Champions Of The World

Part Eleven

You can well imagine how proud all the Romans now were that they were Romans, for Rome was the champion fighter of the world.

If a man could toss his head and say, am a Roman citizen," people were always ready to do something for him, afraid to do him any harm, afraid what stand it." might happen to them if they did.

Rome was ruler not only of Italy but before her, once she had started con-

The New Champion of the World, who was to be champion for a great . 1/2 many years, was very businesslike and practical.

cal and useful things.

For example, now that Rome ruled messengers and armies easily and quickly in every direction to the end of her empire and back again.

So it was necessary for her to have coads, for of course there were no rail-

Now, an ordinary road made by simoly clearing away the ground gets full comes so muddy that it can hardly be

So Rome set to work and built roads. These roads were like paved streets. Large rocks were placed at the bottom for a foundation, smaller stones placed on top, and large, flat paving-stones built pipes to cary the water all the

Thousands of miles of such roads she built to all parts of her empire. One could go from almost anywhere all the way to Rome on paved roads.

We still have an expression, roads lead to Rome." So well were these roads made that many of them still exist or a valley, they wilt a bridge to hold today, two thousand years after they it up. Many of the se Roman aqueducts

The Romans also showed their practical minds by making two very important city improvements.

Hyou live in a city, you turn on a night and get plenty of pure water whenever you want it. The people in filthy and unhea hy and was another cities at that time, however, usually cause of plagues. had to get their water both for drinking and for washing from wells or springs

These springs and well often became river or into so a other place where dirty and made the people very sick. it would do no harm and cause no And so every once in a while because sickness. such dirty water there were those Nowadays, eve I large city has aqueterrible plagues, those terribly contacious diseases like the one I told you but the Romans ere the first to build about in Athens when people died

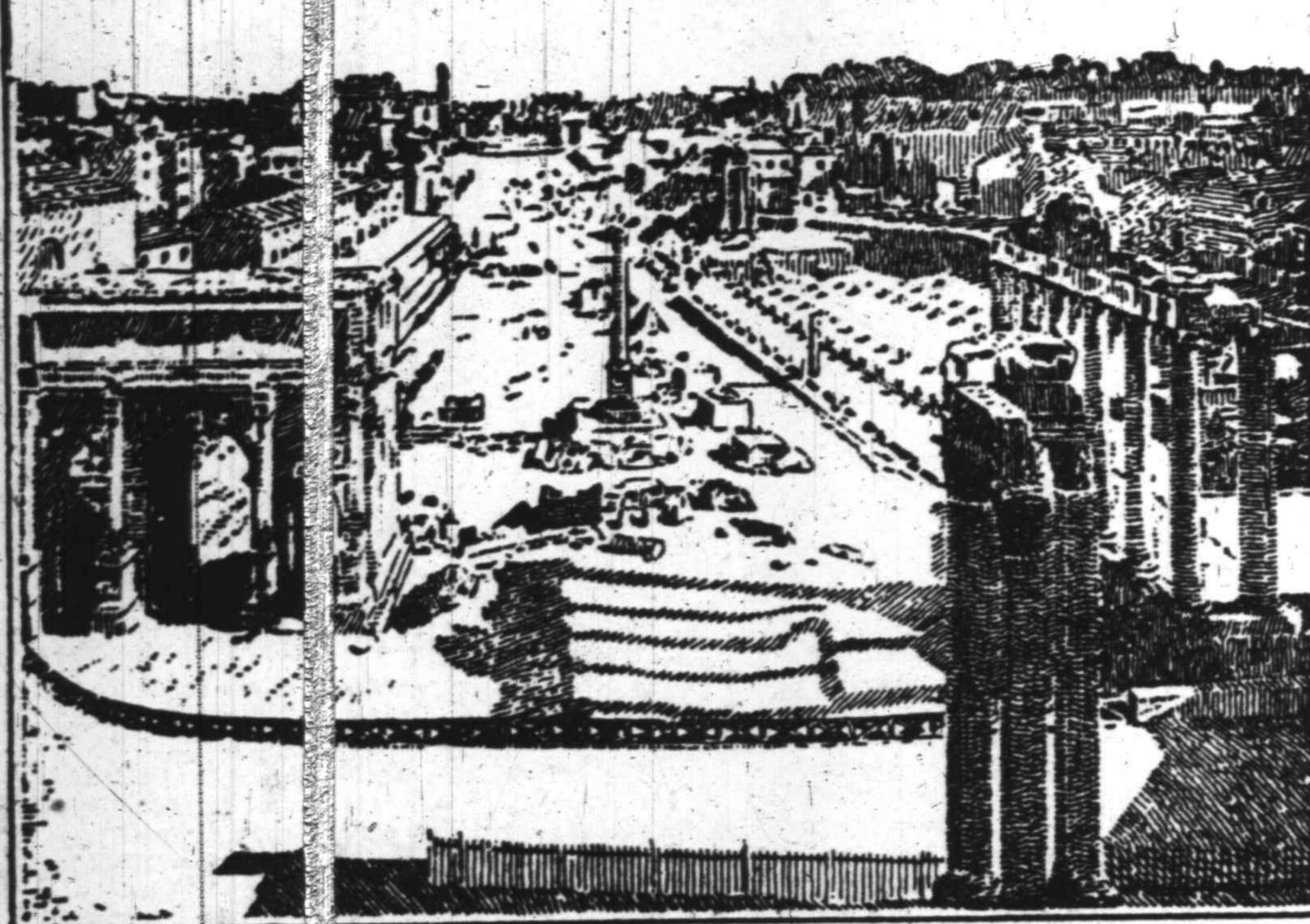
faster than they could be buried. The Romans wanted pure water,

