

IS YOUR HAT ON STRAIGHT?

This Question is for Men, as the Tilt of the Top Piece Reveals Character



Roosevelt of War Times and W.J. Bryan "Willing to take Chances."

YOUR pardon, sir, but is your hat on straight? Or do you give its tilt intentionally or just unconsciously because of habit? For, you know, nowadays you must be careful the way you tilt your hat! Have you committed murder? Don't get frightened—only be on guard. Have you robbed a bank? Pardon the question, but—ah—are you entirely true in your—ah—domestic life? Just so! We thought you were. But hold on—how about your business contracts? Are you quite trustworthy, do you keep the specifications, and so forth? Yes, yes! But how about your feeling to humanity—a little selfish, hard, uncharitable, eh?

What if some one accosted you on the street and asked you these questions? A stranger, for instance? Well, it is not unlikely. For a new system of reading character is coming into vogue. The clue to your innermost feelings, it is said, is indicated in the most simple and involuntary manner.

If you are a criminal, you will show it; if you are dishonest in business, untrustworthy in relation to your fellow-men, you will show it; if you are of a jovial disposition, or crabbed or sour, if you are intellectual or stupid, or brilliant or dull—these characteristics will be revealed in the tilt of your hat!

At least, that is what is claimed by Professor H. Gross, of the Psychological Laboratory of Leipzig, Germany, who recently visited this country. "Let me see how a man wears his hat," declares Professor Gross, "and I can get a pretty good idea of his character."

Whether this is true or not is a question, of course. But if you are going out on the street you may as well see whether your hat is on straight, or whether it has a pronounced tilt. For people may judge you by the tilt. One can't tell.

WHEN asked the question, is your hat on straight? That doesn't mean, is it on exactly straight, pressed down deliberately and unerringly on the top of your head? That is as bad as a raskish tilt. It means, does your hat cock jauntily or droop slothfully to one side or the other? Does it fall forward or is it jammed away back? Perhaps you've never noticed, after all, how you tilt your hat. So take a look in the glass just before going out and see whether you don't give yourself away unconsciously. If you are regular in your habits, honest in business, with no secrets to conceal, of course, you need not fear betraying anything. However, you'd better have a look at yourself, anyway. For you wouldn't want to give any one a wrong impression. Even if you are uncharitable, if you don't care a hang about civic righteousness in public affairs or high ideals of personal living, if your one aim is to make money for No. 1 and let other considerations take care of themselves—why, even then, perhaps, you don't care to betray these attitudes.

PARADING PERSONAL TRAITS

If you are irresponsible, erratic; if you are likely to follow an impulse and do a crazy, insane deed, take a mad plunge in stocks or write an anonymous sequel to "Three Weeks," or are inclined to scorch your auto to see how many chickens—or children—you can run down—well, you don't want to parade this mental intractability, do you?

If you are inclined to be sporty, say, and if your position in life is such that you must preserve an irreproachable demeanor—well, it would hardly do for your clients, if you are a lawyer, or your parishioners, if you are a clergyman, or your depositors, if you are a banker, to know that there is a distinct sporting side to your nature. One of the Christian precepts is not to let your left hand know what the right hand does. Sometimes it would be embarrassing to keep a record of the things one's hands do, and again modesty would forbid one to boast of his good deeds. There are traits of character, good or bad, that one would not wish to show in glaring colors; he would not want to make a billboard of his

soul. Every one would eventually find it uncomfortable to wear his heart on his coat sleeve, much less on his hat.

Long before the Pharaohs built the famous pyramids, men tried to discern the character of other men by lines of the face and tracings on the hand.

Falling to read the secrets of the heart in the stars, they turned to the bumps on men's heads. They studied the markings on the palm and read the secrets of life and love and made prophecies of the future. Of late years physiognomy has become a science with such men as Lombroso; the tilt of the eye, the color and the method of parting the hair, the position of the cheekbones, the size and shape of the mouth, to say nothing of the nose, all mean something to the student of the art. Returning to the science of old ages, others have sought to prove the depths of men's beings by clairvoyance, and in darkened rooms black-robed seeresses have tried to tathom the thoughts and emotions of men. Reading cards, modern oracles have instructed countless wives how not to get along with their husbands and luminously informed them of things their husbands didn't do and thoughts their lovers did not think.

