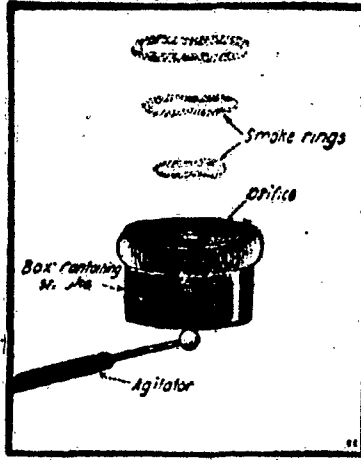


SMOKE RINGS EASY TO MAKE

Simple Mechanism Which Will Enable Any Amateur to Get the Results He Desires.

The army of amateur tobacco physicists who devote large energies in usually vain attempts to blow smoke rings as Uncle Bill does, may



derive some guidance in their quest from the following simple mechanism: A cylindrical cardboard box has a small circular opening as shown in the cut. If the bottom be struck sharply the emerging smoke will form rings which hold their shape for considerable time.—New York World.

THRONE WILHELM HAS LOST

Seat of State of the German Emperor Was Altogether an Elaborate and Costly Affair.

When Wilhelm II became king of Prussia he inherited an elaborately carved chair, overhung by silken curtains, which was the ancestral throne of the Hohenzollern dynasty, says the Philadelphia Ledger. This chair, however, was a modest and unpretentious affair compared with the throne of the German emperor, which is said to have cost more than \$100,000. It is described as built of native woods in their natural tints, with the armorial bearings of the Hohenzollerns above the lofty back and covered with carved designs emblematic of the states composing the Teutonic federation. The back, supported by two columns of wood, is of leather and ivory and the seat is overhung by a canopy of velvet. The tips of the arms are solid gold, with a setting of emeralds. There is also much cloth of gold to lend additional gorgeousness. On this wonderful chair, on state occasions, the "all highest" sat in awful majesty, dressed in a military uniform of white and gold, in posture both upright and with his right hand clasping an arm of the throne, while one foot rested on a velvet-covered hassock.

Old "City of Rama."

The famous walls of Canton, China, centuries old, are about to come down. With a dashing young cavalry officer, Commissioner Ngai Hong ping, trained in Japan, in charge, the work, which has been delayed for years, soon will begin. The object is to allow easier communication by road between the city and its suburbs, and to remove a barrier to general progress. Broad roads will be built where the walls now stand, and harking automobiles will follow the fabled path of the five mystic rams, which determined the site of the walls. The fable has it that many centuries ago squatters, unable to decide where to build the walls as protection against marauders and wild beasts, were inspired by the appearance of five rams, and built the walls along their path. Thus did the city get its name—Canton. "The City of Rama."

New X-Ray Machine Used.

The Army and Navy Register reports the extremely gratifying results of the use of the X-ray in the army, and gives a description of a new machine that is an American invention and has been entirely developed by Americans. At Camp Lewis no less than 40,000 exposures were made; "all previous records were broken in the number as well as in the promptness of examination to detect not only the presence of disease but of foreign bodies and broken parts."—New York Sun.

Wild-Bird Hospital.

A hospital for wild birds has been established and is maintained at Colorado Springs, Colo., by Dr. W. W. Arnold, which consists of a commodious aviary, in which there are constantly from 25 to 30 birds which have been disabled by coming in contact with wires and in other ways in the course of their migration. Incidentally, the doctor is acquiring a fund of information about the habits of his feathered patients.

Camel Transportation.

The camel, the most important means of overland transportation from Bagdad to Persia, carries a load of 400 to 500 pounds, divided into packages and usually tied on either side of a saddle. Before the war a load of this size would be sent from Bagdad to Kermanshah for \$305, but at the present time the transportation of such a load costs \$73.

Prince Runs Oyster Farm.

With the object of providing work for fishermen and of reviving an old Cornish industry, the prince of Wales purchased, shortly after the war started, an oyster farm in the duchy of Cornwall, between Falmouth and the Lizard. As a result some millions of oysters a year have been produced. So far women only have been employed in the beds.

