

BERKELEY QUESTIONS by Arikkat Arun Unnikrishnan (3), 11\02\95

1. Born on June 15, 1843 in Bergen, he was the son of the British consul at Bergen. His family was of Scottish origin, his grandfather having emigrated after the Battle of Culloden. From the age of six he received piano lessons from his mother, and in 1858, at the recommendation of the violin virtuoso Ole Bull, he entered the Leipzig Conservatory, where he was influenced by the tradition of Mendelssohn and Schumann. During this period he suffered a severe attack of pleurisy from which he never really recovered. He went on to compose several popular works rooted in the national folk tradition of Norway, including his incidental music to Peer Gynt and the Holberg suite. FTP, name this founder of the Norwegian nationalist school of music, whose most famous work is the familiar Morning Mood.

\Edvard GRIEG\

2. Born at Kendal, Westmorland, on Dec. 28, 1882, he was educated at Owens College, Manchester and Trinity College, Cambridge. From 1906 to 1913 he held the post of chief assistant at the Royal Observatory at Greenwich. Subsequently he was elected to the Plumian professorship of astronomy and experimental philosophy at Cambridge as successor to Sir George Darwin. In 1916 he began the fundamental researches which created the present-day theory of the internal constitution of the star. At the same time, he became deeply interested in Einstein's theory of relativity, while denying that only 3 people on Earth actually understood it, he led the famous expedition to observe the total eclipse of the sun at the West African island of Principe in 1919, which verified one of the theory's predictions. FTP, name this British stellar astronomer, who is often associated with the name of Chandrasekhar.

\Sir Arthur Stanley EDDINGTON\

3. Also called Amaurotic Familial Idiocy, it is a hereditary metabolic disorder causing progressive mental and neurologic deterioration resulting in early death. Children born with this disorder initially appear normal, but become listless and inattentive during the first few months of life. As the disease progresses, the child loses motor abilities already gained, and eventually is unable even to raise its head. A cherry-red spot develops on the retina, and blindness and a general paralysis usually precede death. FTP, name this genetic disorder, which occurs most often in people of Eastern European Jewish origin.

\TAY-SACHS disease\

4. It was named in 1965 for the fire god of native mythology. At the height of its eruptions, a column of steam nearly four miles high rained ash over a large area. After it cooled, numerous scientists visited it, and it is now the site of a long-term biological research program being conducted by Icelandic and U.S. scientists. FTP, name this 1 square mile volcanic island of the southern coast of Iceland, which emerged from the Atlantic Ocean in a fiery eruption in November 1963.

\SURTSEY\

5. It is sacred to the native peoples, who refer to it as Uluru, but to the newcomers, it is simply called the rock. It's officially named for a 19th century premier of Southern Australia. It can be reached by motor vehicle from Alice Springs in 4 hours. It is basically red conglomerate stone but appears to change in color according to the time of day. FTP, name this immense natural monolith rising 1100 ft. in the heart of the Australian desert, whose origin continues to defy modern geologists.

\AYERS ROCK\

6. The appellation desert overstates the aridity of this region, which is more aptly described as thirstland. There is no permanent surface water, yet the area is well-vegetated due to drainage of the Boteti river, fed by seasonal overflows from the Okavango swamp. Its climate is characterized by marked differences in seasonal temp. and huge daily temperature swings, with erratic precipitation and many freezing nights. The British explorers David Livingston and William Oswell crossed it in 1849 in small parties until they reached Lake Ngami, 30 yrs later the Boers trekked it but lost 250 of their number and 9000 cattle. Motor transport has made the crossing much easier and lessened the isolation of the native Bantu-speaking Bushman natives. FTP, name this southern African desert, made famous by the movie *The Gods Must Be Crazy*.

\KALAHARI desert\

7. During this period of geologic history, the two hemispheric continents of Laurasia and Gondwana became linked to form the supercontinent of Pangaea, which stretched from pole to pole and encompassed all climatic temperature zones. In this environment, land animals thrived, with reptiles, mammals, and amphibians all competing for living space. The reptiles won out, though the dominance of the dinosaurs was yet to come. By the end of the period, however, a catastrophe of immense proportions overtook the world's lifeforms, with up to 96% of the world's species passing into oblivion, including trilobites. The cause of this mass extinction is unknown, but it marked the end of the Paleozoic and the beginning of the Mezzozoic Era. FTP, name this geologic period, which lasted from 286 to 245 million years ago.

