

A Culture of Improvement

August 6th, 2016

By Mike Bentley

Round 6

1. An exclusive club in New York was named for Pierre Michaux, a possible inventor of these things. Michaux's invention was nicknamed the "bone-shaker". These devices were used by a much-loathed group of people called "scorchers". A powerful lobbying group named LAW was originally founded to represent people who used these things. One of the first men to manufacture these devices, "Colonel" Albert Augustus Pope, found success with the Columbia line of them. Companies which made these things were the first to depict the "New (*) Woman" outside of the home in ads and took out 1/6th of all ads in the 1890s. John Boyd Dunlop reinvented a rubber device first used in these things. The "safety" variety of these devices removed the direct-drive mechanism present in the penny-farthings, replacing them with a gear chain and also evened out the wheel sizes. For 10 points, name these two-wheeled human-powered vehicles.

ANSWER: bicycle [or bike; or high wheel bike; or safety bike; or Velocipede; or tricycles; accept penny-farthing before mentioned] <1>

2. Melville Clark invented the standard format used by these devices. John McTammany turned to making voting machines after he couldn't find a market for one of these devices. These devices were improvements on an impractical machine called a Cylindrichord which had to be wheeled out of a cabinet. The first of these devices to become popular in the United States was Edward H. Leveaux's Angelus. Early ads for these devices promised "perfection without practice". These devices read from a Mignon, which Edwin Welte based on a (*) Jacquard loom. Pneumatic components of the first of these types of devices prevented them from having different types of dynamic levels. Consumers would purchase rolls for use in these devices. Electric motors are used in these devices to operate the pedals. For 10 points, name these musical instruments that were capable of automatically playing pre-programmed keyboard music.

ANSWER: player pianos [or pianola] <2>

3. A scandal named for this man causes Lord Reginald Fitzambey to have a nervous breakdown in George Bernard Shaw's *The Music Cure*. In the real-life version of that scandal, Godfrey Isaacs gave David Lloyd George and other British politicians below-market shares in a company named for this man. This man's Patent No. 7777 was overturned in 1943 due to the prior art of John Stone. He names a company founded by his cousin Jameson Davis that linked South Foreland and Wimereux. This non-German co-winner of the (*) 1909 Nobel Prize in Physics revolutionized the news coverage of the 1899 America's Cup and was made a marquess by Victor Emmanuel III in 1929. Jack Phillips and Harold Bride, employees of this man, used his best known invention to save lives on the *Titanic*. He'd sometimes make nighttime demonstrations of longwave transmissions. For 10 points, name this Italian inventor of wireless telegraphy.

ANSWER: Guglielmo Marconi [or Guglielmo Marconi, 1st Marquis of Marconi] <2>

4. A plaque now honors this project's champion, Joe Cahill. A young Graeme Thorne was kidnapped after his father, Bazile, won a lottery which had been established to fund this project. This project replaced a tram shed which had previously occupied the site. "Total Architecture" enthusiast Ove Arup's longest contract was for this project, and Arup helped figure out how to change some (*) parabolas in the original design to be self-supporting. This project, which went fourteen hundred percent over budget, had its original architect resign in the "Malice in Blunderland" incident in 1966, but the architect was ultimately awarded the 2003 Pritzker Prize. The Joan Sutherland Theatre is located in this building, whose "ribs" are made from concrete. For 10 points, name this shell-like building designed by Jorn Utzon near the Harbour Bridge in Australia.

ANSWER: Sydney Opera House <1>

5. This man once opened dozens of accounts under false names at a bank that offered \$500 to anyone who set up a new account. He died of throat cancer in Florida after fleeing to that state when authorities caught wind of his fraudulent "American-Indian Lottery" operated under the name of Pleasure Time Incorporated. His ingenious scheme to stash thousands of dollar bills in his home to win a radio serial number matching contest was foiled when he was burgled. This man's breakthrough came when he discovered that there was no penalty on the #4 and #8 squares on the (*) Big Board. In his most notable appearance, this man introduced himself as an ice cream truck driver from Ohio to host Peter Tomarken. CBS initially refused to pay this man, who was the subject of the GSN documentary *Big Bucks*. For 10 points, name this man who won \$110,237 by deciphering the pattern of *Press Your Luck*.

