

The Herald and News

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Torque

By BILL JENKINS
Torque is a familiar word to everyone in the mechanical world. As car buyers we are all familiar with the word. I'm not really, I'm just saying so to make it sound as though I was one of the gang.

It is the rotary force in a mechanism and marks the degree of smoothness in the conversion of reciprocating into rotary motion. This has to do with the engine, I think.

Anyway, I have been finding out over the years that cars have torque in other places besides the engine. At least if that's the term I am looking for they do.

I am reminded of it right now because the truck I am currently driving has a high degree of left handed torque. By this I mean that if you put anything on the seat it is only a matter of minutes before you have it in your lap.

I can lay a shotgun in the car, the butt up against the gear levers and the muzzle pointing out the window, the whole thing in a leather case with a rough outside, and within a quarter of a mile the darn thing is nestling against the steering wheel.

Cameras and binoculars tend to angle up against you to the point of distraction. Unless they fall off the seat altogether. In this case there is a noise like shattering glass (probably produced by the shattering glass in the various lenses) and you stop and reach for the whisk broom.

Remember the old days of milk bottles and how they kept falling off seats? I don't suppose there was a harder chore than to carry home two milk bottles on the seat of a car. Even if you put them in a sack they worked out and fell on the floor. Or just lay there on the seat and clinked together until they both shattered. In any case it was pretty tough to get any milk home in the bottle. It was usually all over the floor or soaked into the upholstery.

Well, anyway, I seem to have a car with left hand torque inside it. I don't know why. On thinking back over it I realize that I have had a car or two with right hand torque. Right now I can't remember whether this was worse than the left handed variety or not.

Someday I would like to own one with no torque at all. Inside, that is. I guess some in the motor will be all right. If it isn't I'm not going to say anything about it. I'm in enough trouble with the car makers as it is.

I don't suppose this torque business has anything to do with Tommas de Torquemada, the first inquisitor general of Spain, but the spelling is very similar.

And I'm sure it couldn't have much to do with Torquay, which is a seashore resort in Devonshire, England.

But whatever it is I have a lot of it inside my truck. All of it left handed.

I guess the only thing to do is learn to live with it.

Or stay home.

with string behind for nurse to the leaves everything uncovered that usually ain't. Boost you on bet by means of elevated ramp. Only hook and ladder can get you off.

Makes life simple for nurses. Always know where you are. Wish you could say the same about them. Can't expect beautiful gals to spend all their time soothing brows of old fools or something just because they get paid for it.

Hospital routine wonderful. Give you a pill to make you sleep so they can dry clean you with alkali so they can stick you with needle to put you to sleep again. Vary routine occasionally with liquid diet. Not the kind I'm accustomed to.

Only thing saved me, hospital looked up credit rating after a week and discharged me quick.

An insulator costs Copco only about five dollars, but the cost of replacing it under emergency circumstances may run into the hundreds of dollars in addition to the disruption caused by the power outage.

An insulator is "about as big as a man's hat," Ritchey commented. He added:

"Actually, an insulator is too big a target to test the skill of a good hunter."

"Series Holiday"

By TOM STIMMEL

The editorial guns of this manuscript shall be leveled on target and fired immediately. What we have to say is this:

The World Series should be come a national holiday.

Should this objective be dismissed as wishful thinking, consider this:

Everybody wants to watch the World Series. While the Braves and the Yankees are locked in mortal combat, nobody wants to work.

It may be that baseball no longer is a national disease, but certainly the World Series still qualifies as a national affliction. People who don't follow baseball all season suddenly find peace only when glued to the Series television screen: people who aren't completely aware that the St. Louis Browns have been in Baltimore for five years suddenly find it necessary to call the pitches for Whitey Ford and move Johnny Logan into scoring position.

This being the case, we should recognize the annual autumn madness for what it is — and just give up and go home as far as labor is concerned.

The Series could, and should, be handled like any other holiday. Only essential services should be in action, and so far as we can see, the only truly essential services would be three: (1) radio stations, (2) television stations, and (3) power companies to keep them going.

What could be nicer? Significantly, what could be more realistic? Why should we insult our employers by going through stereotyped motions when they know perfectly well our minds are with theirs — in stadia at New York or Milwaukee?

The only sensible solution is to recognize the need and declare a holiday to serve it.

What if the Series should last only four days instead of seven? In that case, it would seem prudent to go back to work after the fourth day, grateful for the holiday we have had. After all, the economy must be nourished, and we must remain practical about the matter.

Frankly, I have not yet approached my boss on this subject. It seems a bit delicate to handle alone. That's why a legal holiday, in the strictest sense, would be desirable.

