

Design Laws to Protect Women

Several States Limit the Weight a Woman May Lift in Industries.

Washington. — How many pounds can a woman lift? This is not a question as to the maximum lifting feat that has been accomplished in a circus or on the vaudeville stage, but has to do with the weights which working women may handle without jeopardizing their health.

Five states have undertaken to regulate by laws or codes the weights which women may lift, but industrial experts declare that no fair and satisfactory standards have been established either in this country or abroad.

California has a law which forbids women to lift receptacles which weigh 75 pounds or more. Ohio prohibits the employment of women in any capacity which necessitates their lifting weights of 25 pounds or over. Pennsylvania decrees that women shall not handle, in core rooms, cores which weigh more than 15 pounds. These are parts of molds used in iron and steel casting. New York in its industrial code, rule 585, provides that women shall not handle cores which weigh more than 25 pounds.

Method of Lifting Important.
It is recognized, however, that the problem cannot be solved by writing into a law or code the maximum number of pounds which a woman may lift. A great deal depends upon the way in which anything is lifted and the distance, reach and stretch which it entails. To lift 25 pounds from one table to another of the same height does not require as much energy and strain as a lift 15 pounds from the floor to a shelf over one's head.

In order to ascertain the seriousness of the problem the Bureau of Women in Industry in New York state had the figures compiled for a given year of all the women in the state who received compensation as a result of strain from lifting. The year ending June 30, 1925, the tenth year for compensation cases, was selected for the survey, and the report shows that 100 women received compensation of the character indicated during that period. These 100 women averaged 13 weeks' disability, and the amount of their compensation averaged \$109. All of the disabilities were temporary except two. One woman who suffered from a permanent partial disability was employed in a hotel and the other in an office building.

Most Injured in Factories.
Almost one-half of the women incurring disabilities from lifting weights too heavy for them to handle—46, to be exact, were employed in manufacturing establishments. Thirty-one were engaged in clerical and personal service, 29 were employed in trade, 2 by public utilities and 1 in building construction.

In the manufacturing group there was one case of strain from lifting in each of the following: Foundries, hardware, sheet metal ware, wire, beds, construction machinery, wood turning, confectionery, tobacco, clothing, furnishing goods, needle trades, shoddy, cotton goods, woolen goods, ink, soap and paper.

In the clerical and personal service classification the largest number of cases, 14, occurred in hotels and clubs, while there were 13 cases in apartment and office buildings.

In the trade group the largest number of accidents took place in food, department and five-and-ten-cent stores—13 in all.

Problem Has Many Angles.
The New York state department of labor says that the analysis of these figures, contrary to expectation, shows that the problem of lifting heavy weights does not lie wholly in the manufacturing group, but rather it lies with women who are doing cleaning, those acting as waitresses and carrying heavy trays, janitresses who set out ashes, and women employed in stores who lift heavy boxes from shelves and replace them.

"It is doubtful," says the report, "whether laws or codes ever could be made which could regulate with any degree of justice the question of lifting. It becomes practically a matter of personal equation, and a matter of knowing how to do it."

"The fact that many of the strains from lifting accidents fall into industries where weights are not heavy is an indication that perhaps distance, reach, stretch, etc., have more to do with the accident than the actual weight. It becomes, therefore, a matter of teaching women how to lift with the least possible exertion."

War-Time Standards.
During the World war, when thousands of women went into munition plants or undertook other work ordinarily performed by men, the problem of conserving their health was regarded as of as much importance as the matter of their compensation. In the proclamation creating the national war labor board, as one of the basic principles upon which industrial controversies were to be settled or adjusted it was stipulated that women must not be allotted tasks disproportionate to their strength.

The reconstruction program of the American Federation of Labor included a declaration that "women workers must not be permitted to perform tasks disproportionate to their physical strength, or which tend to impair their potential motherhood and prevent the continuation of a nation of strong, healthy, sturdy and intelligent men and women." Substantially the same provision was incorporated in the program submitted by the labor group in the first national industrial conference, called by President Wilson in October, 1919, and the second conference adopted the following recommendation:

"Women cannot enter industry without safeguards additional to those provided for men, if they are to be equally protected. The danger of exploiting their physical and nervous strength with cumulative ill effects upon the next generation is more serious and the results are more harmful to the community. Special provision is needed to keep their hours within reason, to prohibit night employment in factories and workshops and to exclude them from those trades offering particular dangers to women."