But there is the new science. So simple you can't make a mistake. And a thing done so unconsciously by men that the merest passerby can read his hidden thoughts and character. At least, so Professor Gross asserts. Listen to what he says:

"By the way a man tilts his hat you can get the tilt of his character. A man usually puts his hat on un-



Emperor William is Honest and Direct.



Not Strikingly Intellectual or Honest—Might Be the Comment on Mark Twain.



Too much Exactitude Means Lack of Charity—This is John D. Rockefeller; While King Edward is a Jolly Good Fellow.



Is Andrew Carnegie Sporty? Or Uncle Joe Cannon Lacking in Intellect.



Thomas W. Lawson may be a Bit Irresponsible.

thinkingly. He will comb his hair with the greatest care, deliberately curl his moustache, feign or cultivate various expressions—but he will never think how he will wear his hat.

Here's a Curious Question: Are Heroes Insane?



WHEN Ethan Allen rushed into immortality at Ticonderoga, was his act one of deliberate and sane heroism or was it that of a madman? When Lieutenant Hobson boldly sailed the Merrimac into the channel at Santiago, risking death from shot, shell, torpedoes and drowning, was he in his right mind? Were the Japanese who rushed to death in the great battles of the war with Russia, or the Russians who so bravely fought them, unselfishly heroic, or were they simply insane and without a full comprehension of what they were doing?

Is a hero a hero, or is he a madman? This question has been raised by a recent article by Dr. Awtokratow, a famous Russian specialist, who says that insanity becomes alarmingly prevalent among troops during warfare. He credits many of the hare-brained but laudable acts of heroism to temporary insanity.

DURING the war between Russia and Japan Dr. Awtokratow was entrusted with the task of organizing the system for segregating and treating the insane cases which subsequently was placed in charge of the central Asylum for Insane Soldiers at Kharbin. There Dr. Awtokratow had an opportunity to make a thorough study of the malady. At the beginning of the war no provision had been made for the care of insane patients. Yet, as the famous doctor has asserted, during every war there is a notable increase of insanity among the men of the army. The stress and strain, the constant fear

and the alertness day and night tend to undermine the reason and induce mania.

In fact, the doctor observes, a disturbance of the mind prevails in soldiers ordinarily sane, and temporary aberrations are by no means uncommon.

In battles, the doctor asserts, the minds of men become affected, and deeds are done while the men are in an entirely irresponsible condition.

The theory of the Russian savant places in a doubtful light the deeds of many whom we honor as heroes. If his theory is correct, who can tell whether England's heroes, Sir Francis Drake, Lord Howe and Rodney, were not mentally unbalanced when they carried through their bravest battles? If the strain of battle affects the mind, who knows but what John Paul Jones, Commodore Perry and Admiral Farragut were irresponsible during their fiercest campaigns.

As the famous Light Brigade rushed forward in the charge immortalized in Tennyson's poem, had they all become suddenly insane?

WAR PRODUCED MADMEN

At the Kharbin hospital, where the insane were brought, the total number of patients received, from December 15, 1904, to March 18, 1906, was 1349.

The alarming number of madmen produced during the war aroused widespread discussion in medical circles in Russia. And the amazement of the world intensified when the doctor in charge of the hospital announced his theory of the prevalence of or predisposition to madness among troops during a war.

If this is true, it was generally asked, what of our worship of the heroes of the past? Do they deserve the credit given them? Or would any one who had lost his senses do the same deeds, braving death to rescue a flag or plunging through surrounding dangers to reach a coveted goal?

According to Dr. Awtokratow, a principal cause of insanity among officers who came under his care was alcoholism. This was the cause in 34.58 per cent. of the patients who suffered from mental disease—375 being officers and 1072 belonging to the rank and file.