Failing that, I have lined up five beloved grandmothers who suddenly are surprisingly near death. I'm counting on them, so that I may join the millions who will follow the maneuverings of Messrs. Stengel and Haney with extraordinary interest.

Bridge Tops

By PATRICIA MCCORMACK

United Press International
NEW YORK (UPI) — Canasta, alter being the undisputed favorite card game of Americans for five years, is yielding its place to the old champ, contract bridge.

This is the word from John B. Powers, executive secretary of the Association of American Playing Card Manufacturers.

He said that among the estimated 120 million card-playing Americans, canasta and contract bridge now are running neck and neck in popularity. Pinochle is in third place; poker, fourth; solitaire, fifth.

Most in the species known as "genus card player Americans" do their dealing at home or in the home of a friend. Only 10.2 per cent, said Powers, operate elsewhere — on trains, in bars or at public parties.

A recent survey documented a seemingly strange fact: there is more card playing in homes with television sets than in homes without them.

The same survey, by the consumer panel of the J. Walter Thompson Co., New York, also found more card playing is done in the east-north-central states than in any other region. The least is in the South.

The sex line in cards runs this way: men — poker, pinochle, canasta and contract bridge; women — canasta, contract bridge, solitaire and rummy.

For most company, either canasta or contract bridge appears to be the current formula for a most popular enjoyable evening.

Dr. Irving Crespi, in a recent issue of the Sociological Review, cites this inducement to card playing:

"The individual can hope to achieve acceptance into groups which will enhance his or her social position.

"Eager for friendliness and easy congeniality, many Americans appear to be incapable of generating such relationships without the artificial stimulation of impersonal, competitive group games."

Payments under the clause begin after the total disability has existed for six consecutive months, and continue for the duration of the disability, regardless of its length, VA said.

No payment may be made for disabilities incurred after age 60, and no premium charge is made for this benefit after that date.

If the veteran is in good health and under 60, the rider may be added to any National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) policy, except service-disabled veterans since April, 1953, VA said.

Of the 5,650,000 holders of eligible NSLI policies, the agency estimated that at least 5,000,000 could qualify for the rider.

There are currently 85,500 veterans who have the old \$5 rider attached to their policies. Those who meet the requirements may increase their coverage to the new \$10 limit, for a very small boost over what they are now paying in added premiums.

Premium cost of the \$10 total disability provision varies according to the policyholder's age, type of policy, and its face amount.

Payments to the veteran under the rider do not reduce the face amount of the policy.

Premium payments, both on the basic NSLI policy and the income provision, may be waived by VA for any period of total disability longer than six months.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Q—My GI schooling was interrupted more than a year ago when my father was sick and I had to take a job. I understand I may now continue my schooling under a liberalization of VA's regulations. What do I have to do?

A—You should receive soon an application form from the VA. Fill it out completely and return it. VA will send you a certification authorizing you to return to school.

Old Drum

By MARGARET RICHARDS

United Press International
They've dedicated a statue at Warrensburg, Missouri, to the most famous resident in the history of the little town. His name—Old Drum.

Old Drum was a dog, and he has been dead nearly 89 years now. But the attributes that made him famous are remembered still in nearly every civilized country in the world. They've been told in print about 40 million times, and in almost every language.

Old Drum's slaying was the subject of five separate trials and by the time they were over he was on the way to becoming the personification of all dogs everywhere, the beloved pets and companions, the hard-working farm dogs, the sentries, the hunters.

As for Drum, he was a hunter. A deer hunter dog to be specific. He was the beloved companion of Charles Burden. The black and tan hound was found dead one October day in 1869 — his body peppered with buckshot.

Burden grieved mightily over the dog he said was "just a mongrel hound, maybe, but a mighty fine hunter, and a right good friend." Soon Burden began putting pieces of rumor together and his grief changed to anger. Burden suspected that his neighbor, Leonidas Hornsby, had instructed a hired hand to shoot Old Drum.

Burden took his suspicion to court and sued Hornsby for \$100. Hornsby won the case. But Burden wasn't through. He appealed and the next time around he won.

Next Hornsby appealed to the court of common pleas, and won that round. Burden obtained another trial in the same court. For this trial he hired a lawyer Sen. George Graham Vest, who soon was to write his famed eulogy to a dog.

It was Vest, standing in a bare little courtroom in Warrensburg in 1870 who first described a dog as "man's best friend."

He won the case with the now familiar tribute.

Now Hornsby appealed again. This time to Missouri's highest court. But the Missouri Supreme Court agreed with Vest and Old Drum was avenged.

In a way, of course, the monument to Old Drum is a monument to all beloved dogs everywhere.

