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BERKELEY QUESTIONS by David M. Levinson (10)

1. Bismarck, who wanted a test of strength with France, took this note from King Wilhelm I and edited and published it, to make it appear that the French were insulted. Briefly, Wilhelm had failed to give assurances the French ambassador that no member of his family would seek the Spanish throne. FTP Identify this 1870 note precipitating the Franco-Prussian War?

\EMS Dispatch\

2. She grew up in the shadow of Pittsburgh, but at the age of 14 moved to Santa Barbara, California. At the age of 22 she enrolled in Denishawn school in Los Angeles. Her first performance was in an Aztec dance where she portrayed a maiden trying to protect her virtue. She moved to Rochester and then New York City, where she founded her own dance company, and by 1926 had formed her own style. FTP Who is this founder of modern American dance, whose compositions include "Heretic", "Lamentations", and "Primitive Mysteries"?

\Martha GRAHAM\

3. The first was Skylab, in 1986 the Soviets launched Mir. Now it is proposed to place Freedom in Orbit. FTP What are these structures designed to house astronauts for an extended period of time?

\SPACE STATIONS (or equivalent)\

4. "The best laid schemes of mice and men often go astray" and "Oh if the good spirit would only give us the power to see ourselves as others see us" are two of his lines. FTP Who is this Scottish poet of "To a Mouse", "A Red, Red Rose" and "Auld Lang Syne"?

\Robert BURNS\

5. He first appeared in 1939 in a six-page story in Detective Comics. An orphan, he wore a cape and uniform, possessed a dual identity, and fought the underworld, but he had no special superpowers beyond cunning. FTP Identify this independently wealthy Gotham crime-fighter created by Bob Kane?

\BATMAN\

6. A slave, he suffers passively and submissively through repeated beatings by his master, Simon Legree. Rather than displaying anger, he forgives. FTP Who is this character created by Harriet Beecher Stowe?

\Uncle TOM\

7. It was founded in 1904 by Annie Horniman in Dublin. This home of much Irish drama burned down in 1951, but was reopened in 1966. FTP What is this state theater, which staged the works of O'Casey, Synge, Shaw, and Yeats?

\The ABBEY Theatre\

8. Born in 1975, this horse became the second half of the Triple Crown's first back to back sweep. Ridden by the young Steve Cauthen, in all three races he defeated Alydar. FTP Identify this thoroughbred horse?

\AFFIRMED\

9. Founded by Peter Benenson, a British barrister, in 1961, this organization has 50,000 members in 57 countries. Awarded the 1972 Nobel Peace Prize, FTP What is this organization that campaigns for the release of political prisoners and against the death penalty?

\AI or AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL\

10. Born in Mission, Texas, he received a law degree from the University of Texas in 1942, and then served in World War II. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1948, but returned to business for many years. In 1970, he reemerged, defeating George Bush for the Senate, where he served until being named Clinton's first Secretary of the Treasury. FTP Identify this losing 1988 vice presidential candidate?

\Lloyd Millard BENTSON, Jr.\

11. Because brightness and period are correlated, these stars are useful in measuring galactic distances. FTP What are these pulsating variables stars whose periodicity is directly related to its absolute magnitude?

\CEPHEID (or cepheid variable)\

12. Also called Golgotha, the name is Latin for "Place of the Skull". FTP What is this hill near Jerusalem upon which Jesus was crucified?

\CALVARY\

13. HWB near Bel Air MD on August 26, 1838, one of ten children of an acting family. His most famous line is "Sic Semper Tyrannus". FTP Who is this assassin?

\John Wilkes BOOTH\

14. Briefly it suggests there is evolution and natural selection, but it is not the individuals or species who are the object of evolution, rather it is their genes. A person is simply a way for a gene to make another gene, and it is the genes which are selected. Genes which are more successful propagate, those which are not die out. FTP Identify this hypothesis or worldview, an extension of neo-Darwinism, that has been put forward by Richard Dawkins in a 1976 book of the same name.

\The SELFISH GENE hypothesis\

15. While at Columbia earning his doctorate in philosophy, he opposed Columbia's John Dewey and pragmatism, arguing that there are certain absolute truths. He then moved to Chicago, where, along with Robert Hutchins, he helped develop the Great Books Program. FTP Who is this philosopher and educator who helped create the Synopticon as well as the Padeia Schools?

\Mortimer ADLER (1902-)\

16. After learning Robert Peary had reached the North Pole, he sailed from Norway to the Antarctica, racing the British expedition under Scott. FTP Who is this, the first to reach the South Pole and author of "My Life as an Explorer"?

\Roald AMUNDSEN (Engelbregt Gravning (1872-1928)\

17. He investigated the Greenhouse effect, which is only remarkable because he died in 1929. FTP Who is this Swedish physical chemist, winner of the 1903 Nobel Prize in chemistry for work on the conductivity of electrolytes?

\Svante August ARRHENIUS (1859-1929)\

18. This novelist was influenced by Dada and Surrealism, but brings an M.D. to his work. Born in Japan in 1924, his works have been compared to those of Kafka and Beckett. FTP Who is this author of "The Wall", "Inter Ice Age Four", "The Face of Another", "The Ruined Map", "The Box Max", "Secret Rendezvous", "Beyond the Curve", and "Woman in the Dunes"?

\Kobo ABE (1924-)\

19. Sir Antonio Panizzi designed its famous domed reading room. Built in 1857 as part of the British Museum, it has been in the process of relocating to new quarters designed by Colin St. John Wilson. FTP Identify this institution, home to every book published in the UK?

\The BRITISH LIBRARY \

20. Yasumasa Kanada and coworkers spending 36 hours on a supercomputer, have recently calculated it to 3.22 billion decimal places, beating the old record of 2.26 billion. However, David and Gregory Chudnovsky claim over 4 billion digits. FTP What is this number which the Indiana legislature reportedly once set to equal 3?

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