Can Compete With Men.
The war experience proved that under the stress of national necessity women could do almost any kind of work that men can do. Handicaps therefore accepted as insurmountable were overcome quickly and easily. Hampering skirts and petticoats were discarded and the overalls of the male workers were adopted. In the mat-

ter of inferior strength, inventive genius came forward with a machine or a method that minimized the physical demands upon the worker. If it was a question of environment, of moral and sex hazards to which, under the old order, common acceptance had ruled that women should not be subjected, then society immediately reared around women workers a protective wall of sentiment and public opinion.

It was found that many occupations had been closed to women for no reason other than tradition or custom, and it was also found that women excelled at tasks at which it had been believed that only men could be proficient.

Contrary to exceptions it was found that standards of productivity were raised in many instances instead of lowered as a result of the introduction of woman workers into industries theretofore reserved to men. This was notably true in England, where low wages and unsatisfactory working conditions had resulted in a deliberate program of restricting production on the part of men workers. Women went in and speeded up the output until men were shamed into increased effort.

At the present time women who are leaders in activities for the welfare of their sex are most concerned in putting over the equal-pay-for-equal-work principle than they are in bringing about legal restrictions upon the weights which a woman should be permitted to lift. They say that when a woman does a man's job she should get a man's pay, and that she herself is the best judge as to whether a task she tackles is too great a strain upon her strength.

Maine Buys Historic Forts for Public Parks

Portland, Maine.—Eight old forts on the coast of Maine, with ruined block-houses and grass-grown ramparts, have been bought by the state from the federal government in the last two years to be converted into parks of historic interest.

A bill proposing that the forts be sold to private persons was introduced in the senate in December, 1922. On hearing of it, Gov. Percival B. Baxter took immediate action. The cost of the forts and equipment and sites amounted to only \$19,479.50. More, of course, will be needed for repairing the ruins and putting the reservations into good order, which means improving and strengthening sea walls. Proper signs will be placed for the guidance of visitors.

Other states are following the lead of Maine and are preparing to restore their old forts. These include Fort Vancouver in Washington, Harrod's fort in Kentucky and Fort Pike in Colorado.

Shoshone Dam Attracts Tourists



Nature's beauty spots are not all that attract the tourist in a visit to the Yellowstone, for the Shoshone dam on the Yellowstone river is one of the most remarkable pieces of engineering among the many that have made the desert to flower in the West. The walkway along the top of the dam makes an ideal promenade for visitors to view the wonders.

ABBE GABRIEL PREDICTS THE WEATHER FOR 2669

Eminent French Meteorologist Bases Calculations on His Discovery of Solar Cycle.

Paris.—That it is possible to predict weather even centuries in advance by adopting the principle that the solar cycle includes 744 years is the astounding statement, made in all seriousness, to the Academy of Sciences by the eminent astronomer and meteorologist, Abbe Gabriel.

The discovery of the solar cycle of 744 years is reported by Gabriel as a result of more than sixty years of research, the abbe told the academy. The cycle includes 9,302 full moons and 67 periods of sun spots. The cycle divides into two periods of 372 years or four of 186 years each.

direct relation existed between the periods of 744 years, 372 years and 186 years and their winters of extreme severity and summers of extreme heat.

Thus, the terrible winter of 1917, which cost the lives of thousands of soldiers on the western front, corresponded with that of 1544, or 373 years previously, and with other years famous in the annals of severe winters. The severe February of 1805 corresponded with that of 1709. The celebrated winter of 1879-80 corresponded with 1684, 1508, and 1323, all 186 years apart.

Gabriel added that the year 1740, the most severe winter Paris has ever known, probably will be repeated next year, 186 years afterward. The astronomer made similar comparisons of especially noteworthy summers.

