



unnoticed revolutions?

time, space, and money

communication, coordination, and standards

making information?

History of information

Tuesday Feb 24, 2015

Advice to a young Tradefman, written by an old One. To my Friend A. B.
As you have defired it of me, I write the following Hints, which have been of Service to me, and may, if obferved, he fo to you.
REMEMBER that TIME is Money. He that can earn Ten Shillings a Day by hie Labour, and goes abroad, or fits idle one Half of that Day, tho' he fpends but Six-pence during his Diverfion or Idlenefs, ought not to reckon that the only Expence; he has really fpent, or rather thrown away Five Shillings befides.

ZKO. ERJ 1827 humant 484 / 11 1527 Curica up Jus 1. Bitty Farmer _ 1 .. 21. A. Buttle sal the 4 Children's books School of maker by presimate 106. 5 Placed in The 3/ Cents 300 . (Lying The Cherity when it here It) 24 Pauli (Famier) 15. -. In Thankongies account 69 19 Brown (under Info) Rupit & Prigg (lan) 2 12. Lewis for a shout_ 2 10 . 8. Maber for Charities 416 2 176 26 troust a Jane Hodykinson's bile 22 16. 28 154 30 Corpers bile 7 106 Stubb's d" -4 18 10 D: black sill Rendolph - & Fitzeles 3 11 J.N. _ Fel 15 M. " have das farmilie 25 6 12 D. T. masternes on 1 Buter acc. 1 1826 42 In Theyate. bile -Franing (hickola) Classhis 16 Haughler Stationer 7 98 10 2. h Day's like Henrife & James - 16 9 There of a SI h. And The 5 ... D. Drep for LY D. Howard 3 17 2.10. Charghi for downings 11 1 10 hickolinis 23 Redongyne (L'Sowerly ion) 2) 10 1 6 Arneuld (Time) 3 6 28. Bellence & Grances are to free har Hills. Jeyland Felting Hollongworth , Teller , Trace 484 11 22 16 8 edurand Elean 20026. 627 8 11

History of information **Tuesday** Feb 24, 2015 what day? mardi All a Tiwitter? dienstag tuesday: Originally cognate with or formed similarly to Old terça-feira Frisian tīesdei , ... the genitive of the Germanic base of the name मंगलवार of (the god) Tiw 星期二 火曜日 יום שלי איי

History of information Tuesday **Feb** 24, 2015

feverish dates

pure and simple?

Anglo-Norman feverer,

feverrer, feveryer,

feverzere, feverell,

februer, februare,

februarie, etc., ...

means of purification, expiatory offerings, of

uncertain origin

24 February

février [9 ventôse]

feverio

二月

Phalugra 9 [Indian]

Rabi`athani 18 [Islam]

Adar 5 [Jewish]

Esfand 9 [Persian]



History of information Tuesday Feb 24, **2015**

happy 5 times a year?

4713 - Chinese New Year: Feb 19 (sheep)

> 1393 - Persian New Year: March 21

5775 - Jewish New Year: September 13-15

1436 - Islamic

New Year: October 13-14



"the temptation to lie in an extra hour in the morning" - Thompson

and that 9:30?

"Formerly [i.e. before the 14th century] the hours were commonly reckoned as each equal to one-twelfth of the natural day or night, whatever its length (called planetary, temporary, or unequal hours); the equal hours were sometimes distinguished as equinoctial, being each equal to a temporary hour at the equinoxes, sidereal hour, solar hour, 24th part of a sidereal, or solar, day."



counting down

minute: Despite its currency as the name of a sexagesimal division in geometry, the first systems of time-reckoning in which minutum was used were **non-sexagesimal** ... Although there was some variation in these systems, in Old English contexts, minutum usually meant one-tenth of an hour. ... When Honorius Augustodunensis divided the hour into sixtieths in De Imagine mundi (early 12th cent.), he called the sixtieths ostenta. These sixtieths were sometimes called *minuta* by the end of the 12th cent. (e.g. in the chronicle of Robertus de Monte), although the word continued to be used of tenths of an hour at least into the 13th cent. ... Until the 16th cent., the rarity of mechanical clocks meant that references to precise subdivisions of the hour such as the minute were most often made in theoretical and astronomical treatises; hence the late occurrence of some of the Romance forms.