ANSWER: Michael Larson [or Paul Michael Larson] <3>

6. This company no longer offers employees at its Redwood City headquarters biweekly free house cleaning and three-week stints working in its overseas offices. Adam and Jamie from *Mythbusters* were the headliners at its fourth and final annual EC user conference in San Francisco. This company's apps *Food* and *Hello and Peek* failed to find a market. It took two years for this company to release its first post-acquisition update to PenUltimate, but that version was so bad it had to publicly apologize for it. Jason Kincaid wrote a blog post calling this company's flagship product a "Bug Ridden (*) Elephant", a reference to the animal used in its logo. It once partnered with Moleskine to offer an analog version of its signature product. This company's flagship product promises to help you "Remember Everything". For 10 points, name this company which publishes an eponymous note taking program.

ANSWER: Evernote <2>

7. A businessman with this surname issued a namesake memo on martial law while serving as Deputy Secretary of Defense in 1971. A man with this surname was the first named partner in a company bought by NEC in 1996 which infamously sold new PCs such as the Axcel 467 with pre-owned parts and was #1 on PCWorld's "Worst PCs of All Time". An author with this surname examined how businesses were making us "debt-ridden permanently discontented individuals" in a book which popularized the term "planned obsolescence". That same man with this surname documented how ad firms were hiring the title psychologists to sell us more stuff in one book. A man with this surname owned the Palo Alto (*) garage where the 200A was built. Vance, a critic with this surname, wrote *The Waste Makers* and *The Hidden Persuaders*. For 10 points, give this surname of Bill Hewlett's founding partner.

ANSWER: Packard [or Vance Packard; or Leon Packard (of Packard Bell infamy); or Dave Packard] <1>

8. Frederick Bakewell got rid of the pendulums in Alexander Bain's chemistry-powered one of these devices for an invention Bakewell demoed to general disinterest at the Crystal Palace in 1851. Exxon's subsidiary Qwip lost millions making these devices. In February 2016, a Twitter account for one of these devices at the University of Florida posted a video of itself playing a cover of Adele's "Hello". The aforementioned Bain machine of this type was successfully challenged in patent court for violating the (*) telegraph patent owned by Samuel Morse. The Kennedy administration killed Speed Mail, which was powered by this technology. These machines are still essential to National Signing Day for some reason. It took 6 minutes for one of the first of these devices to transmit a standard A4 page. For 10 points, name these devices which use modems to send images across telephone wires.

ANSWER: fax machines [or telecopying machine; or telefax machine; or facsimile machine; prompt on chemical telegram; prompt on Xerography machine; prompt on modem; do not accept "copying machine"] <1>

9. Probably the most popular software of this type today contains a horrible amount of glue code known as MacApp that longtime engineer Thomas Knoll hopes to refactor. Jasc Software specialized in making programs of this type. A children-focused application of this type included a character who would yell things like, "Espara un minuto!" and "I made a boo-boo, yeah!" The character of Undo Guy appeared in a series of programs of this type whose sequel included the Wacky TV mode. It's not a (*) level editor, but one program of this type also came with a music editor where you could place fire flowers and mushrooms as notes, as well as the mini-game *Gnat Attack*. That program of this type was bundled with the SNES Mouse accessory. Examples of these programs include *Lightroom*. For 10 points, *Kid Pix* and *Photoshop* are what types of software?

ANSWER: paint programs [or photo editing software; or image editing software; prompt on Photoshop programs before mentioned] <1>

10. A slogan promoting this type of campaign was kicked off with a Stevie Ray Vaughan ad at the 1985 Cotton Bowl. An early ad promoting this campaign featured a young girl named Suzy chastising her pipe-smoking father at the Statue of Liberty. Dixie Cup, Coca-Cola and other companies founded a non-profit to promote this issue in perhaps the world's first greenwashing campaign. The most famous ad in support of this campaign starred a Sicilian man born Oscar de Corti who went by the name (*) Iron Eyes Cody and who sheds a tear after witnessing a passing car. Around the turn of the millennium, a sign in Missouri advertising a local KKK branch's participation in this type of campaign was repeatedly vandalized. The phrase "Don't Mess with Texas" was originally created as part of one of these campaigns. This campaign was advocated for by "Crying Indian" PSA. For 10 points, name this campaign advocated for by Keep America Beautiful.

