**Inconsistencies**

**An American is a person who demonstrates against a new power plant, then goes home and flips on all the lights, turns up the air conditioner, puts a tape in the stereo, opens the refrigerator door, plugs in the coffee maker and sits down to see if the television cameras caught him protesting. *(Wendell Trogdon, in Indianapolis News)***

**John James Audubon liked birds, all right -- boiled, broiled, baked, whatever. Not only did he kill them before he illustrated them, but he ate a good many after he illustrated them. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Hardly any of the people who make baseballs understand how the game is played. (*L. M. Boyd)***

**Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922) inventor of the telephone, refused to keep one in his study because the ringing distracted him from his thoughts. *(Ripley's Believe It or Not!: Weird Inventions and Discoveries, p. 27)***

**Tipping the Scales: There is a certain inconsistency in the way we insist that the butcher's scale be strictly honest, but have no objections if the bathroom scale fools around a bit. *(Lorain (Ohio) Labor Leader)***

**Why is it that most of the people who have all the answers to the teenage problem don't have any children? *(Dan Valentine)***

**Doesn't it make you a little bit uneasy that some of the colleges that are teaching our kids how to make a living are going broke? *(Funny Funny World)***

**At the end of my first day working at a 24-hour convenience store, a customer walked in and asked, "Is this store open all day, seven days a week, 365 days a year?" "Yes," I answered, puzzled at the question. "Well, then," he continued as he walked out, "why are there locks on the doors?" (*Mary K. Boyd, in Reader's Digest)***

**That writer of children's stories, Dr. Seuss -- how many children did he have? None. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Football referee Jim Tunney says, "My definition of a fan is a guy who screams at you from the 60th row of the bleachers because he thinks you missed a holding call in the center of the interior line, then after the game can't find his car in the parking lot." *(Charlie Van Sickel, in Spokane, Washington, Chronicle)***

**It's rarely mentioned that numerous fathers not only won't eat the mushy mixtures they feed to their infants, but won't even taste the stuff. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Forty-eight percent of financial advisors in the U.S. do not have a retirement plan for themselves, a poll by the Financial Planning Association has found, and 75 percent have no succession plan for their firm. *(WSJ.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, December 27, 2013)***

**Ulysses S. Grant, who led the Union armies to free the slaves, owned four slaves. (*L. M. Boyd)***

**White House reporters staying at the Royal Biscayne Hotel last year were told they had to get out to make room for another group. The other group turned out to be public-relations representatives of International Telephone & Telegraph Corporation, in town for a seminar on how to improve relations with the press. *(Miami Herald, as it appeared in April, 1974 issue of Reader's Digest on page 167)***

**The Harlem Globetrotters played basketball for 40 years before they ever played in Harlem. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**At a Hindu temple in New Delhi, India, eight people were trampled to death and 17 others seriously injured when worshippers began fighting over who should be first in line for holy water. *(Bill Flick, 1992)***

**Little League Lions: By the time my third son started little-league football, I had become accustomed to the excesses of the coaches and wasn't too startled when the first night of practice ended with this ritual: "Are you men tough?" "Yes, sir!" "Let me hear the lions." "Grrrrr!" "Who is mean?" "We are!" After this show of fearlessness, the coach gathered the team around him. "Now, boys," he warned, "it's getting dark, so stay close to me until your mothers come to get you." *(E. Brian Martin, in Reader's Digest)***

**In the medical records is the case of Dr. Alice Chase who wrote several books on proper diets, including "Nutrition for Health." She died of malnutrition. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**And He Couldn't Dance, Either: Famed for his musical extravaganzas and elaborate choreography, Busby Berkeley never took a dancing lesson in his life. *(Ripley's Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 9)***

**Would you encourage any child of yours to become a nurse? Pollsters put the query to nurses and 77 percent said no. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**When a colleague was in the hospital recuperating from surgery, the nurse came into his room to give him an injection. She jabbed him with the hypodermic, and he almost passed out in agony. "What was that?" he gasped. "A painkiller," she told him. *(E. E. Edgar, in Reader's Digest)***

**The Red Cross ran a Sako Arms Factory in Finland until the 1960s. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**A young worker who had been loafing for most of the past year approached an older man just before he was to be reviewed for a raise. "Do you think," he asked anxiously, "that if I really work hard for the next two weeks, I'll get a raise?" "Son," the older worker replied, "you make me think of a thermometer in a cold room. You can make it register higher by holding your hand over it, but you won't be warming the room." *(Bits & Pieces)***

**On a can of room freshener: "Bring the clean, natural freshness of a country meadow indoors. Freshens the air in your home with a clean, back-to-nature scent-as refreshing as the summer grass and fragrant flowers of a country meadow. "Warning: Inhaling the contents can be harmful or fatal." *(William R. Connell, in Reader's Digest)***

**The radio station in my city ran a contest to find out what everyone was doing to save energy. The prizes? Electrical appliances. *(Dorothy Sutcliffe, in Reader's Digest)***

**A man who's based in Kansas City was told, while visiting his firm's office at Little Rock, to go on to Fort Worth to attend a seminar. In Fort Worth he learned that the seminar had been called off -- and nobody had thought to notify him. The seminar topic: Communications. *(George Dolan, in Fort Worth Star-Telegram)***

**Free American slaves were shipped to Africa in 1822 to found the state of Liberia. They divvied up available land. What many did next was capture slaves of their own to work that land. So writes author Brian Schwartz in "A World of Villages." *(L. M. Boyd)***

**While a woman in Ogden, Utah, was attending a meeting of the Weight Watchers Club, someone broke into her car and stole six dollars' worth of chocolate chips and caramels. *(Floyd Kalber, NBC, as it appeared in the April, 1979 issue of Reader's Digest on page 146)***

**Wine tasters never drink the wine they taste. They sip it, swish it about, gargle it, and then spit it out. Swallowing wine is believed to dull the palate, not to mention the brain. *(David Louis, in Fascinating Facts, p. 61)***

**Orville Wright declined to fly in airplanes during the last 33 years of his life. *(L. M. Boyd)***

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