is close by. A government representative, hidden from view behind these manikins, operates the dummies like a "Punch and Judy" show by means of toggle switches. He shifts the records on the concealed talking machine, linked to a radio loud speaker hidden in a bushel basket, which rests on a box near the talkers. The words and gestures of these talking models are co-ordinated so that the manikins fool the more distant spectators, who imagine that a duo of federal farming experts are the actors in this educational show. The phonograph records which give speech to the manikins and automatic cow were made by a national manufacturer on government order.

The designers and model makers are now engaged in the production of educational exhibits which will be displayed at the world's fair at Seville, Spain. This exposition will be open to the public for about six months. The long show period prevents Uncle Sam from displaying his most spectacular mechanized and motorized exhibits because of the difficulty of keeping them in perfect running order for months at a time. Neither the talking cow nor the manikins will voyage to the Old World on this account.

The ships of Columbus brought the first purebred live stock to the United States. These animals were the forebears of our current $\$ 3,000,000,000$ live-stock business. One of the Seville exhibits is a remarkable group of models of an old Spanish sailing ship anchored near the Florida coast while cattle were being driven ashore. An electric fan supplies the breeze which flutters flags and sails and ripples the imitation salt water. Waves are produced in this chemically colored sea by means of a board which is moved up and down in the tank by machinery.

Uncle Sam at first schemed to use a rubber sheet as a sea and a special machine with many extendable arms which would bob up and stretch the rubber at regular intervals and then would fall so that the effect would resemble the action of waves. This plan was too costly, so, finally, experiments with various wavemaking devices were conducted in a large laboratory tank at Washington. Eventually, a satisfactory wave maker was devised. The experimenters found, however, that it was necessary to provide a sand beach to produce the desired wave action in the imitation sea.

Charles III, king of Spain, presented George Washington with a champion jack


Making Educational Models of Farms and Farm Buildings at the Washington Exhibits Laboratory; the Models Will Be Sent Throughout the Country to Keep Farmers Posted
named "Royal Gift," in 1785. A plaster statuette of this animal, exhibited in a glass case, will be shipped to Seville. The jack is eulogized as the progenitor of the American mule-raising industry which now adds up to $5,000,000$ animals.

The good-roads exhibit consists of remarkable models made of plastic wood which present the "then and now" picture of transportation in the United States. One group represents a prairie schooner, it $\langle$ double team of mules, hardy pioneers and their hunting dogs, who braved the dangers of hostile redskins, wild beasts and unexplored territory in extending civilization to western conquests.
Pioneering transportation, slow, laborious and hazardous, is balanced by a second group of models depicting an improved highway and the modern vehicles of crosscountry travel. The tourists, a honeymooning pair, have stopped to make a picture. A motor truck loaded with freight is also parked temporarily by the roadside. The models in pantomime tell the story of how progress has fostered better transportation aided by good roads. The campaign has run the gamut from mule power to gasoline, from a speed of thirty miles a day to upward of 300 .

Invaluable exhibits of corn, wheat, cotton and tobacco will also create international interest in American varieties. The tobacco exhibit is astonishing in that it features an automatic smoker, an original device which smokes four cigars simultaneously and ascertains the burning qualities of different kinds of tobacco. It operates by means of water displacement and air suction.

Over in Spain, the favorite amusement is watching matadors kill the wild bull. In the United States, one of the great ambitions of our government is to teach farmers how best to raise tame bulls that will aid in more and better milk production. One educational exhibit consists of a large number of model sires, the cut-out photographed figures of real bulls. Spectators are asked to pick the best animal in the group. On the opposite side of the display. each bull with five of his best daughters is shown by models. The exhibit shows the impossibility of selecting live stock merely by examination without consulting breeding or production records -"all that glitters is not gold," either in metal or bulls.

Another new exhibit consists of an effigy expert that moves his arms by machinery


A Group of Model Cows Used by the Dairy Department to Illustrate to Farmers the Features of Good Cattle in the Best Sizes for Both Milk and Beef Production
and talks by use of a special machine which projects words sidewise from his mouth. He is shown dipping a chicken in a chemical solution to kill lice and mites. The surface of the imitation chemical is made of colored convex pyraline. The chicken's head protrudes through a hole
in this imitation glass. There is a "balloon" of finely woven cloth back of the manikin's mouth on which the words he speaks as he describes the dipping process are projected.

The multimillionaire losses wrought by rats is visualized by the use of cross-sec-


Making a Topographical or Relief Map of a Government Forest: These Huge Maps, Carefully Built to Scale, Show in Full Relief Every Feature of Immense Areas of Land
(on models of two Lillifotian houses, one ratprooied and the other unprotected. Models of rats, twounted on endless belts and operated by motor, fram through the walls and under the floors of the exposed house and show exactly how they destroy foods, clothing and other articles.

By the use of different colored lights and a shadow machine, Uncle Sam has perfected a new system of simulating forest fires. This exhibit consists of an excellent oil painting of a virgin forest. Almost immediately, a red lurid light is centered on this picture while fans, operated at varying speeds, are employed to produce remarkable shadows. To the spectator, it appears as if the forest were burning to the ground. This exhibit serves to impress the public in general, and motor tourists, hunters and fishermen in particular, with the importance of camp-fire control in the national forests so that the stupendous annual fire losses may be reduced.

## GREEN-DISK SHADE FITS BULB AND ENDS GLARE

A small green-glass disk, fitted with a wire holder that clamps over an electriclight bulb in any position, is being marketed to end the glare of unshaded lights in sick rooms, offices or shops. The disk, three and a half inches in diameter, kills the di-
 rect glare into the eyes or on the work, without cutting down the illumination in the rest of the room.
(The United States air mail carried $1.654,165$ pounds of mail in 1927, the companies receiving $\$ 2,643,454$ compensation.

## "BABY BULLET" BREAKS SPEED MARKS IN AIR RACES

The smallest plane entered in the recent light-airplane races at Los Angeles took the prize, gaining eight miles on its nearest rival in a fifty-mile race on a closed course. The speed of the winner, "Baby Bullet," averaged 149 miles an hour. The tiny plane was designed and built in the E. J. Heath factory at Chicago and flown in the race by Mr. Heath. Only thirteen feet long, with a wing spread of eighteen feet, the little plane weighs but 250 pounds empty. It is powered with a two-cylinder motor, and the speed it made breaks all records for such a small power plant.

## BIRDS VANISH FROM STRICKEN CITY IN GREECE

When an epidemic of dengue fever recently attacked Athens, Greece, all the birds of the capital city unaccountably disappeared. Previous to the appearance of the disease, which attacked more than 300,000 residents, the gardens of Athens had been filled with feathered songsters. Within a few days hardly one was left. Zoologists were puzzled to know whether the birds themselves had been attacked by the fever and flown away to die in seclusion, or whether their instinct had made them seek refuge elsewhere.


Shaking Table Which Gives an Automobile All Its Road Tests on One Platform, Taking the Place of Proving Grounds
in the ground. Four pairs of steel rollers, about two and one-half feet in diameter and eight inches wide. were mounted below the frame tracks so that their converging surfaces made a " $V$ " in which rested the car's wheels. At irregular intervals on the roller surfaces were welded steel cleats of various sizes and shapes. The four rollers were geared to turn as a unit when operated by the car's motor and could thus be driven at any given speed simply by opening or closing the throttle. In operation, the cleats

## SHAKING QUALITY INTO CARS ON TEST STAND

In this day of motor-car supremacy, manufacturers have gone to great lengths to obtain uniformly satisfactory service, long life and better performance in their product. The daily production of an automobile factory may range from 200 to perhaps 5,000 cars. Identical in design, style and mechanical details are these cars. One may go to China, the next to California's smooth roadways, a third to Africa's trackless jungles, and another to the frigid driving atmosphere of Russia. Considering these facts alone, it is small wonder that the engineering and testing divisions of the larger motor-car manufacturers resemble veritable laboratories with practically no limit to their extensive operations. For years, one of the older manufacturers has had access to the great Indianapolis speedway as a testing ground for his product. Some automobile makers have constructed special speed tracks and elaborate proving grounds and one devised and perfected a veritable tornado, whirlwind and "Rocky Road to Dublin," all in one. So strenuous is the hammering given a car on this device that the equivalent of a season's mileage and wear and tear is shaken into the machine within the space of a few hours. A huge frame was constructed of channel steel and this was securely attached to a concrete base
transmitted shocks of varying intensity and at irregular intervals to the car itself. So terrific were these vibrations that employes could not endure staying in the driver's seat and stand the punishment. After starting the motor and shifting the car into gear, they were compelled to operate the throttle from the ground. The factory at once began to learn how to improve the car.

## AUTOMATIC SIPHON STARTS AND STOPS ITSELF

An automatic siphon which starts without the necessity of sucking on the tube
 to exhaust the air is being manufactured by a California inventor. The lower end of the tube, which is immersed in the liquid. is corked, and the inlet is somewhat highor and in the side. When it is plunged into a liquid, the air in the lower end forces the liquid upward. As the siphon will only work until the level is lowered to the cutout in the side, it can be used for such purposes as removing cream from milk.


Ski Jumping as a Summer Sport Was Inaugurated When Norwegian Ski Experts Attired in Bathing Suits Sped down a Greased Slide at Chicago and Dipped into Lake Michigan

## WATER SKIING MAKES NORSE SPORT YEAR-ROUND GAME

Skiing, formerly classed as a purely winter sport which required considerable snow or ice to be enjoyed, may become a year-round amusement as the result of the introduction of water skiing by the Norwegian national league in Chicago. A greased ski slide was built at the navy pier, and the skiers slid down it, wearing bathing suits, and plunged into the water.

## FORT MADE FAMOUS BY KEY IS RESTORED BY ARMY

Fort McHenry, facing Baltimore harbor, which was made famous when Francis Scott Key wrote the "Star Spangled Banner," after watching the British attempt to take the place in a night attack, has been fully restored by the army under a special appropriation by congress. Working from
the old plans found in the war-department files, the excavators and builders restored the fort as nearly as possible to its condition at the time of the War of 1812. They uncovered by accident the old guardhouse. with three small cells built into the massive brick walls leading to the sally port. The latter served as an entrance to the casemates, each an underground cave eight feet high and thirty feet long. primarily intended for the storage of powder and munitions, but used during the Civil war to confine prisoners taken at the battle of Gettysburg. The wooden gates of the sally port are of oak, four inches thick, and studded with massive iron bolts. In the old messroom, a fireplace was uncovered, in which hung a finely wrought iron crane, used more than a century ago to swing kettles over the fire.

TGood fuel and illuminating gas has been produced from low-grade lignite coal.

"Christmas Tree" of Water; Floodlights Illuminate the "Branches" of This California Fountain
than the plane which won the Schneider cup from Italy last year. Flight Lieut. D'Arcy Greig, assigned to fly the craft, was placed in training for several weeks to prepare him for the task. Some idea of what 360 miles an hour means is gained from the fact that a ship at that speed could fly from London to Paris in thirty-eight minutes, or would bring Chicago to within less than three hours from New York.

## GARMENTS MADE OF CORK

Clothes made of sheet: of cork are being tried in France, where a scientist has developed a method of treating the material to remove all the resinous matter, leaving the sheetof cork so soft and pliable they can be folded in the hand without damage. Light in weight. the cork suits are said to

## FOUNTAIN AS CHRISTMAS TREE RIVALS EVERGREEN

Lighted by flood lamps, a tree-shaped fountain was a feature of the Christmas display at Fresno, Calif. The jets were arranged to fall in such a way that they resembled the drooping branches of a fir tree, while the lights produced an effect of solidity when directed upon the water.

## SIX-MILE-A-MINUTE PLANE BUILT IN ENGLAND

In an effort to capture the world's airspeed record, now held by Italy at 318 miles an hour, England has produced a new secret airplane, expected to do six miles a minute, or 360 miles an hour. The machine has been constructed under close guard and in preliminary tests has only been flown at dawn, when few people would be up to see it. It is described as smaller and more perfectly streamlined
be almost as warm as pure wool, to provide proper ventilation because they are porous yet shed rain, and be buoyant enough to support the wearer in water.

## MEAT CARVER HOLDS JOINT WHILE CHEF WORKS



A meat-carving attachment that holds the joint of beef while the cook slices it, waexhibited at the new invention show in London recently. The device consists of a metal frame with sharp teeth on the base, and a number of skewers to be stucl into the joint and hold it while the carv ing is done.

FLYING HOTEL BUILT TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC

(C) R, w. Clatworthy

The New British Zeppelin "R-100," Built for Transatlantic Passenger Service, with Accommodations for Fifty Guests, Is About Ready for the Trial Trip; the Ship Is 709 Feet Long, 133 Feet in Diameter, and Has a Gas Capacity of $5,000,000$ Cubic Feet

## FLASHLIGHT WORN ON COAT LEAVES HANDS FREE



Flashlight with Extension Cord and Pocket Battery Case Leaves Hands Free to Do Their Work

Worn on the forehead, cap, coat, dress or in any other convenient place, an electric flashlight now on the market leaves both hands free and directs the rays where they are most needed. An adjustable bulb and reflector can be turned to any angle. and current is supplied from a compact battery case, carried in the pocket or attached to the belt. The lamp itself may be slipped into the pocket.

## SOLID FUEL USED TO RUN DIESEL ENGINES

An internal-combustion engine working on a fuel composed of pulverized solidsan idea first suggested by Diesel-has been perfected by R. Pawlikowski, of Goerlitz, Germany. The engine will run on coal dust, lignite, or even sawdust or rice husks. The idea can be adapted to any existing heavy-oil engine by adding a special lock, which during each suction stroke, is exhausted, then charged at low pressure with a pulverized-fuel emulsion and, after being closed, loaded with pressure, in or-
der finally to be discharged into the working cylinder. Whereas in the case of the original Diesel engine the fuel has to be heated and ignited within a fraction of a stroke, the new engine allows a full stroke for the same operation.

## NEON LAMP SOLVES PROBLEMS OF HIGH-SPEED MACHINES

The neon lamp, familiar because of its widespread use in tubular electric signs and less well-known in television, is revolutionizing the study of machinery operating at high speeds. The neon globe is useful in television because it can be lit and extinguished, with no afterglow, in an interval measured in millionths of a second. The same property makes it useful in studying machinery, for a rotating object. illuminated by flashes of such brief duration and timed to occur exactly in step with its rotation, will appear to be standing still, or moving very slowly, if the rate is varied slightly. The phenomenon is often noticed in the movies when the wheels of an automobile appear to stop for an instant or even turn backward.

## ELECTRIC VAPORIZER STOPS WHEN BOILED DRY

An electric vaporizer that automatically shuts off the current when it is boiled empty, has been placed on the market by a New York manufacturer. In use, the jar is filled with water, the medicine added, and the cord plugged into an electriclight outlet. Short and long nozzles, adjustable to any position, are provided. When the water boils out, it breaks the circuit.


CContracts are in operation or have been let for thirty-two air-mail lines, covering 14,502 miles and calling for 30,450 mile of flying daily.


Erecting Steel Work for the New Bridge across the Grand Canyon; at Its Highest Point the Structure Is 467 Feet above the River, and the Span Has a Total Length of 835 Feet

## BRIDGE ACROSS GRAND CANYON TO REPLACE FERRY

Opening to tourists a vast and littleknown region, a great bridge is nearing completion over the northeasterly arm of the Grand Canyon, 130 miles north of Flagstaff, Ariz. From the precipitous walls of the chasm it appears to be a vender web of steel, stretched across the gulf, nearly 835 feet long, and, at its highest point, 467 feet above the river. It is aid to be the highest highway bridge in the world and is scheduled for opening about January 1. The main span has an arch of 618 feet. The bridge will supplant the historic Lee's ferry, which has been in operation since 1872 , six miles above the site of the bridge.

## NEW HALF DOLLAR OF HAWIAIIANS RARE PRIZE

If you have a 1928 Ha waiian half dollar, collectors advise you to keep it, for the coin is already worth $\$ 2$ as a collection specimen, and the value is expected to increase
greatly. Ten thousand of these half dollars were issued by the mint as part of the Captain Cook sesquicentennial, commemorating the discovery of the islands 150 years ago.

## BAGGAGE CAR TO CARRY AUTOS HAS DOORS AT ENDS

Tourists can now conveniently take their automobiles with them on railroad journeys by means of special baggage cars with doors that open at the ends. This plan simplifies loading and unloading of the automobiles.


With New Baggage Cars Provided with End Doors, It Is Possible to Take the Automobile on a Railroad Journey



Lever Garment Hanger Fits in
Door Frame without Use of Bolts or Screws; Ends Are Protected with Rubber to Prevent Marring Woodwork


Belgian Inventor with His Plane, Which, It Is Claimed, Can Rise Almost Vertically: It Is Practically Tailless
ments at the other end of the observation record the fact. Aerial photosraphy also is being usel with success to bring out outcroppings of rock and other surface indications of buried minerals.

## GAS FROM GARBAGE TO HEAT HOUSES IN THE FUTURE

Gas manufactured from garbage and other household waste may be used to heat homes in the ft ture, according to Dr Gustavus J. Esselen, of Harvard. Fuel gas of about twice the heat con-

## MIDGET PLANE WITHOUT TAIL RISES VERTICALLY

A midget airplane, practically tailless, and with a new type of wing ailerons which, it is claimed, enable it to rise almost vertically, has been invented by a young Belgian. Instead of the usual ailerons used for banking the ship in a turn, the new airplane has a pair of large movable wing sections on either side. It is driven by a small two-cylinder engine.

