

The Indianapolis Times

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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Cloud-Hopping With Gliders Is Becoming a Popular Pastime.

THE newest sport is "cloud flying." Aeronautical experts expect to become exceedingly popular in the next decade.

It is carried on by means of a glider or motorless plane.

The pioneer work in the field was done on the other side of the ocean by Robert Kronfeld, Austrian ace.

Edwin W. Heale describes cloud flying in his excellent new book, "The Book of Gliders." He writes: "The suction which lifts motorless planes when they pass below cumulus clouds was familiar to aviators for years before the soaring pilots began to make use of it."

"Such cumulus clouds always crown powerful columns of rising air. The great cauliflower-shaped masses seem to boil, an effect caused by the warm air piling up from below."

This air bears moisture evaporated from water or damp earth. When it meets a cold layer of air or when it has risen high enough to cool itself, the moisture is condensed into tiny droplets and the cloud mass is formed.

"The speed of the warm air in the ascending columns increases as it approaches the cloud. Sometimes it is rising at 15 feet a second, sufficient to carry aloft a soaring plane."

A Popular Trick

THE trick is for the glider pilot to get into the rising column of air at the base of the cumulus cloud and permit it to carry his craft up into the air.

When that column has carried the glider as high as it will go, the pilot glides toward another cloud, repeating the process once more.

The trick is particularly popular in Germany, where such tactics have been christened "cloud hopping."

Teale writes: "During some of their flights, German cloud-hoppers have made long journeys across the sky, gliding from one up-column to another under cumulus clouds."

"Because of the height at which a take-off must be made, the only place where much success has been attained in cloud flying has been at the Wasserkuppe in the Rhoen mountains of Germany, where pilots are able to start at 2,000 feet."

For experimental purposes, soaring clubs may be towed high into the air by motored planes and cut loose in the neighborhood of cumulus clouds."

Cloud flying still is in the experimental stage. Undoubtedly there is much to be learned yet about it.

Picking the Cloud

THE difficulty in cloud flying, writes Teale, is to find the right cloud to hitch to.

"On hot summer afternoons, cumulus clouds form and disappear rapidly," he writes. "Their life often is very short. Their shape is changing all the time."

"Frequently a pilot steers his machine beneath a cloud and arrives just as it begins to dissolve. Then he has to swoop back to earth again. Or, a pilot may head for a cloud and by the time he arrives, find it has disappeared."

"Just about the only rule that helps in the selection is: The up-currents are strongest just as the cloud is forming."

"Outside of getting to a cloud as soon as possible after it begins to take shape, the rules for finding the right cloud are few. It still is largely guesswork."

"Even after a pilot has found a strong rising column of air beneath a cumulus cloud, he must be closely on his guard."

"If he becomes interested in something else and fails to watch the cloud, it may change its shape suddenly so that the finds himself dropping outside the area of rising air."

Sailplanes, designed especially for cloud flying, are being constructed in Germany, Teale said.



BATTLE KINGS MOUNTAIN October 7

ON Oct. 7, 1780, a little force of Americans, calling itself the "Army of the West," attacked the British at Kings mountain, a high ridge on the boundary line between North and South Carolina, and scored a memorable victory, one of the most heartening of the Revolutionary war, the 150th anniversary of which will be celebrated on the old battlefield this year.

Just before this triumph the Colonists were passing through what historians called the darkest period of the Revolution.

The British had been victorious in the south, the republic bankrupt and our soldiers grumbling because of poor pay and threatening to revolt.

To lower further the morale of the American troops, Benedict Arnold, an able general, turned traitor and joined the British.

It was at this time that the British Major Ferguson was sent with 1,100 men to cut off a body of patriots then retreating from Georgia to the highlands of North Carolina.

Ferguson penetrated too far into the mountains and was met by a swarm of backwoodsmen.

In the ensuing battle of Kings mountain, Ferguson was killed and those of his men who were not killed or wounded were taken prisoners.

This victory proved to be the turning point of the war in the south. A new army soon was raised for the south and placed under the command of Nathaniel Greene.

Daily Thought

Then said the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also one of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not.—St. John 18:17.

