

# To Dispose of Patent Models

155,000 Pieces May Be Sold Because of Lack of Storage Space.

Washington, D. C.—The models labored over so painstakingly by inventors of the Nineteenth century and sent to the United States patent office with applications for patents, are to be disposed of. There are some 155,000 of them and none is younger than 40 years. The practice of requiring the inventor to send in a model with his application for a patent was discontinued in 1884. Congress provided that the patent office did not need to keep any models sent in and accordingly they have been returned since that time.

The patent office building was originally planned with a view to placing all of these models on exhibition and forming a museum. However, it was found that the inventive genius of the American people developed so rapidly that the models soon overran the space provided for them. Also the work of the office required an increased number of employees and the space was needed to accommodate them.

Then came the problem of finding storage space for the models sent in under the old rule. First, the officials of the Smithsonian institution were invited to look them over and select any they might find of sufficient interest or historic value to be placed on display in the national museum. About 500 were selected. These were in the main models of firearms, electrical appliances and early typewriters. The model of Abraham Lincoln's invention for lifting boats off shoals was taken for its historic interest.

In this patent office exhibit at the national museum is the Selden fundamental patent on automobiles. Until the time that Henry Ford won a suit which Selden brought against him, all manufacturers of automobiles were obliged to pay a license fee to Selden for the privilege of manufacturing such cars. When Ford refused to comply with this requirement Selden sued but lost the case. As a result of this he lost out entirely, since the other manufacturers took this as a precedent and refused to continue paying him.

One of the most interesting exhibits among the typewriters is that submitted by S. W. Francis in 1857. This weighs 30 pounds and was operated by keys similar to those of a piano. It is said that this typewriter contains some of the principles upon which the modern ones are constructed.

The teleautograph, which has only been in general use for about eight or ten years, was patented as long ago as 1888 by Elisha Gray. This shows how long it sometimes takes to get an article really launched upon the market.

After the Smithsonian institution had made its selection the other models were packed into cases about the size of coffins. An effort was made to pack models of the same type together and a card index system was made so that these might be easily identified.

These cases have had a rather hectic life, being shunted from pillar to post. After they were removed from the patent office they were stored for a while in the basement of the capitol. Later they were placed in the city jail, and finally removed to their present location, which is a garage. And now they are to be disposed of entirely.

Will Save Historic Pieces. The disposition of these models is to be under the direction of a commission consisting of the commissioner of patents, the secretary of the Smithsonian institution and a patent attorney designated by the first named. It is planned that as the cases are opened this commission will meet and select what is deemed to be of value or of historical interest. These models will be stored or placed on exhibition in the patent office or in the national museum.

The original depositor, or heirs of such, may file application to have his model returned to him. This demand must be in writing and must be sufficiently definite so that the model may be identified. State or private museums and other institutions are privileged to select anything which they might feel would be of particular interest in their collections. Several such requests have already been received by the commission.

The third way in which these models are to be disposed of is by public auction. It is likely that the sales will be conducted in a manner similar to those formerly held by the dead letter office. It would be practically impossible to attempt to dispose of each article separately.

Those models which have no interest for either their original depositors or museums, and which it is believed will have no sales value, will be destroyed. The idea is to get rid of them all in some fashion so that the government may be relieved of the expense of storage.

This work will no doubt take several months, at conservative estimate. There are 2,750 cases to be opened and space will permit opening only a few at a time. Of course, as they are gradually cleared out, it will be possible to increase the number.

# Rome: to Which All Roads Lead

Cradle of Civilization Now the Mecca of Pilgrims and Tourists.

Washington.—To the Holy Year pilgrims, as well as to many thousands of American tourists, all roads again lead to Rome, the eternal city, which is the subject of a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Rome, the cradle of our civilization, offers more to the sightseer, the religious devotee, the archeologist, the historian or the aesthete, than any other city, and perhaps, more than all of them together," the bulletin states. "Like its inception, Rome cannot be seen or learned in a day. The remark of the French historian, Ampere, who said that a 'superficial knowledge' of Rome could be acquired in a ten years' visit, gives an idea of the vast number and variety of its attractions.

"Even the casual or hurried tourists and pilgrims, however, cannot fail to be impressed with what little they see or learn of the mother city of our language, laws, religions and many of our customs. Rome links us with all other cities. In its prime the long arms of the empire stretched far to the east and west and brought the highest civilization of the time to the rude tribes beyond the Alps and the Mediterranean.

"But the Rome of today is not this Rome. At first it is very disappointing, with its conventional, smooth-paved, sunny streets, monotonous houses, trolley cars, electric lights and hotels, all of them very much like those of other modern cities. There is little trace of the famed seven hills or the temples and ruins of the history books.

