





## DEFORMED HEAD TO SAVE INFANT'S LIFE

### Beauty Not First Idea of Disfigurement.

Although not so common as it was in years gone by, there are still numerous places in the world where deformities are manufactured for various purposes. This forms the theme of an interesting article which recently appeared in the Popular Science Magazine by Victor Raymond.

The deliberate flattening of the human head, for instance, says the article, continues to enjoy something like universality among savage and semi-barbarous people. Naturally, the operation is carried out during childhood of the subject, when the skull is still soft and malleable. The effect is to make the skull long, or short and broad, according to the particular method favored.

Nowadays, the head so disfigured is regarded as an object of beauty, but beauty was not the initiatory cause of the practice. Indeed, the flattened head was not originally a deliberately arranged result at all.

The custom dates back to the time when the man-pack still wandered from camping place to camping place. During such treks the head of the newborn babe must often have lolled in a dangerous manner, and, no doubt, sometimes resulted in a broken neck. To prevent this it became customary to secure the infant's head by some means during the trek. The flattened head was an unlooked-for product. Time passed, man gave up his nomadism and acquired settled habits, but the flattened head had become a tribal characteristic, and so was perpetuated.

The method employed to flatten the head varies with the district. In some places the child's head is strapped against the headboard of its cradle. In other places the necessary pressure is applied by bandages. Some tribes employ a contrivance made up of two boards. By the Klemantans of Borneo a device is used which flattens the forehead, the object being to give the face, as near as possible, a half-moon shape.

The device, known as Tadal, is secured firmly to the infant's head when it is a month old, but the pressure is applied only when the child sleeps. Contrary to what one would expect, this deformation does not appear to have any injurious effects.

Many savage peoples render the faces of their womenfolk hideous by grotesquely disfiguring their lips. As with the artificial deformation of the head, the operation is carried out during childhood.

The girl's lips are pierced, straws being inserted in the holes. Next day another straw is added, and, when the holes have been sufficiently enlarged, pieces of wood with the thickness of a pencil are plugged in. This process continues until eventually the holes are capable of containing large disks. Filled thus, the lips at first project horizontally from the face, but as the disks grow in size, the facial muscles become unable to support them, and the lips droop.

In the Lake Tchad district of central Africa, the disk in the lower lip eventually reaches the size of a dinner plate, the whole hanging like a shield on the breast. The disk in the upper lip attains the dimensions of a saucer, and droops similarly.

### Pocket Flask Revived

Americans have revived the pocket flask. Flasks are made here today in more than 100 different designs. The present forms are the outcome of endless experimentation.

Man discovered the need of a container for carrying refreshments at a very early period, long before he had acquired the necessary skill to construct them. The first flasks were doubtless made from horns, by plugging the open end. When man learned to use metal and make glass he applied the materials to the construction of flasks to fit into holsters or saddles, leather or wicker cases, safeguarding them against breakage. Flasks were often made of leather in the sixteenth century.—New York World.

### Ancient Ceremonial Masks

What is believed to be the first collection of ceremonial masks ever gathered from the regions of the upper Amazon has been brought to America by Arthur H. Fisher, a Philadelphia naturalist, who made an expedition into South America in the interests of the Museum of the American Indian. Heve foundation. The pieces represent beasts and birds as well as human subjects, and are curiously fashioned and painted. They were obtained from a tribe in Peru. Pieces of pottery were also collected. To the uninitiated, the masks bear a strange resemblance to the figures appearing on totem poles, or to the crude designs made by children.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

### Defect in Mental Tests

Doctor Binet, the French psychologist, is called the father of intelligence tests, now so much in vogue in American schools and colleges. Binet, after prolonged experiments, is quoted as having cautioned educators that tests are never absolute and cannot be wholly depended upon to give a pupil's true mental rating. Teachers, he urged in effect, should rely to a large extent on their own judgment, using intelligence tests not as a crutch but rather as a convenient point of departure in any effort to help youth find itself.

## Changes of Color in Hot Springs Terraces

It is with surprise that visitors to the Yellowstone National park, who return after an absence of a year or more, find that many changes have occurred in the appearance of the colored terraces at the Mammoth hot springs. Indeed, such alterations occur sometimes in a period of a few weeks.

Now the terraces consist of a series of basins, each set being a few feet lower than its predecessor, and the hot water from the springs at the top of the terraces flows from basin to basin, depositing its chalky sediment at the rims, thus slowly building them up. Wherever the flow of water continues constant for a considerable time the fluted edges and sides of the basins become beautifully colored.