It is the just decree of heaven that a traitor never sees his danger until his ruin is at hand.—Metastasio.

Where is the geographic center of continental United States. It is in the eastern part of Smith county, Kansas.

Right Under His Nose!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Children Grow More in Summer, Fall

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEN
Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health

THE average person is likely to take it for granted that a child grows constantly from birth to maturity at a fairly even rate and to be little concerned with the factors concerning growth at any given time.

Actually, children, like plants, grow much more during some seasons than during others. Their rate of growth seems influenced by the weather, the sunlight, exercise, diet, and many other factors.

For at least a quarter century it has been known that children tend to grow more during the summer than during the winter, the fact being emphasized by German investigators who made a special study of the subject.

Thus, one German investigator who examined 1,000 German infants found the increase in weight much greater during the late summer and autumn than in the spring and early summer or in the winter.

An American physician who studied several thousand children in Boston during the period of their school life noted a seasonal difference in the weight increase, the September to January period averaging 3.4 pounds in boys, whereas the February to June period averaged .82 pounds. He found, in general, a loss of weight in April, May, and June.

An increase in height is found to take place rapidly from April to June, slowing down in the hot summer months and still more in the winter months.

The figures recently were checked for 650 children, aged 7 to 9, in four Scottish towns. All these children had an increase in height in the three months from March to the

end of June, more so than in any other period.

The smallest increase in height took place in October, November and December, the greatest increase in weight took place in July, August and September, and the second greatest in October, November and December.

In the early part of the summer, namely, April, May and June, 25 per cent of the boys actually lost weight, although they increased in height.

Such studies as these emphasize the importance of a study of normal conditions before attempting to draw any conclusions as to loss of weight or height in relationship to diet and disease.

Unless one knows the normal curve of growth and of height, it is not possible to venture any opinion as to the influence of sunlight and ultra-violet rays on increases in weight or height at any given period.

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most interesting writers and are presented without regard to their agreement or disagreement with editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

Gladly enough he volunteered to be the top of the heap, but when the pose was set machine guns from both sides began to zip away at them.

Of course, it was an insane idea, but the burlesque had a pleasant, healthy bite. I have no desire to dig too deeply under surfaces, but I felt that the strange and zestful comradeship of the mixed group between the lines contained at least an implied satire of the tragic farcicality of war.

To say we are all acrobats under the skin is merely another way of saying we are all brothers.

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IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

I FEEL sorry about the death of Jack Donahue, 38, because he was a man of great charm and a superb actor. His performance was too short by many years.

And the poignant part of such a passing is the fact that this gay comedian carries his tricks away with him. It would be entirely impossible for me, or even those who knew him better, to describe in any precise words the spirit and mood of Donahue's dancing.

When actors die the word "genius" is often plucked and offered as a last tribute. We hail too many geniuses. I've never known the boundaries of the noun. But I must say that Donahue did something in dancing unlike anybody I ever have seen.

For my taste there was a person who could make a step or a posture so hilariously funny, but of course, Jack Donahue was not only a comedian dancer. It was the combination of burlesque and pure beauty of line and movement which distinguished Donahue.

"Dancing

FOR instance, he professed to find the so-called interpretative dancing of the Duncanes sheer folly. Many of his most successful numbers were based upon mocking parodies of the hop-skip-and-a-jump style which has been seen by all of us under dim lights in Carnegie hall. He had his own version of "Spring Song" ballets.

And yet the curious part of this was that Donahue derived much of his art from this school which he parodied so boisterously and successfully.

In spirit he was a grand-nephew even of Isadora herself. I mean there was nothing more grotesque in Donahue's version of line and rhythm as he spoofed the modern dancers.

Given a leopard skin and a symphony orchestra, and he could have made even the esthetes watch him in pop-eyed wonder.

Rhapsody

ONCE I saw him do one of the most extraordinary pieces of interpretative dancing the stage has known. It was at a Lambs' Gambol. He undertook to translate Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" from sound into visual movement.

Of course, the object was one of mockery. The stunt, I imagine, was largely impromptu. But as he warmed up to the task, the music took hold of him. He was sensitive to music from the tip of his ears down to his toes. You could set your watch by his "raps."