"This is because the visitor enters the city at its newest side. A great, busy modern city has been built over a greater ancient one, and the latter is exposed only in a few places. To get a romantic picture of Rome one must walk by the Colosseum in the moonlight, or loiter on the Bridge of Angels when the star reflections dimple the sullen Tiber, or sit by a fountain in a rose-scented garden when the nightingales are singing.

Seven Hills Shaved Off. "Perhaps the most vivid first-hand impressions of Rome today are of the modernness of its hotels and business houses, the number of its churches and the beauty of its many fountains.

"The seven hills are still there, but the intervening centuries have greatly modified them. The modern city is rolling, for the ancient hilltops have been largely shaved off and the valleys filled in to suit the exigencies of the trolley car and automobile. "Palatine hill, with its ruins and cypress trees is visible; as is the Capitoline hill, which rises somewhat abruptly from the center of the city, crowned with churches and other buildings, and the Monte Quirinal, with its royal palace and the Trajan column. But the Monte Caelo or Caelus, which was never high, has hardly any slope and would be indistinguishable but for the church of San Giovanni in Laterno. The Esquiline hill shows the two domes of Santa Maria Maggiore; the Aventine hill, the home of the 'opposition' since Remus fled there from his brother, drops off rather sharply toward the river but is smooth and rolling in the other directions. There is nothing today to distinguish the Monte Viminale, near the railroad station.

"It is only in the Roman and Trajan forums, and in such isolated buildings as the Castle of St. Angelo, which Trajan's successor, Hadrian, erected as a suitable mausoleum for himself; the Colosseum; the Baths of Caracalla, etc., mutilated, defaced, robbed and scorned, that one is able to get some conception of the grandeur of Rome in the days when the will of its ruler was law for the known world. "Rome today is a city of 664,000 people and the capital of united Italy. But a united Italy is such a comparatively recent phenomenon that, in the minds of most people, the city still stands for two things—the remains of antiquity and the seat of Catholicism. In St. Peter's and the adjoining Vatican, Rome has the largest continuous series of buildings in the world. The Vatican, residence of the pope, contains some 7,000 rooms, though some say 11,000, 20 courts and more than 200 staircases.

"But aside from the railroad terminal and several up-to-date hotels, Rome today has only a single contribution to its former glory—the massive monument to Victor Emmanuel II, uniter of modern Italy. Before it is the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier. However, in its Palazzo delle Finanze, the treasury of the country, modern Rome has a building covering 30,000 square yards, the largest treasury in Europe."

## Montmartre Sends Us "Ambassador"



Lucien Boyer, genial Paris chansonnier and duly accredited ambassador from the "Free Republic of the Montmartre" to Washington and Greenwich Village, intends taking up his ambassadorial duties next spring.

## RADIO FIRST TO TELL OF SANTA BARBARA QUAKE

Two Amateurs Link Up City With Outside World After Tremor Laid Place in Ruins.

Santa Barbara, Cal.—To Brandon Wentworth, Jr., and Graham George of this city, the former an official relay operator of the American Radio Relay league, fell the duty of first linking up Santa Barbara with the outside world after the disastrous earthquake that shook the entire city.

The first news telling the outside world of the city's plight; the first reassuring messages to friends on the outside; the first call for naval aid in guarding against vandals were the work of Wentworth and George.

When the tremor hit the city, razing buildings, disrupting the power system, putting the water works out of commission and cutting off Santa Barbara from the rest of the world, these two youthful radio enthusiasts,

like all others, lost their home stations in the general collapse of higher structures.

Undeterred by the loss of their own equipment the two young men made post haste to the radio store of Bolton & Jones where materials were available for the use of those who knew how. Wentworth and George knew how. Within an hour of the first shock they had assembled a three-inch spark coil, a rotary gap, twelve-volt battery and a key for transmission of an "SOS."

An undamaged superheterodyne receiver from the store took care of the reception and the busy pair of radio men immediately started sending out their "SOS." The tanker H. M. Story, station KDVV, and the tug Peacock, station KDKY, were the first two to pick up the calls. The tug acted as relay station in the call for naval aid and in sending out the news

of the disaster. The emergency station continued its work until other communication was restored.

Is Cop at 75 Oskaloosa, Iowa.—J. W. Johnson, graduating from Penn college at the age of seventy-five, and a gray-haired veteran of many occupations, is entering a new field. He has accepted a place on the local police force.

He has been an editor, a school teacher, a preacher and a farmer, and is now holding a pastorate at Harvey.

