

## The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

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## WITHOUT PENCIL AND PAPER

By L. W. HENDERSHOTT

It seems that there is something in the mental make up of the average engineer which makes him especially interested in problems which may be solved by logical reasoning and also in problems which are of a tricky nature or in other words which have a catch to them.

It is intended that this column shall be a clearing house for problems of this nature. For the present it will be limited to problems not involving calculus or higher mathematics so as to make it of more general interest.

Any one who is interested may submit such puzzle problems which if accepted will appear in a subsequent issue with the contributor's name.

Answers will be given in the following issue.

### No. 1.

A farmer entered a blacksmith shop and laid before the blacksmith five pieces of chain, each piece consisting of three links. He requested the blacksmith to connect the pieces into one long chain of fifteen links. The blacksmith said his price for the work would be ten cents for

each cut and twenty-five cents for each weld. What was the minimum charge he then quoted.

### No. 2.

A man rows up stream for twenty minutes and then looks for his hat which had blown off when he started. He does not find it in the boat so he decides that it must have fallen into the water at the starting point. He turns around and continuing to row at a constant rate with respect to the river rows down stream until he recovers the hat one mile below the starting point. The question is—How fast does the stream flow? Note—can be worked without pencil and paper.

### No. 3.

There are four volumes of a set of books on a shelf. Each book contains 200 pages and is one inch thick. A book worm starts at page 1 of volume 1 and bores through to page 200 of volume IV. Neglecting the thickness of the covers how far does he travel?