

Nothing New Under the Sun

Modern civilized man is clever, of course. But so were others before him.

Whether it is bone collar studs or milk bottles, safety pins or magnifying glasses, rubber stamps, sun signals, or bacilli, orchestras, or chess, somebody knew about them, somebody had used them hundreds or thousands of thousands of years ago, as the case may be. But always before they were rediscovered, remade, and reused in the bouncing, big, boasting world of the west today.

It was ancient Egypt that had bone collar studs and babies' milk bottles. It was the Moors that had rubber stamps and sun signals as they are used today in the British armies. It was Pompeii that had safety pins; it was Nineveh that had magnifying glasses; it was India that had knowledge of the bacilli; it was Timbuctoo that had orchestras and chess, as well as fine libraries and surgeons that operated upon at least one European for a successful disposition of cataract in the year 1618.

Were words ever wiser than "there is nothing new under the sun?" Either nothing is new or everything is new. Every day is a fresh beginning. Every day is the world made new. Every day means new made hope, new made life, new discovery, new achievement. Things may be old to Egypt and Nineveh, but they are new to America, to England, to the twentieth century, to every one that lives until he has discovered them, until he has achieved them.

Suspension Bridges Not New.
Perhaps we got the idea of our suspension bridge of steel and iron from the bamboo suspension bridge which orientals have been accustomed to build for centuries. We have historical memoranda of a suspension bridge built across the Imjin river in Korea in the year 1592. At that time there was a war in progress between the Chinese and Koreans on one side and the Japanese on the other. The Japanese were defeated and withdrew across the river. Then the Koreans built the suspension bridge out of great cables twisted from a native vine called chik, so as to enable the Chinese soldiers to follow. The bridge was 150 yards long, but so well built that an army of 120,000 men crossed over safely.

The Dyaks built an amazing suspension bridge out of bamboo. The natives of New Guinea are experts in suspension bridge building, although they are reputed in the wise western world to be degraded savages.

When Pizarro marched through Peru he found terrific mountain gorges spanned by stout suspension bridges made of twisted llanas and capable of sustaining great weight.

No science is more modern than medicine; at least, not among civilized races. Only comparatively recently have we been willing to relinquish the horrible practices of the middle ages. But the savages of two and three centuries ago understood inoculation for fevers. There are instances recorded of Europeans having been cured by this process when all white men's medicine failed utterly of their effect.

The Indian pelicans or medicine men of South America understand and use curative herbs, vervain, henwede, and many others, and have cured fevers by the aid of medicine of their own composition. The people living along the borders of the gulf of Mexico are proof against serpents' bites. Their immunity was brought by inoculation with a mixture of snake venom and the juice of the mano del sapo or "toad's hand."

Vaccination by East Africans.
The Gallas of British East Africa are believed to have employed vaccination to secure immunity from small-pox long before Jenner's discovery among the civilized folks. They inoculated in the nose. In days when an unfortunate patient was packed tight in a hot bed in a stuffy room secluded from every breath of fresh air the Zulus carried their wounded to high mountains, well aware that pure hill top air is the best of nature's antiseptics.

Nearly all our carpenter's tools come from the savages. The sources of the knife and hammer are lost in the dimmest distances and have been found in one form or another in the possession of even the lowest savage tribes. But aboriginal races are responsible for far more complicated implements than these, the cross-cut saw, for example. More than one tribe has evolved a saw.

The Polynesian Islanders made an ingenious and fairly useful instrument by inserting sharks' teeth into a handle of wood. Other savages use a thin strip of wood or bone in connection with moistened sand and thus are enabled to cut through stone or other hard substances. Many dark skinned tribes were found to have drilled. The shaft usually is of wood, the point intensely hard stone such as jade. By means of drills the Samoan natives can bore holes in the shanks of their beautifully fashioned pearl shell hooks.

Wild Races Have Inventions.
Tools of one sort and another were evolved simultaneously, it appears, in different parts of the world. So we cannot say that we got our carpenter's tools from savagdom direct. But they, nevertheless, are on a par with us with many of their common inventions. The Eskimos are a little people whose life has meant a long and hard struggle against the bitter cold and wild storms of the arctic climate. And they have developed a marvelous ingenuity. The sledge was known in Europe before the Europeans found the Eskimos, but it was not known in the handsome form that travelers see in Greenland. The proof is that the white inhabitants of Canada and the northwest, as well as all arctic and antarctic explorers, have adopted the Eskimo sled, and in Alaska and elsewhere employ dogs to pull them, with harness of the Eskimo pattern.

Snowshoes of every sort come direct from savages. The long Norwegian ski probably are creations of the Lapps. The Canadian snowshoe has a frame of tough wood supporting a web of rawhide. This practically is identical with the shoe the first settlers found the Indians wear-

ing. And it is like the shoes of the modern Eskimos.

Whence came our motor car goggles? Are they the lineal descendants of the Eskimo snow spectacles? The Eskimo protect their eyes from the glare by little cups of wood with narrow slits cut across the bottom and inverted across the eyes.

Are potted meats the descendants of the Indians' pemmican? The early fur traders of the northwest found pemmican in universal use as a winter food among the Indian tribes. They introduced it into the British navy for the purpose of supplying arctic expeditions with a portable, easily preserved, and nutritious food. There seems no doubt that this savage concoction is the forerunner of all tinned foods.

Proa Faster Than Our Boats.