The variegated hues are mainly due to the vegetable matter, and so, if the flow of water ceases, these bright colors rapidly fade, leaving the terraces milk white. In a little while the edges and walls of the dry basins begin to crumble, and the most beautiful forms disappear in white dust and chalklike fragments.

One of the favorite terraces at the hot springs, called the Minerva terrace, exhibits these changes in a marked degree, because of its conspicuous position.

Sometimes, owing to a failure of the flow of water, the Minerva terrace parts with its splendid basins, and resembles a set of fluted basins, carved out of snow-white marble. But when the water begins to run freely again the colors return with all their former vividness and beauty.

The changes in the flow of the water seem to depend, in part at least, upon conditions prevailing in the heated rocks underlying the terraces.—Washington Star.

### Tragedy in Bird World

The age-old instinct of kind to protect kind was portrayed for a few of the guests of the Fort Shelby hotel whose rooms faced First street. A small pigeon flopped on a ledge of the old Masonic temple and immediately a larger, dark-colored pigeon alighted beside it. The small bird was unable to rise and flapped its wings weakly, apparently hoping that by pressing the wings against the stone that would lift it up. The other bird, meanwhile, pushed and put its head beneath the other, trying also to lift it. The little drama continued for almost an hour. Then the wings quit flapping and the only movement of its feathers was caused by the wind. Still the large bird remained and stood guard. As the other birds flew past he seemed to try to signal to them. He was standing there in the morning evidently unaware that the other bird was dead.—Detroit News.

### Almost Too Expressive

A Franklin mother and grandmother had invested in gowns for a party, and, after trying them on, called in the young son and grandson of the household for his opinion. Mother was small and slender, and grandmother weighed almost 200 pounds.

"Son, how do you like my new gown?" asked his mother.

"Oh, mother, you look just like a fairy," the son replied.

"Now, dearie," said his grandmother, "how do I look in my new mauve crepe?"

"Good gracious, gram," he answered, "you're a regular knockout."

"Well, if a child of mine had talked like that, I know what I'd do," said the grandmother.

### Unbreakable Mirrors

A broken mirror invites seven years of bad luck, according to popular superstition, but in the case of an eastern inventor, it led to success. Seeing a young woman crack the small mirror in her vanity case, he was inspired with the idea of making mirrors that would not break. He succeeded in fashioning one along the lines of the automobile lamp reflectors and it proved strong under severe tests. To keep the powder from spilling out of the vanity bag, he mixed a binder with it and produced a cake form that would not spill. Since then, several other things have been devised by him.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

### Liquid Lenses

Glass shells filled with liquid have been devised by a French investigator as substitutes for ordinary lenses. The invention is regarded as an important one, particularly in the field of astronomy. By the French process, a lens equivalent to one of the usual ground type, that would cost more than \$100,000 and take several years to complete, can be made in a few weeks and for less than \$1,000, it is reported. The fluid substance is enclosed between two hard-glass surfaces. The new lenses can also be made for opera glasses, cameras, microscopes and like uses.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

### Fish Forages on Land

The Field museum at Chicago recently received 500 specimens of mammals, reptiles, frogs, birds, fishes and insects from the Field-Conover-Everard expedition to central Africa. Among the specimens is a tropical catfish which is equipped with modified gills enabling it to stay out of the water for a considerable period. During the night it frequently climbs out of the water and forages for food. It generally leaves the water in the early morning when the dew is heaviest.

## MYTH AND LEGEND IN FLOWERS' NAMES

### Interesting to Note Their Derivations.

To understand the meaning of the name of a flower is to enhance its beauty and attractiveness. In the name, quite often a botanist's lifelong devotion to nature is epitomized, writes Hannah Grice, in the London Daily Express.

Among these we find the rambling purple wistaria, called after the American, Casper Wistar; the dahlia, after Andrew Dahl, the Swede, who discovered it in Mexico; the camellia, after Camelli, who brought the flower from the East.

Round others there hangs the glamour of Old-world myths and folklore. From the time when the fairies were called the good folk we have the name foxglove, which really means folks-glove. Mint was not always just a prosaic appetizer; once it was an ethereally beautiful girl named Menthe, who was transformed into this plant by her rival, the wrathful goddess Proserpina; and hyacinth is another regretful example of moral frailty when in combat with the wrath of the gods, for from the blood of the boy, Hyacinthus, sprang this flower, when he was destroyed by jealous Zephyr (the west wind).