## ELECTRIC PROSPECTING HOLDS HOPE FOR NEW MINES

Electrical prospecting may speed up the location of hitherto undiscovered mineral deposits and help meet the increasing demands of industry, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, in recent convention, was told. The electrical prospector depends on the same phenomenon that causes electric-light and traction and gas and water companies so much trouble in cities-the fact that a current passing through the ground seeks the easiest path. In the cities this path is often the gas and water mains, and electrolysis, which destroys their joints, results. In prospecting, however, the current introduced into the ground at one point will flow much more easily through an underlying mineral deposit than it will through the earth and measuring instru-
tent of ordinary artificial gas has been obtained from such wastes by fermentation of the cellulose they contain. Cellulose is the most abundant constituent of vegetable matter.

## PORTABLE AIR CAMERA USES STANDARD-SIZE PLATES

A portable aerial camera for still pictures, using standard eight-by-ten-inch plates, has been developed by a Hollywood studio. The camera, which is of very light weight, has a twelve-inch lens and focal-plane shutter and carries a finder, which, with fixed focus, makes it possible to get high speed of operation.


Inventor Demonstrating His New Aerial Camera Which Is Portable and Uses Standard-Size Plates


A Grape Vine, One Hundred and Sixty Years Old, at Hampton Court Palace, England, Is Still Producing. and Yielded Six Hundred Fine Clusters of Fruit This Year

## GRAPE VINE OVER CENTURY OLD PRODUCES MANY CLUSTERS

One of the most famous grape vines in the world is at Hampton Court palace in Fingland, where it has been growing for 100) years. This season, 600 fine clusters ripened on the huge vine, which is given cxpert care from year to year and is supported by a large, specially constructed trellis that covers a wide area under glass.

## REST HELPS RAZOR BLADES REGAIN SHARP EDGE

Metals become fatigued as do other materials, and, for that reason, letting the safety-razor blade rest for a week or two will sometimes permit it to regain a fairly atisfactory edge even though it was so dull as to demand discarding. Keeping the blades in an anti-corrosive liquid, intead of wiping them off and putting them hack in the razor or in a case, also prolongs their life, metal experts declare. Because of the rapidity with which the averate man shaves with a safety and the
large number of hairs that are cut in that time, one engineer has estimated that a razor will maintain its most effective edge for only about fifty seconds.

## ELECTRIC PAINT-SPRAY GUN

 IS EASY TO HANDLEEase of handling and the assurance of better resuits are advantages claimed for an improved electric spray gun for applying varnishes, paints, disinfectants and other liquids. It is operated on alternating or direct current from any convenient socket and has an air compressor that develops from twen-
 ty-five to thirty pounds' pressure, so that the liquid is said to be thoroughly atomized and will thus reach difficult places with a minimum of waste. Three widths of spray are obtained by changing nozzles. The gun weighs but five and one-half pounds and holds a full quart of liquid.


Simple Way to Prove You Are a Strong Man by Tear. ing an Apple in Half with Your Hands
out looking at the grapes, the performer commands the spectator as follows :
"Take two grapes out of the bottom row.
"Take as many grapes out of the top row as are left in the bottom row.
"Clean out the bottom row.
"Make a mental note of how many grapes are left and then sweep all the grapes into one pile."

And then comes the grand denowement. The performer takes a banana from the fruit bowl, and on peeling it he discovers that it has been magically divided into three pieces-the exact number of grapes one more grape than the lower one. With-

the banana into three parts without removing the skin? Does that exrlain the banana part? And now you're asking, "but how do you know there will he three grapes left?" Well, that's easier yet. Go back a few paragraphs and look at the first command the performer gives : "Take two grapes out of the bottom row." That "take two" means that the answer will always be three. If you say "take three," the answer will be four; "take one," the answer will be two-always the answer is just one more than the number
of grapes removed at the start of the trick.
This one has to do with the balancing of a banana on the crown of a soft hat. The performer does it with a long needle which he has concealed in the lining of the hat. This needle is pushed up through the felt, into the banana, and there you are!

Did you ever see a hanana peel itself. No? Listen!

Take a large, fully ripened hanana and turn back about one inch of the skin. Light a butch of oil-soaked paper or
waste and drop it into a milk bottle. Quick, then, the partially peeled banana. Set it in place as shown in the picture. That's all. Vacuum will then draw the banana completely into the bottle, minus its skin.

Briefly, the next one goes like this: The performer asks a spectator for an orange. From this unprepared orange, the magician removes two or three yards of brightly colored baby ribbon.

The whole trick hinges on the little apparatus shown in the illustration. This is a needle, just long enough to go completely through the orange, around the eye of which has been threaded and wound the length of ribbon. The loose end of the ribbon

is fastened to the orange with a small pin.
It is an easy matter, when seated at a table, to secretly remove the ribbon-wound needle from your coat pocket. Hold it in your left hand. Remove the pin. After receiving the orange from a spectator, you immediately press the needle into it, as shown on the opposite page.

The next step is the removal of a small piece of peel so that you can get at the needle. Once located, the needle is pulled out, under cover of the left hand. After the heedle is completely out and concealed in your right hand, you tilt the orange toward the audience and procced with the
production. At the conclusion of the trick, it is a natural movement to wipe your hands on a handkerchief, and in that operation the needle is removed from your right hand and placed in your pocket.

Another mind-reading stunt: The performer asks a spectator to hold an orange in one hand and an apple in the other, and to think hard of one of them. To make the experiment less difficult, the performer asks the spectator to hold the hand containing the article he is thinking of close to his forehead. The performer turns away. After due "concentration," he asks the spectator to place both the orange and

apple on the table. The "mind reader" then takes the apple and orange, and by placing them to the spectator's forehead, he tells which one was selected.

The secret of this effect is absurdly simple. When the performer turns around, he glances quickly at the spectator's hands, and the whiter of the two he knows was the one which was held to the forehead. Notice the difference shown in the picture. You must secretly note which hand held the orange and which the apple before turning your back.

The beauty about all these fruit tricks is that nobody ever suspects an innocent-looking banana, orange or lemon of having been


Notice the Difference in Color of the Hands? That Is the Solution of This Mind-Reading Stunt ${ }^{\text { }}$
prepared in advance. Its skin is guarantee for its purity, and who would expect to find a coin or a diamond ring or the important note concealed in a lemon? It can be done, though, as many a stage magician has proved. Such tricks as that, however, require elaborate preparation and special "gimmicks." A gimmick, you may remember, is any kind of device that helps the performer fool the eye.

Most of the tricks here described, however, require neither gimmicks nor preparation, and, best of all, you don't even have to furnish your own fruit. An apple borrowed from the hostess' fruit basket

always looks more innocent than one you brought with you-and borrowing the tools for entertainment cuts down the high overhead of being a parlor entertainer. It's even possible surreptitiously to extract a banana when no one is looking. operate on it with the needle to divide the contents in three parts, and then restore the fruit to the dish in such an artlessly artful way that when you ask some one to hand you one banana, he can't help but pick the prepared fruit. It's always best to let the audience render little helps like that, and do the picking, when you feel quite sure they can't avoid picking the right thing.

This concluding number is only a catch, but it has entertaining value nevertheless.

Tear a small hole in a sheet of paper. and then ask a spectator if he can oush an orange through it. After everyone has given up, you perform the trick.

Just stick your pencil through the hole and begin pushing the orange. You can push it all around the table.
"But," says some one, "I thought you said push the orange through the hole?"

Exactly-and isn't that just what the pencil does?

## "SNIFFER" IN GAS-MASK PLANT HAS UNUSUAL POSITION

The job of "sniffer" in a gas-mask factory takes rank as one of the most unusual positions created since the war. Each mask is tried on one of the testers to in--ure that the chemicals contained in the puriiying canister work properly. In an English mask factory in London five teters are employed. The masks are bounted so that the canisters are inclosed In a gas-tight chamber and the face pieces on the outside. The five testers don them and the chamber is then filled with gas. If the masks work perfectly the testers lreathe pure air. If they get a whiff of the gas, which produces tears, coughing ant sneezing, the mask is discarded.

## COMBINATION DESK AND PIANO SAVES APARTMENT SPACE

The combination of a piano and a secretary desk in one piece of furniture has heen effected by a New York piano manufacturer as one solution of the small-apartment problem. When the keyboard is closed with the desk arm over it, there is nothing to indicate the presence of a musical instrument, unless one looks for the pelals. The instrument is available either as a straight piano or as a player, and a radio set can be built in if desired.


For the Small Apartment This Combination of Secretary Desk and Piano Offers a Space-Saving Idea


Comm. Richard E. Byrd Examining a Neon Aerial Beacon Atop a New York Hotel

## AIR BEACON ON SKYSCRAPER VISIBLE MANY MILES

One of the last public acts performed by Commander Byrd before sailing for the Antarctic was to pull a switch that sent current through the huge lamps of an aerial beacon on top of a New York hotel. This powerful battery of tubes can be seen from a distance of seventy-five miles and, because of its orange-red glow, will penetrate a fog for twenty-five miles.

## EIGHT MORE LEPERS FREED BY U. S. AS CURED

Eight more lepers have been freed from the national leper home at Carville, La.. as completely cured, bringing the total number released in the seven years the institution has been in operation to thirtyseven. Only one of those freed has had a relapse and been returned. At present there are about 400 lepers under treatment with chaulmoogra oil at Carville. The majority were born in Louisiana, Florida and Tennessee. Quite a number of the others are foreign-born, China, Greece and Mexico leading.


Turntable in Front of Garage Solves the Problem of Entering and Leaving by a Narrow Driveway

## AUTO TURNTABLE FOR GARAGE SOLVES DRIVE PROBLEM

To overcome the difficulty of a narrow drive in front of his garage, an engineer followed a railroad plan and constructed a turntable so that he could run tris car in and out with little trouble. The table is so smoothly adjusted that a child of six can turn it when the car is on the platform. The pit is twelve feet in diameter and fourteen inches deep, sidewalls and bottom being of reinforced concrete. The table runs on ball-bearing wheels.

## VACUUM TUBES FOR ELEVATORS GIVE AUTOMATIC CONTROL

Three-element vacuum tubes, similar to those employed in radio sets, have been adapted to an automatic control for elevators to bring the cars to the correct floor level. The tube has been installed for some time on railroad locomotives to help transmit block signals into the engineer's cab in visible form, and its success as an elevator regulator lies in the fact that the plate current increases when the tube changes from an oscillating to a non-oscillating condition. A suitable number of the tubes are placed on each elevator car and are normally in oscillation. By an arrangement of coils and vanes, the motion of the car, as it approaches a floor level, is made to stop the oscillation of the
tubes. This actuates relays which govern circuits that slow up the car and stop it at its correct position. The system operates whenever the car is running no matter in which direction.

## COAL IS TINTED BRIGHTLY TO TELL BRAND

Spraying coal with a purple paint to distinguish its quality is the method adopted by an eastern company to "brand" its better grades. A shade so light as to be almost pink is on the markets and tests have shown that the paint rubs off only after repeated handling. Considerable research was necessary to obtain a coloring material that would be permanent and would not produce a mottled effect. According to the company, the paint does not affect the burning qualities of the coal.

## COVER SURF PLANE WITH METAL TO KEEP OUT WATER

Speed of eighty-five miles an hour is claimed for a metal-covered surf plane an eastern inventor has constructed. It is made of oak, sheathed in metal to keep the water from penetrating the frame, and is run by a 220 -horsepower motor. The plane weighs but 1,350 pounds.


Speed Boat Built like Wingless Seaplane, for Which Eighty-Five Mile Speed Is Claimed

TWO-DECK FLYING YACHT TO CARRY THIRTY-FIVE•
 of the skies" planned for
a western aviation company. The flying yacht will carry thirty-five passengers; will have four motors with a combined horsepower of 1,620 ; the cruising radius will be 800 miles, and a speed of 120 to 152 miles an hour is anticipated. Smoking room, buffet, large baggage space and other comforts will be provided. Passengers will go from one deck to another by a thort flight of stairs. There will be four wheels on the front landing gear. The ship is to have two wings, the upper with an eighty-five-foot spread and the lower, sixty-five feet. The gross weight of the ship will be eight tons.

## HAWAIIAN TWO-CENT STAMP IS PRIZED BY COLLECTORS

Collectors are cherishing the canceled surcharged Hawaiian two-cent stamps issued in connection with the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the islands by Capt. James Cook. The stamp is a United States two-cent impression bearing the word "Hawaii" and the
dates 1778-1928 in black print just below. Some $2.000,000$ of the stamps have been issued but they already are becoming scarce, and collectors in Hawaii were offering four cents for each canceled twocent and eight cents for each five-cent stamp of the surcharged issue when this edition of Popular Mechanics Magazine went to press.

## GOLF SCORER WORN ON WRIST

 ALSO HOLDS MONEY

Designed especially for the convenience of women players, a silver holder, worn on the wrist, contains a golf-scoring card, a place for the pencil and. at the back, space for paper money. The device is chromium-plated.


## Radio Set



Collapsible Aerial Masts That Will Fit Any Roof Simplify Installation: These Masts Are Built of Tubular Steel and Are Available in Both Two and Three-Section Units That Telescope to $4-\mathrm{Ft}$. Lengths ; a Simple Any Desired Height, and the Ad sion at Any Desired Height, and Ete AdFlat or Sloping Roofs, or at the End of the Building as Shown

An Ingenious Method of Using the Well-Known Tone Quality of the Piano Sounding Board as a Radio Loud Speaker Is Shown Here; the Special Microphone, with Mounting Bracket. Is Supplied, and Piano Owners Need Look No Farther for a Good Loud Speaker; the Thrust Rod of the Unit Is Clamped So That It Touches the Sounding Board
This Audio Transformer Is a New Design Using a Solid Core Instead of Laminations the Core Is Cast from Special Metal in Two Pieces, Which Are Held by a Single Screw to Form a Cup for the Transformer Coil: Two Methods of Mounting Are Shown Above



By Frank L.Brittin

simple tuning unit to be plugged into the detector, or sometimes the first r.f., socket of the set. A suitable adapter unit was described in the March, 1928, issue and may be used in combination with your present set or directly connected to the amplifier shown in the diagram on page 1006 .

ALTHOUGH far from perfect, television signals and apparatus are in a sufficiently advanced state to provide an interesting field for the experimenter. Anyone having a radio receiver can easily add the necessary equipment for the new purpose. Experimental broadcasts are increasing in number and, by the time this article appears, they will probably be avaitable in most parts of the country. DXreception has not been very satisfactory up to the present time, although visual programs broadcast from Washington, D. C., have been received fairly well in Chicago. It is quite likely that most of these programs will be broadcast on short waves. Any radio receiver may be adapted for short-wave reception by means of a


The receiver must be selective enough to receive a clear audible signal with little distortion and good volume. Pictures of a sort may be received with transformercoupled a.f. amplification, but the wide band of frequencies necessary for good picture definition make resistance-coupled amplifiers especially suitable for this work.

Before attempting to build a television receiver, the elementary principles involved should be understood. Seeing by radio is only slightly more complicated than sound reception. When broadcasting voice, as the reader knows, the person stands before a sensitive microphone, similar to a telephone transmitter, in which the sound waves are converted into varying electrical impulses; these are then amplified and broadcast through the ether and received in the home, For television transmission, the person stands before four or more photo-electric or light-sensitive cells capable of responding to varying intensities of light or shadow and faithfully converting them into electrical impulses of corresponding strength. A rapidly revolving metal disk, perforated with a series of holes arranged in spiral form and known as the "scanner," is located behind the light-sensitive cells. A powerful arc light is employed behind the disk, and light is focused on the subject through the revolving disk, with very little discomfort to

## Delevision Receiver! $==2$. serted by the light-sensitive cells, and the resulting electrical im-

 pulses are amplified and transmitted through the ether in exactly the same manner as for voice waves. The televi--ion signal has a very distinctive sound which may be tuned in at the receiving set and heard on the loud speaker or through the headphones.When the signal has been tuned in to the loudest volume, a tube filled with neon gas is substituted for the phones or speaker. This tube has the property of responding instantly to the varying signal intensities and glows with a pinkish light, the brilliance of which depends on the strength of the signal. Immediately in front of this neon tube another scanning disk, identical with the one used at the broadcasting station and revolving at the same speed, permits the light from the tube to pass through the holes in the disk, where it reaches the eye of the observer. The revolving disk recreates the image, serving the eye, in a way, as the loud speaker serves the ear.

At present practically the same system is used at all stations broadcasting television, the only difference being in the number of holes in the revolving disk.
The aim of this article is to give the experimenter simple directions for assembling his own television receiver so that he may tune in on test programs. The cost for parts is about that for building a standard radio receiver and may be reduced by building up the amplifier stages instead of using the wired unit.

The metal disk used in the model is a
manufactured type employing three perforated spirals, a combination of 24, 36 and 48 holes. This permits the operator to tune in on any one of the three popular transmitting methods now in use. As the art develops, disks employing a larger number of perforations may come into use, and disks will be available to meet such


changes, the other parts remaining practically the same, at least for some time to come, except for simple refinements such as will be covered in later articles.

To begin with, it is well to entertain no false hopes regarding the results from present-day television transmission and reception. The pictures are small, generally $11 / 2$ by $1 / 2 \mathrm{in}$., and lacking in detail. It is possible to recognize the person televised, see him turn his head, roll his eyes and open his mouth. Smoke from a cigaret is also clearly seen.