Among others, the prominent form of disease was epileptic insanity, no less than 27.9 per cent. of the cases being classed under this head. Alcoholism and confusional insanity came next.

"As to the causes of the astounding frequency of

epileptic psychosis," declared the doctor, "I think it is due in part to the less discriminating examination of recruits and a lowering of the standard of fitness, which is not maintained in times of emergency."

"The stress of battle also causes a turning of the mind, and in many of the patients there were no symptoms until they neared the close of a fierce engagement."

At the hospital at Kharbin the scenes were indeed pitiful. Many of the soldiers labored under the delusion that they were surrounded by putrefying bodies, and their sufferings were most terrible. Others trembled in fear, holding their hands to their ears, declaring they were nearly deafened by the sounds of bursting shells.

Many, again, fought furiously with attendants, declaring that their duty was to pursue fleeing enemies. Others cowered and tried to hide themselves for fear, obsessed with the idea that they were being pursued.

"The cause of insanity among troops," declared Dr. Awtokratow, "is due mostly to the severe strain an army is under. There is particular danger when men are admitted who are not up to the standard. Thus a nervous and neuroathetic nation is hardly fit for war."

"A man who is highly strung and of a nervous temperament is not the man to fight in a battle. The men who are not affected are stolid, one may say coarse, rugged, unrefined men; men of brawn rather than brain."

"A man of highly nervous disposition is likely to be carried away in a crisis. He is no longer himself. He may become a victim to hallucinations, and they may be variously colored. He may feel himself inspired to do a heroic deed, or he may be overwhelmed with terror and flee."

It is pointed out that during the siege of the Commune in Paris and in the disturbed districts of Russia within the last two years the insanity of many people was due to hallucinations concerning war.

"The idea that some of our heroes may have carried through amazing feats of bravery while partly insane is certainly startling," declared a well-known American physician. "There is no doubt in my mind, however, that this is more than a possibility."

"It is hard to tell when an exaggerated enthusiasm may become a mild insanity. Nevertheless, this will not affect our estimation of our heroes. Many psychologists agree that genius is a form of insanity. So whether it produces great things in literature, art or warfare will not so much matter."



Secretary Root not a Jolly Travelling Companion.

ture, kind and sympathetic, possibly irresponsible, but not lacking in sincerity or honesty.

Tilted to the left. Denotes a nature addicted to sport, possibly a gambling and pugilistic nature; usually not too highly developed intellectually nor too scrupulous in business transactions.

Slanting backward. Denotes recklessness; a spirit of bravado or true heroism; a man who will take chances, go the limit in any daring pursuit, without fear, regardless of consequences; devoted to a great cause, such a man will make any sacrifice, brave any danger and never know defeat.

These are the general rules. Look among your friends and see how they work out. Only do not take it all for granted; you know, as Professor Gross himself remarked, there are exceptions to all rules.

Here's Andrew Carnegie, who became famous by making an enormous fortune, building libraries and financing a charming woman in public. The "Laird of Skibo," as you can see, tilts his hat slightly to the left. Is Mr. Carnegie sporty? And is this sport confined to golf?

And here's "Uncle Joe" Cannon, the man who kept the House of Representatives in order with such a strong hand. In a mastery way does he hold the reins. Now "Uncle Joe" always tilts his hat to the left. According to the German scientist, one might ask, "Is 'Uncle Joe' lacking in intellect?"

Then look at the King of the Standard Oil system. Protecting the wonderful brain that contrived the greatest trust of all time is a round, flat hat, planted down with unmistakable decision. Not a tilt. Mr. Rockefeller wears his hat with extreme exactitude—entirely too much so, according to Professor Gross, who asserts that such a man must be lacking in charity. Some one suggests that Mr. Rockefeller wears his hat so straight in order to keep his wig in place. But only he knows this.