Two always thought that the "Rhapsody" was a swell piece. I believe it has about as good a chance as any modern American composition to survive.

And Donahue was up to it. He was with it neck and neck. When I hear the Gershwin lament of all ways makes me feel mournful again I'll see Donahue gliding and twisting across the little Lambs' Club stage. He was adorned by the music as if each note had been a vine leaf.

More Funny

AND when I say he was a superb actor I mean quite a bit more than calling him a funny fellow. Of course, he was that. I'm glad I saw

"Sons o' Guns" many times last season.

Donahue acted as master of ceremonies for a benefit we gave at his theater last spring. I had a chance to watch him work from front and back.

There was a scene in that show which seems to me almost the high spot in inventive foolery. My impression is that Donahue was the originator of the notion.

The audience saw him in "No Man's Land" bringing back three German prisoners. By some Alice in Wonderland sort of magic, they all turned out to be acrobats, and while resting between shell holes they undertook to teach Donahue a pyramid trick.

Gladly enough he volunteered to be the top of the heap, but when the pose was set machine guns from both sides began to zip away at them.

Of course, it was an insane idea, but the burlesque had a pleasant, healthy bite. I have no desire to dig too deeply under surfaces, but I felt that the strange and zestful comradeship of the mixed group between the lines contained at least an implied satire of the tragic farcicality of war.

To say we are all acrobats under the skin is merely another way of saying we are all brothers.

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Times Readers Voice Views

Editor Times—There can be no question that all people would be better off morally, physically and politically if the habit of using intoxicants as a beverage would be eliminated. Every day, every week, every year, the proof of the fact, viz. The Times editorials and its columnists all knock the eighteenth amendment.

It may be admitted that the amendment is not the very best plan that can be devised, but the second best plan for the accomplishment of any purpose is better, if backed up, than even a better plan if unsupported.

With a different attitude of newspapers, politicians and other people of influence during the last ten years the conditions would be vastly better now.

Newspapers are largely the leaders of public opinion, and therefore, are largely responsible for the trend of public sentiment on all policies of political interest—moral, social and political.

A long pull, a strong pull, with "The Times" and other influential newspapers as wheelhorses could and would pull the country out of the present mire.

Should you do so, your consciences would sing with approval, "Happy man! Happy man!" Conscious of having shared in a work that will be a great blessing to husbands, wives, mothers and children, public welfare the country over.

"Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished."

I read and like The Times for its vigor in many things, but I don't like its stand on the eighteenth amendment.

SOL M. GLICK.
Columbus, Ind.

Editor Times—In an open letter to the press of the state, among other things, a leading politician said: "The conservation department has served the state marvelously and made the revenues more than pay the cost. It has not cost the taxpayers of Indiana one cent."

Surely the newspapers of the state will not sit idly by and let this statement go unanswered. We know that it has served the sportsmen of the state marvelously, by not giving us anything for our money—not even a pair of quail, a pair of quail or a fun-bearing animal.

The hunters and fishermen have donated and donated, only to see our fish and game rapidly disappearing. We know that some parts of the department have added to the burden of the taxpayers, and that the legislature of 1929 appropriated

near \$1,000,000 out of the general fund for the department of conservation. We know that that department has become a political football at the expense of the sportsmen and the taxpayers of the state.

In a claim we made that the Brown county reservation for a park was purchased by fish and game funds, and that it was not a place where sportsmen could participate or even enjoy, the politicians reared up and howled and said our statement was at fault.

I call your attention to the speech of Governor Ed Jackson before the general assembly of Indiana, Jan. 11, 1929, viz.: "To do this the conservation department has purchased 12,000 acres in Brown county with fish and game earnings." We thought then and we believe now that Governor Jackson knew what he was talking about. Those "earnings" were from sale of hunting and fishing licenses, of course.

The sportsmen of the state believe in speaking the truth relative to the things we love in the great outdoors, and these recent observations by our politicians have been as obnoxious as they have been misleading.

H. H. EVANS.
Newcastle, Ind.

Questions and Answers

How should cork floors be cleaned? They may be kept clean by sweeping with an ordinary broom or floor brush. If washing is necessary, use a warm solution of a small amount of neutral soap in water. Sandpaper or steel wool is sometimes used to remove stains.