WHY Britishers Envied Teeth of American Soldiers

We have had many tributes of admiration paid to our fighting men in recent months. Most of them have been of a military character. Here is one a little out of the ordinary that probably deserves as high a place in our appreciation as those of a more martial nature. It concerns the homely theme of teeth. Says the London Daily Mail: "One thing about the American soldiers and sailors must strike English people when they see these gallant fighters, and that is the comeliness and general whiteness of their teeth. It is in the more striking in that it is such a contrast to the teeth of the British people. We may take just pride in this, perhaps, as a national boast, but never that we do not deserve it. Boston Times writes: We have probably been born with better teeth than our British brethren but our teeth are better kept because we have taken intelligent and laborious care of them. There is still plenty of room for improvement, however. Any army medical examiner will tell you that there is a shocking amount of defective tooth trouble among selective service men. Our dental standards are high, but we are not yet living up to them."

BUILT TO SUBDUE PLAGUES

How the "Bonfire," as We Know It Today, Has Changed in Course of Centuries.

The word bonfire was originally "bonofire" and the earliest mention of the word is to be found in the "Catholicon Angelleum," A. D. 1483, where it is termed "bonofyre, ignis ossium," that is, a fire of bones. In its earliest stage the bonfire was a funeral pyre; next a fire lighted to consume fettered or forbidden books, etc., and then, in most of the European nations, a fire kindled in the time of pestilence among men and cattle to drive away the disease, when it was called "need-fire." Later, the kindling of such fires, with many traditional ceremonies became a regular part of the observances of the night before the festival of St. John the Baptist or Midsummer day—still with the ancient idea of driving away plague and evil spirits. The casting of effigies into the flames, still observed in some places, seems to point to a survival of ancient propitiatory sacrifices. It is quite likely that all these ceremonial observances are relics of pagan worship of the heavenly bodies modified by the introduction of Christianity. The church, as in many other instances, preferred to adopt and consecrate what would have been almost impossible to suppress; thus the inclusion in the Catholic Easter ceremonies of the blessing of the new fire and the custom in the Russian church of carrying lighted tapers on that festival may be related to the customs of the "bonfire" among the Teutonic nations, which originally was probably celebrated on the first of May. Hence today any great blazing fire made in the open air for amusement, or for the burning of brushwood, weeds or rubbish, is termed a bonfire. When such a fire is lighted in some open and conspicuous place, as a hilltop or public square, it is usually kindled as an expression of public joy or exultation, or as a beacon, and is, however, still called a bonfire.

How Tin Cans Are Salvaged.

The Providence Journal says perhaps we shall not see in the future, great lots covered with rusty tin cans. The conservationists are after the householder who throws away the cans, and it may become a regular practice to save them for reclamation. The city of San Jose, Cal., has made a contract with a San Francisco company to remove from 300 to 500 tons of the refuse which has been accumulating at the incinerator plant for months, and the cans will be taken to San Francisco, melted down and put back as "new" metal into use. As the junk is worth \$20 a ton there is a particular reason why other communities should look into the possibilities of the plan.

Why Town Claims Honor.

The quaint little village of Golspie, in Sutherlandshire, is pressing its claims upon the British people for the distinction of being the "bravest village in the empire," because in proportion to its population, it received more military honors than any other community.

The village sent one-fourth of its 1,050 inhabitants into the military and naval service, and of this number 80 were decorated for some form of "conspicuous gallantry" or "devotion to duty."

Among them were two members of the family of the duke of Sutherland, whose ducal home, Dunrobin castle, is near the village.

Why Soldiers Honor Dogs.

Dogs were used in the army in various ways. The sentinal dog accompanies an advanced sentinal; dispatch dogs carry dispatches between commanders; patrol dogs range ahead and about the patrol looking for the enemy; ambulance dogs search the battlefield after the ambulance men have picked up all the wounded they can find; draft dogs are used to bring up munitions and food; listening dogs are highly trained animals used in the front trenches, where their keen sense of hearing enables them to detect sounds inaudible to the men. The dog in many places in Europe is a working animal, and has been readily adapted to war work.

QUEER FORMATION OF ICE

Frozen Water Built Structure Extremely Pretty to Look At, Though Simple of Explanation.

A case where ice forming on a river took itself to ways more ambitious architecturally than is customary to ice is described in Science.