ples to the god splendid palaces for wished. If they turned their thumbs

From 'A Child's History of the World'

By V. M. Hillyer

"History so simply written a child of nine can under-



ROMAN FORUM - A sort of public square. Main gathering place of the Romans.

and so they set work to find lakes from which the could get pure

As oftentimes these lakes were many miles away from the city, they then way to the city.

Such a pipe wa not made of iron or terra-cotta as no adays, but of ston and concrete, and was called an "aque duct," which in Latin means "water

If this aquedue had to cross a river are still standing and in use today.

Now, up to the time waste water, after it had beer used, and also every other kind of rt and refuse, was simply dumped ato the street.

This naturally ade the city or town

But the Roma's built great underground sewers carry off this dirt and waste water and empty it into the

ducts and sewers is a matter of course, them on a large scale.

One of the mo important things that Rome did was to make rules that every one had to obey; aws, we call them. Many of these aws were so fair and just that some our own laws today

are copied from hem. All the cities and towns of the Roman Empire I d to pay money taxes to Rome. To Rome became the

richest city in he world. Millions of this money, which was brought to her was spent in putting up beautiful buillings in the city, tem-

the rulers, public baths and huge open air places called amphitheaters where the people could be amused.

The amphitheaters were something like our football and baseball fields or stadiums. They did not have football or baseball, however.

They had chariot-races, and deadly fights between men, or between men

Chariots were small carts with large wheels drawn by two or by four horses and driven by a man standing up. Perhaps you have seen chariot-races in the

But the sport that the Romans enbeen captured in battle by the Rom-

They were made to fight with one another or with wild animals for the amusement of the crowd.

These gladiatorial fights were very cruel, but the Romans enjoyed seeing blood shed. They liked to see one man kill another or a wild animal. It was

The movies would not have interested them half so much. Usually the gladiators fought until one or the other was killed, for the people were not, as a rule, satisfied until this was done.

Sometimes, however, if a gladiator, who had been knocked out, had shown himself particularly brave and a good fighter or a good sport, the people seated all around the amphitheater would turn their thumbs up as a sign that his life was to be spared by the

other gladiator. So the winning gladiator, before killing his opponent whom he had down, would wait to see what the people

down, it meant he was to finish the fight by killing his man.

But although Rome had become such a fine and beautiful and healthy city in which to live, the rich people were getting most of the money that came there from all over the empire.

They were getting richer and richer all the time, while the poor people, who got nothing, were getting poorer and poorer all the time.

The Romans brought the people whom they conquered in battle to Rome nd made them work for them without

These were slaves and they did all the work. It is said that there were more than twice as many slaves as Romans-two slaves for every Roman

Now, Scipio, who had conquered Hannibal in the Punic War, had a daughter named Cornelia Graccha, and she had two sons. They were very fine boys, and Cornelia was naturally very proud of them.

One day a very rich Roman woman was visiting Cornelia and showing off all her rings and necklaces and other ornaments, of which she had a great many and was very proud.