\PERMIAN period\

8. Born in Manchester on Jan. 17, 1863, his father died in June of 1864, plunging his family into poverty. The boy and his mother were taken in by his her brother, and it is from him that he imbibed many of his formative beliefs. He first made his name by a successful battle in the courts to establish the right of Nonconformists to burial in the churchyard of their parish. Ironically, he who came to be the standard bearer of the oppressed religious sects had lost his faith as a young boy. He entered Parliament in 1890 and went on to become a leading figure in the radical wing of the Liberal Party until it gained power in 1905, at which point his star rose ever higher until the decisive year of 1916, when he became prime minister, a post he held until the Irish problem brought him down and the Liberal Party as well in 1922. FTP, name him.

\David LLOYD GEORGE\

9. Although born in Newton, Massachusetts, he is most associated with the state of Connecticut, which sent him to the House in 1789 and then to the Senate in 1791, where he served until his death in 1793. Although a staunch conservative, he was an early supporter of the independence movement. He signed all three of America's formative documents: the D of I, the A of C, and the Constitution. It is his contribution at the Constitutional Convention for which he is best remembered, for here his plan for representation of small and large states prevented a deadlock which threatened to wreck the proceedings. FTP, name this founding father, the author of the Great Compromise.

\Roger SHERMAN\

10. His date of birth is unknown, but church records in his native Nurnberg indicate he was baptized on Sept. 1, 1653. He studied organ at Altdorf and Regensburg and held posts as organist in Vienna, Stuttgart, and other cities. For the last 11 years of his life he was the organist at the St. Sebalduskirche in Nurnberg. He also taught, and one of his pupils was Johann Christoph Bach, who in turn gave his younger brother Johann Sebastian his first formal keyboard lessons. FTP, name this German composer, one of the great organ masters of the generation before J.S. Bach, whose most famous work is the popular Canon in D Major, often heard at Christmastime.

\Johann PACHELBEL\

11. Born of parents of French Huguenot descent in New York City on Jan. 2, 1752, he graduated from Princeton in 1771 and taught school while studying for the ministry. At the outbreak of the revolution he began writing vitriolic satire against British and Tories, but not until his return from a two year retreat in the Carribean, where he penned "The Beauties of Santa Cruz" and "The House of Night", did he become an active participant in the war. Captured and imprisoned by the British in 1780, he continued to write poetry until 1791, when as editor of the National Gazette, he so effectively attacked Federalist policies that T.J. credited him w\saving the country when it was "galloping fast into monarchy". He died quietly in 1832. FTP, name this essayist, poet, and editor, the "poet of the American Revolution".

\Phillip FRENEAU\

12. Spurred by Seljuk raids and incursions into Byzantine-ruled Anatolia, Romanus assembled a large army to reestablish the security of the Byzantine Empire's eastern frontier. In the spring of 1071 he led his army into Armenia by way of the southern branch of the Upper Euphrates river. At this town he divided his army, sending some ahead to secure the fortress of Akhlat and keeping others with him. Learning of the emperor's foray into his territory, sultan Alp-Arslan hurried to this town, where he confronted Romanus, and in pitched battle marked by treachery and abandonment, defeated the Byzantines. The victory allowed the Seljuk Turks to overrun most of Anatolia, and marked in a critical point in the history of Byzantium's long decline. FTP, name this battle, named after the Turkish town where it was fought.

\Battle of MANZIKERT\

13. This battle, resulting in a narrow victory for Napoleon in the War of the Second Coalition, was fought on a plain about 3 miles southeast of Alessandria, in northern Italy, between Napoleon's approximately 28,000 troops and some 31,000 Austrian troops under General Michael Friedrich von Melas. It resulted in the French occupation of Lombardy up to the Mincio River and secured Napoleon's military and civil authority in Paris. Napoleon made a critical error in thinking Melas's forces were in Turin more than 50 miles to the west, when Melas attacked. French forces were pushed back 4 miles, but within 2 hours, the arrival of 10,000 reinforcements forced the Austrians into headlong retreat. Melas, who had been so sure of victory that he had left the field and retired to Alessandria, signed an armistice the next day. FTP, name this June 14th, 1800 battle.

\Battle of MARENGO\

14. Absolutely nothing is known of his early career. In his first year as Admiral he won a sea battle of Notium and obtained support of the Persian viceroy, Cyrus the Younger. Because Spartan law forbade a second term, he was technically second in command, though all knew he was the actual leader in the destruction of the Athenian fleet in the Battle of Aegospotami in Sept. of 405 BC. This action closed the grain route through the Hellespont, thereby starving Athens into surrender 8 months later. Having successfully concluded the Peloponnesian War in Sparta's favor, he was now at the height of his power, but his fortunes soon fell. The Thirty Tyrants he installed in Athens were deposed in a democratic revolt which Sparta accepted, and the king whom he installed in Sparta, Agesilaus II, soon rejected him. At the outbreak of Corinthian War, he led an Army of Sparta's allies against Haliartus and there was struck down in 395 BC, less than a decade after Athens surrender. FTP, name this Spartan political and military leader.