OED

second: < French seconde, < medieval Latin secunda , feminine of Latin secundus, used ellipt. for secunda minuta , lit. 'second minute', i.e. the result of the second operation of sexagesimal division; the result of the first such operation (now called 'minute' simply) being the 'first' or 'prime minute' or 'prime'.

counting down

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OED

putting the other "Rs" in their place

"The Scientific Revolution outshines everything since the rise of Christianity and reduces the Renaissance and Reformation to the rank of mere episodes, mere internal displacements within the system of medieval Christianity."

> — Herbert Butterfield, The Origins of Modern Science, 1300-1800, 1948

key machines

"It is commonplace that the years between 1300 and 1650 saw within the intellectual culture of Western Europe important changes in the apprehension of time."

— E.P.Thompson

"The clock, not the steam engine, is the key machine of the modern industrial age ... even today no other machine is so ubiquitous."

—Lewis Mumford, Technics & Civilization, 1934

II-HofII5-TSM 7







not just time

"The imperial pint (\approx 568 ml) is used in the United Kingdom and Ireland and to some extent in other Commonwealth nations. In the United States, two pints are used: a liquid pint (\approx 473 mL) and a less-common dry pint (≈ 551 mL). Each of these pints is one-eighth of its respective gallon but the gallons differ and the imperial pint is about 20% larger than the US liquid pint ... dates back to 1824, when the British Weights and Measures Act standardised various liquid measures throughout the British Empire, while the United States continued to use the earlier English measures. The imperial pint consists of 20 imperial fluid ounces and the US liquid pint is 16 US fluid ounces, making the imperial fluid ounce about 4% smaller —Wikipedia than the US fluid ounce."





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in your cups



The **cup** is a unit of measurement for volume, used in cooking to measure liquids (fluid measurement) and bulk foods such as granulated sugar (dry measurement). It is principally used in the United States and Liberia where it is a legally defined unit of measurement. ...



in your cups



The **cup** is a unit of measurement for volume, used in cooking to measure liquids (fluid measurement) and bulk foods such as granulated sugar (dry measurement). It is principally used in the United States and Liberia where it is a legally defined unit of measurement. ... The United States Customary Cup ... 236.5882365 millilitres The United States Legal Cup ... 240 milliliters





yards (rods, poles/perches)



yards (rods, poles/perches)

miles



yards (rods, poles/perches)

miles

nautical miles don't get us started



II-HofII5-TSM 10















feet 'n' inches			
yards (rods, poles/perches)			
miles			
nautical miles don't get us started			
furlongs			
acres			
ounces			
pounds (both lbs & £s)			
stones			
hundredweights			
tons			
Fahrenheit			

feet 'n' inches			
yards (rods, poles/perches)			
miles			
nautical miles don't get us started			
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hundredweights			
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Fahrenheit			
dates 6/7			

feet 'n' inches		
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pounds (both lbs & £s)		
stones		
hundredweights		
tons		
Fahrenheit		
dates 6/7		
shoe sizes		

yards (rods, poles/perches)

ZAPPOS.COM -MEASURE YOUR SHOE SIZE

nautical miles don't get us started

Men's Size Conversions					
US Sizes	Euro Sizes	UK Sizes	Inches	СМ	
6	39	5.5	9.25"	23.5	
6.5	39	6	9.5"	24.1	
7	40	6.5	9.625"	24.4	
7.5	40- 41	7	9.75"	24.8	
8	41	7.5	9.9375"	25.4	
8.5	41- 42	8	10.125"	25.7	
9	42	8.5	10.25"	26	
9.5	42- 43	9	10.4375"	26.7	
10	43	9.5	10.5625"	27	

furlongs

miles

acres

ounces

pounds (both lbs & £s)

stones

hundredweights

tons

Fahrenheit

dates 6/7

shoe sizes

II-HofII5-TSM 10

miles

yards (rods, poles/perches)

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ounces	24.1	9.5"	6	39	6.5				
	24.4	9.625"	6.5	40	7				
pounds (both lbs &	24.8	9.75"	7	40- 41	7.5				
stones	25.4	9.9375"	7.5	41	8				
	25.7	10.125"	8	41- 42	8.5				
hundredweights	26	10.25"	8.5	42	9				
tons	26.7	10.4375"	9	42- 43	9.5				
	27	10.5625"	9.5	43	10				
Fahrenheit									

	PLAN	
	FOR	
	INTRODUCING AN UNIFORMITY	
	0 8	
	WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	
£s)	WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE	
	BRITISH EMPIRE.	
	By the late SIR JAMES STEUART, BART. Author of the Political Economy.	
	PUBLISHED PROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT	
	By his Son, Sir J. STEUART, Bart. M. P.	
	LONDON:	

Printed for JOHN STOCKDALE, opposite Burlington House, Ficeadilly.-1740.