The cabinet housing the television receiver is shown in Fig. 1, $7 / 8-\mathrm{in}$. poplar, basswood or five-ply panel stock being used throughout and finished in dull black. Color ground in japan and thinned with turpentine is the simplest medium to use in finishing, as it dries dead flat. One side panel and the front panel are hinged to provide easy access to the instruments within. The height of the shelf will depend on the type of motor used. It is well to have it slightly lower than necessary and then build it up to the required height to center the disk in the cabinet by means of cardboard shims under the motor, which is then screwed to the shelf. The neon tube above the motor and directly behind the disk is mounted on an adjustable bracket-and-socket arrangement screwed to the top of the cabinet. The details are given in

Fig. 2. The socket is mounted on a bakelite disk from the center of which a machine screw protrudes through the slots in the bracket, where it is held with a knurled nut. This assembly permits the operator to slide the neon lamp up or down until it is directly behind either of the three holes cut in the front panel. The tube socket can be turned so as to place the plate of the tube squarely behind the observation hole. The slot shown at the top of the bracket permits slight adjustment when centering the tube.

The adjustable hood is also detailed in Fig. 2. The metal bracket consist of a brass strip notched at each end and inset Hush with the end of the hood. The builder can easily square off the front and back of the hood by placing it on a flat surface and drawing a line around each end for sawing.
The speed control for the motor consists of a push button and rheostat in one side of the power line. The variable unit is mounted on a bakelite panel through a hole cut in the side of the cal)inet, as shown in the sketch. The resist-


Television Receiver with Disk Removed, to Show the Instrument Arrangement
ance-coupled amplifier may be of the three or four-stage type, either a readybuilt unit, as show , or built up from single-stage units, These units contain the necessary blocking condensers and resistors. When this three-stage amplifier is employed, the audio amplifier of
the set is not in use. The output of the detector tube fed directly into the amplifier. If there is no detector pack in the receiver, install one. Run a flexible insulated wire from the plate post on the detector-tube woket to the upper blade of the jack, then run a lead from the detector B-supply post in the set to the lower Wate of the jack. Use a single open-circuit jack, and a standard horn plug for the input leads to the amplifier unit, as shown in Fig. 3.
In order to obtain greater illumination from the neon tube, two power tubes may be used in multiple as shown in the diagram. The power tubes may be MU-6 or any type desired. Battery-operated tubes of the MU-20, or simflar, type are used for the first and second amplifier stages. Raw a.c. may be used on the filaments of the power tubes if desired, and this is advised for best results, hut a.c. must not be employed for the first two stages.
When a resistance-coupled amplifier is employed, as in this case, it will be necessary to raise the detector $B$-voltage in the receiving set to an approximate value of 45 to $671 / 2$ volts.
In operation, as the disk approaches critical speed, flashes will be thrown across the window and finally strange figures will appear until the speed of the receiving disk matches or is synchronized with that of the disk at the transmitter. When synchronous speed is reached by adjusting the rheostat, the picture will make its appearance, and will remain as long as the disks are in step.

The push-button switch shunted across the rheostat is used only for the purpose of short-circuiting the resistance, thereby speeding up, the motor momentarily in order to make it run at the same rate as the transmitter motor and keep in step with it, that is, to synchronize the two.

For testing purposes, the operator may employ a phonograph and magnetic pickup connected directly to the amplifier unit. The regular musical record will then throw a geometrical design on the revolving disk.
When receiving actual pictures, the operator may be puzzled to find his received picture upside down, but this may be easily corrected. It is only necessary to remove
the disk from the shaft of the motor and turn it around.
A large blueprint showing the cabinet construction and detailed wiring diagram for building up the amplifier unit, may be obtained from Popular Mechanics radio department for 15 cents to cover cost and packing. Specify blueprint No, 139. No charge is made for a list of the materials used in the model, and it will be mailed to any address upon request. Copies of the March. 1928 , issue, in which the ShortWave Adapter article appeared. are available for those who wish to adapt their present sets for short-wave reception.

## Improving the Tone of Old Sets

Although there is nothing new about shunting the secondary of the a.f. transformer with a variable resistance to improve tone quality, very few take advantage of the idea. The best method is to place a proper resistance across the secondary of the second a.f. transformer and possibly across the secondary of the first as well, although it may cause a slight loss of volume. Just what value of resistance to use is difficult to state, as it depends on conditions in the circuit. The range may be anywhere from 50,000 to 200,000 ohms, and in some cases even higher.

Increasing Range of Voltmeter


Panel Layout and Wiring Diagram; Right, Details of Resistor Strip; Below, Completed Voltmeter

The common inexpensive pocket voltmeter reading from 0 to 6 volts may be adapted for higher ranges by adding resistance in the circuit. The method employed is clearly shown in the sketch, and when so arranged, reading from 0 to 6 and from 0 to 50 volts are possible. The base consists of a board, 5 in , long and 4 in . wide, with a hole cut for the meter in the upper left-hand corner. Two triangular supports under the sides of the panel tip it up at a nice reading angle. A coat of shellac or stain and varnish will give the base a neat appearance Arrange the three binding posts as shown and wire the negative post of the meter to the binding post marked 0 . A wire is then run from the positive side of the meter to the center binding post marked 6. The resistance unit is wound on a strip of bakelite or fiber. 1 in . wide and 4 in . long. Drill a small hole in each end of the strip, and place a shoe eyelet or tubular rivet in each hole. A layer of either No, 34 or No. 36 s.c. copper magnet wire is then wound on the strip, the beginning end of the wire being soldered to one of the rivets. When the first layer is wound, reverse the direction of the winding and run the second layer back over the first, and so on until
the proper resistance is obtained. To check the resistance, bare a spot on the wire occasionally and test the value in the circuit with a 6 -volt battery. When the needle reads approximately .7 of a volt from the 6 -volt battery, the resistance will be about right. When the winding is done, solder the finishing end to the remaining rivet on the strip. Two wood screws are used to fasten the strip to the panel, one end of the strip is wired to the positive post of the meter and the other end to the lower binding post, marked 50 . For 6-volt readings, connect wires to binding posts 0 and 6 ; for 45 -volt reading . connect to 0 and 50 . The 45 -volt reading will come at approximately the $51 / 2$-volt marking on the meter dial and should be indicated by a red-ink line on the dial.

## Screen-Grid Tube Requirements

Screen-grid tubes require somewhat dif ferent handling from tubes of the standard type. The r.f. transformers used with these new tubes must have a high primary impedance to obtain the amplification of which they are capable; therefore the transformer primary should have about the same inductance as the secondary. Impedance coupling, using a single coil common to both the plate circuit of one tube and the grid circuit of the next, will give the necessary amplification.

## Kink for Starting Nuts

The radio builder who encounters dif ficulty in starting nuts on machine screwlocated in awkward
 positions, will find the simple method shown in the sketch to be a timesaver. Place the nut on a length of busbas wire, and, holding it to the upper end of the wire, place the other end on the machine screw, as shown. Then release the nut and it will slide down to a position where it may be started by
twirling it with another piece of wire, a long-shanked screwdriver or a nut driver. -Henri T. Schultze, Kansas City, Mo.

## Testing Batteries and Power Units

When testing batteries with the usual voltmeter, the battery should be connected to the set and tested while the set is in operation to obtain the true reading under load. Batteries will frequently test up to full voltage when not connected to the set, but, when connected under operating conditions, may show insufficient power. This also applies to socket-power units which should be tested under operating conditions, and in this case an accurate highresistance B-eliminator voltmeter should be employed.

## Wire Holder Simplifies Soldering

Many tedious soldering operations may be simplified by means of a wire holder consisting of a block of wood, two large corks and two thumbtacks. The corks are fastened to the wooden block with glue, and small nails are driven through the Wock. The thumbtacks hold the work in the desired position, leaving both hands free. This simple holder is also handy for soldering delicate instrument parts that must be hardsoldered by means of a small blow-pipe.-Jno. H. Schalek. Swissvale, Pa .

## Homemade Line-Voltage Control

Very few a.c. receivers are provided with a means of limiting the line voltage applied to the tubes. Excessive line voltage is detrimental to a.c. tubes and step-down transformers, and the simple device decribed here, which will cut down excessive voltage, will be found worth while.


Obtain a small spool of No. 22 nichrome resistance wire; these spools may be obtained from any electrical-supply house. The wire is wound on a piece of broomstick, about 1 ft . long, the length of wire required depending on the amount the line voltage is to be reduced. A roll of electrical friction tape and an a.c. voltmeter scaled to read from 0 to 150 volts are also required. Wind a length of tape around the broomstick and fasten the starting end of the wire under a tack. Place the turns about ${ }_{3}^{2} / 2 \mathrm{in}$. apart and, when about threefourths of the stick is filled, connect the resistance in one side of the supply line and test the voltage at the power-unit input. Now, either add or remove turns of wire until the reading is not in excess of 110 volts. When the correct length of wire is determined. clip it from the spool and secure the end with a tack as at the start. An inch or two should be left at each end for connecting in the line, and a turn or two around the tack will hold the coil in place. A layer of tape is now wound over the coil to prevent shorts, and the resistance unit is ready to connect in one side of the supply line; Fahnestock clips may be used for the connections. As the line voltages vary during the day and at night, before winding the resistance unit, determine with the voltmeter just when the peak is reached and wind the resistance when the line voltage is highest.F. W. Luecker, Jr., 9BBX, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.


##  Pevoctis <br> 



Left, an Inexpensive Means of Modernizing an Old Radio Installation: the Curtains Hide the Batteries and Protect the Set from Dust

Right, Homemade RemoteControl Box Consisting of a Variable High Resistance Provides a Handy Means for Regulating Volume


THE DETECTIVE
ARRANGEMENT

Right, When Necessary to Remove the Diaphragm from a Phone Unit, Slip It Off as Shown, Don't Pull It;
These Disks Are
Thin and Must
Carefully

Left, a Simple Water-Level Indicator; When the Lamp Is Pushed Down to Make Contact with the Screw Head Below, It Will Light If the Electrolyte Is High Enough to Touch the Lead


# The Latest in Television Apparatus 

 Pilot Electric Mfg. Co., Adjusting His Complete Television Receiver and Observing a Test Picture; Right, Rear View Showing the Arrangement of the Apparatus

Philo T. Farnsworth, Young Utah Inventor, Who Has Been Working in a Laboratory at San Francisco, Demonstrating His Newly Developed Tube and System of Television, Involving Two Fundamentally New Principles: His Apparatus Is Unique in That There Are No Moving Parts and That It Requires Only Half the Wave-Band Length Used in Other Methods of Television


Details of Support for Reducing Noise of Operation, Showing Charger in Position

## Reducing Charger Noises

Radio owners who have battery chargers of the older types, some of which are quite noisy, may reduce the noise and vibration to a minimum by means of the simple arrangement shown in the sketch. The charger is suspended on strips of rubber cut from an old auto inner tube, the strips being nailed one on top of the other between the two sidepieces of the simple wooden frame and forming an elastic sling or cradle. The frame itself is further insulated by means of rubber feet, which may be made from rubber stoppers. This device prevents the vibrations from reaching the floor or table on which the charger rests. A slight hum may still be heard, but the vibrations are not amplified. -Benjamin H. Hoopes, East Berlin, Pa.

## Pin Jacks Simplify Connections

The ordinary binding posts used for battery, speaker, ground and antenna connections are often placed in awkward positions for making quick hookups. The holes in the binding posts through which the wire is to be threaded are out of sight and at right angles to the post, making connections very difficult. There are several types of small pin jacks on the market that make ideal substitutes for binding posts under such conditions. The wire ends may be provided either with cord tips
or special miniature plugs which are inserted in the small jacks. These jacks may also be mounted on the front panel and connected across points where current or voltage is to be checked.

## R. F. Chokes Prevent Distortion

When properly used, a good r.f. chokecoil will prevent distortion resulting from the coupling of separate circuits, reduce undesirable regeneration or oscillation and prevent the entry of r.f. currents into a.f. circuits. The use of these chokes reduces the necessity for shielding and for the extreme care otherwise essential in placing parts to avoid coupling effects. Good r.f. chokes have very low values of distributed capacity; if improperly made they will act more as condensers than chokes and will permit the r.f. currents to pass freely, defeating the purpose intended. The extremely low capacity values of good chokes of the r.f. type are sufficient to block the path of the r.f. currents, and to divert them through the by-pass condensers as intended.

## Mounting Loop on Portable Set

Mounting a loop on a portable receiver so that it will be held securely in an up-
 same time permit turning in any direction presents a problem for many experimenters. The sketch shows a simple means of doing this, and the secret lies in the use of an ordinary door-bolt keeper that is screwed to the side of the case. Keepers may be obtained from any hardware store for a few cents. The inset diagram shows the method so clearly that little comment is necessary. The keeper is so shaped that no parts project above the case.

## $\xrightarrow{\text { AMATRURM MChanirs }}$

## Stage Scenes from Vacation Pictures

By PAUL PADDQCK

$I^{F}$F YOUR summer's outing has been normally successful, you probably have taken a picture or two that are worth preserving. An interesting and unusual way to do this is to make a scenic setting out of them, after the manner of a model stage grouping.

The main view (if it is an outdoor scene, all the better) will serve as the back drop. One showing good perspective is most satisfactory, as the effect of depth is one of the pleasing results of the setting. The picture should
mountains or diminishing groups of trees is favored, as it gives the impression of distance. A hazy sky in the far distance also will add much to the effectiveness of the finished group.

The actors in the scene, of course, are the persons who appear in the picture. The figures should be cut out in outline, also mounted on stiff board or wood, and anchored to a base of wood or cardboard so that they will not fall down. Do not attach them permanently to the bottom of your stage, as you will want to move them about from time to time. The figures may be enlarged or reduced as you need, to keep the proper perspective; placing them close to the front or nearer the back
bove, Cutting Out the Prints for the Setting: Right, the Partly Completed Layout
be mounted on stiff cardboard and fastened to a substantial backing, so that it will stand erect and not easily become dislodged. Care should be taken that no wrinkles show. A background that includes a river, distant

of your setting will sometimes give the right result. Attaining the proper proportions and perspective is a problem that must be worked out for each picture and will afford added interest.
 to take one picture of the
background with no figures appearing on it.
By coloring the pictures and adding realistic foregrounds of sand, bits of grass or other materials, the settings assume a much more lifelike appearance. When the scene is completed, it may be assembled in a box or booth, and interesting lighting effects produced by placing small bulbs back of the units or at the footlights, as is done in actual stage displays. Sun and moon' effects may be attained by lights behind the back drop.

The group illustrated here was completed in less than an hour after the prints

had been made, and three pictures were used in its arrangement.

## Preheating Water for Gas Heater Reduces Gas Bill

In many homes one-half of the gas bill represents heat used for warming water. One type of heater is automatically turned on when the corresponding faucet is opened, thus providing hot water only in such quantities as desired. The water entering the heater is practically the $s \curvearrowright m e$ temperature as that in the outside main,
which is often many degrees lower than the air inside of the house. Even though the water passes through 50 ft . or more of pipe in the house on its way to the heater, it moves at such velocity that it does not have time to heat up appreciably before reaching the heater. Quite a bit of gas can be saved if the water is allowed to reach the temperature of the house before it enters the heater. This can be done by installing a tank in the line to the heater, or by using oversize pipe for the line in order to provide water-storage space. The tank should be large enough to hold the average amount of water required at any one time. The cold-water inlet should be located at the bottom of the tank and the outlet to the heater at the top. Supposing that water is required at $130^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$., and during the winter time it enters the house at an average temperature of $40^{\circ}$. The cold water would then have to be heated $90^{\circ}$. By installing a tank as suggested, the water in the tank would gradually attain the house temperature of about $70^{\circ}$. Then the gas flame would have to heat the water only $60^{\circ}$. It is obvious that much more gas is required to heat the water $90^{\circ}$ than $60^{\circ}$. In one case this method of preheating water reduced the average monthly bill from about $\$ 9$ to \$6.-C. C. Phelps, Montclair, N. J.

## Measuring Half Capacity of Containers

It often happens that housewives and others who measure ingredients do not have half measures, and are then tempted to guess. The quantity of any container can be exactly halved by proceedting as shown in the drawing. Merely pour enough of the liquid or other contents out until the surface extends diagonally from one side of the bottom to the opposite side of the top. The quan-
 tity of liquid in the container is then exactly half of its full measure.-Stanley H. Phillips, Drummondville, Can.


Convenient Arrangement for Hoisting Sagging Clotheslines Out of the Way

## Hoist for the Clotheslines

In our backyard we had several clotheslines which sagged and were therefore more or less in the way, especially when mowing the lawn. To hoist them entirely out of the way, I provided a long center pole with an iron ring and pulley as shown. The ends of four clotheslines were attached to the ring, which could be raised or lowered at will by means of a length of rope attached to it and run over the pulley attached at the top of the pole. The other ends of the clotheslines were permanently fastened to posts or buildings. Besides clearing the backyard of sagging lines, this arrangement also eliminates props.-W. H. Snyder, Pocatello, Idaho.

## Can You Do It?

In the article under the above title in the August issue of the magazine, an error appeared in the key numbers of the dice game. The proper key numbers are: 8 , $15,22,29,36,43$ and 50 . These can easily be memorized if it is remembered that they are the number seven and its multiples, plus one.