Contentment is a pearl of price.

Thirsty Songbirds Rob Tomatoes of Water

Cambridge, Md.—As a result of the long-continued drought in the Church creek district of Dorchester county, robins, blackbirds and starlings have begun eating tomatoes to obtain drinking water. It is the first time in the memory of the oldest residents here that robins have been known to molest crops. So great has the nuisance become that the farmers are using shot-guns to protect their crops.

One farmer said that in one day the birds destroyed a hundred baskets of ripe fruit. Some are now asking if a rain would end the bird's depredations or, if, once having learned the value of tomatoes as food, they would continue to eat them even when no longer needed for moisture? Another question is this: Will the Church creek birds tell of their discovery to those in other districts? If they do, the farmers are in for serious trouble.

Agricultural implements belonging to the new stone age recently have been discovered in China.

In the JUNGLE

With Cheerups and the Quixies
By Grace Bliss Stewart

HER SWEET TOOTH

"I BELIEVE there is a traveling circus coming, boys," cried Cheerups one lazy afternoon. "Here are the acrobats, as sure as I live! Look, Brighteyes; don't you see them?"

"Oh, yes, sir," piped Brighteyes; "and aren't they funny? If they didn't tumble about so, I'd say they were old ladies wearing gray waists and black skirts."

Just at that time two small gray and black animals trotted up in single file, stopped right in front of Cheerups and turned head over heels one after the other. Then they picked themselves up and said cooly, as if nothing unusual had happened. "Good afternoon, Mr.



"Oh, Yes; Mrs. Ratel and I are Feeling Splendid."

Cheerups; we rolled over to see you for a few minutes and inquire after your health."

"Now that was nice of you, to be sure," replied Cheerups. "I am quite well, thank you; and you are, too, I should judge, from the exercise you have been taking today."

"Oh, yes; Mrs. Ratel and I are feeling splendid," said one of the little black and gray visitors. "We did enjoy our tumble through the Jungle. It would have been quite perfect if it hadn't been for one thing which upset Mrs. Ratel a little. I won't go so far as to say it spoiled our day, but it was upsetting."

"So these are the Ratels I have heard about," thought Cheerups to himself. "What was it which bothered you on your way over, Mr. Ratel? Do please tell us," then said he cordially. "If it's any kind of adventure, we are just ready, aren't we, Quixie Boys? These are my friends—Brighteyes, Quixear, Softfoot and Sniffsniff."

"Well, you see, sir, Mrs. Ratel is very fond of sweets which those busy creatures called bees have a way of storing up in their nests. Isn't that true, Honey? I call her Honey just as a joke, sir."

"Yes, I must admit my falling," murmured Mrs. Ratel shyly. "But you know that honey is very good, and you like it, too."

"So I do, so I do, my dear," said Mr. Ratel good-naturedly. "Well, as we were coming along, Mrs. Ratel spied a bees' nest and she could hardly get by, she did want that honey so much; but it was a very large nest and I was afraid to have her tear it open. She

THE HOG AND WINTER

IN MANY parts of New England when hogs are killed the intestines are carefully examined to find out what sort of a winter it is going to be. The whole intestines represent the coming winter. If the middle portion is thickly covered with fat the middle of the winter will be severe. The same is true of the other parts; a little fat indicating warm weather and much fat cold weather. This superstition in modified forms is general all over the United States and Canada, in some places the divination not being confined to the intestines but extended to other interior parts of the slaughtered animal.

This superstition is a survival of haruspication—the form of divination by which, in ancient times, the future was foretold by the inspection of the entrails of animals offered in sacrifice. The haruspices of ancient Rome were a caste of subordinate priests of lower status than the augurs who, however, performed like duties in this respect. Haruspication is said to have been derived by the Romans from the more ancient Etruscians; but it is evidently of primitive origin primarily, for in various forms it exists today among many savage tribes not yet emerged from a primitive condition.