\LYSANDER\

15. Though rarely used in pure form, it is essential to steelmaking. Recognized as an element in 1774 by the Swedish chemist Carl Wilhelm Scheele while working with the mineral pyrolusite, it was isolated the same year by his associate Johan Gottlieb Gahn. Combined with other elements, it is widely distributed in Earth's crust. Without this element, steel breaks up when hot-rolled or forged, though most steel manufactured today generally contains less than 1% of it. It is also essential to plant growth, and exists as an essential trace element in higher animals. In humans lacks of this element causes testicular atrophy. As in steel though, levels of it are kept to a minimum in biological organisms, as an excess is toxic. FTP, name this element, whose atomic number is 25 and whose chemical symbol is Mn

\MANGANESE\

16. It is probably about 600 light years from the Sun and 25000 times as luminous. One of the brightest stars in the night sky, intrinsically as well as in appearance, its name derives from an Arabic term meaning "the left leg of the giant", referring to the figure of Orion, the winter constellation of which it is the second-brightest member, hence its more formal name of Beta Orionis. Recently it was discovered to have a companion star, also bluish white, which is of sixth magnitude. FTP, name this star, one of those rarest of stellar beasts known as blue supergiants.

\RIGEL\

17. After his father was killed he fled to Spain, where he continued to struggle against Caesar's forces. Following the assassination of Caesar, he came to terms with Mark Antony and was given a naval command, but in August 43 he was outlawed. For the next several years he ravaged the coast of Italy with his fleet. Occupying Sicily and blockading Italy, he helped Mark Antony against Octavian and, after they renewed their agreement, forced them to make a formal treaty with him, appointing him governor of Sicily and other islands and of Achaea in 39. Ultimately though, he met the same fate as his father, fleeing a defeat at the hands of Agrippa and captured and executed by the Roman general Marcus Titius. FTP, name this younger son of Pompey the Great, who continued to oppose his father's Caesarian rivals.

\SEXTUS POMPEIUS\

18. He was born in Camden, Ohio on Sept. 13, 1876, and as a youth in Clyde, Ohio he attended school intermittently and worked as a newsboy, house painter, farm hand, and race-track helper. At 22 he served in Cuba during the Spanish-American War. On his return, he studied for a year at Wittenburg academy, then became a writer of advertising in Chicago and later a paint manufacturer in Ohio. In 1913, dissatisfied with the life of a businessman, he decided to write fiction. Floyd Dell and Theodore Dreiser arranged the publication of his first two novels, Windy McPherson's Son and Marching Men. With his next work, a collection of short sketches published in 1919, his reputation as an author was made. Although his later works were not as critically acclaimed, he earned a good living, and retired to Marion, Virginia, where he published both of that town's newspapers, one Democratic and one Republican. He died in 1941, while touring South America. FTP, name this author, best known for Winesburg, Ohio.

\Sherwood ANDERSON\

19. It lies on the Rhone river where it leaves its narrow valley for the wide delta plain, 66 miles northwest of Marseilles. Its population, as it has been for centuries, is a little over 60,000. Under the Romans it enjoyed only a secondary importance in Gallia Narbonensis, and after the barbarian invasions it belonged successively to the king of Burgundy and then to a series of counts. But at the end of the 12th century it became a republic, which ended in 1251 when it once again passed into possession of a series of French counts. It was at this time however that it became most prominent, when Clement V made it his residence. Throughout most of the 14th century it was the papal seat, and the city still is surrounded by its 14th century ramparts built by them. FTP, name this French city, home of the papacy from 1309-1377.

\AVIGNON\

20. A native of the upper Danube, he was a professional Army officer, when about AD 260, the frontiers of the Roman Empire suddenly collapsed. During the struggle to refortify the frontier, he distinguished himself and was saluted as emperor along with his compatriot Claudius, when Gallienus was killed in 268. Deferring in favor of the more experienced Claudius, he became emperor when Claudius was killed in AD 270. His great achievement was the reunification of the Empire for which he received the title Restitutor Orbis, Resorer of the World. Known not only for his fondness for the cult of the Unconquered Sun, as also for his stern discipline and at times cruel behavior, he nevertheless spared the lives of both the Gallic emperor Tetricus and the Queen of Zenobia, both of whom had overrun vast tracts of Roman territory in the west and east respectively. His impressive reign was cut short in 275 when he was murdered on the Danube by a group of army officers who mistakenly believed they were slated to be executed by him. FTP, name this Roman emperor from 270-275, whose reign marks a relatively high point in an otherwise miserable century for the Romans.

\AURELIAN\