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shoe sizes

dates 6/7

miles

yards (rods, poles/perches)

ZAPPOS.COM -**MEASURE YOUR SHOE** SIZE

nautical miles don't get us started

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Fahrenheit										

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oppolite Burlington House, Ficcadilly .- 1790. first published, 1775

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shoe sizes

dates 6/7

11-Hof15-TSM 10

miles

yards (rods, poles/perches)

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			PLAN
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		"Weights	and measures, once established,

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shoe sizes

1700 Yards.

Land Meafure.

5 Yards and an Half, 1 Pole, Perch, or Rod.

- 40 Poles make I Furlong, or Quarter of an Acre. 160 Poles in Length, and 1 in Breadth, is I Acre.
- 80 Poles in Length, and 2 in Breadth, 1 Acre ; and
- 40 Poles in Length, and 4 in Breadth, 1 Acre.
- 4 Poles in Length make 1 Chain.
- to Chains in Length, and t in Breadth, make t Acre.

westward the course of chains ...



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westward the course of chains ...



< Sun 🚹 💟 🖨

2014: SNCR trains

(15bn euros; \$20.5bn; £12.1bn)

inconsequential?



1999: Mars orbiter (\$125m) in or cm?

2003: Laufenburg Bridge what height sea level?





French red faces over trains that are 'too wide'



time and money





time and money




time and money



— Richard II

where our time will be spent?

accounting

timely responses

time control

technologies of time

setting time

— Richard II

where our time will be spent?



timely responses

time control

technologies of time

setting time

Felix Canut Zea

April Hishinuma

Pippa Saunders

Benjamin Vanderschelden

Rose Anne Fabillar

Rafael Soto

Wendy Xue

Arielle Spencer

— Richard II

where our time will be spent?



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Rafael Soto

Wendy Xue

Arielle Spencer

setting time

... and no doubt pushed for time

11-Hof115-TSM 14

713 bce: 153 bce:

*

*

setting time

*

*

8th century bce: 10 month calendar 2 months added beginning of the year moved from March to January

Roman rules



II-HofII5



Luigi Lilio d 1576



Gregory XII 1502-1585

"Of all the days i' the year, I came to't that day that our last king Hamlet overcame Fortinbras."

further uncertainties

the year dot: Dionysius Exiguus (c 470-544 ce)

day one

January I (Julian Calendar)

March 25 (Ascension, Council of Tours, 567)

the equal hour

14th century

the struggle for Easter

1582: Gregorian Calendar (leap years, centurial years)

the big leap

Thursday October 4 to Friday October 15



Luigi Lilio d 1576



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java.lang.Object

java.util.Calendar

java.util.GregorianCalendar

public class GregorianCalendar

the struggle for Easter

I 582: Gregorian Calendar (leap years, centurial years)

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Thursday October 4 to Friday October 15



John Wallis 1616-1703

QUARTER DAYS Lady Day 25 March Midsummer 24 June Michaelmas 29 Sept Christmas 25 Dec

old time religion

Orthodox & Protestant resistance

"latent Popish interest"

--John Wallis, **FRS**, Savilian Professor of Geometry, Oxford

popular superstition

The Landlord calls for Rent before 'tis due, King's Tax, and Windows, Poor, and Parson too; With Numbers more, our Grandsires never knew. Domestick Servants all will have their Pay, And force their Masters e're the Quarter Day.



anglo-american resistance

behind the times

Gregorian Calendar — 1752

Wednesday September 2

Thursday September 14

complaints from Montaigne to Pynchon

"give us back our eleven days"



* setting time

*

*

revolutionary change

Si, à l'expiration des six annees, le présent Traité n'est pas dénoncé un an à l'avance, il continuera à être obligatoire d'année en année, jusqu'à ce que l'une des deux Hautes Parties contractantes ait anuoncé à l'autre, mais un an à l'avance, son intention d'en faire cesser les effets.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé le présent Traité et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Fait à Saint-Pétersbourg, le 14 (2) juin de l'an de grâce 1857.