Wet and sappy wood, especially soft wood, tends to draw an auger into it much faster than the guide screw does ordinarily. This trouble, known as "running," can be prevented by slipping a helical spring over the auger as shown, the small end of the spring being of such size that it will not slip over the chuck. This exerts a back pressure on the auger, permitting it to feed slowly as it should. Helical springs for this purpose can be found in discarded auto seats.

## Shields for Balloon or Oversize Tires

After changing to balloon or oversize tires, many auto owners find that the projecting nuts
 on fender supports cut the tires under certain circumstances. For instance, when the car is heavily loaded, the fenders are brought down close to the surface of the tires. Then, when traveling over a
somewhat rough road, the supports occasionally touch the tires and slash them. To avoid this trouble, simple shields can be made to fit on the brackets. The illu.tration shows two types, both of which can be made from lengths of flat iron. The shield in the upper detail is attached to the underside of the fender bracket, while the lower detail shows a shield attached to the side of the bracket.

## Splicing Ends of Short Wires

A quick and neat method of splicing an electric cord, especially at a point where it is rather short, as in motors and fans, is to cut a $3 / 4-\mathrm{in}$. length of No. 14 solid-copper wire, and wrap the cleaned strands of the cord around it, after which the three pieces are carefully soldered together. If the repaired part is subject to strain, the ends of the solid wire should be bent over with a pair of pliers just before soldering, then taped in the usual way.

## Homemade Brush for Applying Tar

For tarring a roof, which was so small that I did not feel justified in purchasing a regular brush, I made one which answered the purpose just as well. It consisted of an old paintbrush, a garden hoe and a small C-clamp, the latter holding the brush
 securely to the hoe, as shown. This improvisation was assembled in a few moments.-Paul Kiefer, Hamilton, Ohio.

## White Paint for Concrete

A durable white paint for concrete steps, walls and walks can be made from lime and cement. Take hydrated lime, two parts, and cement, one part; mix these together thoroughly and scald with boiling water. If a very white finish is desired, use white cement. It is applied with a large paintbrush and forms a coating that will not rub off.


WHILE inexpensive Christmas-tree and table ornaments of almost infinite variety can be purchased during the holiday season, many folks like to give original and personal touches to the decorations. To such people these suggestions are addressed.

Eggshell ornaments are illustrated in Fig. 1. Make small openings in the eggs and blow out the contents. Draw a pencil line around a shell a little below the center, the large end being at the top, and gild the upper top, shaking Christmas "ice" powder over the paint while still wet. Paint the lower end with scarlet water color or lacquer. Cut a strip of gold or silver paper, 1 in. wide, long enough to go around the egg at the division line with a little lap. fold it into an accordion pleat, and cut the folds with scissors to make a fancy border. Glue
this band around the egg. paste narrow strips, $11 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. long, on each point, and stick a 2 -in. paper tassel to the egg point. Complete the trinket by pasting colored string to the upper end.

The other tailed-shell ornament is made by drawing four equal-sized oval ornaments on the surface, with the edges slightly overlapping. Paint the spaces above and below the ovals bright red, the
 ovals emerald green or light blue, and the small elliptical ovals within the others, gold. The paper pendant is also gilded.

The third shell is laid out by sketching six equidistant spirals from end to end, as in Fig. 1. This is fairly easy to do. If the colors used are transparent, erase the false lines. Paint in blue and gold.

A large variety of ornaments can be made with walnut shells, by gluing the halves to paper

backings of various graceful shapes, as in Fig. 3.

Flower decorations are especially attractive for the Christmas tree. (See Figs. 4 to 9.) Cut two circles $21 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. in diameter, from colored paper (Fig. 4) and divide them into twelve equal parts. Cut the petals $1 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. deep, as at the upper left. Make a third tier of petals 2 in . in diameter, cutting the petals $3 / 8 \mathrm{in}$. deep. Notch the petal ends $1 / 8 \mathrm{in}$. deep, and assemble the three papers by stitch. ing the centers. Add the stamens in the form of a paper fringe, $3 / 4$ in. wide, rolled into a tassel. Bend the petals upward, and the flower is complete.

Figs. 5, 6, 7, and 10 illustrate ornaments in modern design. The center device in the photograph is made by pasting tokether four of the cardboard cut-outs dimensioned in Fig. 5. The other angular ornament is built up of the two triangles shown in Fig. 6. Cut as indicated, folding

the points upward on the dotted lines and downward on the dashes.

The circle ornament is built up of nine $3 / 4$ in. circles made by lapping the ends of col-

ored paper strips, $1 / 4 \mathrm{in}$. wide. Glue up two sets of three circles each, and join them with a circle glued in the center, as in Fig. 7. Paste the other two circles to the


VERTICAL TYPE TREE PLACE CARD

ends, and lay aside to dry before tying on the string.

Two interesting place-card favors for the Christmas table are pictured in Fig. 13. One miniature tree is made by threading six-pointed star forms over a splinter of wood, $31 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. long, as in Fig. 12. Observe the variation in diameter and spacing. A section of cork makes a good stand. Make the place cards themselves $3 / 4 \mathrm{in}$. wide and 3 in . long, with the ends cut on an angle, one being slitted to clamp on the tree trunk. The other tree is a vertical type. Make three triangular forms, $23 / 4$ by $31 / 4 \mathrm{in}$., and stitch them together up the center. Fold the layers radially outward, so as to form the six sets of leaves, glue or sew to a stick for a trunk, and add the base.

## Repairing Small Cracks in Earthenware

Earthenware vessels that are cracked so that they will not hold water, but are otherwise in good condition, can readily be repaired in the following way: Get some black iron enamel and, after the vessel has been thoroughly dried so that no moisture remains in the cracks, apply some of the enamel with your finger, rubbing it well into these. After repeating this three or four times, remove the excess enamel with a rag dampened with gaso-
line. After the enamel has dried, the vessel will again be water-tight. For large cracks, it is better to apply the enamel with a brush, applying three coats and permitting each coat to dry thoroughly. When pottery becomes covered on the inside with a deposit that will not readily come off, such as the white residue of water glass, apply a few coats of the enamel.

## Emergency Methods of Opening Bottles and Cans

When a corkscrew or can opener is not available, the illustrated methods of opening bottles and cans will be found convenient. To remove a stubborn cork, get a short length of wire, about $1 / 16$ in. thick, and bend it to the shape shown, wrapping one end around a short stick, which serves as a handle. Tin cans can be easily opened without any risk of cutting one's hand by means of the improvised cutter shown in the lower detail. It consists of a short piece of flat wood with a nail driven through it at one end to serve as a pivot. A slot is cut in the
 wood so that a pocketknife can beinserted in the position shown. The nail is pressed down through the center of the top of the can, and the knife blade through the top near the edge. Then, by turning the device, the top will be slashed open.

## Homemade Stove Polish

Put into a bottle one-half cupful of pulverized graphite, 1 pt . of turpentine, one teaspoonful of sugar, and mix. Shake up well and apply with a cloth or brush, being sure to get plenty of the graphite on the cloth. Then polish with a clean cloth.

Spanish Windlass Pulls Auto Out of Mud
Although principally used for felling trees, a Spanish windlass, which exerts tremendous power, may be put to a variety of uses, among them to pull an auto out of a mud hole. Hitched to a convenient tree or deadman, one can easily pull the auto out single-handed, as shown in the drawing. All the equipment necessary consists of two lengths of
one $1 / 2$-in. brass compression bib, one 1 by $1 / 2-\mathrm{in}$. galvanized reducing elbow, and the necessary $1 / 2-\mathrm{in}$. galvanized tees, elbows, nipples and pipe, according to the number of founts and their spacing. The drawing


When Your Auto Is Stuck in the Mud and There Is No Help Available, You Can Pull It Out Single-Handed by the Use of This Spanish Windlass
heavy rope and two stout poles. One of the latter is set up vertically so that it is free to turn, and is braced by a length of rope tied to a near-by tree or stump as shown. The other rope is tied to the car and to the end of the second pole, which is used to wind the rope around the vertical pole as a fulcrum. As this is free to turn, there will be no appreciable friction of the rope on this pole and practically the whole force will be used in pulling the car.-P. A. Smith, Jennings Lodge, Oreg.

## Convenient Poultry Fountain

Besides automatically supplying several drinking cups, the poultry fountain shown in the drawing has some advantages over those of the usual type. There is little chance of the cups running dry, which would cause suffering and loss of production, especially during hot weather, and baby chicks can use them without any danger of drowning. Owing to their size they cannot be contaminated easily, and can be cleaned with little trouble by opening and closing two valies. Get a 50 gal. barrel, made for holding liquid, and clean it out thoroughly. The pipe and fittings needed are three $1 / 2$-in. brass valves,
shows the method of installing this fountain. A is the brass compression bib, while B, C and D are brass valves. The founts, no matter how many there are, must be at the same height so that the water level will be equal in all of them. To fill the barrel with water, close the valve C and open bib A , which allows the air in the barrel to rush out while water is replacing it. Open valves B and D. When the water starts flowing out of the bib, the barrel is full. Valve D and bib A are then closed. Drinking water is now available at all the founts.


[^4]

## Tile Chimney through Roof.Saves Stovepipe from Rusting

When a stovepipe chimney is run through the roof, the action of rain and of the gases of combustion soon causes the pipe to rust through, making it necessary to go to the trouble and expense of renewing it nearly every season. However, by substituting a tile chimney, as shown in the drawing, the trouble can be eliminated. A suitable shelf is first built to support the tile, which consist of a tee and one or more lengths of $4-\mathrm{in}$. drain. The tee rests on the supporting shelf as indicated in the detail, and a quantity of sand is thrown inside of it to form a 3 or 4 -in. layer on the shelf. This serves the double purpose of protecting the board from fire, and absorbing rain water that may run down inside. The hole in the roof through which the chimney projects should be about 4 in . larger in diameter than the tile, and the clearance around the pipe is covered with a sheet of galvanized iron, cut to fit the tile. Iron lath, or even wire netting, will do, if it is well covered with cement, some pitch being poured over the top of the latter to make the joint leakproof. Some sand or gravel may be sprinkled over the pitch while it is still soft.

One or more lengths of straight tile are cemented on top of the tee to raise the chimney to any desired height. The stovepipe is fitted to the tee, and when the stove is not in use, it is of advantage to plug the chimney.-D. F. McKinley, Bronte, Can.

## Ridding Pets of Vermin

To effectively rid your pets of vermin, fix a draw string around the open end of a $25-\mathrm{lb}$. sugar sack for cats, or a $50-\mathrm{lb}$. sack for dogs, and put a handful of Dalmatian powder in the sack. Then put the animal inside with the head projecting outside, and draw the string up to close the bag around its neck. The animal will struggle to get out and in doing so will cause the powder to sift through the hair thoroughly, which is exactly what is desired. In this way the powder will be applied without wasting any of it and without getting it in the eyes of the animal, which would cause more or less discomfort.-H. A. Norrell, Augusta, Ga.

## Oil Lamp Heats Soldering Iron

Where an electric soldering iron is not available or cannot be used, good results will be obtained with an ordinary roundwick, center-draft oil lamp for heating it. A tin chimney, about 4 in . long, is substituted for the regular glass chimney and the soldering iron is placed on it. Before using the iron, wipe it off on a rag as the
 flamewill cover it with soot. This method is better than placing the iron in a stove, which heats it ton much and burns off the tin on the surface. With two small irons heated alternately. one can get along very well with this outfit.-Sixten N. Swenson, Harris, Minn.

## Shaping Sail of a Model Ship

The appearance of wind-filled calt, has been variously obtained by thip-model builders, copper or sift-iron wire, sewed in the edges of the sail, frequently being used twe retain the desired curves. Sometimes sheet metal, or even wood, has been used in place of cloth for the sails. However, all of these methods are rather unsat-i- iactory. I have found that excellent results can be attained in the following way: Cut the sails carefully to shape from lightweight unbleached cloth, allowing a $1 / 8$ in. strip along each edge for hemming. Turn the edges twice and bind them with close short titches. With a well-heated iron, press the sail until it is flat. Now bend the sail to its yard and suspend it horizontally as hown. A sheet of waxed paper is then placed smoothly on the surface of the sail. Upon this, pour sufficient fine sand to cause the sail to bulge as desired. The sail catl be made to assume almost any shape by loading the most sand where the deepest bulge is required. Next, apply liberally to the underside of the sail a coat of gond white shellac. After an hour or two, apply a second coat. The waxed paper
 will prevent the sand from adhering to the upper surface of the sail. After the shellac has dried thoroughly, remove the sand and the waxed paper. Apply two coats of shellac on the inside of the sail. When the shellac has hardened, the sail will be found surprisingly stiff and smooth. The white shellac does not alter appreciably the color of the cloth. Sails. made in this way more than three years ago, have retained their shape exactly to this day--Carleton Goff, East Providence, Khode Island.

CMany people use a little turpentine and warm water for cleaning varnished woodwork and furniture.


Frozen Water Pipes Thawed Out by Steam Admitted through Small Hole Drilled in Floor

## Thawing Out Frozen Water Pipes

During a freezing spell some of the water pipes between the joists of my home were frozen and in order to thaw them out it seemed necessary to take up, some of the flooring. In order to avoid this, I thought of the method illustrated and found it entirely successful. A hole was drilled in the floor over the pipes to admit a length of rubber tubing, which was in turn slipped over the spout of a kerosene can. After the can was half filled with water, it was set on two bricks. and the flame of a blowtorch directed against it to boil the water. The steam given off goes through the rubber tubing and strikes the pipes, which thaws them out in a very short time.-C. W. Hubert, Corry, Pa.

## Remedy for Floors That Squeak

Squeaking floors are often rather annoying. A remedy is to drive wood screws between the adjoining ends of the boards
 as shown. If no screws are at hand, use :mall wooden plugs. Either way will stop the squeak at once. Coat the plugs with glue before driving them in.


Sheet-Metal Shield over Radiator Prevents Spilling Alcohol Solution on Lacquered Finish

Lacquer finishes are especially susceptible to alcohol spotting and therefore, when filling radiators with anti-freeze mixtures containing alcohol, one should prevent the splashing or dripping of the mixture on the finish. A simple guard, which will prevent such spotting is shown in the drawing. It consists of a flat, inclined metal shield, about 1 ft . square. The rear edge is bent to rest on the engine hood as indicated. A sheet-metal cone or cylinder is soldered to the shield below a hole cut in the center, the cone extending into the filler opening of the radiator. If any of the liquid is spilled or splashed it is caught by the guard and drips off the lower edge without touching the lacquered surface-G. A. Luers, Washington. D. C.

## Calculating Number of Studs Required in a Wall

To calculate the number of studs, rafters or joists required when spaced 16 in ., center to center, divide the length of the wall by four and multiply by three. In case of joists add one to the result. With rafters for the common type of plain gable roof, multiply the result by two and add two, which gives twice as many rafters as joists,
as the former are used in pairs. For studs add two to the result, because two are used to make a corner with which to start. For example, if a wall is 20 ft . long there will have to be 17 studs, 16 joists and 32 rafters. A part less than 16 in . is always treated as a full space.-Con G. Goodwin, Oklahoma City, Okla.

## How to Get More Wear from Women's Overshoes

Usually the first part of a woman's rubber overshoe to show wear is the heel, and this is caused almost entirely by the high, sharp shoe heels; which have a tendency to push a hole right through the overshoe. To prevent such wear, get a piece of sole leather, sheet fiber, or some other similar tough material, cut it to fit exactly inside of the overshoe heel and fasten it with rubber cement. This should be done when the galoshes are new, and will be found to reduce the wear consider-ably.-Newcomb Leonarde, Mystic, Conn.

## Method of Bracing Guitar

As my Hawaiian guitar is almost in constant use, I keep the strings tight all the time. This practice, however, sprung the neck to some extent. completely ruining the tone of the instrument. To restore it, I made the repair shown in the drawing. This consisted in slipping a metal link, as shown in the detail, over the tailpiece plug
 of the guitar, and driving a small wood screw into the underside of the neck, and then running a screen-door brace, provided with a turnbuckle, from the metal brace to the wood screw. By turning the turnbuckle, the neck was pulled back to its proper position.-Thos. F. Johnson, Schulenburg, Tex.

## Water Glass as Wood Filler

()rdinary water glass, such as is used for "putting down" eggs, makes an excellent filler for soft wood and is particularly effective for covering knots in green wood. The water glass, under paint, will set up a hard finish through which no sap will penetrate. It is applied with a soft brush after the stuface of the wood is reasonably clean and dry.

## Easy Method of Cleaning Poultry Nests

Many backyard poultry keepers, having from 10 to 25 hens, find that the cleaning of the nests is more or less unpleasant and trouhifsome. To make this job an easy one, merely get some pieces of cardboard, and cut them down to a rectangular shape about 1 in . wider and longer than the bottom of the nest. Bend the edges as indicated and cut out the comers. This makes a false bottom on which the nest straw is placed. When it is necessary to clean the nest, the false hottom is removed. If an egg is broken in the nest, burn the paper board and replace it with a new one. The side flaps are turned up when placed in the nest, and thus offer handholds which permit one to lift them without difficulty.-W. E. Boyd, Visalia, Ky.