We inherit the superstition in question directly from the Romans. The Roman haruspex anxiously examining the entrails of a hog sacrificed to Bacchus to ascertain the outcome of war and the New England farmer just as carefully examining the entrails of a like animal to find out what sort of winter it is going to be, are one and the same though nearly two thousand years extend between them.

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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

CARMEN

THE very Spanish name of Carmen and the more or less English appellative Carmela are identical. Though they are used as distinct names, both signify "vineyard" and come to us through the Italian where Carmen is spelled Carmine.

The source of these two names is bound up in the history of the prophet Elijah whom the Greek translators called Elias. When the Empress Helena visited Palestine she built a church on Mt. Carmel, around which rose a cluster of hermitages.

The order of Carmelites was said to have been founded by the prophet himself, but when the Latins overpowered into Palestine it first came into note and its fame became widespread throughout the West. St. Mary was made its patroness and in Italy she became known as the Madonna di Carmela or the Madonna di Carmine. As a result the two names of Carmela and Carmine gained great popularity among the Italian women. They are still used there and in Spain, where Carmine was turned into Carmen, the name became a national favorite.

The ruby is Carmen's talismanic gem. It is said that she who wears a ruby can dwell without fear in the midst of enemies and will always be shielded from adverse fortune. The gem must be worn, however, on the left side. Tuesday is Carmen's lucky day and 7 her lucky number.

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A LINE O' CHEER

By John Kendrick Bangs.

AS TO HUMOR

I'M on a ship, I sail the sea,
I'm captain and the crew,
The tempest rages noisily,
And every tide besetting me
Is full of trouble's brew.
Yet am I sailing, sailing on,
And speedy is the pace,
And come what may in ports
anon.
The goals mine eyes are set upon
Give zest unto the chase.
And if I gain, or if I lose,
If I have won or failed,
'Tis good to vie with other crews,
And purest joy my soul imbues
To know that I have sailed!
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Rod La Rocque



Handsome Rod La Rocque, the "movie" star, was born November 28, 1893, in Chicago. He was educated in the Chicago and Omaha schools. He is six feet three inches tall, weighs 180 pounds, and has brown hair and black eyes. He began his stage career at the age of seven; later he was with a musical comedy show. He is popular with all who enjoy motion pictures.

somersault the two little visitors started down the Winding Way.

"Remember not to hurt the bees, and don't take all the honey," called Cheerups after them.

"We'll try not to," came two faint voices through the warm afternoon air.

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THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

THE HOG AND WINTER

IN MANY parts of New England when hogs are killed the intestines are carefully examined to find out what sort of a winter it is going to be. The whole intestines represent the coming winter. If the middle portion is thickly covered with fat the middle of the winter will be severe. The same is true of the other parts; a little fat indicating warm weather and much fat cold weather. This superstition in modified forms is general all over the United States and Canada, in some places the divination not being confined to the intestines but extended to other interior parts of the slaughtered animal.

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And come what may in ports
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Give zest unto the chase.
And if I gain, or if I lose,
If I have won or failed,
'Tis good to vie with other crews,
And purest joy my soul imbues
To know that I have sailed!
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Your Health

By Andrew F. Currier, M. D.

DIGESTION

DIGESTIVE ferments are often combined with alcohol for preservative purposes, but this may also destroy the living, vital power of the ferment.

The taste or odor of staleness, or decomposition, in digestive preparations is an indication that they are unfit for use.

Attempts are often made to mask this condition of decomposition by combination with aromatic substances. To test the quality of a pepsin preparation, it may be put into a test tube with milk.

If the cheese curd in the milk is not digested and promptly liquefied, the conclusion to be drawn from the test is that the pepsin is not a good specimen.

To test a preparation of pancreatin, put some of it in a tube with starch and if this is not promptly digested the specimen may be discarded as not being a good one.

Digestive ferments are also to be obtained from plants, among them being the pineapple, the paw-paw and certain bacteria.

The ferment from the pineapple and paw-paw digests proteins, and hence is suitable for indigestion in the stomach.

The pineapple ferment is not extensively used, but that from the paw-paw is, and many preparations of it are on the market.

They are not of uniform value, though they frequently do good service.



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