



Publications and new products

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Dear friends,

Let's talk about famous inventions that have become part of our history and culture. For example, let us ask ourselves: What do I do when I only like one of the two most popular sodas, and they do not sell it? Do I nod and say "...I'll choose something else like tea or lemonade" or say "I will have... the other one available"?

In her captivating post, Mary Bellis tells about the humble origins of the original formula that, invented in 1893 by pharmacist Caleb Bradham of New Bern, NC, USA, would later become Pepsi Cola.

Bellis, who died in March 2015, was an experimental artist, film producer and director. Nevertheless, most of all she was a self-employed writer for about 18 years, specialising in writing about inventors and inventions, and a former writer for ThoughtCo, the website from which I pulled out this story, to use it as an opening of the column.

Like many pharmacists at that time, Bradham ran a soda fountain in his drugstore. There, he served drinks he himself created. His most famous was "Brad's drink," namely a mix of sugar, water, caramel, lemon oil, kola nuts, nutmeg, and other additives. When he started selling it, in a blink of an eye, the beverage caught on; therefore, Bradham decided to give it a smart name. He chose Pepsi-Cola. At first, it had been advertised as a digestive aid, attracting consumers with the slogan, "Exhilarating, Invigorating, Aids Digestion." Then...

Well, I would go on indeed, but I prefer to let you have the pleasure of reading by yourselves its whole story that is about success, bankruptcy, revival, postwar rise and the new generation. Enjoy!

JOURNAL ISSUES

Health Information and Libraries Journal: Contents of December 2019 (36:4)

Review Articles

Impact of pharmacy medicine information service advice on clinician and patient outcomes: an overview.

Rutter J, Rutter P

Original Articles

- **Potential of technology to improve the availability and use of health information on cancer subjects for clergy from rural communities.**
Wallace R, Behringer B
- **Exploring the research culture in the Health Information Management profession in Australia.**
Kemp T, Finlayson L, Chan J, Lackey G, Richards D, Rupnik C, White H, Butler-Henderson K, Low S

- **Network analysis of intra-hospital transfers and hospital onset Clostridium difficile infection.**
McHaney-Lindstrom M, Hebert C, Miller H, Moffatt-Bruce S, Root E
- **Teaching information literacy skills to medical students: perceptions of health sciences librarians.**
Ullah M, Ameen K
- **Extending medical librarians' competencies to enhance collection organisation**
Bass MB, Allen TS, Vanderpool A, Capdarest-Arest N
- **Pre-requisites, barriers and advantages of clinical informationist participation in grand round: a qualitative study**
Zare-Farashbandi E, Zare-Farasbarandi F, Adini P, Rahimi A
- **Health information behaviour of rare disease patients: seeking, finding and sharing health information.**
Stanarević Katavić S
- **Fulfilling information needs of patients in online health communities**
Chen D, Zhang R, Feng J, Liu K
- **Optimal search strategies for identifying moderators and predictors of treatment effects in PubMed**
Tummers M, van Hoorn R, Levering C, Booth A, van der Wilt GJ, Kievit W

International Perspectives and Initiatives

- **Medical library services in Switzerland: catching up with EBM.**
Bissels G, Klein SD, de Kaenel I

FROM THE WEB

- **Keep your look, books!**
All about leather bindings conservation.

Why do books bound before the mid-19th are in better condition than those bound after the mid-19th century? What are the causes dyes fade on leather bindings? The answer relies on tanning processes, type of dyes, leather degradation and time-lapse. The Leather Discussion Group formed to look for an answer and determine the most appropriate products to pursue leather book conservation. Holly Herro, Senior Conservator and Kristi Wright, contract book conservator at NLM; plus Katie Wagner, Book Conservator at the Smithsonian Libraries and William Minter, Senior Book Conservator at the Pennsylvania State University Libraries are the permanent members of the Group, and present regular updates, including in 2018 in Houston as part of a symposium titled, "The Current Use of Leather in Book Conservation" and a poster titled "A Group Effort to Understand the Material Properties of all Leathers Both Old and New" at the 2019 annual meeting in Connecticut. Read the full post; it is very engaging.

HEARD FROM OUR MEMBERS

Maria-Inti Metzendorf, from Germany, has sent us the following useful resource to explore.

After last year's phasing out of PubMed Commons (see Jefferson T, Joshi, P: RIP Pubmed Commons. BMJ Opinion, Feb 2018) we would like to draw your attention to PubPeer. This website, established in 2012, enables post-publication peer review and is being maintained by the PubPeer Foundation, a California-registered public-benefit corporation with nonprofit status in the USA. PubPeer took over all comments published to PubMed Commons, but in contrast to PubMed Commons, it allows anonymous commenting.

PubPeer has highlighted shortcomings in several high-profile papers, in some cases leading to retractions and accusations of scientific fraud. Of course, the platform is not only valuable for discovering negative scientific practices but is mostly being used for fruitful discussion of published articles, therefore its byline "the online journal club".

You might wonder how you can stay alert of comments published on this platform, without actively having to search for them. PubPeer offers a handy browser plugin which automatically alerts you to a PubPeer comment on a published article, e.g. while accessing the article on a journal's website or PubMed. Look at the screenshots!

The image contains two screenshots of a PubMed article page. The top screenshot shows the article title "Is there an optimum number needed to retrieve to justify inclusion of a database in a review search?" with a PubPeer comment notification: "1 comment on PubPeer (by: Maria-Inti Metzendorf)". The bottom screenshot shows the same article on the journal's website, also with the PubPeer comment notification.

NOT ONLY BOOKS

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SOME INTERESTING FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

January 24-28, 2020, Chicago, IL, USA

American Library Association 2020 Symposium on the Future of Libraries

Info: <http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2019/05/2020-symposium-future-libraries-opens-call-session-proposals>

.... and many more to come!

Please feel free to contact me (letizia.sampaolo@iss.it) if you have any further suggestion about events you would like to promote.