[^5]
"Jitney Golf," an Interesting Outdoor Game in Which Tires Are Used to Ring Stakes

## Jitney Golf Is Interesting

Last fall, during a family reunion on our farm, the men sought amusement by playing "barnyard golf," but my partner and I could not find any more horseshoes. so we originated a game played with old auto tires and called it "jitney golf." At first the others looked upon it as a joke, but were soon impressed with the fact that it was much more difficult than it seemed and, therefore, interesting. Two stakes are driven into the ground, 50 ft . apart, and are left projecting aboat 1 ft . above it. About 8 ft . behind each stake a wiremesh backstop is set up. Two circles are laid off around the stakes as centers, the smaller circle having a diameter of 5 ft . and the larger one, 8 ft . If desired, a playing court can be marked off as shown. Two discarded 30 by $3 \times 1 / 2-\mathrm{in}$. tires, which are still in such condition that they can be rolled over the ground, are used, and two or four persons play the game, which consists in trying to ring the stakes. Each player or pair of players are stationed at one of the stakes. Two rolls are made by each side. A ringer on the stake counts for 25 . When the tire leans on the stake, the points gained are 10 , when it drops in the inner circle, 3 , and in the outer circle, 2. If the tire rolls entirely outside of the playing yard, the player loses 10 points. C. N. Harrington, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

## Barrel Hoop Holds Wood While Chopping



Setting a Number of Pieces of Wood on Edge in a Barrel Hoop Facilitates Chopping

Splitting wood piece by piece takes à long time as each piece has to be handled, put in place and cleared away for the next piece. A much quicker method is shown in the photo. Get an ordinary barrel hoop and set up a number of pieces to be chopped, with the hoop around them. The chopping is done on a small plank platform and the writer has used this method for years with entire satisfaction.-John S. Carnes, Red Wing, Minn.

## Care of Your Auto Generator

As there is much more drain on an auto storage battery during the winter than in summer, due to starting difficulties and more use of light, a charging rate of 15 amp. has been found best for the cold season and 10 amp . for warm weather. When the car is driven all day it is often necessary to burn the lights in order to prevent overcharging the battery. Expensive repair bills are often caused by an owner's neglect in lubricating the generator bearings. Usually the front bearing gets its
lubrication from the motor, but the rear one must be oiled, a small hole being provided for that purpose. If you run the car about 100 miles a week, a few drops of oil once per month is sufficient. If the generator develops a grinding noise, get it repaired at once, as this is quite often an indication that one of the bearings has worn out, and delay in giving it attention may ruin the armature. Squeaks in the generator are usually caused by the smallest of the three brushes. The trouble can be determined by lifting this brush from the armature while the engine is running. By smearing a little vaseline on the contact end of the brush, or by altering its position slightly, the squeak can often be stopped, but, if not, a new brush is needed. Brushes can be replaced in most generators without taking them apart, but you should notice carefully how the connections to the brushes are made. A button hook is handy for lifting the brush spring so that the brush can be removed.-Glen F. Stillwell, Collinsville, III.

## Celluloid on Windshield Prevents Steaming

During the winter months moisture usually collects on the inside of the windows and windshield of a car A good remedy is as follows: Take a sheet of celluloid.


Wout 12 by 15 in . in dimensions, nid along the edges paste strips felt about $1 / 2$ in. in width. Hace the celluloid on the windsheld in front of the driver, inside of the car, with the felt scainst the shield and fasten it with friction tape as shown. This forms a dead-air space between the celluloid and the windshield, preventing either from steaming.

## Electric Flatiron Thaws Frozen Water Pipes

Having been away for a few days during a cold spell, I found, upon my return home, that the water pipes behind the bathtub were frozen. Their position, which was hardly accessible, did not permit the use of a blowtorch to thaw them out. I therefore heated an electric flatiron and applied it to the frozen pipes. This method produced quick results for in less than 10 minutes the pipes were thawed out. I used an extension cord connected to the nearest light socket.-F. W. Read, Wooster, Ohio.

## Luminous Paint on Keyhole



When coming home at night, I often had trouble in finding the keyhole, as the door was in a hall that was dark all the time. To eliminate the trouble I bordered the keyhole with luminous paint, as shown, and now it is an easy matter to find the keyhole in the dark.-Charles Latour, Jr., Plattsburg, N. Y.

## Flashlight Used for Photographing

Beautiful light and shadow effects in photographs of still objects can be obtained by the use of a strong flashlight to illuminate them while taking a time exposure. Examples of this kind of work, done by an amateur photographer, are shown in the accompanying illustration.


Beautiful Time Exposures Can Be Taken at Night with the Aid of a Strong Flashlight
The flashlight used for the purpose was a large, five-cell type, having a focusing cap and capable of throwing a powerful beam of light. The camera is set about $21 / 2$ or 3 ft . from the object, and the light in a position on one side and somewhat behind the camera. Then the shutter is opened and an exposure varying from $11 / 2$ to 2 minutes allowed. By moving the flashlight throughout the exposure, every portion of the object was well illuminated.

## Lock for Loose Hinge Pin

Loose pins in hinges often work out of place and may be lost. If the pins are a fairly tight fit they will even work up and drop out of vertical hinges. This trouble can be prevented by driving a thin finishing nail or brad at an angle into the door or the frame. If driven at the right angle
 it will not stop the door and need be taken out only if the hinge pin is to be removed.


Pull-Out Shelf Facilitates Handling of Linen When Arranging or Removing It from Closet

## Pull-Out Shelf for Linen Closet

When arranging or removing supplies from a linen closet, the pull-out shelf shown in the drawing will be convenient as a place to lay some of the linen down while both hands are occupied in getting a piece from the bottom of the pile. Two cleats are nailed under the shelf where the slide is to be located. The detail clearly shows how this is arranged. Although not necessary, a stop may be provided to prevent the movable shelf from sliding too far-C. C. Brabant. Detroit, Mich.

## Emergency Repair on Worn Brake Linings

When brake linings are badly worn and adjustment can no longer be made to make


TOOTHPICKS INSERTED AND BROKEN OFF them hold, danger is involved at a time when the brakes are badly needed. In case it is impossible to have the brake bands relined at once, the following emergency repair will be found helpful: Get a number of wooden toothpicks and force them between the brake band and the worn-out lining at 1 in. intervals as shown. This serves as a
shim, temporarily increasing the effectiveness of the lining. An auto with brakes repaired in this way was run safely for a few hundred miles. It should be remembered, however, that the repair is only temporary and that the brake lining must be renewed at the earliest possible opportunity.

## Fitting Brushes on Fan Commutators

Small electric fans equipped with carbon brushes often emit squeaking noises when new, which is caused by poor fitting of the brushes. To avoid this trouble, the brushes should be "run in" in the following way: Apply two or three drops of thin oil on the commutator of the new fan and connect it to run. Then set a second, and preferably larger, fan behind it so that the breeze of the latter will cause it to rotate faster than it would of its own accord. At this high speed, the brush tips, being slightly softened by the oil, will soon wear down to a good fit.-A. H. Klingbeil, Ashtabula, Ohio.

## Key Ring Serves as Picture-Frame Clamp

Some time ago I had a number of small picture frames to make. Having only one clamp, I used ordinary spring key rings. as shown in the illustration. They were cut to have an opening of about $1 / 2 \mathrm{in}$., the ends being filed to a sharp bevel. I found these so effective on small frames that I have discarded the regular clamps.Harry G. Tienken, Syracuse, N. Y.


## Whitewash for Various Purposes

Whitewash is an excelient preservative. brightens the cellar, the cottage, the shed. and the barn, and protects trees against worms and insect pests. It can be prepared casily and applied effectively by anyone. Two simple formulas are widely used for general-utility work, one for exterior. and the other for interior application. For sheds, tree trunks, stables, fences, etc., dissolve 15 lb . of common salt in about $71 / 2$
(4). of water. To this solution add 50 lb . ( 1 sack) if hydrated lime, or the patty made by carefully laking $1 / 2$ bu. of fresh quicklime. Mix thorunghly until a thick, whooth paste is formed. Thin to the desired confitency with fresh water, and apply. For interior work the following solution is popular: Dissolve 3 1b. of glue in about 2 pal. of water. Make a thick cream of 50 lb . (1 sack) of hydrated lime and about 7 gal . of water, or carefully slake to a soft putty $1 / 2$ bu. of quicklime. Add the glue solution to the lime, stirring constantly. As thin applications work best, make the mixture of such consistency, that the surface can be seen through the film while it is wet. The coating will dry opaque. Best results are obtained when the work is done in clear, dry weather. By adding 1 qt . of crude carbolic acid to either of the above mixtures, the whitewash becomes mildly disinfectant and insecticidal. Clean the surface to be treated of all dirt, etc., and dampen it before applying the fresh coat so that the wash will dry gradually.

## How to Prevent Ink Blots When Ruling

When using an ordinary writing pen and a ruler for drawing lines, care must be taken to prevent ink from creeping under the ruler. A good method is to slip a paper clip over it at each end as shown. This will raise the ruler a trifle and if some of the ink should accidentally get on it, there will be no risk of getting a blot on the paper unless, of course, one is very careless. The use of the clips does not affect the accuracy of the work.


Clips on Ruler Prevent Ink from Smudging Paper

## Five Photos in One Exposure

On the Atlantic City boardwalk a photographer makes use of a clever device for simultaneously producing five different views of the same subject on the same photo with only one exposure. The method is simple: Two large mirrors are placed together like the covers of a half-open book, with their reflecting surfaces facing each other. The angle formed by the mirrors is about $40^{\circ}$. A small triangular table is fitted into the space between the mirrors, and the subject to be photographed sits at the table facing the mirrors, which produces four reflections at a point a few feet behind the subject.-Bennie Agron, Atlantic City, N. J.

## How to Tighten Cane Seats

Cane-seated chairs have a tendency to sag aiter having been in use for some time, and reseating is usually considered necessary. However, the slack can be taken up by shrinking the cane as follows: Sponge the sides of the strips of cane with hot soapsuds and then let them dry. When nearly dry, cover the seat with a cloth and go over it witha hot flatiron.


SUPPOSE we are mountain climbers, and that one day, while strolling amongst the peaks, we have to negotiate a series of five 100 -ft, terraces in order to reach the floor of a valley far below. We have but one $150-\mathrm{ft}$. length of rope, but, since one of us is an old hand, and well versed in the important element of knot making, we find the solution easy. We proceed to use our rope in descending the first drop, then, standing on the first terrace, we give the rope a few vigorous jerkand down it comes, tumbling in a pile at our feet. And so to the valley. Back up the cliff again means taking the longest way round, of course, but anyway, our immediate problem is solved. And where does the knot come in? Well, it solved the all-important problem of how to take our rope along with us.


Dropping down the Face of a Hundred-Foot Cliff, and Taking His Rope with Him as He Goes, Is a Snap for the Man Who Knows His Knots

# GYOU 

By Sam Brown

shank," which is illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. First we lashed or tied one end of the rope to a solid support. Then, doubling the rope back on itself, as in Fig. 1, we made a half hitch around each end, as pictured in Fig. 2. Finally, we cut the one strand that passed through both of the half hitches.

Then we dropped down the first terrace. A - long as our weight kept the rope taut, the knot held with the strength of Gibraltar. With the weight off the rope, however, the knot became slightly loosened. 50 that a few vigorous jerks was all that was necessary to free it and let the rope come tumbling down. Of course, we lost a couple of feet of rope at every terrace, but what of it?

This cutting of the sheepshank should be practiced only in the case of an emerkency meriting the additional risk. In most cases, the sheepshank is used only as a handy and quick method of shortening a rope that is too long for a particular purpose, without cutting it. A practical wse for the knot is illustrated in Fig. 3. where it has been used to shorten a temporarily installed electric-light cord, and used in this way, it is a great deal neater, as well as more practical, than the clumsy, untidy, tangled knots one usually sees employed for the purpose.

The knot as just described is but one of the many which everyone should know. Thousands of lives are risked yearly on this knot and others. Every day sailors, explorers, mechanics and painters risk their lives on the knots that they tie. Even you and I use a rope occasionally, and we usually muddle through the task in an unworkmanlike manner. The tying of a box, the proper lashing for a towrope, the right way to tie a string to a rope-these


Above, Tying a Package Alone $\mathbf{I s}$ a Simple Trick by the Use of the Knot Illustrated
are everyday knots which all should know.
Knots should not be complicated affairs of numerous twistings. They should be of a kind that can be tied rapidly; they should hold fast when pulled tight; they should be easily untied.

With these qualities in mind, we will talk a bit on a knot that you use every day-the one used in tying a package. You want a tight string and a good knot, so, generally, a second person is called, his duty being to hold his finger on the first knot while you get the twine or rope ready for the second knot. But why the second person? If you twist the one end

son adds two or three unnecessary twists "just to make sure it'll hold."

Farmers and lumbermen are constantly called upon to fashion a knot around a small tree or a heavy plank so that it can be hauled to its destination. For this purpose, they merely pass the end of the rope around the timber, then lead it around the standing part and back for two or three twists around its own part, as shown in Fig. 7. The strain holds it quite securely, as illustrated in Fig. 8.

A common knot used quite frequently in everyday work, is the "Blackwall hitch," shown in Figs. 9 and 10. In a junk yard, where the illustrative photograph was taken, this knot was used to fasten one end of a rope to a derrick hook while the other end was fastened to the front end of a car with two half hitches. Both knots hold fast because of the resultant strain : both knots can be unloosened in the proverbial "jiffy" once the load has been released, of course.

Linemen, carpenters and painters often find it necessary to throw a rope to some one who is stationed a considerable height above. Generally, the weight of the rope
of the first knot once or twice around the string, as shown in Fig. 4, and then pull the free ends crosswise as in Fig. 5. you will find that this single knot will hold fast until you get the second knot into place.

A simple knot which is constantly being used, or misused, by an auto-mobile-riding American public, is the one used to attach a disabled car to one that is "up and going." For this purpose, nothing is better than two half hitches. Their formation is plainly shown in Fig. 6, and needs no other explanation. These two hitches will not slip under any strain, and they can be loosened far more readily than a haphazard knot where the average per-
be easily untied-by the man at the other end. What you want is the becket hitch. This is illustrated in Fig 11. It is absurdly simple to tie. equally simple to unfasten, and it makes it unsuitable for throwing. The thing to do is to tie a light string to the heavier rope, and throw the ball of string to the "high-up fellah." You will want a knot that is simple; something that can

does away with much unnecessary guesswork. This knot is also an
rope, Fig. 16, and you have a noose at the end of the rope that

will not slip and is easily untied.

Of course, your first attempts at making some of these knots, simple as they are the bowline, for example), would probably bring a broad smile to the face of a deep-water sailor. In knot making, as in everything else, there is a technique that must be learned if one is to become an expert. But, no matter how awkwardly the knots are made, they will be just as good as the expert's if the drawings are followed closely. If making a large loop at the end of any rope-a loop that can't slip under strain.

To make the bowline, form a small loop on the rope, as shown in Fig. 13. This loop should be made at some distance from the end of the rope so that you will have sufficient rope to form the large loop, Fig. 14. After the large loop has been formed, pass the rope up around the standing part and then down through the small loop again, as shown in Fig. 15. There! Tighten the knot by holding the noose in position and pulling the long part of the you want to learn the proper motions in tying knots, any rigger on a building-construction job will show you. Of course, the ideal instructor is the sailor, but there are not many of them in captivity. The lumberman also is a specialist on knots.

## ©Paper can be made transparent for trac-

 ing by saturating it with turpentine; as long as it is moist, the tracing can be carried on, but, when the turpentine has evaporated, the paper will again be opaque, and ink and colors will not run.

Improvised Corn Popper Can Be Made from an Old Cooking Pan and a Piece of Wire

## Improvised Corn Popper

In the absence of a regular corn-popper, it is an easy matter to improvise one that will serve the purpose fully as well as the commercial type. Take a cooking pot of about 2 -qt. capacity, remove the knob from the cover and fit a tube or bushing, about 2 in . long, in its place. To a tin cover this bushing can be soldered, but if the cover is of aluminum, soldering is difficult unless special flux and solder are used, and it may be better to rivet it. A length of galvanized-iron wire, of a diameter to fit inside of the bushing, is then bent to the shape shown and a wooden knob attached. This stirring device is rotated when the corn is being popped to prevent it from burning.

## Use Correct Type of Spark Plug

Not every automobile owner realizes the importance of the type of spark plug he uses with his car. His knowledge of its relation to the operating efficiency of the motor is confined generally to the bare fact that it furnishes a spark to ignite the gasolme charge. He should have the plug specified not only for his car in general but for his particular model, or he is likely to invite trouble. The correct spark plug
is of this importance, because engine-compression ratios differ, and the cooling coefficient and the r.p.m. of the motor usually vary with its make and model. With the development of higher compression ratios and higher speeds, it became nece, sary for manufacturers to design their spark plugs so that the heat in the motor did not affect their operation. Also, with a variation in cylinder-head design, the specified plug is necessary in order that the proper location of the sparking points may be had in relation to the combustion chamber. To perform efficiently, the electrodes must not become too hot. When too long a plug is used, the lower end extends too far into the firing chamber, where it is exposed to the full heat of the explosion, which causes the electrodes to become red-hot and results in pre-ignition. loss of power, missing and back-firing. If the plug is too short, it will be pocketed in the cylinder head, and a remnant of unburned gas in this pocket, left during the exhaust stroke, will foul the plug. The gases also will prevent proper firing of the fresh incoming charge. Thus, when the new spark occurs, there will be delayed burning, causing overheating of the motor just as a retarded spark would. This means loss of power and fuel, the motor becomes sluggish and difficult to start, and the acceleration slows up. At times the motor also may miss at high speeds.