(L. S.) Signé MORNY.

(L. S.) Signe GORTCHACOW.

(L. S.) Signé BROCK.

Russia

Wednesday Jan 31, 1918

Thursday Feb 14, 1918

Turkey

December 18, 1926

January I, 1927



* * setting time

*

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revolutionary change



French decimalization

year I again (1793)

10 days a week

10 months a year

New Year September

an urban revolution?

Vendémiaire, Brumiare, Frimiare, Nivôse, Pluviôse, Ventose, Germinal, Floréal, Prairial, Messidor, Thermidor, Fructidor



"Weights and measures, once established, survive the greatest **revolutions**."

revolutionary change



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setting time



accounting

timely responses

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setting time

11-Hofl15-TSM 21



"Most of what has c.5000 bce been written about Stonehenge is nonsense"

— R.J.C.Atkinson

'World's oldest calendar' discovered in Scottish field



the long then



c. 3100 bce





antikythera c 200 bce



"Most of what has c.5000 bce been written about Stonehenge is nonsense"

— R.J.C.Atkinson

'World's oldest calendar' discovered in Scottish field



the long then

Whan that Aprill with his shoures soote The droghte of March hath Perced to the roote, And bathed every veyne in swich licour Of which vertu engendred is the flour; Whan Zephirus eek with his sweete breeth Inspired hath in every holt and heeth The tendre croppes, and the yonge sonne Hath in the ram his halve cours yronne, And smale foweles maken melodye, That slepen al the nyght with open ye (so priketh hem nature in hir corages); Thanne longen folk to goon on pilgrimages...



antikythera c 200 bce



c. 3100 bce



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22



clock time



3500 bce: sundials

1400 bce: Egyptian water clocks

700 ce: hourglasses

1086: Su Sung's water tower







"Wel sikerer was his crowyng in his logge Than is a clokke, or an abbey orlogge"

higher tech



Richard of Wallingford 1292-1336

1300: mechanical clocks Richard of Wallingford

1656: Huygens pendulum clock

1660: Hooke & the spring watch







politics: a mechanical explanation?

Ottomans Mayr, Authority, Liberty, and Automatic Machinery in Early Modern Europe 1989 coming up 4/7: Computer "revolution"

looking ahead

automata 86 The Antiquity Chap. VI. Chap. VI. of Clock-work: modum dentata, quæ una motione coalia, Clocks, and fome other Automata, might verfando faciunt effectus, varietatefque motionum : in quibus moventur Sigilla, ver tuntur Metæ, calculi aut Tona projiciuntur, blivion) might be revived there. But

computus

84 Scaligeri Poetices in 2 Vol. interfol. 85 Cluverii computus chronologicus, interfol.

feedback mechanisms

"feedback control dates at least from the waterclock of Ktesibios of Alexandria [3d C BC] no new feedback system [until the] thermostatic furnace."

--Beniger, Control through Communication



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3500 bce: sundials

Mechanick Dyalling:

TEACHING

Any Man, though of an Ordinary Capacity and unlearned in the Mathematicks, to draw a True

SUN-DYAL

On any

Given Plane,

However feituated : Only with the help of a ftraight RULER and a pair of COMPASSES; And without any Asidametical Calculation.

By Joseph Moxon, Hydrographer to the Kings most Excellent Majesty.

LONDON.

Printed for Jefeph Moxon on Ludgate-bill, at the Sign of Atlas. M DC LXVIII





First, Draw the Meridian or 12 o'Clock Line $B \land C'$ and crofs the fame with the Line D E, at right Angles in the Point A, which must be the Center of your Dial, and the Line D E, is the 6 o'Clock Line; then take with your Compasses for Degrees from a Line of Chords, and with that Extent, fetting one Foot in the Center at A, with the other definite the Circle DOE, which done, take from the fame Line of Chords, all the Hour Arches in the following Table; and placing one Foot of your Compasses in O, (where the Circle croffes the Meridian) with the other fet off the Hour Arches both Ways upon the Circle D O E.