Specifically, the monument to be erected on the Johnson County Courthouse lawn is a life-size statue of Old Drum—a black and tan hound cast in bronze and standing on a pink granite base.

A bronze plaque will bear the words that immortalized Old Drum, and George Graham Vest.

For the George Graham Vest who served in the United States Senate is long forgotten, except by "dog lovers" who fondly recall the eulogy of Old Drum.

Vets Mail Bag

Over 5,000,000 World War II and Korean Conflict veterans who hold GI life insurance may now attach a new type of total disability income provision to their policies in return for a small additional premium cost, Veterans Administration announced.

The new type of GI policy rider was authorized by Public Law 55-678, effective November 1, 1953.

Under the new law, VA explained, policyholders who become totally disabled from any cause before age 60 and while the new rider is in effect, will receive an income of \$10 per month for each \$1,000 face amount of the GI policy.

Operations

By NELSON REED

Once had one of those operations you don't talk about. Leastways you never offer to show anybody the scar. First signed papers saying I was in my right mind. Next day when the "dope" wore off had serious doubts. Early Christian Martyrs only got hot lead in their veins. Lots worse places.

Took away my clothes and hung "short shirt" around my neck.

Pogo

Trigger Happy

By FLORENCE JENKINS

Autumn's glorious golden days in our high desert country are anticipated with a certain amount of apprehension by California Oregon Power Company people every year.

Too many hunters take down their trusty rifles and head for the hills. The roads are good and there is a compulsion to try that gun just once or twice during the last few days before the deer hunting season opens.

Copco is plagued with the results of that idle fire in the foothills around Klamath Falls.

Sam Ritchey, Klamath district manager for Copco, says his company has toyed with the idea of making up paper targets to be given away with every hunting license or box of shells so the marksmen can post them on snags or dead stumps and bang away.

High voltage wires outlined against the sky are a dangerous target, he points out. If the sniper successfully severs the wire, the whipping line may take his charge if he is near enough. The charge of electricity is almost certain to set fire to any dry grass on the ground and a serious forest fire can result. Coupled with the danger to life and property is the inconvenience of the power interruption to industry and the activities of the community.

Wheels stop turning. The light over the surgeon's operating table is out and the dentist's drill is stilled. Your daily newspaper may be late and the cake in the cook's wife's oven falls flat.

Those are just isolated results of a power line shot in two by an insulator shattered by gunfire.

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

Kick By Horse

Kills Performer

NEW YORK (AP)—Rodeo performer William Boag of Weiser, Idaho, died here Tuesday of injuries suffered when he was kicked by a horse.

Boag, 26, was kicked in the head and chest when a horse he was riding fell during competition at the Madison Square Garden Rodeo.

Survivors include the widow, Clara, and his father, Charles Boag of Portland, Ore.

Boag, who operated a farm near Weiser, was starting to get off a horse called "Sunflower" when the accident occurred.

STEAMSHIP LOST

VALPARAISO, Chile (AP)—The newest and largest steamship in the Chilean merchant navy was believed lost today after fire forced passengers and crew to abandon ship.

The 8,679-ton Lebu was sailing off Caldera, Chile, 450 miles north of Valparaiso.

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No Red Demands For Talks Feature Of Current Crisis

By K. C. THALER

United Press International
LONDON (UPI) — One of the startling features in the current Far East crisis has been the total absence of Soviet suggestions for a high-level conference.

It has been the Kremlin's strategy since 1954 to call for a conference, preferably a foreign ministers' meeting, at the slightest provocation.

Since the advent to power of Nikita Khrushchev it was the demand for a "summit" conference which had been raised at almost any opportunity.

The last time it happened was a little over six weeks ago when the Soviet premier and party boss demanded a summit parley to debate the Middle East crisis.

Nothing has been heard since. The Soviet has recoiled and does not even react to any Western nodding for a high-level, East-West meeting.

Diplomats with a long record of East-West negotiations recall it was Russia which prompted the conference in Geneva in 1954 at the height of the Indochina crisis. Then the Soviets urged a summit conference which finally came to pass in Geneva in 1955.

Since then the summit theme was almost constantly on Khrushchev's lips, until they were sealed after his secret meeting with Red Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung at Peking last month.

The U. S. and Britain, reversing the roles, recently have produced Russia formally for a resumption of pre-summit negotiations in Moscow which were adjourned in July, but no reply has been received. Khrushchev promised one, but has remained silent.

The "normal" practice would have been for Khrushchev to ask for a high-level or preferably a summit meeting on the current Far East crisis. However, the indications from the Soviets were they are anything but keen on such a course now.

This emerged clearly during a meeting last week in New York between British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

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