## Preventing Cast-Iron House Numbers from Discoloring Paint

Ordinary cast-iron house numbers, when placed on light or white-painted
 wood, usually cause rust marks below them. I found that by grinding or filing down the lower portion of the numbers, as shown in the photo, any rain water will drop free of the wood near the number in trickling down and will not discolor the paint.


All Shop Notes published in 1927, in book form-Fifty Cents-from our Book Department

## Hints for Ship Modelers

By W. F. CROSBY

T'HE SHIP model builder who attempts to make his own blocks out of wood will probably find that he is up against a real problem, particularly if he tries to make these close to actual scale. In order to overcome the difficulty, the use of ordinary wire solder, as shown in Fig. 1, is about the best possible way of making non-splitting blocks. This solder may be obtained in several different diameters, it is soft enough to be drilled easily and may ako be cut with a knife to the desired length. The groove for the strap is cut in easily and the hole for the running rigging cut at right angles to this.
Another method is to use small pellets of plastic wood slightly flattened out. A
thin wire strap may be worked around the pellet just before it is hard and a hole drilled without much difficulty for the line to pass through. This material will not split. and blocks may be made with great rapidity and with the utmost ease. The only thing to watch out for is that the


Fig. 2

blocks are all of exactly the same size.
The deck of the average sailing ship will be found to contain several gratings of fine "mesh" and also two or three skylights which may be extremely difficult to make of wood. Fiber of a thickness to suit the scale of the model will serve the purpose. This material will not split and may be worked and finished to look exactly like wood. For gratings, the size and shape should be secured and marked off into the desired mesh. The tang end of a small file should then be squared off and sharpened on a stone, and this may be used as a punch. The fiber is held over a narrow slot opening in the vise (Fig. 2) and the homemade punch driven through it by a quick blow of a light hammer. The entire surface may thus be worked into the desired number of square holes. If the fiber has a tendency to shred off on the underside, an old razor blade or sharp knife may be used for trimming off this excess material.

Fiber also may be used for rails and skylights, but in the heavier sizes it may be necessary to cut out the square holes
of a skylight with a small drill, later finishing it smooth with a file. Windows may be made from old camera film, washel clean of emulsion.

On many of the old-time frigates, line-of-battle ships and other war vessels, the after side of each top was arranged with a small rail which was put there to keep the sharpshooters from falling overboard or to the deck. (See Fig. 4.) These rails quite often had a finemesh rope screen woven into them,
pieces and tie them to the workbench or fasten them in a vise (see Fig. 5) and then place the other ends in the chuck of a small hand drill, turning the handle toward you and winding until the different cords are securely twisted together. However, do not wind too tightly or the cord will be greatly shortened.
Such rigging must be kept tight or it will untwist and small clamps may be secured to each end until it is time to use it. A better and much more satisfactory way is to make up the rigging only as needed and then keep it taut until it is securely in place on the model.

One of the tedious jobs in completing an old-fashioned ship model is in the making and finishing of the many guns necessary. The guns themselves may be cast of lead or solder or, better yet, turned from hardwood on a small lathe. In the latter case, the material should be finished smooth and then painted either with bronze or black paint, depending upon the period of the ship.
The average frigate had carronades on deck and the heavier guns below and, in nine out of ten such models, the deck guns will be made incorrectly or mounted improperly. Carronades were considerably smaller than the other guns and had carriages which consisted of a flat piece with three little rollers on the underside. The carronade itself was mounted on a

swivel at the end nearest the rail, with a wedge arranged under the inboard end to depress or elevate the muzzle.

On the average model of this sort, the guns on the lower decks will simply be short pieces cemented into holes in the hull. These guns should be slightly greater in diameter and also slightly longer than the ones above. If long guns are to be made for the main deck. Fig. 6 will furnish a guide to the proper proportions for gun and carriage.

## Curtain Rod Holds Surgeon's Tape

## Rolls of ad-

 hesive tape of varying sizes are always convenient in the office of a police surgeon at San Diego, Calif. The rolls are held on a small curtain rod. Just below the rod, a piece of plate glass is provided to permit attaching one end of the tape to it when it is necessary to pull a section of tape off the roll and cut it with the use of only one hand, as, for in-
stance, in case the other hand is needed for holding the bandage on the patient.Alpheus Lincoln, Los Angeles, Calif..

## Acid Helps Remove Broken Tap

Mechanics often have trouble in removing a broken tap, especially if the tap is in tight and has broken below the surface. Before attempting to use any tools to remove it, fill the hole containing the broken part of the tap with muriatic acid or spirit of salt, taking care not to get it on the hands or clothing. Let the work stand for a few hours, which will give the acid time to dissolve some of the steel around the tap, so that the latter will be loosened sufficiently to be turned out. Sometimes the broken tap will become so loosened that it can even be lifted out.-James E. Noble, Toronto, Can.


Portable Truck Tracks. Made of Hardwood Slats Connected by Means of Chain, Prevent the Risk of Running Deep Ruts in Soft Lawns, besides Saving Considerable Time

Portable Tracks Save Lawns from Injury by Delivery Trucks

Portable tracks made of hardwood slats and connected by means of light chains have been found very useful in driving over soft lawns, to prevent ruining them. One truck owner who handles coal found sections 14 ft . in length most convenient. Each of these weighs about 70 lb ., can be rolled up into a compact bundle and readily put on top of the load. This track saves the customer the extra charge for carrying the coal in baskets or bags, and the coal man a lot of time.-S. Merritt, Nyack, N. Y.

## Facing Pipe Fittings

In our machine shop a job came in which made it necessary to face off pipe elbows so that the two ends would be at

perfect right angles. To do this we blocked up the lathe and the elbow with parallel blocks as shown. The cross slide was fastened to the faceplate, with the cutting tool arranged to turn down the face of the elbow. The handle of the cross slide was given part of
a turn at each revolution. After it was once set up. we made good time in this way.-C. Kugler, Philadelphia, Pa,

## Repair for Broken Gear Tooth

It is occasionally necessary to replace a broken tooth of an iron gear, as this is not only much easier, but also less expensive than getting a new gear, especially if it is large. The repair described here is only intended for use on parts that are not subjected to
 heavy loads. The gear face is ground down on each side of the broken tooth and a piece of sheet metal is then used to make the shell of a new tooth. The sheet metal should be as heavy as can be conveniently worked. It is bent to ssape over an adjacent tooth, one side being bent first and the top section bent back so that the tooth will not be too wide The shell is securely fastened to the geat as shown and filled with babbitt.

TChalk rubbed on a file for use on stee prevents chips from sticking to the tool and scratching the work.

## A Simple Rack for Draftsmen

At different times a draftsman needs a large number of tracings and blueprints for reference, when working on a single joh, and unless he has them arranged in a systematic way, he loses a good deal of time in picking out each sheet as needed. In addition, he has little room to work if his table is covered with a pile of drawings, and his difficulties are seriously increased if he is engaged on the kind of map work in which one job is continued from sheet to sheet. A handy rack which takes up little room can be made out of a 2 -in. plank, about 1 ft . square. Plane and sandpaper it, and drill sixteen $1-\mathrm{in}$. holes-four to a row-which should be enough for most purposes. Sandpaper the inside of the holes, varnish or stain the block as desired, and mark numbers neatly against the holes. The rolled drawings can then be placed in the holes, so that they will take up little room, and will be easy to pick out. Drawings usually have numbers assigned to them for classification on the drafting-room records, but for this purpose it will cause no confusion if temporary numbers are given to the different sheets, corresponding to the holes. The numbers can be written lightly in pencil on the backs of the sheets.

## Handy Drawer for Double Bench

When a double-bench drawer can be pulled out from one side only it is annoy-


Cutting Lips on Edge of an Old Valve Make It a Good Valve-Seating Tool

## Valve-Seating Tool Made from Old Valve

A tool for cutting valve seats can be made from an old valve. The edge of the head is slotted with a saw in about eight places, as shown in the illustration. One side of each slot is relieved by filing in order to leave one cutting edge. The valve head is then hardened. An ordinary valvegrinding tool is used to rotate this cutter. In ordinary cases, only a few turns are necessary to true up and smooth a rough seat.-G. A. Luers, Washington, D. C.
ing for men working on the other side, as they either have to walk around or ask someone on the drawer side to get the tools they need. One shop solved this difficulty in a simple manner: A drawer was made the full width of the bench with a handle at each end, and the tool-holding compartment was arranged to slide inside the drawer, on two runways.


Handy Drawer for Double Workbench Can Be Pulled Out at Both Sides

Emergency Lacing for Belts
Take a piece of electricians' tape, about 1 ft . long. twist it lengthwise to form a cord about the thickness of a match, and lace the belt the same way as you would with regular lacing. It is strong, lasting and lies flatter than ordinary belt lacing: also it will not cut. -Ben F. Imhof. Davenport, Iowa.


Cellar Doors Aid Work of Excavating Besides Protecting the Workers in the Pit

## Cellar-Door Idea Employed in Foundation Digging

In sinking wells, 209 ft . deep, on the site of the Cleveland terminal, when the bucket carrying the excavated material came to the top, it was raised 6 or 7 ft . above the ground. Then the men slammed down two doors similar to cellar doors. As soon as they were down, the bucket was lowered onto them and dumped. Being on a sharp slant, the doors shot the excavated material onto a platform where it was picked up easily. The empty bucket was then lifted, the doors opened and the bucket lowered. The doors prevented any of the excavated material from dropping back into the well in the process of dumping. They were safety devices besides facilitating the work considerably.

## To Prevent Radiator from Freezing

Autoists are often bothered in the winter by the freezing of the cold-water pipe leading from the bottom of the radiator to the lower part of the cylinder water jacket. If this pipe is frozen, and the engine is started, the water in the upper part of the radiator will soon boil, but as heat goes up, and not down, it will boil away before thawing out the frozen pipe. There is an easy method of remedying this, in a way that is entirely automatic. When the circulation is stopped, the boiling water is soon carried off in the small overflow pipe. If the lower end of this pipe is loosened from its fastening, and moved to a point directly at the base of the cold-water pipe, the heat of the steam will thaw out that pipe while the car is in motion. As soon as it has thawed out, the circulation, of course. will be resumed.

If the overflow pipe is so located that it cannot be moved, the autoist should carry a section of rubber tube to slip over the end of the pipe, and so direct steam to any cold part of the radiator he desires. The steam flow will cease as soon as circulation of the water through the piping is taking place again.

## Fixture for Bending Structural Iron

For bending light structural iron of the kind often used in foundries for trolley tracks, the illustrated fixture has been found useful. It consists of two plates, A bolted to a steel block, B, and to two spaceing pieces at the ends. Two straps, E, are used to hold the device and the work together, and can be moved along the plates A to suit the work. BlockB is threaded to receive a screw provided with a bar to turn it. The drawing shows an I-beam about to be bent,
 which is done by turning the screw against it.-C. Kugler, Philadelphia, Pa.

## Combination Seat, Cabinet and Workbench

The illustrated combination seat, cabinet and workbench was exhibited at an exposition of the Berlin housewives association, and shows what can be done along space-saving lines. It can be used as a hall chair if desired, although rather massive for this purpose. Sewing material can be stored in
 ing Combination of Seat, Cabinet and Workbench; the Upper is a Workbench
Shows It as Cabinet and the Lower, as a

was folded over each end of the center-rest jaws and wired in place. The leather was used to prevent the glass surface from being scratched. Very little pressure was found needed to keep the work from turning. The tube was chucked and centered by running the tail center up and setting the jaws of the center rest. A 4 -in. drum pulley was taken from the small tool grinder and put up over the lathe, and a tool-post
have a large bench for cutting material, it can be set up quickly and without trouble by unfolding the double endpieces and the large top.

## Working Glass in Machines

At one time we had an order for a lot of glass tubes, inside diameter $1 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. outside diameter $3 / 4 \mathrm{in}$., and 10 in . long. to be threaded on each end with eight threads to the inch. The lathe was geared up for this thread, and a three-jaw universal chuck put on the spindle. The tuhes were chucked with a piece of leather placed between the jaws and the glass. Near the other end of the glass tube the center rest was set, and a piece of leather
grinder, which was carrying a properly beveled emery wheel, was set in the tool post instead of the threading tool. The toolpost grinder was belted to the $4-\mathrm{in}$. drum pulley, and the emery wheel set with a center gauge, whereupon the thread was cut as usual. We found that by using hard wheels, dressed to suit the work, or by using a combination of wheels, glass can be worked as easily as cold-rolled steel. This would apply to planer work as well. Glass should he worked at high speeds, and a dull surface will be the result. The emery wheel must be kept wet, either by using a centrifugal pump or by means of a tin can with a hole punched in the bottom.-I. B. Murply, Plainfield, New Jersey.


FURNITURE finishing, formerly an art for the professional only, has, with the vogue for color and the popularity of enamel and lacquer finishes, become a fascinating hobby of thousands of amateur painters throughout the country. It affords an opportunity, second to none of the home crafts, for the practical and profitable use of spare time, and is quite as interesting as fashioning things from wood or metal, when one knows how to go about it. Say, you have one of the old-fashioned golden-oak chairs (Fig. 2) with high-gloss varnish finish: it can be converted into an odd chair of as smart and professional appearance as any you see in the stores. (See Fig. 4.)

First, determine the color scheme. The charm of the odd chair lies in its beauty of color, and the use of the right colors to fit in with the decoration and furnishings of the room in which it will be placed. Have a definite location for the chair, and select colors that will look well in this particular place as well as in combination with each other.
Next, prepare the surface for refinishing. It is not necessary to remove the old coatirrgs. Ordinarily, you can enamel previously finished surfaces by preparing them as follows: Simply wash the piece thoroughly with soap and water, and rinse

## GHOW <br> To Your Old

The Popular Enamel Finish

off with clear water; the rinse-off being important, as any deposit of soap left on the surface is liable to prevent the new finish from drying or cause other trouble. Next wipe over the surface with a cloth dampened with gasoline, naphtha or benzine, to cut any greasy substance that may be present, from furniture polish or the handling a chair receives. Then sandpaper the surface lightly with No. 00 sandpaper, as in Fig. 1, to cut the gloss of the previous finish, and dust off all loose particles of sand.

That's all it is necessary to do in the way of preparatory work, unless there are digs, holes or cracks in the wood. in which event they should be filled with a plastic-wood preparation, such as is now sold for the purpose, or with a mixture of fine sawdust, liquid glue and whiting; sawdust, shellac and whiting, or

## REFINISH FURNITURE $3 y$ Berton Elliot

sawdust, lacquer and whiting, any of which is satisfactory, knifed well into the indenture, and, when dry, sandpapered down absolutely even with the surface. In the event, also, that the piece has previously been finished in mahogany stain. a coat of pure shellac should be applied after the clean-up work, to seal in the powerful stain and keep it from "bleeding" throngh the new finish. Of course, for the finest possible finish, the old coatings should be stripped off with paint and varnish remover, or sanded down to the bare wood, and the new finish huilt up from the wood, but a strictly first-class job can be produced over old coatings.

We are now ready to build up the enamel finish. Enamel is transparent by nature, and with the light, delicate. shades especially,


it is necessary to provide an even foundation of solidcovering flat paint, to hide the wood and surface imperfections. Regular enamel undercoater, sold by paint stores (usually in white only), is the simplest and most convenient form of flat material to use for the very light colors, but when enameling in the bright and strong colors, flat wall paint, in a color closely approximating the color of the finishing enamel coat, is usually a more satisfactory undercoater for the amateur.

When finishing in white or any of the light colors, such as ivory, cream, sand color, the delicate tones of blue, green, etc., a three-coat job will ordinarily produce a thoroughly satisfactory finish, when properly applied.

First. apply a coat of flat undercoater. in which a little varnish (about 10 to 15 per cent! has been incorporated, to help the coating adhere to the old varnished finish, without chipping off later on. Second. when dry, sandpaper lightly, to remove brush marks and level off the surface, dust clean, and apply a coat of half undercoater and hali enamel mixed. Third, when dry, sandpaper lightly, dust off, and apply a finishing coat of full enamel.


The use of the right kind of brushes for enamel work is important. A soft-hair brush should be used, as it is next to impossible to lay on undercoaters and enamel with a stiff bristle brush, without leaving ridges or brush marks. It is also most important to keep dust from the surface. Particles from sandpapering should be dusted off, brushes should be perfectly clean, so that no dust or particles of grit will get into the work from them. and care should be taken that no dust is raised in the room until the enamel has dried dustfree. Work should be done as quickly as possible, as any brushing of the surface after the enthoroughly satisfactory finish is not obtained with three coats, especially on large and conspicuous surfaces, sandpaper lightly again and apply another coat of full enamel. On the other hand, with the bright or dark colors, it is often possible to produce a first-class finish with two coats of straight enamel, preferably, however, mixing a little flat undercoater (about 25 per cent) with the first coat to give it a little more body and make a more solid covering. Enamel coats should be allowed to stand at least 48 hours before sandpapering and recoating; undercoaters may be sanded and recoated the next day. Only fine sandpaper should be used, never coarser than No. 00 , and preferably No. 0000 or very fine wet-or-dry sandpaper or garnet paper for the enamel coats.