When she had shown off all she had, she asked to see Cornelia's jewels. Cornelia called to her two boys, who were playing outside, and when they came in to their mother she put her

"These are my jewels." But boys who are jewels when they are young do not always turn out to be jewels when they grow up. So you may wonder how Cornelia's jewels

arms around them and said:

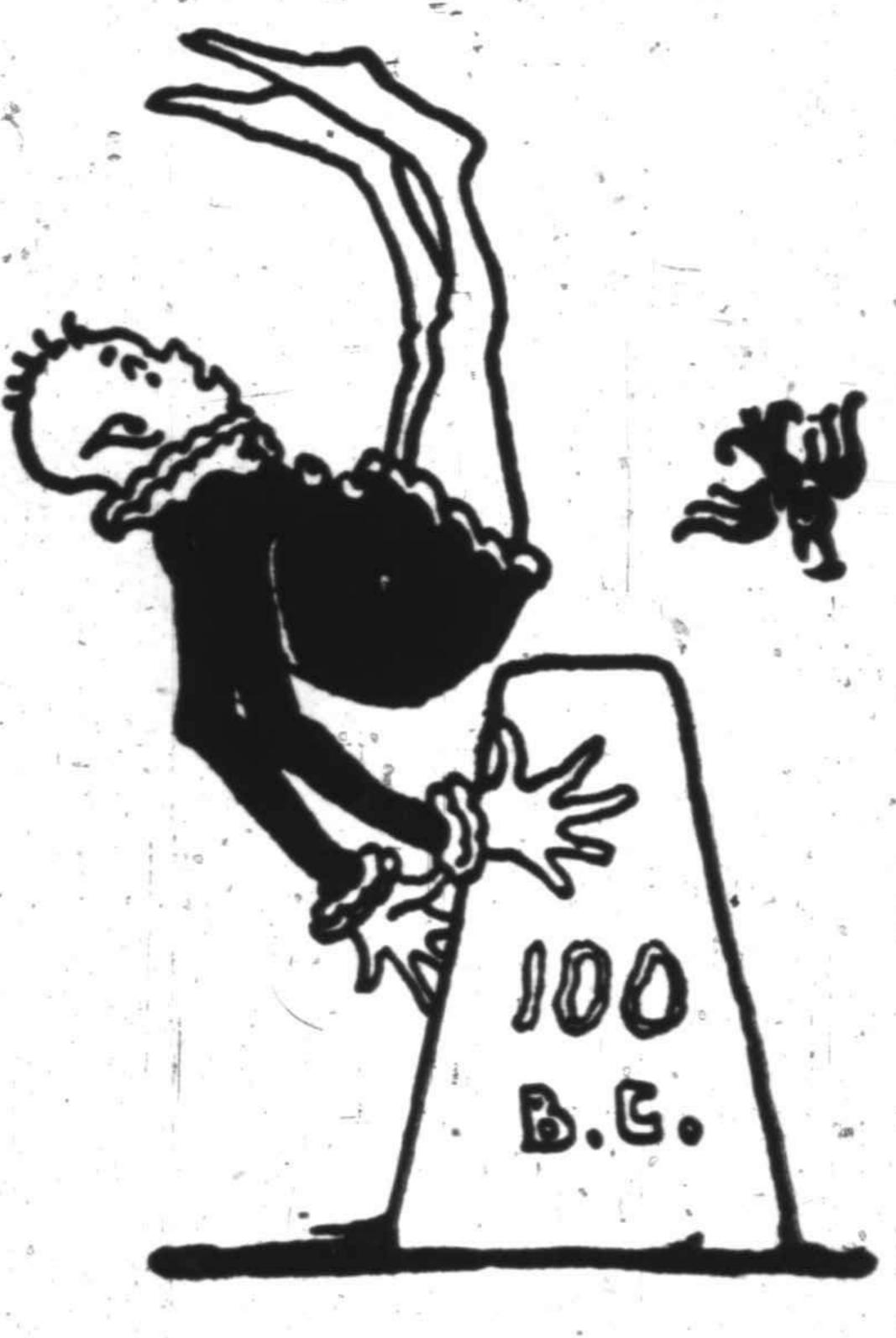
When they grew up, the Gracchi, as they were called, saw such great extravagance among the rich and such great misery among the poor that they wanted to do something

They saw that the poor had hardly anything to eat and no place to live. This did not seem fair. So they tried to lower the price of food, so that the poor might be able to buy enough to

Then they tried to find some way to give the poor at least\a small piece of land where they might raise a few veg-

They were partly successful in bringing this about. But the rich people joyed most of all was a Fight of didn't like giving up anything to the Gladiators. -Gladiators were very poor, and they killed one of the Gracstrong and powerful men who had chus brothers, and later they killed the other one, also.