ANSWER: anti-litter campaigns [or litter awareness campaigns; or anti-pollution campaigns; or adopt-a-highway; prompt on Don't Mess With Texas before mentioned] <1>

11. This man survived the wreck of the *Vansittart*, which was carrying over ninety thousand pounds' worth of treasure. This scientist drilled troops on how to operate Ireland's first optical telegraph service, a system developed by his brother-in-law Richard Lovell Edgeworth. He wrote a book titled *Karamania* after he was wounded while conducting a hydrographic survey of Syria and Turkey in the HMS *Frederickssteen*. This man improved on systems devised by lighthouse engineer John Smeaton and the Dutchman Jan Noppen. One system invented by this man used the symbol "fg" to represent (*) "foggy" and "sq" to denote "squally" among its 29 symbols. A system he created was originally based on the effects of a certain phenomenon on a fully rigged man-of-war and was first used on the *Beagle* expedition. That same system assigned a score of 0 to calm and 13 to storm. For 10 points, identify this namesake of a wind scale.

ANSWER: Francis Beaufort <2>

12. A man receiving a syphilis treatment who made these things for a living supposedly came up with a way to use lower quality ingredients when he pissed into an acid mixture. Thomas Jefferson called a 1732 Act of Parliament restricting the sale and export of these things as "an instance of despotism to which no parallel can be produced in the most arbitrary ages of British history". Martin and Kite's 2002 article warns museum professionals about the danger of handling these items due to carroting. Designer Lilly Dache wrote a memoir titled *Talking Through My [These Things]*. Use of these things declined after JFK's inauguration. A world capital of making these items lends its name to the infamous (*) "Danbury Shakes". The felt of these things often contained mercury, causing the people who made them, called milliners, to go as mad as a Lewis Carroll character. For 10 points, a fedora is what type of object?

ANSWER: hats or [felt hats; or top hats; note: mercury was often used to treat syphilis, hence the connection with the first clue] <1>

13. Kathleen Tutie made a meme generator which rewrote pages in a story this character appeared in. Casey Fiesler used that tool to imagine a scenario where this character's teacher, Ms. Smith, asks another character to "finish this code for computing factorials" so he doesn't keep producing programs with infinite loops. In the original book, this character dreams up a scenario where "you can make a robot puppy do (*) cute tricks by matching up colored blocks!" This character will "need Steven's and Brian's help" to turn one creation "into a real game!" A more recent incarnation of this character has her working in ActionScript and ditching her heart-shaped flash drive. For 10 points, name this character who once declared, "Math class is tough!" and needed the help of Skipper, another doll, to remove a computer virus.

ANSWER: **Barbie** [or Computer Engineer **Barbie**; or Game Developer **Barbie**] <1>

14. While serving as a radar technician in the Philippines, this man's life changed when he read Vannevar Bush's "As We May Think". The Bootstrap Alliance is now named for this man. A one hundred thousand dollar CDC 160A was a key component of this man's onLineSystem or NLS. He contended that using a computer should involve increased levels of cognitive focus because "a co-evolution will occur between the tools and the people who use them". This man "dealt lightning with both hands" during a groundbreaking (*) presentation at the Joint Computer Conference in San Francisco in 1968 where he manipulated an SRI computer in Menlo Park. This man gave the aforementioned "Mother of All Demos". Mechanical engineer Jack Hawley replaced the perpendicular flywheels in this man's best known invention with a roller-ball. For 10 points, name this inventor of the mouse.

ANSWER: Doug **Engelbart** [or Douglas Carl **Engelbart**] <3>

15. Some conspiracy theorists hold that a recent scandal marring this company was actually a ploy by Baba Ramdev to win market share for his locally-made "MSG-free" Atta alternative. This company's use of palm oil from rainforest plantations inspired a Greenpeace ad where one of its products is opened to reveal the finger of an orangutan. This company had to pull its popular Maggi noodles off of (*) Indian shelves after government tests showed they contained unacceptable amounts of lead. This company's founder got his start providing condensed milk for a neighbor in Vevey, and it's now the most valuable company in Europe. In the 70s, War on Want led a boycott of this company for "killing babies" by encouraging mothers to use infant formula. This company's ubiquitous line of instant coffee is sold in the US as Taster's Choice. For 10 points, name this chocolate company which manufactures Crunch bars.

ANSWER: **Nestlé** [or **Nestlé** SA] <1>

16. Judge James D. Whittemore ruled that this thing's namesake did not own the copyright on it. This thing was once accompanied by a post saying that "the internet has made it easier for all of us to be shameless voyeurs and deviants". In a dispute over this thing, a video was played of A.J. Daulerio saying that the public had an interest in (*) child pornography, so long as the child was over the age of four. A dispute over this thing forced a company whose CEO is Nick Denton to file for bankruptcy. A lawsuit involving this thing was controversially backed by Peter Thiel. One person in this video was the wife of Bubba the Love Sponge. A Florida jury awarded the star of this video over \$100 million in damages. For 10 points, name this video of a former wrestler, infamously posted online by Gawker.