Hours.		Hour.
Fore- noon.	After- noon.	D. M.
11	1	1 9 40
10	2	20 22
9	3	32 44
8	4	48 4
7	5	67 2

. . .

computus

1668: Joseph Moxon, Mechanick Dyalling

1748: George Fisher, American Instructor

"the Art of Dialling, and how to erect and fix any *Dial*"



log to longitude



L O N D O N, Printed by John Baskett, Printer to the Queens most Excellent Majeky, And by the Affigue of Thomas Neurcomb,

and Henry Hills, deceas'd. 1714.

time, space, and naval supremacy

starvation, piracy, wrecks

1480: Regimento do Astrolabio e do Quadrante [Portugal]

- **1707:** Sir Cloudesley Shovell's fleet
- 1,315 sailors; one survivor

1714: Longitude Act£20,000 - to fix longitude to half a degree





various contenders

time, space, and whelping dogs

Galileo, Newton, Huygens, Halley and the heavens Wren's observatory

vs nutters galore





John Harrison 1693-1776

RS plays defense



Printed by T. and J. W. PASHAM, in Black-Frian, and Sold by the BOOKSELLERS, in London and Weftminiber. M.DCC.LERIE.

LONDON:

Harrison vs Men of Science

Printed for the AUTHOR, and Sold by

Mr. SANDEY, in Fleet-Street,

MDCCLXV.

HI - Lisbon Trial, 1736

awarded prize, 1773

OFTHE O F ONA PROCEEDINGS MR. HARRISON'S TIME-KEEPER, PAMPHLET RELATIVE TO The DISCOVERY of WITH Lately published by the THE PLATES OF THE SAME. Rev. Mr. MASKELYNE. Longitude at Sea; Under the AUTOPRICT of the 2.1 PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF Mr. JOHN HARRISON's BOARD OF LONGITUDE. THE COMMISSIONERS OF LONGITUDE ER TIME-KEEPER; Subfequent to those published in the Year LONDON: 1763. By JOHN HARRISON. PRINTED BY W. RICHARDION AND S. CLARK ; LONDON: LONDON: JOHN NOURCE, AND MESS. MOUNT AND PAGE.

THE

PRINCIPLES

M DCC LXVII.

Printed for W. SANDEY in Fleetftreet. MDCCLXVII. (PRICE SIXPENCE,)

REMARKS

DESCRIPTION CONCERNING SUCH MECHANISM AS WILL AFFORD A SUCE, OR TRUE MENSURATION OF TIME; TOCETHER WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF TRE ATTEMPTS for the DISCOVERY OF THE LONGITUDE BY THE MOON: AS ALSO AN ACCOUNT DISCOVERY OF THE SCALE OF MUSICK. By JOHN HARRISON. INVENTER of the TIME-KEEPER for the LONGITUDI at SEA.

LONDON tinted for the AUTHOR, and fold by T. JONES, No. 138, FETTER-LANE. M.DCC.LXXV.





going global

standardization and resistance

- **c1850:** telegraph time
- **1852:** Greenwich mean time
- 1883: US standard time
- **1884:** Meridian Conference, DC
- **1911:** France: Cassini Meridian
- **1966:** Uniform Time Act









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[cp Franklin,

letter to Journal of Paris, 1784]





deep time





Charles Darwin 1809-1882

geological time

Lyell: "time, time, time"



4712 - Chinese New Year: Jan 31 (horse)

1392 - Persian March 20 (04:03:13 am)

> 5774 - Jewish September 25

1435 - Islamic October 24

Darwin: "I really think my books come half out of Lyell's brain."







early alarms

bell tolling

1335: Amiens start of work, lunch, end of the day controlled by bell rung by the city

--decree of Phillip VI

1664: "that as many as might live within the sound might be thereby induced to a timely going to rest in the evening, and early arising in the morning to the labours and duties of their several callings"


fields to factories

an incomplete transition

"The work pattern was one of alternate bouts of intense labour and idleness, wherever men were in control of their working lives. (The pattern persists among some selfemployed, and perhaps also among students.)

"the industrial revolution demanded a greater synchronization of labour"

--Thompson



Laurence Sterne 1713-1768

THE Clockmakers Outcry

AUTHOR

OF

The LIFE and OPINIONS of TRISTRAM SHANDY.

Dedicated to the

Moft Humble of Chriftian Prelates.

Tu es Sacerdos fecundum ordinem Melchifedech? Art thou a Prieft according to the Order of MEL-CHISEDECH?

