

How Many Words Do You Know?



By PROEHL HALLER JAKLON
Drawing by Ray Walters.

HOW many words do you know? Shakespeare used about 23,000 words. A six-year-old child knows nearly a thousand. An uneducated person knows 3,000 to 5,000 words. The "average" person knows 8,000 to 10,000. A college graduate knows more than 20,000. Lawyers, doctors, and ministers know upwards of 25,000 words. An editor knows 40,000. Woodrow Wilson used more than 60,000 in three of his books.

Do words interest you? Have you any idea of the number of them in American speech or in the English language?

Come along, then, and have a chat with a "word expert," Dr. Frank H. Vizetelly, managing editor of Funk & Wagnalls' "New Standard Dictionary." Doctor Vizetelly, who is responsible for the figures in the foregoing paragraph, has had brought to his attention in the last fifteen years more than 515,000 words. He does not claim, of course, to remember the meaning of all of them, but it is probable that he has a fairly good working vocabulary.

"The range of a man's vocabulary depends on his occupation," Doctor Vizetelly says. "A churchman, familiar with the Bible, will know the meaning of 8,674 different Hebrew words in the Old Testament, and of 6,824 Greek words in the New Testament, or 14,298 words in all, with some duplicates, of course. This is an exceptional case.

"The physician or surgeon knows more than this number. Take a rough summary of the matters with which he must be familiar. There are in the body of man 707 arteries, 71 bones, 79 convolutions, 433 muscles, 290 nerves, 85 plexuses, and 103 veins—total, 1,708.

"In addition to this there are 1,300 bacteria, 224 epidemic diseases, 500 pigments, 236 poisons, 83 epidemic signs and symptoms of diseases, 744 tests, and 109 tumors, or a total of 4,998 matters relating to his profession alone.

"Then there are the names of about 10,000 chemicals and drugs of which he must have more than a passing knowledge—total, 14,938 in all, and we have not referred to the science of hygiene or to allied professions, as dentistry, etc., or to his home life, his motor car, or airplane, and the world at large, of which he is so important a figure. These can barely be covered by 10,000 more—approximately 25,000 words.

"The lawyer also is an exception. The most popular law dictionaries list approximately 13,000 terms peculiar to the legal profession, and comprehensive as the law itself may be, it does not in general embrace the vocabulary of the home, for which add 10,000 words, or 23,000 in all.

"How many words does a newspaper editor know? One estimated the extent of his vocabulary by the aid of

an abridged dictionary. Under each letter of the alphabet a page or more of words was selected at random and counted. He kept a record of primitive and derivative words. That is, among the former was put "measure"; among the latter "measurable," "measurableness," "measured," "measurer," and "unmeasured." Compound words whose meanings were clearly indicated by their component were omitted; as "clock-work," "draft-horse," "hard-earned."

"Counting this way, he found an average of 20 primitive words and 35 derivative words on each page. This would make, there, being 814 pages of vocabulary in this dictionary, a total of 16,210 of the former and 28,400 of the latter, or 45,000 in all.

"Next he took a page in each letter, and on it he counted the words which it seemed any person of average intelligence would be able to use and understand. On 24 pages there were 268 primitive words and 221 derivative, or nearly 5,000 in all of the former, and more than 7,000 of the latter. And, lastly, he made a count of very common words, such as even a poorly educated person could hardly escape knowing, and they were found to number 5,700 primitive and 3,200 derivative.

"The department of psychology of one of our learned bodies recently investigated the matter of vocabulary acquisition, and disclosed the fact that the average child, of from four to five years of age makes use of 1,700 words.

"In its first year, the child acquires a vocabulary of from 10 to 20 words. During its second year this total was increased to 300 or 400 words, depending entirely upon environment. Before the close of the third year, the larger of these totals was more than doubled, so that the vocabulary at command aggregated from 600 to 1,000 words.

"Shakespeare's vocabulary has been put at 24,000, 21,000 or 15,000 words, and the apologist for a limited vocabulary exclaims, 'What did he not achieve with them!'

"Had Shakespeare lived in our time he would have advanced with our progress, and the strength of his vocabulary would have been double the number of words he used, but please remember that many of Shakespeare's words are now archaic.