ANSWER: Hulk **Hogan sex tape** [or Terry Gene **Bollea sex tape**; prompt on the **Gawker** sex tape] <1>

17. A *Culture of Improvement* author Robert Friedel credits this product's inventor with making "the very feel of the twentieth century unique". The inventor of this "artificial amber" was made the President of the American Chemical Society in 1924 and appeared on the cover of *Time* with the quote, "It will not burn. It will not melt". The inventor of this product had earlier made a million dollars selling his patent for Velox, a type of improved photographic paper, to George Eastman. This product was first marketed for use as an electrical insulator. It was invented in a home lab in Yonkers by a man who was trying to find a replacement for shellac. This material was first created by reacting some phenols with (*) formaldehyde. This "material of a thousand uses" largely replaced a flammable predecessor known as celluloid and helped reduce the cost of telephones and radios. For 10 points, name this early plastic, invented by Leo Baekeland.

ANSWER: **bakelite** [or **poly-oxy-benzyl-methyl-englycol-anhydride**; prompt on **plastic** until mentioned] <2>

18. This executive helped secure a controversial deal with PathNet to buy two billion dollars' worth of fiber optic equipment, despite PathNet having an annual revenue of only 1.6 million dollars. Before news of that corrupt deal came out, this person was hired away from Lucent to a new company. In 2010, this person commissioned Fred Davis to create the bizarre "Demon Sheep" ad. Specially branded (*) iPods were the only things this executive got out of a deal where Steve Jobs effectively got iTunes installed for free on many Windows PCs. She once financed an ad which depicted the disembodied head of Barbara Boxer floating over the Golden Gate bridge. For 10 points, name this former HP CEO who was briefly the running mate of Ted Cruz.

ANSWER: Carly **Fiorina** [or Cara **Fiorina**; or Cara Carleton **Sneed**] <1>

19. An introduction to this text notes that "every town fails to do something" and describes how its author tries to visit the postmaster, barber and school principal in each city he visits. The man who wrote this text was responsible for increasing membership in the Grace Baptist Church of Philadelphia from ninety people to three thousand. According to this text, "the number of poor who are to be sympathized with is very small". This speech was given by a man who founded what would become (*) Temple University. This speech describes an Arab who sells his home to go in search of the title objects, only for some of them to be found on his former property. The moral of this speech is that you should "dig in your own back-yard" to fulfill "your duty to get rich". For 10 points, name this motivational speech on the Gospel of Wealth given by Russell Conwell, titled for some gems.

ANSWER: "**Acres of Diamonds**" <3>

20. Sumanth Gopinath asked, "how much can you charge people for things that are more or less worthless?" in his boring book on the "dialectic" of these things. These things really took off in Japan following the publication of the *Keitai Chaku Mero Doremi Book* in 1997. Andy Clarke, who bought [these things].net in 1999, secured a B5 license for them in the UK. The NTT DoCoMo was the first device to allow customizing them. The first service for these things was Finland's (*) Harmonium service. Finland was also the source of an extremely popular one of these called the "Grande Valse" first used on an 8110 model device. Jamba's biggest profits came from selling these things based on the characters Sweetie the Chick and Crazy Frog. More powerful devices could support "true" rather than monophonic or polyphonic examples of these things. For 10 points, name these sounds your old Nokia would play when someone called you.

ANSWER: **ringtones** <1>

21. The revolutionary first program of this type was developed as a programming challenge between creators Epsilon and RealityMan. Many of these programs make use of one of four .RSP plugins developed by Zilmar. Like many people who didn't own a 3DFX Voodoo graphics card at the time, I received a disappointing "missing glide2x.dll error" when trying to use the first of these programs. That first program of this type intercepted high-level C library calls but could only support about 20 different games. The first of these programs, (*) UltraHLE, was released only three years after the console it was based on was released. A "pixel-accurate" one of these programs released in 2014 displays a 320 x 237 resolution and doesn't correct for the fog you might see in, say, *Turok*. For 10 points, name this type of program that you can use to play the original *Banjo Kazooie* on your computer.

ANSWER: **N64 emulator** [or **N64 simulator**; prompt on just **emulator**]