In applying enamel, first brush it onto the surface freely and quickly, with the grain of the wood. Then "cross over," without refilling the brush. This drags the enamel over any spots that may have been missed in applying the material and spreads it out into a uniformly even film. Then, with light strokes, brush over the surface again with the grain, without refilling the brush. This process gives a smooth, even, porcelainlike surface.

Always rub with the grain, and as far as pocible, rub the entire length of the surface with one stroke, to avoid a patchy appearance. Any carved or relief work can be reached by using a small vegetable bru-h, dipped into the oil and then into the pumicestone. When through, clean by wiping off the surface with a dry cloth. using a little cornstarch if necessary to help dry up the oil. Water is sometimes used instead of oil for rubbing. The rule is to use pumicestone and water wherever it is desired to rub undercoats, as oil rubhins leaves a greasy film on the surface which cannot be satisfactorily finished over. Oil is best for the finishing coat, as water rubbing cuts much faster and is likely to spoil the finish.
The high polish previously referred to is produced as follows: After the pumicestone rubbing and clean-up, wait until the following day, and rub the surface again, in a similar way, with powdered rottenstone and water, which imparts the handjolished effect seen on the finest furniture. The rubbing of a fine enamel finish calls for carefulness and considerable good judgment, and the amateur should be very cautious when first doing this work.

Unpainted furniture and novelty woodenware, now so popular, can be finished in the same way as previously finished

furniture, except that the first coat of flat undercoater should be thinned with turpentine to help penetrate into and satisfy the absorption demand of the wood: and, of course, the preliminary clean-up is unnecessary. The surface, however, should be sandpapered with fine sandpaper, with the grain, to plate smoothness, as ordinarily these pieces are only machinesanded, and when examined will be found covered with tiny scratches which should be sanded out for a fine finish.

## Auto Used as Tractor on Ice

Ice skating rinks throughout the country may profit from the experience of the skating pavilion in San Francisco, where


Old Auto Equipped with Grooved Cast-Iron Wheels Pulls Scraper over Ice
an old auto was fitted with grooved, castiron wheels so that it could be used as a tractor for pulling scrapers over the ice. This method is much better than the use of chains, which are not always effective and, besides, dig grooves in the ice, which cause extra labor.-C. W. Geiger. San Francisco, Calif.

## Soldering Lead Joints

When making lead-to-lead joints, one of the main things to remember is to keep soldering acid or paste away from the cleaned lead surface, as any trace of this. will make it very difficult to tin the lead. Finely powdered rosin mixed with alcohol makes a good non-tarnishing flux for lead. Neat's-foot oil is also good, this often being used in soldering the thin lead frames or "cames" on stained-glass windows.James E. Nuble, Toronto, Can.

## Inclosure Prevents Frozen Pump

Although provided with drains below the surface for emptying the pipe above


Wooden Inclosure Lined with a $12-\mathrm{In}$. Straw Wall Prevents Pump from Freezing
the cylinder, some pumps freeze in cold weather, often when the supply is low or there is an urgent need for water. The owner of a mill-operated pump built a simple inclosure between the four tower legs, as shown in the illustration. On the inside, a straw wall and roof, about 12 in . thick, was held in place by woven wire. This insulation maintains an even temperature, keeping out the frost during the winter. and the extreme heat during summer. The door is on the south.-Dale R. Van Horn, Lincoln, Nebr.

## Using a Large Planer for a Press

Some time ago we had several steel tubes, about 5 in . in diameter and 4 ft . long, which had to be a press fit over the piston rods they were to cover. Not having a press large enough to handle the job, we were stuck until the following idea was hit upon. There was about .003 in. left for a force fit. Both ends of each tube were capped and live steam turned into them, which enlarged them about the amount mentioned. The rods were bolted upon the platen of a 36 by $36-\mathrm{in}$. planer, and a solid backstop was erected just far
enough away to allow for starting the tube. When all was ready, the steam was turned off, the caps removed, and the tube lifted in position and shoved on by hand for about 8 in ., when it began to go hard; then the planer was started very slowly, which pushed the tube home without further trouble. The whole scheme worked out very nicely and without much outlay. -A. Dane, Pottstown, Pa.

## Rough-and-Finish Calipers

When calipers are set to a certain dimension, care is required to prevent the work from being made too small. However, with the calipers changed as shown. one can work quicker because the tool shows when one is near to the correct size, leaving enough stock for finishing. The calipers are made in the ordinary way, but with an auxiliary leg as shown, which is riveted to the short leg and a vee cut out on the top. The short leg is then tapped for a fine-thread screw, which is put in tight. Next a knurled nut is made with a plain part, which fits the vee of the auxiliary leg. In use, the calipers are set to the finished size of the work with the nut tightened. To measure the work down to the finishing cut, the nut is loosened to clear the vee. This allows the leg to rock to the extent of the difference between the plain part of the nut and the diameter of the screw. The nut, of course, is again tightened to lock the leg for the finished size. With the auxiliary leg unlocked.
 work can be done rapidly, and if it does happen that too big a cut is taken off the work, it will usually be found that there is still sufficient stock for finishing, due to the difference allowed by the two settings on the caliper -Harry Moore, Montreal, Can.
(A stick wedged into the slot will some times aid in starting machine screws.

# An Unusual Table Lamp 

By H. F. WEATHERBY

THE TABLE lamp illustrated herewith is not only of a novel design, but it is In addition a most attractive and useful piece of furniture to add to one's living room or study. It gives a very restful and pleasing reading light and provides a space for one's favorite books, always at hand. If desired, the book shelf may be dispensed with, and a simple stretcher, as shown in one of the illustrations, may be substituted. Most of the readers of Popular Mechanics have at least some small articles of shop equipment, and the construction of the lamp calls only for a coping or scroll saw, handsaw, brace and $3 / 4-\mathrm{in}$. bit, plane, half-round wood file, a hammer, and a vise in which to hold the work.

Go to the nearest cabinet shop or mill, where plywood can be bought, and get $1 / 4-\mathrm{in}$. material, from which the following pieces can be cut: Two pieces for shade, 6 by 14 in .; two pieces for ends, $71 / 2$ by
$161 / 4 \mathrm{in}$.; one shelf piece, $33 / 8$ by $121 / 2 \mathrm{in}$., and one 3 by $121 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. Plywood is recommended because of its strength, and the chances are that scraps can be found, at little or no cost, large enough to make the above parts.

A cardboard pattern is laid out for the ends, as indicated, using $1-\mathrm{in}$. squares. Exact dimensions are not given on the drawing and the design may be changed to express one's individuality. Using this pattern as a template, mark around the two endpieces and saw them out with a coping, jig or band saw, if available. Smooth the rough edges, being careful to keep the plywood from splitting. The straight edges should, of course, be planed carefully.

The top pieces may also be cut out with a coping saw, but great care must be taken to keep the inside edges straight. If a circular saw is at hand, and you exercise care, the glass openings may be cut and rabbeted on this machine, as indicated by the left-hand section detail of frame; otherwise, if the work is done by hand, rabbeted blocks, as at the right, will prove easier to make and much more satisfactory. The shelf parts call for no explanation other than that they must be 4 4

An Attractive and Decidedly Unusual Table Lamp That Is Very Simple and Easily Made, and Will Give the Home Mechanic a

Chance to Display His Skill
 on the outside end to hold the socket.
The pipe may be extended to the center of the frame, and an ell and nipple used to make the bulb hang vertically, if desired, or two bulbs, one at each end. can be used instead of the single bulb at end or center, to suit the maker's taste. If the latter system is employed, it is suggested that long bulbs of the candle type be used. The wiring, of course, is very simple.

After careful sanding, nail the different parts together. and place $1 / 4-\mathrm{in}$. square glue blocks on the underside of the shade, and under the shelf. None of these can be seen, but they will help greatly in adding sturdiness to the finished job. When these are dry, finish the lamp in any way desired. The writer suggests some of the

## An Inexpensive Universal Joint

In light and medium-heavy machinery, a very cheap, durable and efficient unisersal joint may be made from three -traight chain links of round section. In connecting this form of a joint, one end of each shaft, the driving and driven, must be slotted to receive the end link, and a bolt put through the shaft to prevent the link from pulling out. A reinforcing collar is shrunk over the end of the shaft to -trengthen the slotted part. Such a joint will drive at almost right angles with very little friction. It is especially recommended for experimental and similar classes of machinery.

## Hose on Street Protected by Pipe

When a length of hose is run across a street, where passing traffic is likely to cut or crush the hose, an inexpensive and effective protector can be made of pipe and fittings, as shown in the drawing. Take a piece of $2-\mathrm{in}$. pipe, about 10 or 12 ft . long, fit a tee at each end and screw a 1 - ft . length of pipe into each tee to project in opposite directions, in order to prevent the pipe from rolling. For garden hose, 2 -in. pipe has been found satisfactory, but for larger hose larger pipe should be provided. Such a protector is practically indestructible and can be carried from one job to another without even removing the hose.-G. C. Douglas, Raleigh, N. C.


[^6]

Yardstick Held at Right Angles to End of Pole for Taking Overhead Measurements

## Measuring Overhead Pulleys

In making a survey of a large industrial plant, the writer found it necessary to measure a number of overhead pulleys, which were rather difficult to get at. so that a stepladder had to be carried along. To eliminate this encumbrance. I mounted a yardstick at the end of a long pole as shown. The end of the pole was planed square, and a strip of tin was bent to a U-shape permitting it to be screwed to the pole to hold the yardstick at right angles. Obviously, this device can be used for taking other overhead measurements. -L. G. Roller, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

## How to Make Wallpaper Washable

Ordinarily wallpaper cannot be washed but the following treatment will enable this: Dissolve borax, 2 parts, and shellac. 2 parts, in water, 24 parts. After mixing thoroughly strain through a fine cloth. With a brush or a sponge apply this to the surface of the paper, and when dry, polish it to a high gloss with a soft brush. Thus treated, the paper may be washed without fear of damaging the colors.-Edward Piranian. Philadelphia, Pa.

# Useful Tire-Chain Repairing Tools 

By G. A. LUERS

IN many garages and auto-service stations the repair of tire chains is an important task, especially during the winter months, when the streets and roads are icy and chains are frequently broken. However, as very few garages have proper equipment for removing, inserting and clinching the links, the tools described in this article will be of interest to owners of such establishments.

After mud and dirt are washed off the chains, prior to repairing them, they should be dipped in a bath of used crankcase oil and kerosene, in order to prevent rust. A steel drum is convenient for holding the mixture, and a number of hooks should be provided over the drum so that the chains can be hung up after the bath and the surplus oil drip back into the drum. A bench, about 10 ft . long, will provide plenty of room for extending the chains full length on the top and working on them. The bench also makes it easy to inspect the chains and avoids the inconvenience of laying them on the floor.

Close to the bench, a strip of wire mesh is tacked to the studs of the wall or to wooden cleats nailed there. This forms a simple holder for spare links for repairs. The links can be hooked to the wire mesh at almost any point. or, if desired, the links can be arranged in sections, according to their sizes, which may be marked on the wall above the mesh.

For opening or cutting out links there is a simple fixture at the left end of the bench. It is detailed at the top of the drawing and consists of a punch, held loosely in vertical position in a holder. This device is less tiresome to use than a pair of heavy pliers, tongs or hand cutters. Several chisel-shaped punches, of the same diameter, about $3 / 4 \mathrm{in}$., so that they will all fit in the holder, are provided, some having sharp, hardened edges for cutting the links, and some with blunt, wedgeshaped ends for opening them. The holder is made of steel plate, cut, drilled and bent to shape and securely mounted on a steel base.


The Provision of a Separate Bench. Equipped with Fixtures for Reairing Tire Chains, Will Be Found to Be of Considerable Utility in Garages and Other AutoService Stations

For closing links, a foot-operated press, limked to exert heavy pressure when the foot is pushed down on the lower lever. 1 romits the free use of 1 oth hands for as sembling, setting and holding the links or chain sections under the jaw. It is mounted on the bench and consists of two levers, one forming the press jaw and the wher the foot treadle. Two brackets suppurt these levers, the rear ends being inked together to permit free movement of each, and a spring, not shown in the drawing. provided to hold the levers in an elevated position for working. A steel or cast-iron block is bolted to the bench under the jaw of the upper lever, which should be made of steel, while the lower one may be made of wood. The brackets are made of steel plate. With these tools and equipment, any shop is able to give quick service in the repair of tire chains.

## Screw Holder Made from Clock Spring

Difficulty is often experienced in getting screws started in places where one cannot hold them with the fingers. Many methods and devices are resorted to for doing this, but the one shown in the photo has been found to be effective. Take two lengths of clock spring, about 3 or 4 in . long, put them together as indicated, insert the ends, which must be ground square, into the screw slot, and press the springs together at the other end. This will grip the screw securely so that it will not drop off. and can readily be inserted. Also,
 the curvature and the stiffness of the springs enable the worker to give the screw a considcrable twist.


Oilcloth Cover Pulled Down over Bunch of Bananas Protects Them from Frost

## Cover Keeps Frost from Bananas

When bunches of bananas are left suspended in a store window overnight during cold weather, they may sometimes be frost-bitten. To guard against this a Wisconsin fruit dealer improvised the effective protector shown in the illustration. It consists of a cylindrical cover, made from small barrel hoops and white oilcloth. To the top edge two equal lengths of stout cord are fastened. An old window-shade roller having a good spring is attached to the ceiling just above the bunch, and the free ends of the cord are tacked to the roller as indicated. The cover can then be raised and lowered in the same way as a window shade, and does not spoil the appearance of the window.

## Refacing Old Oilstones

When hollows begin to appear in oilstones, it is time to reface them. This can be done by grinding the surface down on a marble slab, on which coarse emery and some water are applied. Slate can be used instead of marble if desired, or a piece of coarse emery cloth, tacked to a smooth board. Rub the oilstone over the abrasive with a circular motion.


Collapsible Benches for Pipe Fitters Are Rigid and Take Very Little Space When Folded

## Collapsible Workbench Made of Pipe and Fittings

While passing a plumbing and pipe-fitting shop one day, I noticed a number of collapsible benches matle of pipe and fittings. They were arranged so that, when set up, they would be rigid, which is usually not the case with collapsible benches, and when folded, they would take very little space in the truck. The supporting framework consists of a number of lengths of pipe, tees, elbows, flanges and couplings, arranged as shown in the drawing. U-bolts are used to hold the bench top securely to the frame, as indicated.-Irwin Chesterfield, Chicago, Ill.

## Cover Keeps Steering Wheels Clean

Garage mechanics may unintentionally soil the steering wheels of autos with
 greasy hands, when moving the cars about. To avoid this, one garage owner provided covers to fit tightly overthe wheel, entirely inclosing it. They are made of circular pieces of canvas. A
hem is sewed all around the edge to receive a length of elastic tape, which keeps the cover firmly in place. A large cloth is also placed over the driver's seat so that the mechanic will not soil it.

## Burlap Used on Poultry-House Nests and Roosts

By covering the fronts of poultry nests with burlap curtains, the nests are made dark, and therefore more attractive to the hens. They are also a protection against egg-eating, since the hens will not eat eggs lying in darkened nests. If they already have the habit, they can be broken of it by providing the nests with the burlap curtains. These curtains should fall to within 3 in . of the bottom of the nests, and each should have a V-shaped piece, 4 by 5 in . in size, cut out for air and a small amount of light. For nests used by sitting hens, the curtain should be made to cover the whole nest, a diamond-shaped piece being cut out for air and light. The curtains should be fastened with hooks, so that the hen may be released twice a day for food. water and exercise.

## Weighted File Handle Prevents Breakage

A ball-shaped handle is often the most convenient kind for small, light files, and if the handle is weighted it will serve the further purpose of preventing the file from being easily broken, especially on jobs where ordinary and comparatively heavy tools are used. If, in a moment of forgetfulness, a heavy tool is dropped on
 the file, it will probably be broken, but a weighted ball handle prevents this, as it holds the tile in a vertical position as shown. No matter how it is laid down, it assumes this position automatically. The handle is made in two sections, one of metal and the other of wood, being joined by means of a screw, and afterward ground to an approximate ball shape. The file shank is stuck into the wooden part.-Harry Moore, Montreal, Que.. Can.

ting started in life, they studied plan books, shopped around for prices, talked with friends and builders. Time and again, they went over their plan. They cut and pruned and eliminated almost everything within reason. But they couldn't get the price of the house down to the amount of their savings.

And then the young man made a discovery. In studying the cost estimates, he found that labor represented about fifty per cent of the total expense. He saw that individually and collectively, the prices for building materials and equipment were
very reasonable. In fact, only a slight increase over pre-war days. For example : Insulation would cost him in round numbers about $\$ 100$; plumbing $\$ 300$ or about

six per cent; heating about five per cent, etc. As he studied these percentages, he arrived at a decision. He saw that each item was in reality a small one as compared with the total cost. He further found that, if in some way he could cut the cost for labor, he might be able to build and pay for his home out of his savings and income.

And so he decided to pull on a pair of overalls and go to work on the job himself. He kept a careful record of everything, including his own time. There was much rough work he did himself. In other cases, he worked as helper to the experienced tradesmen whom he hired. With one good local carpenter and other specialized laborers when he needed them, he managed to stick it through. His hands were calloused. He picked up an occasional sliver in his fingers. But he saved a cool $\$ 1.500$ by his own labor and got his home at a price he could afford. The final cost was in the neighborhood of $\$ 4.00$. A very reasonable figure. And a proud and happy owner.