L O N D O N : Printed for J. BURD, near the Temple Gate, Fleet-fireet.

invasive clocks

Pray dear, quoth my mother, have you not forgot to wind up the clock? Good G--! cried my father...Did ever woman, since the creation of the world, interrupt a man with such a silly question? — Laurence Sterne, *Tristram Shandy*, 1759

"No modest lady dares to mention a word about winding up a clock ...Nay, the common expression of street-walkers is, "Sir, will you have your clock wound up"

--The Clockmaker's Outcry against the Author, 1760



factory discipline

"index"

Wedgwood's Etruria

"the first recorded system of clocking-in" - Thompson

"tell-tale clocks"



Coming up: Advertising



battles ahead

"a vigorous and licensed popular culture had evolved, which the propagandists of discipline regarded with dismay"

"fight, not against time, but about it"





II-HofII5-TSM 37

Coming up ip



Perhaps the first novel to give the REAL dayjob, in the world of offices-and in love. st interested read. ing and serious discussion TARPER & BROTHERS, PUBLISHERS,

time machines

"Machines were the Pemberton force .. Machines for opening letters and sealing them, automatic typewriters, dictation phonographs, pneumatic chutes. But none of the other machines was so tyrannical as the time-clock ... She knew that the machines were supposed to save work. But she was aware that the girls worked just as hard and long and hopelessly after their introduction as before."

—Sinclair Lewis, The Job, 1917

schools "a spectacle of order and regularity ... they are become more tractable" --Thompson

time, money, & education

Wedgwood to Wordsworth

*

time control

*

"They who have the art To manage books, and things, and make them work Gently on infant minds as does the sun Upon the flower - the tutors of our youth, The Guides, the Wardens of our faculties, And Stewards of our labour, watchful men And skilful in the usury of time, Sages, who in their prescience would controul All accidents, and to the very road Which they have fashion'd would confine us down, Like engines."

-William Wordsworth, Prelude, 1850

schools "a spectacle of order and regularity ... they are become more tractable" --Thompson

time, money, & education

"The Nonequivalence Wedgwood to Wordsworth of High School "They who have the art Equivalents" To manage books, and things, and make them work Stephen V. Cameron Gently on infant minds as does the sun & James J. Heckman, Upon the flower - the tutors of our youth, 1991 The Guides, the Wardens of our faculties, And Stewards of our labour, watchful men And skilful in the usury of time, Sages, who in their prescience would controul All accidents, and to the very road Which they have fashion'd would confine us down, Like engines." -William Wordsworth, Prelude, 1850

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Stephen V. Cameron

& James J. Heckman, 1991 "The To manage books, and the Genthy on infant minds Upon the flower - the the The Guides, the Wardens And Stewards of our hal And skilful in the usu: Sages, who in their pre All accidents, and to the Which they have fashion Like engines."

High-School Equivalency Degree Loses Its Dominant Position

More States Pick Alternatives to GED After Revamping Makes It Harder and Costlier for Test Takers



GED instructor Marcia Leister, standing in center, directs a class discussion at Bellingham Technical College in Bellingham, Wash., this month. PHOTO: DAVID RYDER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

By CAROLINE PORTER Feb. 9, 2015 12:37 p.m. ET

15 COMMENTS

For more than seven decades, the GED has reigned as the gold standard for high-school-equivalency certificates, a time-honored way for dropouts, immigrants and late bloomers to demonstrate familiarity with educational basics and get a foothold in the job market.



closer to home



confining us down like engines?

"There is a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious, makes you so sick at heart, that you can't take part; you can't even passively take part, and you've got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels, upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you've got to make it stop. And you've got to indicate to the people who run it, to the people who own it, that unless you're free, the machine will be prevented from working at all!"



Amazon Mechanical Turk: The Digital Sweatshop

Unbeknownst to most users, our technological revolution depends in large part on the cheap-labor microtasking of Amazon Mechanical Turk and other tech employers.

By Ellen Cushing, from East Bay Express January/February 2013





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"There i

becomes :

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Microtasking works by outsourcing small, virtual tasks to an army of online workers, who then perform them for pennies.

Illustration By Blair Kelly

Slideshow

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"There i

becomes

that you

BUSINESS 11/25/2013 @ 11:17AM | 16,588 views

Amazon.com Is Accused Of Abusive Work Conditions After BBC Secretly Videotapes Warehouse

+ Comment Now + Follow Comments

Is Amazon driving its workers so hard they risk "mental and physical illness"? That's the opinion of Sir Michael Marmot, a top expert on the causes of stroke and heart disease at the University of London, after viewing video



Sir Michael Marmot: risk of "mental and physical illness" at Amazon. (Photo credit: Wikipedia)

footage secretly recorded at Amazon's mammoth warehouse in Swansea, Wales, by Adam Littler, an undercover reporter for the BBC who took a job at the facility.