In the garden, in the tangled hedges, and sometimes on a wind-swept heath, fallen empires claim remembrance through a flower's name. Anemone is the old Greek, meaning "wind flower," so named because this plant flourishes in exposed places. Aster means "star," clematis is from the Greek "Klema," a twig. As the heliotrope is supposed always to turn sunwards it is composed of two words, "helios," sun, and "tropos," turning.

Marigold is named after the Virgin Mary. Daisy is the Anglo-Saxon "daegesaga"—the day's eye. Lilac breathes of the East and is called lellak in Turkey and lilaj in Persia; tulip comes from the Persian "Thoulyban," turban. Pansy is the French "pensee," thought, and the mignonette smells sweeter with the knowledge that it is the diminutive form of "Mignon," darling.

If we hesitate a moment by the homely thyme plant and let our imagination build the walls of a Roman temple round us, down its dim and columned vastness will come the pungent smell of thyme, for pagan priests are burning it on their altars for the sake of its fragrance. Its name comes from the Roman "thymus," sacrifice.

### Weather Runs Clock

A clock that is worked by the weather—seemingly the nearest approach to the secret of perpetual motion—is being taken on a tour through Europe to see how the varying climatic conditions affect it. A difference of two degrees is sufficient to insure perfect regularity. The clock winds itself up and can continue indefinitely without stopping. The remarkable timepiece is the invention of a Zurich clockmaker. It was tested for about a year at the Federal Polytechnic institute at Zurich and then was brought to London, where experiments were made with it on the roof of a London hotel. The clock went perfectly while here and was still going when its owner carried it to Berlin for a further test.—Chicago News.

### Filipino Songs in Concert

Sixteen Filipino folk songs have been gathered and prepared for orchestra by Dr. Alexander Lippay, a prominent musician of Manila. They were played recently by the augmented Philippine Constabulary band at Manila, and met with such enthusiastic approval that they may be introduced into America and Europe. Doctor Lippay, who is thirty-four years old, gathered his material by visiting the Filipinos in all parts of the island and has included the songs of the Moros, the Igorrotes, the Bagobos and other tribes. In one number he introduced native instruments, including the gabangs and gongs of the Moros and Bagobos and the devilsticks of the hillmen.

### High Hat Crosses Seine

The left bank of the Seine is to have its Champs Elysees, writes the correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor. This is the name given to the park which is being completed on the Champ-de-Mars. A few years ago this corner of Paris was a dreary waste. Then fine houses and avenues were erected. The central part of the ground remained rather desolate, but gradually there has been a transformation. Gardens have been laid out and building plots have been sold.

It is hoped that during the year the work will be finished, and from the Trocadero to the Ecole Militaire there will be a pleasant thoroughfare which will truly deserve the name of "Champs Elysees of the Left Bank."

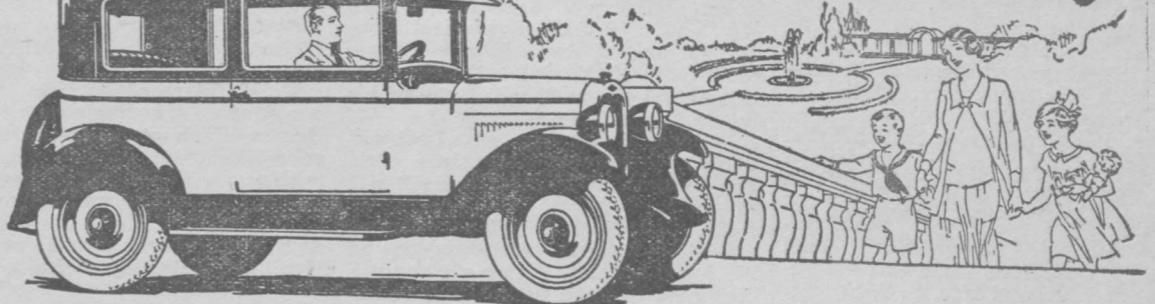
### Monkey Jazz Leader Elusive

Franko, the monkey leader of a jazz band, is still missing since his escape with others from the Underground station of London, and a reward of \$250 has been offered for his return. Franko was valuable as a performer, and as a leader of the other simians. "Since he has been gone the monkeys are all out of hand—obstinate and sulky," his trainer said. "Whatever he did they would do; whatever pleased him, they were content with. Monkeys and men, they're both alike in this. Some fellows are born to lead, some to follow."

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