Perhaps our boats do not come from the savages, but the Pacific savages have a boat that will beat the American five masted schooner and the Australian clipper. It is the flying proa. This marvelous little boat can out sail not only anything else that moves by wind power, but also can beat most steamers. Twenty knots an hour is the speed with which most of them are credited. We have borrowed from the native races the idea of the double hull. One of the most popular sorts of river craft is the canoe. This is a purely savage invention, a red Indian patent which civilization cannot improve. There is no other craft which weighs so little and still carries so large a cargo, is propelled so easily, is so elastic and so seaworthy as the true birch canoe of the North American Indian.

The paddle is the usual implement the savages use for propelling their boats. But the oar is not a civilized tool. For centuries unnumbered the Eskimo has moved his umiak, or heavy boat, by means of genuine oars. His rowlocks are ingenious contrivances of loops of rawhide linked together.

Panama Hats Made by Indians.

Even some of our finest fashions come from the lowly savages. The finest, coolest, and most costly head coverings in the world were invented and are today made by little brown men. They came from Ecuador and they are mysteriously called Panama hats. M. Jean de Reszke is credited with having paid about \$500 for one of these noble head gear, while King Edward is said to have given about \$400 for his in the summer of 1902. The fiber for these hats is got from a grass which grows in Ecuador and also from palm leaves. It takes a life of training to become an adept in the weaving of a Panama; perhaps none but a native would have the requisite patience needed to split the fiber to the thinness of sewing cotton and to spend weeks, even months, in the delicate plaiting. In making the finer kinds of hats the weaving has to be done under water so as to prevent the fiber from becoming too brittle for use. No product of the machinery can vie with these specimens of semi-savage handiwork. The perfect Panama is light as a feather, can be folded up like a silk handkerchief and even if run over by a loaded van can be straightened out, washed, and then looks like new.

The Zuni Indians of New Mexico deserve to rank among the world's best handicraftsmen. Their blankets are so beautifully woven that some of the best of these handwoven tissues actually are almost as waterproof as oilskin. No other fabric known is at once so light and so warm. The patterns are geometrically precise and the dyes they use are their own. Some of the most handsome of modern dyes come from savagery. The cochineal, for example, was cultivated in Mexico long ere the Spaniards found it in Mexico.

Precedents for the action prayed for are said to be sufficiently numerous to justify the Interstate Commerce Commission in proceeding in line with the petition. When an industry so large, with so many men employed and such large capital invested in developing it is threatened, it has been held of vital importance to delay the threatened danger to it until a searching investigation can be had and the justice of the proposed change established.

Oregon to Ask Co-operation.

The Oregon Commission will ask the State Commissioners of Montana, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming to take like action and impress upon the Interstate Commerce Commission the importance to the entire Northwest of avoiding an advance in lumber rates East. The State Commission of Washington has already taken this action. It is believed that such widespread representations to the Interstate Commerce Commission will impress that body with the gravity of the danger that threatens the lumber industry, and favorable action on the petition is hoped for.

This action is the most decisive in the fight of the lumbermen against the proposed increase in lumber rates

Economy Is the Road to Wealth---Saving Money is Making Money

Buy Your

PAINTS and WALLPAPER

of the BAYSIDE PAINT CO., is Saving Money

Bayside Paints and Imperial Varnishes Are the Best and Made for Everything

Everything in the Paint Line from Pints to Barrels, Pounds to Tons

Deliveries made everywhere on the Bay. Send for samples and get our prices before buying. WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY

There's Nothing Like Flexo Ready Roofing to Wear and Keep Out the Rain

Use Sanitary Felt for Lining to Paper Over---Better than Cloth, Costs No More

BAYSIDE PAINT CO.

F. E. Monroe, Manager

North Bend

WHOLESALE---Phone 1251---RETAIL

A FEW Suggestions

Winter is now coming on and everybody will be wanting some of the following things, and we have them for sale at prices reasonable:

Fall and Winter Clothing, Gents' Fine Furnishing Goods, Warm Blankets and Comforts, Shoes and Hats of the Best Kind

We allow none to undersell us, and take pride in the quality of our goods.

The Bazar

The House of Quality---C Street.

---See W. R. Haines' ad. on page 5.

MARSHFIELD DETECTIVE AGENCY.
W. H. Davis, Manager.

Will take up any kind of detective work entrusted to me by those desiring first-class work. All correspondence confidential and promptly attended to. My work always satisfactory and terms right. Correspondence solicited. Address all matters to

W. H. DAVIS,
Marshfield, - - - Oregon.

Flanagan & Bennett Bank

MARSHFIELD, OREGON.
Capital Subscribed \$50,000
Capital Paid Up \$40,000
Undivided Profits \$5,000

Does a general banking business and draws on the Bank of California, San Francisco Calif., First National Bank Portland Or., First National Bank, Roseburg, Or., Hanover National Bank, New York, N. M. Rothschild & Son, London, England.

Also sell charge on nearly all the principal cities of Europe.
Accounts kept subject to check, safe deposit lock boxes for rent at 5 cents a month or \$5 a year.

INTEREST PAID ON TIME DEPOSITS

Bank of Oregon

Capital Stock fully paid up \$50,000
Transacts a General Banking Business
North Bend, Oregon

A. HELMING The Fur Merchant.

Is now ready to receive orders for all kinds of Fur Garments. Fur Rugs made to order. Our Taxidermist is prepared to do your work under guarantee. Prices reasonable. Give us a trial.

Cold Storage Dock, Front St. Marshfield, Ore.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Coos Bay Bedding & Upholstering Co. wishes to notify the public that they are now prepared to take orders, directly from their factory for all kinds of custom work. With their force of competent and skilled workmen they can, and will, give better work and for lower prices than any other place in Coos County---or than can be shipped in. If you cannot buy they invite you to be a visitor.

CALL AND SEE THEM MAKE MATTRESSES

PHONE 1993.