King Edward of England has always been known as a jolly good fellow. He wears his hat slightly tilted to the right on all occasions, and were his subjects to judge him by the tilt of his hat alone they would find the verdict supported by his career. He may have enjoyed having a Lily Langtry pour champagne down his back and he may like a good time, but he's as true as steel and as honest as his blood is blue.

Emperor William of Germany wears his hat straight, but not with what one might call too much precision. His subjects know he is regular in his habits and direct and honest. Occasionally his majesty takes part in a theatrical, and then it is said he wears his hat slightly to the right, which would illustrate and bear out his joviality of disposition.

Of our own President no picture is so characteristic as that in Rough Rider's costume. Out in the open, Mr. Roosevelt throws off all restraint and is himself. He slams his hat on his head without thought, and often wears it well back. Professor Gross says this is typical of the man who is willing to take the chances of combat in any struggle, who presses on with an eye straight to the goal; running risks and braving difficulties in his progress; who is not daunted by opposition and danger.

Almost a similar character reading would be given by the Gross method to William Jennings Bryan. His hat indicates a man who is not daunted by defeat, but continues working for a cause he deems right, despite all criticism and opposition.

LAWSON "RATHER SPORTY"

And here's "Tom" Lawson, of Boston, who tips his sporty cap back and slightly to one side. "Rather sporty, a bit irresponsible," is the Gross comment. Does this fit the Boston author of "Frenzied Finance"?

Suppose you met Elihu Root, secretary of state, in a parlor coach on a long journey. Do you think you would find him a good traveling companion? Let's see how he wears his hat. You'd think he'd studied it for hours before he plastered the hat on his head. It's planted with a decision as deliberate as that of John D. Rockefeller. But, then, it is tilted in back.

Professor Gross would tell you by this that Mr. Root would not be very jolly on a long trip, that he takes a serious view of life and once in a while would be found showing an irritable, crabbed disposition. But he is also determined and direct.

Is Mark Twain lacking in intellect? Who'd think it? But there you are: There's Mark, marching along on the occasion of the conferring of a degree upon him at Oxford. A serious occasion! But Mark—perhaps with a sense of humor—tilts the mortar-board to the left. Which the German savant would regard as an indication of a lack of intellect and honesty.

Mark's noble work in paying off all creditors after the failure of a publishing house in which he was interested was one of the most striking examples of fair dealing ever displayed in the country. And about his intellect—have you read his books? You say the German professor is wrong? Hold on—has it not occurred to you that it was just Mr. Twain's intellect that caused him to tilt his hat, thus showing an incomparable sense of humor?

Some Curious Facts

THE greatest heat is never found on the equator, but some ten degrees to the north, while more severe cold has been registered in northern Siberia than has been found near the Pole.

All German soldiers must learn to swim. Some of them are so expert that, with their clothing on their heads and carrying guns and ammunition, they can swim streams several hundred yards wide.

Plants with white blossoms have a larger proportion of fragrant species than any others; next comes red, then yellow and blue. Many of the flowers of spring are white and highly fragrant; those of autumn and winter being darker, with less perfume.

A Paris journalist has founded a babies' club. It is a spacious and pleasant building, with a garden and a clubhouse where games of all kinds are provided. There is a Punch and Judy show, and a cake, where sweets, cakes, tea, milk and various kinds of lemonade are sold to members and their parents, while there are also innumerable toyshops and a theater.

There are reckoned to be at least 300,000,000 cocoanut trees in existence in full bearing.

The oldest known English picture is one of Chaucer, painted on panel in the year 1380.

There are never fewer than 40,000 tramps in England. Hard times double that number.

Burning orange peel has the faculty of dissipating the odor of tobacco smoke in a room.

The first place of worship in western Australia was unique in two respects—the materials of which it was built and also the several purposes to which it was devoted. This remarkable building was made at Perth by soldiers shortly after their first arrival in 1829, and was composed almost entirely of brushwood. In addition to its use on Sundays for divine worship, it occasionally served as an amateur theater in the week and during the whole time as a barracks.

Among the birds the swan lives to be the oldest, in extreme cases reaching 80 years. The falcon has been known to live over 100 years.