"Many words fell into disuse when archery gave way to the gun, and things which were very useful when knighthood was in flower, eventually were discarded. The passing of the tournament and jousts witnessed the burial of a large collection of medieval terms, even as the passing of armor did the same.

"When falconry became a dead

sport, its specific vocabulary was soon forgotten. Alchemy and superstition had a host of friends, but with the advance of our culture their lingo has been driven out of existence.

"Every well-read person of education and fair ability is able to define or understand, as used nearly or perhaps, more than 50,000 words. The same person in conversation and writing will command not fewer than 15,000 to 20,000, while a person who cannot read but who has a good degree of native mental ability will command 5,000 terms.

"But let it be clearly understood that if a new word breaks out tomorrow, whether it be between capital and labor, or between races of different hue, or between the upper world and the lower world, the editor's vocabulary will keep pace with the events as they develop.

"Every social upheaval, even as every social reform, brings with it the means with which to describe its various phases, and our speech is like the tide—ever at ebb and flow.

"What is the longest word in the English language? Who knows? Here are, however, a few that have posed for the time being as the longest words in the language.

"The word most frequently cited is 'honorificabilitudinitatibus,' which is to be found in Shakespeare's 'Love's Labor Lost,' act 5, scene 1, line 44. To the Puritan divine Byfield we owe 'incomprehensibleness,' Doctor Benson is credited with 'antidisestablishmentarianism,' To William E. Gladstone we owe 'disestablishmentarianism.'

"An examination of any treatise on chemistry will reveal several like these: paraoxymetamethoxyallylbenzene, and tetrahydroparamethoxyquinoline.

"Among modern German words of cumbersome formation is Schutzengrabenverluchungsgangautomobile, which contains thirty-five letters to express what the English indicate by the word 'tank' in its military sense.

"There is also the Turkish Association of Constantinopolitan Escapade Makers, which is designated in German by Constantinopolitanischerdudelsackspielmaschinenhergestellungsvereinigung.

"A word commonly attributed to Bismarck is said to have been the result of his hatred of everything foreign, particularly everything French. For this reason, he offered as a substitute for the French word 'apothecaire,' the term 'Gesundheitswiederherstellungsmittelzusammensetzungverhaltenskundler,' which he preferred to 'apotheker.'

"Leading them all, however, is a Greek word denoting a dish consisting of all kinds of dainties, fish, flesh, fowl, and sauces. Take a deep breath and try to pronounce: lepatotemachoselachogaleokraniolepisandrinoportrimmatosilphokarabomellotokarakheumenokichlepiokossuphophatloperistheralektronoptokhephallokhiokleleloia-goosirabolaphetraganopteruzon.

"Which, in the vernacular, is just plain 'hash.'

"The Flemish word for motor car is 'Snelpaardelooszonderspoorwegpetrolrijtuig.'

Now, aren't you glad, indeed, that you don't have to speak German, or Greek, or Flemish? Think how much hungrier a man would get while asking for hash in a Greek restaurant!

Mons Fisellus and borders of Picenum south to the Anio and Fidenae on the Tiber. They were of Umbro-Sabellian stock, allied to the Oscans, and the Samnites were their descendants. Reate (Rieti) was their chief town. The "rape of the Sabine women" in the legendary history of Rome is famous. The Sabines were finally subjugated by the Romans under M. C. C. Dentatus (c. 200 B. C.). They received the Roman franchise in 268, and after the Social war of 90 became amalgamated with the Romans.

Sabines Once Powerful

The Sabines were ancient and important people who lived in the mountains northeast of Rome, from the

POULTRY

COCCIDIOSIS IS FATAL AILMENT

One of the most serious maladies which poultry-farm owners have to combat is coccidiosis, a destructive disease, especially prevalent on poultry farms where a large number of birds are raised on a limited area.

Chickens between the ages of four and fourteen weeks are the most likely to contract the infection, and suffer the greatest mortality, according to B. A. Beach of the veterinary science department at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, in a recent circular published by the college. He says that although adult birds often contract the disease, they seldom die directly from it.