There was a low dam over which a good head of water was flowing. Just below the dam an uneven bridge of ice rested partly on rocks and partly on the water, and out of this rose a considerable number of upright columns of ice superficially resembling stalactites. They were of pretty uniform diameter, about four or five inches, and varied in height from two to three feet and a half. They were built up one and a number of the tops were quite flat, being formed with a top-layer cap of ice.



structure that curved over toward the dam and into the wind, which was blowing pretty strongly down stream. They were all tubular and were built up from the inside by the bursting of bubbles that rose through the tubes. It was evident that the rush of water carried air with it under the hood of ice and that this air found vent here and there in the form of bubbles, which, bursting, gradually built up these vertical columns. Each unfinished, or five, column showed a crown of bursting bubbles. The formation of the caps is perhaps, to be explained in this way: When the column rose to a point where the wind reached it above the lee of the dam, the spray from the bursting bubbles would lodge chiefly on the leeward or down stream side of the orifice, and in freezing would build up that side faster than the upstream side. The top would thus curve over upstream, the freezing river spray building not only upward but back against the wind. Just as the hour frost or frozen mist of mountain tops builds against a high wind. This would, of course, close the orifice in time and put a stop to the growth of the column.

Lost in Transit.

In February 1917, a man then living in New York City purchased a lavalliere which he mailed to his sister in Warwickshire, England. In the package he placed a letter and registered the package. Four months later the man learned that the package had not been delivered and he made inquiry at the post office. From Washington he received the information that the package was on the Norwegian, which was sunk by a German submarine in March, 1917. The sender of the package who now lives in Watertown, recently received a letter from a woman in County Cork, Ireland. She writes that her husband, while doing patrol duty on the coast, found a package with no address upon it. The box was opened and in it were the lavalliere and letter. The lady wrote to ask what disposition she should make of the package and she has been asked to forward it to the sender's sister.—Cleveland Press.

Civilization Before Babylon.

Evidence of a civilization antedating that of Babylon have been discovered at Abu Shahran, Mesopotamia, by Capt. R. Campbell Thompson, F. S. A., who served with the Mesopotamian expeditionary force. Accompanied by Thomas Higgins, his Irish orderly, a shik and 50 Arabs, Captain Thompson traveled to the spot, which is in the desert southwest of Nasiriyah, last April. His discoveries are of the highest importance to Babylonian prehistory, which has been given scant attention, owing to lack of evidence. They refute the common statement made that there was no Neolithic period in Babylonia.

Fowls Plucked-With Vacuum Machine.

A machine of the vacuum type for plucking fowls is described and illustrated in Popular Mechanics Magazine. With it, it is said, a person can remove all the feathers, dry from an average-sized bird in about five minutes. A motor driven fan creates suction in a large flexible tube, at the free end of which is a special plucking apparatus. Once loosed, the feathers pass through the tube into a large receptacle overhead.

When It Pays to Be Bad.

The new principal was very attractive and from the very beginning had many admirers among all the grades. But after only three weeks at the school she did not know the names of enough of the pupils to please them. One of the little girls went home very much downhearted. "Mother," she said, "I think it pays sometimes to be bad. Our new principal knows only the names of the bad children."



It Might have been—

"Belgium!" is the thought that leaped to your mind when you saw the ruins of this house—the abject poverty and the untold suffering of this family. But it might have been your home—your child—you! If only out of gratitude to the men who protected you, buy to your limit in the Victory Liberty Loan.

Liberty-Loan Committee
59 Main St. West

Orientalists Believe in 13.

Thirteen has no terrors for Orientalists. This was shown in Seattle, Wash., when the little Japanese sailing vessel Kasshima Maru arrived in port from the Orient with a crew of exactly 13 men aboard. Officers of the vessel explained that 13 is considered in the Orient just like an even dozen or a score when it comes to manning vessels or inviting wedding guests.

Bright Silver.

Silver will be found brighter if wiped directly from clean, hot, slightly soapy water. Silver may be boiled in a bright aluminum pan with several small pieces of zinc or in a special silver pan with salt and soda. These methods clean the silver and it can be polished afterward.

Burning Truth.

Said the facetious fellow: "These golf fanatics get a lot of satisfaction out of reducing their strokes from last season, but the real joy of life comes from being able to reduce the number of tons of coal from the winter before."

Tea Testing.

To ascertain whether artificial coloring matter has been added to tea, place a quantity on white paper and rub with knife to a fine powder. Now brush the paper with a brush, and if any prussian blue has been used there will be little streaks on the paper.

Handicap Worth While.

When a handicap becomes the fulcrum over which we pry out success with the long iron bar of determination it ought to make us shake hands with the hindrance and say, "Thank you! You have helped me out fine!"