Survives Snake Bite Sheboygan, Wis.—Dr. Frederick Eigenberger, local scientist, who has been experimenting for a serum to cure snake bites, is recovering from poison after being struck by a rattlesnake. He was in a critical condition for a time and it was feared he would die.

A non-sinkable ship has been invented by a New York state man, who says his model has withstood 700 sinking tests.

# In the JUNGLE

With Cheerups and the Quixies by Grace Bliss Stewart

## JUMPING INTO THE JUNGLE

THROUGH the air flew Cheerups and Brighteyes and Quickear and Softfoot and Sniffsniff, so fast that you could hardly see them.

"This must be Africa," cried Cheerups, as he stretched his legs and arms and looked about him. "Jumped right into the Jungle, I should say. Great, isn't it?" And he beamed upon the bewildered little Quixies with his broadest smile. "But what is that strange crying sound, like some one feeling very sad? Do you hear it, Quickear? Hurry, Softfoot, and find out where it comes from! And you,



"I Am Most Dreadfully Upset."

Brighteyes, go too and look about! Dear me, dear me! Perhaps we are going to be useful right away."

Then all at once out of the Thick Bushes and Twisty Vines came the funniest sight Cheerups had ever set eyes on. Walking toward him were Brighteyes and Quickear and between them trudged a great shaggy animal.

But was this strange looking creature really an animal? It walked on two legs, held itself nearly erect and looked so astonishingly like a man that Cheerups was very much puzzled. "Please, sir," said Quickear, "we found this gentleman feeling very sad, and we brought him to you because we thought you could help him."

"Churly Gorilla is my name," barked the big clumsy creature, hanging his head gloomily. "I am the largest and strongest of the monkey family. I am almost six feet tall, as you see, and very fierce besides. I assure you there is scarcely anything in the Jungle of which I am afraid, except—except rain, sir."

"Why, what a funny thing to be

afraid of, Churly Gorilla," cried Cheerups. "The raindrops are so gentle that they couldn't do any one harm. In this hot climate they ought to be very refreshing."

"But," grumbled Churly, "you don't understand how it is, Mr.—"

"Cheerups; at your service, sir. Cheerups is my name and these are my four good friends and traveling companions—Brighteyes, Quickear, Softfoot and Sniffsniff. They are broadening their acquaintance, too," replied Cheerups. "Now that we are so nicely introduced, what were you saying, Mr. Gorilla?"

"I was saying that you really don't know anything about my troubles, sir. Excuse me for contradicting you. My temper is never very good, but today I am most dreadfully upset. You see, when it rains in the Jungle it rains very hard, and though it is only a shower which doesn't last long, the water comes down like a solid sheet. Then my thick coat gets wet way through to the skin, and I am very uncomfortable. Please, Mr. Cheerups, could you tell me some way to keep dry?"

"Well, well, well," mused Cheerups. "That's different. Now let me see. I have it!" cried Cheerups the next minute, and he looked so happy and his round merry eyes twinkled so kindly that Churly Gorilla grew more hopeful. "Now, Brighteyes, just look at the hair on Mr. Gorilla's arms and tell me if there is anything unusual about the way it grows."

"Why, in the first place, sir, it is very thick and long, and in the second place it grows downward from the shoulder to the elbow and upward from the wrist to the elbow," said Quixie Brighteyes.

"Good," cried Cheerups, nodding his topknot madly. "Your troubles are over, Mr. Gorilla. The next time it rains, just cover your head and shoulders with your arms, and the water will roll off them as it would from a thatched roof, all on account of the way the hair grows. Then you will find yourself quite dry."

"Goody, goody, goody," cried Churly Gorilla, dancing up and down and barking so loud that Brighteyes and Quickear and Softfoot and Sniffsniff were frightened out of their wits and went hurrying and scurrying into the tall Jungle grasses to get out of the way.

"Dear kind Mr. Cheerups, you have taken such a load from my mind! Now I know I shall never be wet again," chattered Churly. "I am going right off to tell the other Jungle folks about you," and away he trotted into the dusk, chuckling softly to himself and feeling very happy over his good fortune.

The thick, velvety curtain of dark-

## Marine Knight



This popular "movie" star is known in Hollywood as the "most perfect woman." When her measurements were taken some time ago they were found to be exactly those of the Greek ideal of feminine perfection. She appeared in a prominent picture at the request of a producer who sought a perfect woman to represent a living statue adorning the wall of King David's palace.

ness fell suddenly, as it does in the Tropics, and Cheerups' first day in the Jungle was over.

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## A LINE O' CHEER

By John Kendrick Bangs.