The disease is the result of infection by a small parasite, known as the coccidium, which is spread in the droppings of infected birds. Beach, in outlining the symptoms of the trouble, says that the first to be noticed is the appearance of blood in the droppings; following this, the chick usually becomes listless; its feathers become ruffled, and its wings droop. Contaminated soil and water are the chief carriers of infection, as are certain adult birds, which are infected, though showing no outward signs of the disease. Such hens are a continuous source of infection and a menace to all chicks that are permitted to run with them.

"No medicinal treatment has yet been found of sufficient value to warrant its use," Beach declares. "Sanitation is both the preventive and the cure," he says.

As soon as coccidiosis is diagnosed, Beach says the steps to be taken are to remove all of the apparently healthy chicks to clean quarters—remove all litter from the brooder house twice weekly—withhold all mash, and feed light on scratch feed, and keep sour milk before the chicks at all times.

Farmer Who Balances His Poultry Ration Gets Most

Laying hens need a balanced ration. This fact is demonstrated by an experiment completed recently by the South Dakota State college poultry department, in which two pens of 25 hens each were fed under the same conditions but with different rations. In one case the hens were given all the corn, oats, wheat and barley they would eat. The hens in the other pen received these same grains but in addition were given a 20 per cent meat mash in order to make the ration balanced.

A summary of the results of this experiment indicates that the hens on corn, oats, wheat and barley averaged 27.64 eggs per bird for the two-month period. The hens that received the meat mash in their ration averaged 36.56 eggs per hen. The cost of the feed was practically the same in both cases because the first pen ate enough more grain to balance the cost of the meat mash, thus proving that the farmer who will balance his poultry ration will receive a greater profit.

Mortality Loss in Baby Chicks May Be Prevented

According to a report from the extension division, Ohio State university, a record from 300 farmers shows that the mortality loss in baby chicks up to the age of ten weeks was 20.3 per cent. This probably is a conservative estimate as no doubt a farmer who is progressive enough to keep records is more apt to give his chicks better care than will the average farmer. The chief causes of these losses may be summarized as follows: Weak chicks, diarrhea, crowding, leg weakness, cannibalism, coccidiosis and intestinal worms.

A great deal may be done in preventing these losses by adhering closely to the five essentials of chick raising advocated by the University of Missouri. These are:

1. Hatch early.
2. Brood each hatch separately for four weeks.
3. Range on fresh ground.
4. Feed a balanced ration constantly.
5. Separate pullets and cockerels.

To Regulate Incubator

If it seems impossible to regulate the incubator, examine the wafer and, see whether or not it still has the ether which causes expansion and consequent regulation of the thermostat. The wafers are filled with ether which will evaporate through a very small leak. Detach the suspected wafer, and shake close to the ear. If the liquid is in it, you will hear it shake, and the trouble is not there. If there is no sound of liquid, buy a new wafer and save time, money and worry.

Ordinary Duties of Life

If there be anything, in fact, wherein the views of God and the impressions of men are apt to be at total variance, it is in respect to the solemnity and importance of ordinary duties.—Horace Bushnell.

Highest and Lowest

The highest point of heaven's throne in glory can only be reached by going to the lowest place of earth's cross.—Jesus found it so, so shall we.—Prophetic News.

FARM STOCK

FEEDERS SIDE OF BABY BEEF PLAN

Cattle feeders are becoming more interested in the feeding of baby beefs with each successive season. The advantages of baby beef feeding have often been published, in which the changes in the demands of the consuming public have been emphasized. The cattle feeder may wonder if the feeding of baby beefs can be justified by greater economy and increased profits in his own feed yards.

Experimental data proves that the production of choice, handy-weight animals of the baby beef variety has several economic advantages. The feeding of white-face Colorado calves was compared with the feeding of yearlings and two-year-olds of the same type and quality, at the Ohio agricultural experiment station. It was shown that it takes a little longer to finish the calves, as their average daily gain per head was only 2.33 pounds, as compared with 2.32 pounds for the yearlings and 2.65 pounds for the two-year-old steers. Rapidity of gains is an important item, but it is the economy of gains which has a greater influence upon the purse or check book. The calves put on 100 pounds of gain at a cost of \$10.10, while it cost \$10.63 for the same amount of gain on the yearlings and \$12.13 for the two-year-olds. Calves are efficient converters of feeds into meat and into dollars. When the returns over feed costs were computed for these three classes of cattle, the calves led by a wide margin. The calves returned \$13.42 per head over feed costs, the yearlings \$8.76, and the two-year-olds only \$7.63.