Symbol of Firmness.

You can't push a mule and you can't pull him. As an example of firmness what better do you want. A mule sure has the courage of his convictions.—Jacksonville Times-Union.

Salute to the Flag.

The salute to the flag is given by raising the right hand, palm outward, until the index finger is even with the lower edge of the forehead, and standing at attention.

The Old-Fashioned Folio.

The advantage of the old-fashioned folio was that it was safe from borrowers.—Emerson.

Preferred "Motorhouse."

In England during the early days of motor vehicles, there was a decided preference for the name "motorhouse" rather than "garage."

The First Gas Respirator.

The first apparatus to enable persons to enter a noxious inflammable atmosphere was called an "acrophore" and was the invention of M. Donny, a French inventor and scientist. It was first tested at Chatham, England 44 years ago, and was reported successful. Vast improvements on this device, which comprised an air pump lamp and flexible tubing, have since been made and these have saved the lives of hundreds in mine accidents and other disasters where rescue work would be impossible without their use.

The World Is Cheerful.

Doctor Johnson's old schoolmate said that he could not be a philosopher because "cheerfulness was always breaking in." Our world of unkindly cannot be that kind of a philosopher, either for the same reason. It may have its moods and depressions, or prove to the utmost the reasonableness of despair; but there is an inexhaustible well-spring of vigor within it, and vigor is another word for joy.—From the Unpopular Review.

Sleep and the Brain.

It used to be thought that sleep happened because the circulation of blood through the brain grew so feeble that this, the seat of consciousness, could work no longer and sleep took place. Many years ago a surgeon studying the subject watched the falling circulation of the brain through a hole in the skull of a sleeping animal. Yet this is only effect, not cause. The brain has less blood because it sleeps; it does not sleep because it has less blood.

Dark Ages.

The term is applied to a portion of the Middle Ages, including the period of about 1,000 years from the fall of Rome to revival of letters in the fifteenth century. It is generally regarded as beginning with invasion of France by Clovis, 486 A. D. and closing with invasion of Naples by Charles VIII in 1495. Learning was at a low ebb during this period.

Time Is Money.

In Korea, both among prosperous Christians and among those to whom money is a hasty and infrequent visitor, a favorite subscription blank is one which says: "I promise to give—days to church work this year." The days thus given are devoted to evangelistic services or to the building of churches and schools.—World Outlook.

Carter Glass Says—

"I know the appeal of the American Government to the American people will meet a response of which the nation will be proud."

Ordering One's Life.

Take time to scrutinize your life. Try to define just why you are "run" and decide for yourself that if you are going to be ruled, as most of us are, it must be by something or somebody well worth the arduous sprinting we are all indulging in. If the goal toward which we are being steered is worth while, only then can we look back and feel that the race has been well run.

Test of Woolens.

One test is to cut off a bit of the selvage and touch a match to it. If it shrivels up, but does not burn, it is wool, but if the fabric burns with a flame it is cotton. Another way is to put a bit of the cloth in a test tube or other glass receptacle with a solution of caustic soda. The soda will eat up the wool, leaving that which is not wool.

Maybe You're Rich.

Some men are rich and don't know it—rich in health, rich in a large and happy family, rich in friends, rich in influence and standing in their communities, rich in the spirit of charity and brotherly love. These same men may be poor in this world's goods, but they're rich, just the same.—Crosman.

Hired Man's Life Saved.

James was bowlegged and felt it his duty to whip every boy that reminded him of the fact. When he visited in the country the hired man laughed and told him he couldn't stop a pig if he tried. James told his mother what the man had said, then added: "He's pretty big, and I'm mighty glad he didn't say I was bowlegged."

A Glass Horn.

An innovation in phonographs is an instrument equipped with a horn of beveled mirror glass. The claim of the makers is that the horn of a talking machine best amplifies the tone when its surface is smooth and rigid, hence one of heavy glass is preferable to one of wood or metal.

Britisher Has Odd Motor.

An English engineer has developed a novel form of rotary motor having four cylinders that operate inside the blades of the propeller. The propeller blades are made of metal and the exhaust-issues—from the ends of the blades.

Liberty's Demands.

We honor liberty in name and form. We set up her statutes, and sound her praises. But we have not yet fairly trusted her. And with our growth, so grow her demands. She will have no half-service.—Macaulay.