You may not be able to pull on overalls, swing a hammer and push a saw. If, however, you have the time and are located
where you can do some of the work yourself, there's no easier or quicker way of saving money. This is especially true in smaller communities, suburis and urban localities where building ordinances are less exacting than in the big cities.

Finally, there is this to be said about building costs today. Labor is generally lower in smaller towns and on the outskirts of medium-sized cities. Workmen are reliable. They have to live with their work and meet their customers day after day. Their reputation is at stake. They are not fly-by-nights. And building materials, in some cases, are apt to be lower outside the larger centers of population.

Building-material costs are more favorable today than in many years. If you can do a little work yourself, if you have the courage and time to buckle down to the job of handyman and helper, you too may be able to pull the cost of your dream home down to the size of a tolerably lean pocketbook.

The house here illustrated is in many ways like the house built by the young man we opened this story with. It is a newer type of house that has come into favor in the past few years. Its ancestors, away back, may have been Spanish or Italian. It is only reminiscent of those styles. The plan provides complete living quarters on the first floor-bungalow equipment. There are two bedrooms on the second floor.

There is probably no more popular or satisfactory arrangement of living and dining rooms than the one offered here. By bringing the roof line down over the arched entrance at the right, the house is made to appear wider and thus larger than it is. The chimney of native field stone, while perhaps a bit theatrical, is nevertheless in line with modern tendencies, and, with the field-stone entrance arch adds an effective bit of decoration in contrast to the simplicity of the walls.

[^7]
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"Merwin was only a bookkeeper then, you remember, but in his spare time he was studying Higher Accountancy. I knew what he was doing, and I told you then to keep your eye on Merwin.
"He's had three saises since. He has more than coubled his salary-and he earns every dollar I pay him.
"Last week 1 recommended him for Assistant Treasurer, and the Board elected him without a dissenting vote. We're mighty glad to have him in the group.
"But you, Jarvis - 1 hate to say it-you're a business coward. You knew what you would have to do to get out of the small-pay class. You were simply afraid to face the kind of effort and responsibility that could get you a substantial salary.
"And now it's too late. We've got to cut our overhead, and you're one of about fifty men that we can get along without. We could replace the lot of you tomorrow.
"For your own sake, Jarvis, take a tip from a man who has been through the mill, and this time get busy and learn to do something better than the other fellow.
"Jarvis, there's no end of opportunity in business; but the only man who cashes in these days is the man with the courage to get special training. The offices of this country are simply cluttered up with business cowards. It's easy for the man who trains -because the business coward is through before he starts."

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How often have vou wanted to talk, but held back, silent, because vou felt unequal to the other people present? How many times have you passed up, or avoided the chance to talk in public-before vour business associates, your club or lodge, because of your fear of stage fright? Are you afraid of your own voice-instead of heing able to use it as one of the greatest business and social assets in your possession? And yet you might be surprised to hear that many of the most brilliant puhlic speakers we have today felt exactly this wav-before thev learned how to develop their "hidden knack" of powerful speech-a knack which authorities say seven men out of every ten actually possess. And the chances are that you, too, have in vou the power of effective speech-which, if unloosed, would be almost priceless to you in a social or busineas way. Find out if you have this natural gift-read every word of the message below.

## Discover These Easy

## Secrets of Effective Speech

PROBABLY you have never pictured yourself being able tosweep a giant audience off its fect-to win the applause of thousands. Yet, the men who are doing such things know that it is-all astonishingly easy once you are in possession of the simple rites of effective speech. Before you learn these secrets you may be appalled at the thought of even addressing a small audience. Still it all seems so ridiculously easy when you know how to banish stage fright, and exactly what to do and say to hold an audience of one or a thousand in the palm of your hand.

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Author of "Science of Wrestling," "Muscle Building," "Secrets of Strength," "Here's Health," "Endurance," eth

# Kill <br> This 

THERE'S a devil inside of you. He's trying to kill you. Look out for him! He tells you not to work so hard. What's the use? the boss only piles more work on you. He tells you not to bother with your body. If you're weak-you always will be weak. Exercise is just a lot of rot. Do you recognize him? Of course you do. He's in us all. He's a murderer of ambition. He's a liar and a fool. Kill him! If you don't, he will kill you.

## Saved

Thank your lucky stars you have another man inside of you. He's the human dynamo. He fills you full of pep and ambition. He keeps you alive-on fire. He urges you on in your daily tasks. He makes you strive for bigger and better things to do. He makes you crave for life and strength. He teaches you that the weak fall by the wayside, but the strong succeed. He shows you that exercise builds live tissue - live tissue is muscle - muscle means strength - strength is power. Power brings success! That's what you want, and gosh darn your old hide! you're going to get it.

## Which Man Will It Be?

It's up to you. Set your own future. You want to be the Human Dynamo? Fine! Well, let's get busy. That's where I come in. That's my job. Here's what I'll do for you:
In just 30 days I'll increase your arm one full inch with real live, animated muscle. Yes, and 111 add two inches to your chest in the same time. Pretty good, eh? That's nothing. Now come the works. I'll build up your shoulders. IIll deepen your chest. I'll strengthen your whole body. I'll give you arms and legs like pillars. I'll literally pack muscle up your stomach and down your back. Meanwhile I'll work on those inner muscles surrounding your vital organs. You'll feel the thrill of life shooting up your old backbone and throughout your entire system. You'll feel so full of life you will shout, to the world, "I'm a man and I can prove it!" Sounds good, what? But listen! That isn't all. I'm not just promising these things. I guarantee them! It's a sure bet. Oh, boy! Let's ride.

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## but my revenge was sweet

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-tr said as she discovered someone mak-
4y apeech. "Let's try another station."
Prut there wasn't a note of dance music
hee air. "Something like this would pen the night of my party," she noml. "Never mind, there'll be a [00 al archestra on at 10:30.
Iou could see disappointment written all nver the guests' faces. Suddenly I hinced up my courage and took Oive
"What's the piano closed for?" I asked.
Why not? No one here plays. Ionly -t someboly could play, though."
Ill try to fill in for a while, Olive. You're joshing, Dick!
thever played before
That's right, Olive,
III play tonight," I ared her
I could tell she didn't Teve me. And what a T the erowd let out in I sat down.
He ean't play," called
II voice good-natured-
fom the rear. "Let's on the radio and to the speeches.
sure," added one of
friends. "I know that iriends, I know that ther. It's all a lot of Tok to him."
I wid nothing. But my
To were itehing to play,
Avehima chance. "enima chance, said "maybe he can play:"


## A Dramatic Moment

That settled it. There was no maybe about it. I played through the first bars Niraus immortal Hlue Danube Waltz. terive silence fell on the guests as 1 continued. the syneopated Everyone started to dance. They forgot all about the radio. But soon, of course, they insisted that I tell them all about my new acoompllihment Where 1 had learned when I had learned . . . how :

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Ther 1 told them how 1 had always ouged $w$ sit down at the piano and play perhaps a beautiful classic a bit from an opera or the latest syncopation - how when I heard others playing I envied them so that it almost spolled the pleasure of the music for me
of Mosic was always one of those never-come-true

School came to my reacue. Belleve me, Do more heavy looking-on for me

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$\$ 20$ T0 $\$ 40$ A day selling amazing Giftonife on cards to stores. Wanks, garages. Large
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MY Agents make 890 a week wearing and showing my beautiful new free raincoat and Kiving away free hats. Write today for
yours. Robt. King, 230 So. Wells, Dept. sours. Robt. King, 220 \$o. Wells, Dept. $\frac{\text { AB-12, Chicago. }}{\text { NFis }}$
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Every woman buys Every Woman buys. 100 other fast sellers.
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coat Co., Dept. 45 , 718 Independence coat Co.. Dept. 45, 718 Independence, Chi
8100 WEEKKY Appointing agents Mother Hublard Foods. No convassing. delfvering or investment. Mother Hubbard Products. 554-F. Congress, Chicago.
gooda. Immense sroflis. Catalos depend abit formulas, sperial selected sagents ${ }^{2}$ best rellers freo. It. Lustro, 626 Reaper Block, Chleago
AGBNTS, Partralts, photo-plllow tops, jewelry sheet pictures, medallions, photofood products, perfumes, laundry tainlets. crucifires. Catalog 200 specialties free 30 . days' credit. Jas. C. Balley Co., Station C-12. Chicaso
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outit free. Nimred Co., Dept. 8. 4922-28 LIneoln Ave. Chicago
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COMISINATION Ironing-table-stepladiter Agents harvest. C. A. Smith, Freeport Ohlo.
$\frac{\text { Onith VELOUS Seller-War Rouvenir Me- }}{\text { Mat }}$ morial. ${ }_{2}^{273}$ Columbia, Portland, Oreg. Samples 25
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## Saves you time

Think of how much more work you can do, and do it better ... more accurately, and of the real pleasure you'll. derive from working with a tool which is designed right, made right and priced right.
No. 1075 Motor Driven Scroll Saw $\$ 36.00$
If your dealer hasn't one of these in stock and cannot supply you, write us direct.

JewelryFor roughing out shapes or ornaments of soft metal. A epecial attachment can be pro. vided to take Jeweler's Saw Blades.
Inlaying. For the finest kind of inlay work in both wood and soft metals.
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No. 1 -Dandy Boginner's Ret. Builds 460
No models. \$1.00.
No. 3 Giears and Hig Red Wheels. Builds 562 models. $\$ 2.50$

THE BIGFOUR
Famous No. 4-Poweriul electric motor, completely assembled gear box, builds Now Bis No. 77 B. Bo.
New Big No. 77-Builds the Bteam Shovel Ateel model bullding tray. Motor and No. $71 / 2$-Motorized Erector. Builds the Chassis. Builds 747 models. $\$ 15.00$. No. 8-Trumodel Set. 110 volt Universnl Motor. All features descrihed above. More parts. Builds 827 models. $\$ 25.09$.
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street 100 page manual, powerful motor, assembled gear box, steel disk wheels, balloon tires, every automotive accessory. 25 lbs . of scientific thrills for every day in the year.
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Here's the greatest thrill you ever had. Fun, oh boy! It's the real thing. Great assortment of patented feature Erector parts. Builds 749 models automotive models of every deseription. Big red brass bound chest. solid steel, $147 / 8$ in. truck body, solid steel model building tray,

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 for generous shaving comfort! Not a short-lived present, not a frivolous one, but a soundly sensible, month-after-month gift that appeals to a man's practical nature.

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> P. S.- When empty, this strongly-built little chest makes an ideal cigarette box for your desk. Or use it for stamps, Or even on your dresser for collar buttons. Its usefulness is varied and its life is long.

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Fifty of the famous double edged Gillette Blades (one husdredshaving edges) turked away in a sturdy, compact, colorful box. An original, personal way to carry your season's greetings far into the New Year.


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Set No. 904; 12 toolsoak cabinet. Price $\$ 15$.


Set No. 907; 7 tools in cardboard box. Price \$5. This set includes plans for making a tool cabinet.


Set No, 902; 20 tools-oak cabinet. Price $\$ 25$.

Fun for him-plus something more-this working with tools and wood.

A chest of tools will keep your boy's mind occupied profitably. Your boy's spare time deserves your thought-your guiding influence.

And-did you ever stop to think-how few toys make lasting gifts? Tools, with Stanley Plans to get him started right, will keep him interested all year 'round-and many years to come.

There are 25 Stanley Plans:
boats, dog houses, tables, chests, work benches, etc. They sell for 10c each at your hardware dealer's. There is, also, our new book "How to Work with Tools and Wood". Your hardware dealer has this, too. You can get it for $\$ 1$.

On the left are three typical Stanley Tool Chests. There are 16 altogether, ranging in price from $\$ 5$ to $\$ 95$. Ask your hardware dealer for catalog showing them all. Or write to us for a free copy of Catalog No. Sd35. - The Stanley Works, Advertising Dept., New Britain, Conn.

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The all-year-'round Xmas gift

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 100\% Distant-ControlA movement of the switch at any distance from the track and your _IONEL will start, and stop, and reberse itself at any speed, inith the precision of a real railroad train.
You don't have to touch the train! It's all done electrically by means of LIONEL'S marvelous $100 \%$ "Distant-Control", with you as the operator at the Switch Tower. Signals change, crossing gates raise and lower themselves, warning signals flash red and green as the semaphore arm goes up and down, controlling perfectly the movement of your train. With a LIONEL model railroad you learn the principles of electric railroad operation - so true to life is every detail. And remember that only LIONEL can produce such handsome, accurate copies of actual railroad locomotives and cars!

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Wrute for the new Lionel catalog of Nodel Electric Railroads- 16 putas in full color, Also send us Hal's" name and we will write hum a personal tetter telling him why he shonld Eet a Lionel for you, and how little it costs.


## C \& L 158

This blow-torch is especially made and priced for the man who likes to do odd jobs around the house, or to tinker with mechanical things. It will last a lifetime if it is not abused. The usual retail price is about five dollars. Most hardware, electrical and automobile accessory stores have it-or can get it for you quickly. Look for the red handle.

## you need in a blow-torch

 you'll find in the Clayton \& Lambert linePerhaps you use a blow-torch only once in a while. In that case you don't need a torch built for hard use on every kind of a job, every day and all day. And you don't need to pay the higher price, either. Not when you can buy the new Clayton \& Lambert 158.

It's a low-priced blow-torch, but we don't know where you can buy a better blow-torch at any price, outside of the Clayton \& Lambert line. It's husky, with a strong, thick base that protects the tank. Everything in it is made to exacting precision standards, so that it works rightand keeps on working right as long as it is not abused. It holds its compression. And it gives you a hot flame in a jiffy.

On the other hand, if you do use a blow-torch in your daily work, we believe you'll find the Clayton \& Lambert 32
better suited to your needs. For in addition to the excellent qualities of the 158 , it has the new, patented Clayton \& Lam. bert gas orifice. That orifice is made to the exact size for perfect operation. And it cannot be spread and enlarged by the needle-valve. Nor can it clog; every time you turn the torch off, the needle. valve cleans the orifice.

Blow-torch users have made the Clay. ton $\&$ Lambert line the most popular in the world. Hardware, electrical and sup. ply houses sell these Clayton \& Lambert blow-torches - you can identify them easily by the red handle.

## CLAYTON \& LAMBERT




Micrometer No.11, illustrated above is designed to have increased measuring capacity. The new shape of the frame at the anvil and spindle ends allows measurements not possible with ordinary micrometers.

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* PLANER AND SHAPER GAUGE No. 625


No. 350


* COMBINATION SET No. 438

* SCREW PITCH GAUGE No. 630

* ADJUSTABLE SQUARE

No. 554

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 cwr. Spare wheel,


## $\$ 200$

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"Mig-730y" Tool Chests

## Boys' Size

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No. 702- 16 pieces with Plan Book, \$2.50。
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## Dad's Size

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The differential gear io a decice which srememity tile peoser avenly to the road wheds and ai the seme simec oompenseses for difermoe in apeed in iorming oeveres.

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In barbor construction work great steel cranes are used to place 200-ton concrete blocks in position on the sea bed. All these operations are reproduced in miniature by this Meccano crane operated by the two-way eleotric motor.


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rado, says: "Wired set in short order. Getting stations all over the country. Plenty of volume. The set is a dandy." M. A., Syracuse, N. Y., gends telegram: "Rush at once 2 more Superphonies." M. Madsen, Chicago, III: "Don't know anything about radio. Got it wired up in a little while and it works great." C. Drysch, Chicago: "First night set was up got 12 out of town stations, Everything came in clear as a bell and nice and loud."

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 Haven't you, like millions of others, envied the fellows who "bring down the house" with snappy xylophone or xylorimba numbers? Haven't you longed to create your own music, to be looked up to wherever you go, to be able to make real money in spare time? If you have, this ad spells $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{p}-\mathrm{p}-\mathrm{o-r-r}-\mathrm{t} \mathbf{u}-\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{i}-\mathrm{t}-\mathrm{y}$. The xylor-imba-wonderfulforhome, in demand at dances and gatherings- is nevertheless the easicst of all instruments to play. In fact, on the very day you get yours you play simple melodies, even if you can't read a note of music right now. In afew weeks you astonish your friends and $f$ omily. All your life you have the joy that come. to those who can entertain.Plays $\mathbf{2 0}$ Minutes; Gets $\$ 20$ !
Ralph Smith, Chicago, played twenty minutes at wedding; his "pay" was $\$ 20$. Altho only 12 . was 82 Altho only 12,
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Just think of a device that can take any ordinary razor blade on the market and multiply its sharpness $50 \%$ to $100 \%$ in exactly 11 seconds! And just imagine what a slick, painless shave you can get when your blade is just about twice as keen as any you have ever tried before!
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Works on all brands of blacies except Durham. Reproduces the magic diagonal stropping-stroke of the master barber. Reverses blade automatically, first one side and then the other. Starts with strong pressure and finishes light. Nickel jig flies up to notify you when blade is ready with the keenest cutting edge steel can take! Generous Introductory Offer
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#### Abstract

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the Free 3-way razor you are giving away at presint. 1 Name.
Address.


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[^1]:    (c) Henry Miller

[^2]:    Cantees M. Brun
    View of the Big Whaling ves. sel "Antartic," and a Glance 1hrough the Lattice Door at the End of the slipway up which the Whales Are Hauled with Winches and Cut Up. and Prepared for the Boilers

[^3]:    Mast and Movable Forms Which Speed Building of Circular Storage Bins of Reinforced Concrete

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