These were Cornelia's jewels.



What Do You Consider:

The Modern 7 Wonders

Recently, your AFRO Magazine sent out a questionnaire to a prominent group of individuals, organizations land institutions.

The questionnaire asked them to list their version of what should be considered "The Modern Seven Wonders) of the World?"

Listed below are a few of the replies:

JOHNT. GIVENS, M.D. Lars National Medical Association

1. THE HUMAN BODY, with its wonderful cies in the certain organs, etc., is the most perfect handiwork of God.

2. THE HUMAN BRAIN, with its multidinous faculties of thinking, memory, picturization, judgment, etc., etc. All these functions of the brain and many others undiscovered as yet, easily mark it as a supreme finishing touch of the universe.

3. THE HUMAN SPINE OR COLUMN. with its thousands of miles of nerves tendrils and its thousands of switchboards, each automatic, and many times more intricate than

4. THE PROGRESS that the colored race has made in the last 90 years, probably excelling that of any other race in a similar period of time.

THE SUN-without which our world would be dark, cold, and uninhabitable. 6. THE REPRODUCTION of human, ani-

mal, and plant life. CHRIST'S RESURRECTION and the

promise of eternal life after death. ROY AVERY

Assistant Managing American Chemical Society News Service

1. POLYMERIZATION, the process by which small molecules are joined together to form the giant molecules of synthetic rubber, plastics, and synthetic fibers.

LARGE-SCALE production of antibiotics, the specific agents produced by microorganisms to kill competing micro-organisms, put to man's use for merciful relief from disease. Also added to animal feeds to produce rapid growth.

3. PRODUCTION OF VAST amounts of energy from atomic fission, the necessary purification and separation techniques are largely chemical processes.

4. RADIOACTIVE TRACERS, the atoms of ordinary elements which behave chemically like the others but can be identified individualty by the radiation they give off. Such atoms can be traced through complicated chemical processes, such as photosynthesis and body chemistry, to reveal information about the mechanisms by which the processes operate.

5. RAPID DRYING lacquers and other finishes, which have made possible the massproduced automobile and have prevented

6. SURFACE-ACTIVE agents, the detergents, wetting agents, and water-repellen which cleanse almost anything, make possible many important industrial processes such as dying, and produce improved fabrics.

FARM CHEMICALS, fertilizers and

Editor, Journal of the National Medical Association

THE ELECTRON phase microscope cell processes without the use of interfering

2. THE MOUNT PALOMAR 200-inch tele scope which has revealed an undreamed magnitude of our universe.

is higher than a mountain and strong enough to withstand an airplane smashing through it It dwarfs the Tower of Babel.

4. PINPOINT bombing of chromosome Single chromosomes have been bombarded with beta radiation (William Bloom, -University of Chicago).

5. AIRPLANES of supersonic speed. 6. ELECTRONIC CALCULATORS, dupl cating and in cases excelling abilities of the

7. TELEVISION.

human brain.