## A GOODLY TASK

THE world may be all dark and gloom, But none the less I'm glad I've come. For after all it seems to me The greatest task of all there be Is to spread light where gloom holds sway. To warm a bleak and chilly way With little gleams of cheer, and fill With peace some frowning coils of ill. And if the world is black with rue It gives us so much more to do To dissipate the clouds of care And raise hope's gleaming beacon there.

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## THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

### RATS

THE popular saying "Rats desert a sinking ship," imperfectly describes the superstition to which it is supposed to give expression. The belief of sailors—and of many who are not sailors—is that when a ship is in port and the rats suddenly swarm ashore, forsaking her, that ship, in all probability, will go down on her next voyage. Many a ship has been held for long weeks in port wanting a crew, the old crew having refused to reshuffle because the rats had been seen leaving the vessel as she lay at her dock.

A common explanation of the superstition is that it has a foundation in a physical fact. A ship in bad repair—unseaworthy—is damp down below and the rats desert to dryer quarters ashore. And a leaky ship is, of course, most likely to go down if she encounters heavy weather.

But sailors scout this explanation and will tell you that well-found ships are as likely to go down as any others if the rats desert them—which is not so, of course. The common explanation of the superstition, unromantic and unclassical as it is, is undoubtedly the true one. But that innate proclivity for superstition which pertains to all mankind in general and sailors in particular, prefers to see a mysterious omen in the desertion of a ship by her rat inhabitants rather than a plain, prosaic intimation that the "old hooker" needs calking.

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## Your Health

By Andrew F. Currier, M. D.

### HABIT-FORMING DRUGS

ANY substance used in any way to treat disease is a drug, even though it may be used for other purposes.

Tea, coffee, alcohol, mustard, prunes, soap, bicarbonate of soda, and many other things in daily use in the household, have a medicinal as well as their ordinary economic value.

Habit-forming drugs may be perfectly good and useful and legitimate for medical purposes, but they often tempt people to use them unnecessarily and poison them.

People who are thus enslaved think they cannot get along without their dope; their will power and self-control are lost, and sooner or later, if not cut off in other ways, they get fatal disease from use of the drug.

Frequently an overpowering dose of the drug carries them off suddenly. People are differently affected by the same drug at different times. A dose of morphine has more effect on an empty stomach than when the stomach is busy digesting food, and will take effect more quickly when you are tired and sleepy, than when full of life and activity; moreover, if it is taken to relieve pain, more will be necessary if the pain is severe than if it is not.

People are also differently affected by different samples of the same drug.

A quarter of a grain of morphine made by one chemist may produce the utmost effect desired by the doctor who gives it, while half a grain made by another chemist may fall in producing that effect, the first specimen being a pure drug, the second adulterated or unsuccessfully made.

Drugs are taken to influence disease or produce sleep or relieve pain.

It is because they make you comfortable or produce certain agreeable sensations that they allure you when they are not required medicinally.

Drugs ordinarily harmless, like tea, coffee, or tobacco, may be taken in such quantities as to be injurious.

Doctors have often been accused of laying the foundation of drug habits; this may be true in some cases, but in many years of experience I have seen few such cases.

They usually come about because people prescribe for themselves, and

particularly because, until within the last few years, it has been so easy to get a drug or a medicine which would satisfy the craving of the drug fiend.

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## "What's in a Name?"

By MILDRED MARSHALL

Facts about your name; its history; meaning; whence it was derived; significance; your lucky day, lucky jewel

### HATTIE

THOUGH somewhat provincial, Hattie is none the less popular as a feminine name. It is a nice, comfortable, cozy sort of a name without frills or ornamentation. It means "home-ruler"; though it comes originally from Teutonic mythology, it has elements of the modern attitude toward home. Even in their heathenism, the guardian of the dwelling of the grave spirits of the dead, known as Heimdel, was regarded as the "home-ruler"—"true to the kindred points of heaven and home."

By various stages, through the German Heinz, the French Henri and the English Henry and Harry, the feminine of this interesting name was evolved in the sixteenth century. It made its first appearance in France in the house of Stuart de Aubigne. Various feminines of Henri were popular in the court of Katherine de Medici.

In the form of Henrietta, the name made its appearance in England with the daughter of Henri IV of France and it was descendants of this good queen who carried the name through successive steps until it reached the quaint diminutive Hattie.

Her it is Hattie's talismanic stone. For her it is not a symbol of sorrow but a talisman against grief. Friday is her lucky day and 4 her lucky number.

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### Fight on Boll Weevil

In winter the boll weevil retreats to wooded country to pass the cold season. Plans are now being carried into effect to surround these winter retreats with poison gases and so destroy the weevils before they have a chance to come out in spring.