Give Live Stock Plenty of Minerals in Ration

Although most of the minerals needed by farm animals are supplied by the ration, there are a few which frequently need to be added, states W. C. Skelley, assistant professor of animal husbandry at the New Jersey State College of Agriculture. The minerals in which farm rations are most likely to be deficient are calcium, phosphorus, sodium, chlorine, and iodine. These, says Professor Skelley, may be supplied from the following sources:

Calcium—from high-grade limestone, steamed bone meal, wood ashes, or slaked lime.

Phosphorus—from steamed bone meal, or rock phosphate, the former preferred.

Sodium and chlorine—readily and cheaply supplied in common salt. Iodine—from potassium or sodium iodide. As a general rule, however, this need not be supplied in this section of the country, because our soil and water contain sufficient, but in cases where goiter or hairlessness occur in the young, about one-half of 1 per cent should be added to a mineral mixture.

Swine fed almost entirely on concentrated grain feeds will not get enough minerals unless they are supplied with a supplemental mineral mixture.

A good but simple mixture for swine is 40 pounds of steamed bone meal, 40 pounds of ground limestone or slaked lime and 20 pounds of salt. This should be thoroughly mixed and a small portion kept before the animals at all times.

Crop Pasture for Sheep Favored at Beltsville

Forage crops, instead of permanent grass pasture, for sheep have given good results on the Department of Agriculture experiment farm, at Beltsville, Maryland.

The sheep were started off on fall-sown wheat, rye and winter barley. Next they grazed oats and Canadian field peas sown in mixture, then soy beans, and after that corn and velvet beans, when fall-sown grain was again in order. This schedule provided an unbroken supply of feed.

And the sheep did very well. One important point is that they were little troubled by stomach worms and other internal parasites—pests which stunt and weaken a flock and are the bane of a sheep man's life when permanent pastures are used.

These results also should interest farmers, who are trying to mix live stock with their wheat farming. Grass cannot well be got back onto the soils of semi-arid regions. But by adding such forage crops as kafr, sudan grass and perhaps sweet clover, to the grazing furnished by wheat, an all-year feed program for sheep could be worked out.

Doctor McCampbell, live-stock specialist at the Kansas Agricultural college says so, and believes that a real opportunity exists therein for wheat farmers.

Sanitation Good Policy

Despite the fact that the United States is now the safest country in the world in which to own live stock, the great losses which are being caused by animal diseases may be expected to continue until stock owners and all those interested in the production of live stock are educated to the necessity of careful sanitary measures. Sanitation is one of the best insurance policies that a breeder can use to protect his stock against disease.

SHOULD HUSBANDS DO HOUSE WORK?

How Mrs. Dyer Solved the Problem.

Mrs. Mildred Dyer was lucky. She had a good-natured husband who helped her with much of her housework. Because she was in ill health for five years, it was often necessary for him to do this. But it bothered Mrs. Dyer. She felt that he had to work hard enough anyway. The time he spent in doing her work was needed for his own. She determined to find the road to better health.

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She has solved her problem and her household is happier. The Dyers live at Redlands, Calif., Route A, Box 183. How often does your husband have to do your housework? No matter how willing he is, no woman feels comfortable about it. Perhaps you, too, will find better health through the faithful use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

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The printing of the New York telephone directory is the biggest single publishing job in the world. It now takes between five and six weeks to simply distribute the books to the 960,000 regular subscribers. As soon as one issue is finished work is started on the succeeding edition. Distribution requires a force of more than 500 wagons and even pushcarts. Despite the fact that the paper used is, from

time to time, improved to save weight and bulk, the last issue consisted of two volumes, weighing nearly five pounds. It has 1,920 pages with 830,000 listings. In many instances subscribers get several copies, so that the total edition consists of 3,000,000 directories, requiring 500 carloads of paper.

Sabines Once Powerful

The Sabines were ancient and important people who lived in the mountains northeast of Rome, from the