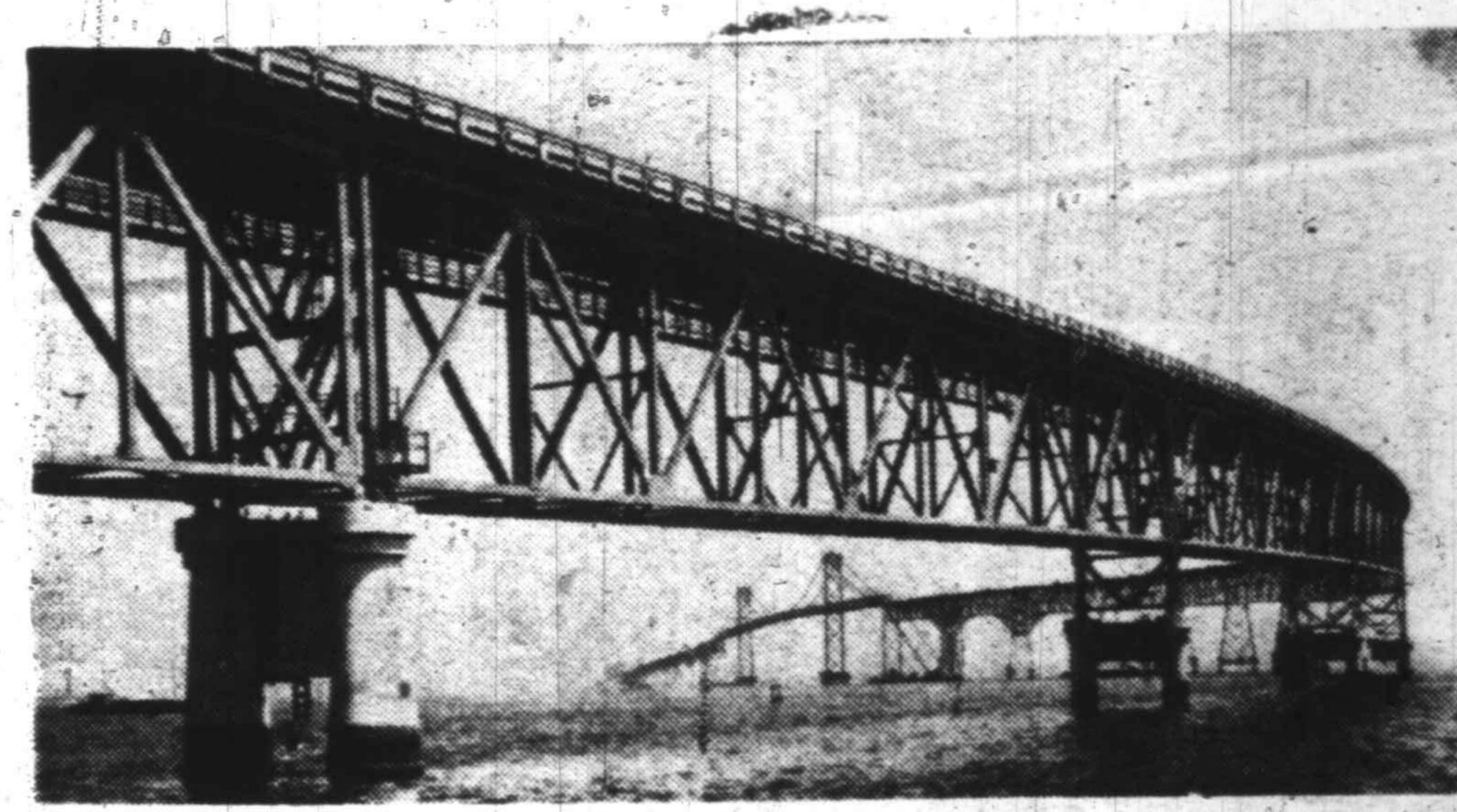
8. THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE of San Francisco. The 700 foot towers and unequalled span are a superlative engineering feat.

KENNETH HEUER Astronomer and Lecturer

.. THE EARTH, because it is the only planet we know. 2. THE GIANT PLANET SATURN, with



AUTOMOBILES?



SUSPENSION BRIDGES?

its three rings, 172,000 miles in diameter and 10,000 miles between the outer and inner

has six jets of light coming from the same

4. TYCHO'S STAR, which exploded one day and became 12 times brighter than any star in the sky. 5. THE GREAT HORSE-HEAD NEBULA,

an immense dark cloud of dust in the constellation Orion. 6. THE STAR CLUSTER IN HERCULES.

million stars packed so close together that they look like a huge globe. 7. THE GREAT GALAXY IN ANDRO-MEDA, is supposed to contain many billions

of stars in an area so large that it takes light 60,000 years to travel across it.