What is a herbivorous animal? One that feeds only on vegetable matter.

How many Hungarians of the Magyar race are there in the United States? According to the 1920 census there were 499,449.

How long did the great Chicago fire last? What amount of damage was done? It began Sunday, Oct. 8, 1871, and was one of the most destructive fires in the history of the United States. Breaking out in a barn on De Koven street, and fanned by a gale, it spread rapidly and raged uncontrolled for almost twenty-four hours, sweeping over 2,000 acres, destroying 17,450 buildings, causing

two hundred deaths besides great suffering and destruction of a population of 324,000 more than 70,000 were rendered homeless, and almost one-third of the property of the city, \$190,000,000 was destroyed. The fire was not extinguished until rain fell about 10 o'clock at night, Monday, Oct. 9.

Who is the king of Albania? Zogu I.

What is the value of a Maine centennial half-dollar dated 1920? It is catalogued at 75 cents.

Who was the American ambassador to Cuba during the Pan-American conference in Havana in 1928? Noble Brandon Judah.

What is the nationality and meaning of the name "Heggs"? It is a Norse-Teutonic name of very ancient origin, meaning "eagle of the wood."

Where and when was the movie "The Hunchback of Notre-Dame" made? In South Australia, Sept. 17, 1929.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Selfishness of the United States Was Partly Responsible for the R-101 Disaster.

I WONDER how many Americans realize just what part their government played in the R-101 disaster, not deliberately, of course, but by the pursuit of a narrow, short-sighted, selfish policy.

Admitting that the ship would have cracked up anyway, either because of structural defects, or poor piloting, there seems little doubt that many more, if not all, of her passengers and crew would have escaped but for the fire.

Hydrogen, and hydrogen alone, is responsible for the more horrifying aspects of this tragedy, and hydrogen would not have been used, except as our own government has made it necessary for foreign countries to do so by forbidding the exportation of helium.

U. S. Has Monopoly

HELIUM is a noninflammable, nonexplosive gas, and the only one of its kind light enough to be practical for airships. It is the by-product of a certain variety of natural gas, and was discovered through experiments intended to determine why that gas would not burn.

Thus far, no appreciable supply of helium has been discovered outside the United States, which means that our government enjoys a natural monopoly of it, and can deny its use to the rest of the world by the simple process of passing a law.

That is exactly what our government has done, in spite of all it has had to say about international co-operation and fair play.

Bad Policy

THE idea of establishing an iron-clad monopoly of helium can be justified only by one of two reasons: First, to gain a military advantage in time of war; second, to guarantee a commercial advantage in time of peace.

No matter how such an idea may appeal to us from a purely patriotic standpoint, it is a purely selfish policy from a humanitarian standpoint, and equally short-sighted from an economic standpoint.

Resisting the claim to stand for everything we claim to stand for with regard to international trade and exchange. How can we make other people believe that we are for the common good, the interests of humanity, and improved conditions throughout the world, if we deny them the use of the only known safe gas for airships?

Moffett Is Right

IF the supply were small we might have some excuse for such a niggardly policy, but as Admiral Moffett points out there is plenty and to spare.

"The disaster undoubtedly was due to the R-101 being inflated with hydrogen," says Admiral Moffett. "The United States is the only nation in the world possessing helium in unlimited quantities. The present law prohibits its exportation."

"I would urge the repeal of that law and allow it to be exported in time of peace to all nations, especially the British and Germans, who have had the vision and courage to carry on with rigid airships, despite disasters and the handicap and danger of hydrogen."

Talks Good Sense

IF that were a professional pacifist talking, you might find some excuse for dismissing it as a mere outburst of sentimentality, but by no stretch of the imagination can Admiral Moffett be catalogued as such.

He is a hard-boiled old seadog, schooled to the art of war, and he is interested particularly in aeronautics. When he says we are wrong in trying to bottle up helium and gain a temporary advantage by exposing other people to death and disaster, you can rest assured that it is from good sense, not emotionality.