LOYD VAN DOREN Secretary, American Institute of Chemists

I. AIRPLANE

2. SUBMARINE. 3. VOICE TRANSMITTER

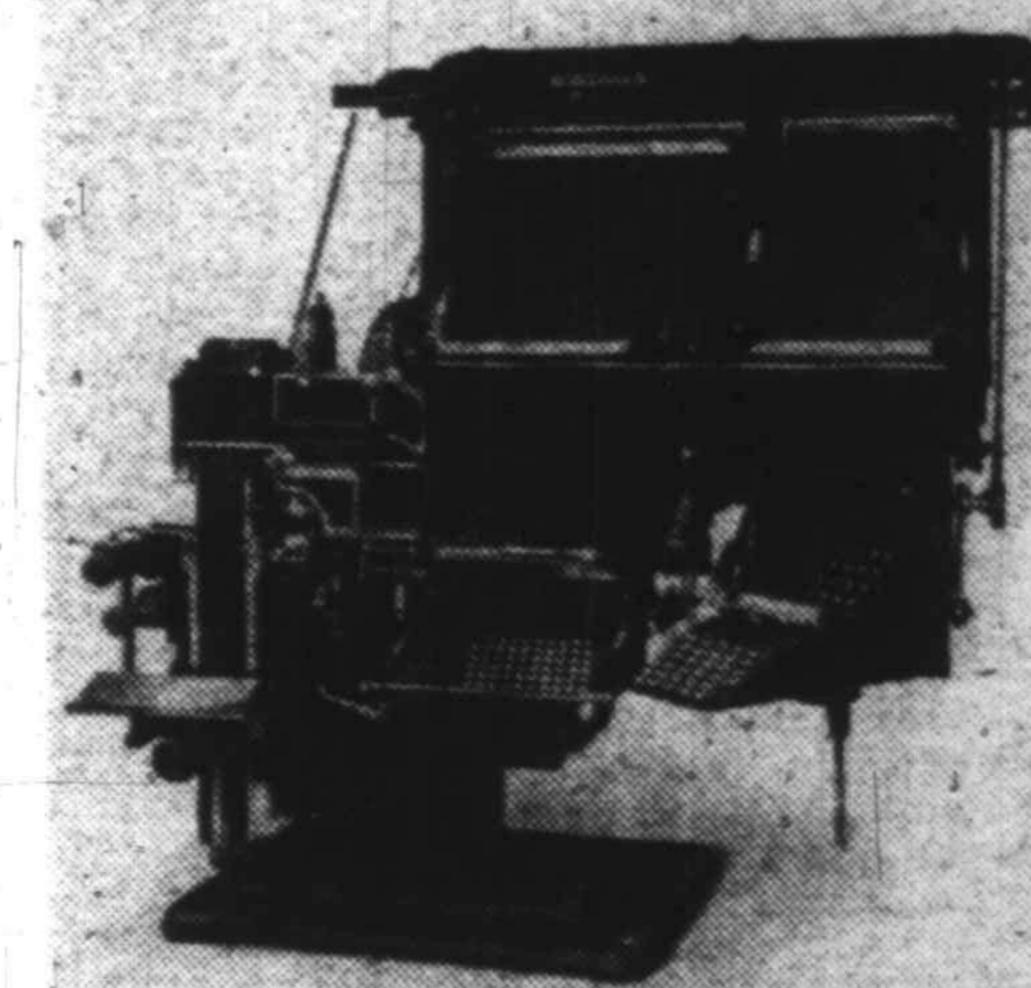
4. ENGINEERING STRUCTURES, bridges and skyscrappers. 5. AUTOMOTIVE MECHANISMS

the automobile. 6. PHARMACEUTICALS such as antibiotic.



TELEVISION? KENNETH J. CONANT President, Archaeological Institute of America

1. THE MODERN TECHNIQUE of dealing with complicated relationships by means AFRO Magazine, July 21, 1953



TYPECASTING MACHINES?

symbols have had an extraordinary dynamic effect in the learned world with remarkable practical results. (symbolic logic, calculating machines, logistics, investigations like that regarding relatively, cybemetics, etc.

2. DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNIQUES for historical investigations - strategraphy, dendrochronology, deciphering techniques, radiocarbon chronological work, techniques for restoring damaged or nearly destroyed art objects of all kinds.

3. ARCHIVES DEVELOPMENT in modern times-accumulation of books and other stores of facts really on a fabulous scale in modern times, covering all space and time.

4. MODERN DEVELOPMENT of whole regions, particularly here and in Russia is on an unprecedented scale.

D.O.W. HOLMES

President-Emeritus,

Morgan State College

. THE STEAM ENGINE and dynamo. 2. THE RADIO-PHONOGRAPH-television

motion picture group. 3. THE 200-INCH REFLECTOR telescope

on Fort Palomar in California. 4. The LINOTYPE MACHINE,

5. THE AIRPLANE.

6. THE AUTOMOBILE. 7. THE DEVELOPMENT of atomic energy

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A Roman Aqueduct

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