Like all other intelligent men, Admiral Moffett realizes that aviation belongs to no one but the whole world, and that it holds no promise of constructive value, save to humanity in general.

Further than that, he realizes that it represents too big and risky a venture, especially where dirigibles are concerned, to be carried on successfully, without the co-operation and support of all civilized governments.

Blow at Aviation

Destruction of the R-101 represents something worse than the loss of so many dollars to Great Britain, or even the loss of so many lives. It represents a setback to aviation in the dirigible field, no matter how hard you pretend it does not, a shock to public confidence, an excuse for capital not to invest, and chiefly because of the revolting circumstances under which its forty odd victims met death.

We Americans have reason to feel peculiarly humiliated over that phase of the tragedy, because we could have prevented it, or a large part of it, at least by permitting the sale of helium, by permitting other people to share in a treasure which God Almighty gave us.

Two hundred deaths besides great suffering and destruction of a population of 324,000 more than 70,000 were rendered homeless, and almost one-third of the property of the city, \$190,000,000 was destroyed. The fire was not extinguished until rain fell about 10 o'clock at night, Monday, Oct. 9.

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The Record

Not very flattering to the intelligence of the voters of this state is the appeal by leading candidates on the Republican ticket for re-election on the basis of their official records.

In the record of the more prominent candidates is every reason why they should be defeated, not elected. It is true that some of the nonpolitical offices have been well administered. The clerk of the supreme court has served well. So have the two appellate judges, whose decisions have been singularly free from political considerations.

But in every other department, economy has been sacrificed to politics, inefficiency has been promoted, there has been a thorough disregard of the public welfare.

The secretary of state would find it difficult to select a specific act of importance which commands public respect. The limit was reached when thousands of dollars were paid as a copyright on drivers' licenses whose preparation, under the law, was the duty of the secretary of state himself.

The state police have been purely political, and always under suspicion. His administration of the blue sky law leaves much to be desired.

The auditor of state has failed to collect thousands of dollars of gasoline fees. No exposure was made by this department. Whatever has been reclaimed from the gasoline bootleggers—and it is a small percentage of what has been stolen—has been due to newspapers or volunteer organizations.

The records of the departments under the Governor are such as to demand the election of a Democratic house, which may check some of the wild expenditures and investigate the conduct of the state highway department.

These candidates must have thorough contempt for the voters if they believe that citizens will be deluded by an appeal to such a record. On their records, these candidates should be defeated unanimously.

Seven Gallons

Did your baby get his seven gallons of liquor, wines and beer last year? And did mom get hers? And did little Johnny get his? How about sister Sue? Did she imbibe her full quota?

If not, there has been skulduggery somewhere along the line, and some one drank more than his share. For no less a person than Prohibition Director Woodcock has revealed that the people of this country consumed 876,320,718 gallons of distilled liquors, wines, and malt liquors in the twelve months ended June 30, 1930.

That is equal to seven gallons for every man, woman and child in the United States, or thirty-five gallons for a family of five.

The term "liquor" must be defined broadly, of course, it must include Jamaica ginger, which paralyzes consumers; poison alcohol, which makes them blind; and "white mud," which brings forth menageries when no circus is near. Also it means taking into account that alcohol which has been poisoned deliberately through governmental decree and which later has joined the flood of illicit liquor.

We have a feeling that the baby's colic required something less than seven gallons. We do not for a moment believe that either Clarence True Wilson or equally arid Scott McBride called even once for a title of the same."

We feel justified in checking out a good many of the boys and girls of the grammar schools; likewise, a goodly number of students in high schools—and some in colleges.

So, after having eliminated those who were too young to fight for their share, and those who ride the wagon from choice, there must have been considerable more than seven gallons apiece for the imbibers.

A host of wretched ones depart for Europe, Asia, and Africa every year. Who drinks the share due them in this country in their absence? Seven gallons. That's 28 quarts, 56 pints, 112 half pints.

It's your fair share, sir—or madam.

If, however, you are one of those who spend their money for food and clothing, rent and payments on the radio, while there is not a single gallon of liquor in the house, the fault is yours. We've told you what is coming to you in this land of equal opportunity and equal rights.

It has been said that man is the architect