Microtasking works by outsourcing small, virtual tasks to an army of online workers, who then perform them for pennies.

Illustration By Blair Kelly

Slideshow

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"My pulse, as yours,

doth temperately keep time" —Hamlet

self-control

the running on time

The Economist World politics Business & finance Economics Science & technology Culture

Technology Quarterly: Q1 2012 -

The quantified self Counting every moment

Technology and health: Measuring your everyday activities can help improve your quality of life, according to aficionados of "self-tracking"

Mar 3rd 2012 From the print edition

THE idea of measuring things to chart progress towards a goal is commonplace in large organisations. Governments tot up trade figures, hospital waiting times and exam results; companies measure their turnover, profits and inventory. But the use of metrics by individuals is rather less widespread, with the notable exceptions of people who are trying to lose weight or improve their fitness. Most people do not routinely record their moods, sleeping patterns or activity levels, track how much alcohol or caffeine they drink or chart how often they walk the dog.















determined responses

anti-determinism

labor exploitation has nothing to do with time measurement since correlation doesn't mean causation. In conclusion, it is important to use technologies to positively enrich our lives just as Fisher suggests and avoid thinking that technologies have a life of themselves and that they are the ones that change us, as Thompson seems to think. - Felix Canut Zea

pro determinism

Thompson's argument, which follows McLuhan's idea of technological determinism, holds more weight than Fisher's. — April Hishinuma



"I do not wish to argue how far the change was due to the spread of clocks from the fourteenth century onwards, how far this was itself a symptom of a new Puritan discipline and bourgeois exactitude. However we see it, the change is certainly there." —Thompson

determined responses

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Fisher folk

pro-accounting

Because our society is far from this framework, it makes the technology of accounting very important for people in this nation to control their lives.

— Pippa Saunders

)

Fisher folk

There are still nations whom largely do not rely on exact times for minor everyday services and commitments. I personally experienced this in Kenya where I had to specify "mzungu time" to make clear I expected someone to be exactly on time (mzungu = European descent). While business men standing under shelters waiting for the rain to stop before continuing to work may be a more relaxed environment, it certainly hinders their economic power as a country; this is apparent in comparison with more developed countries. Fischer makes it clear that someone who works hard and focuses on saving rather than spending "will certainly become rich" (377). This is still a philosophy that many people have trouble with as most Americans live paycheck to paycheck. - Benjamin Vanderschelden



Thompsonians

M.K Ashby wrote that, " How few now know what it was ninety years ago to get in a harvest! Though the disinherited had no great part of the fruits, still they shared in the achievement, the deep involvement and joy of it" (Thompson, 63). Most people today still work for an hourly wage and with the assembly line technique utilized in these jobs, people have become more like machines governed by a clock.

- Rose Anne Fabillar



Thompsonians

For many of us, proper "time is money" managing skills may prove effective because we are already in a favorable position, future propagators of the system. However, for most people the hourly work filled day controls their lives. Unions, contracts and even salary paid workers are all concepts related to the appropriation of time that are present today. — Rafael Soto

Time has regimented every part of a person's life and has become inescapable and indisputable. The concept of time is amorphous, and people cannot truly grasp and control time as it can control us. —Wendy Xue

both?

I agree with Thompson that as time-telling technology and dependence on it grew, people's lives became more controlled, particularly by others, as they were held to a set schedule. However the ability to control your own life by taking initiative through accounting is more necessary today. So many rely on outside sources of organization like smartphone calendars and banking apps, rather than being personally responsible for their own time and money. The development of time technology has led significantly to the current social structure where "time is money" and every minute is scheduled. It led to Palm Pilots, Blackberries, and millions of smartphone apps designed to control and organize your life. Thus both ideas converged to create our society; people attempted to use accounting to be more reliable and invented new technology to do that for them, effectively removing many of the advantages of the method. — Arielle Spencer





putting the other "Rs" in their place

"The Scientific Revolution outshines everything since the rise of Christianity and reduces the Renaissance and Reformation to the rank of mere episodes, mere internal displacements within the system of medieval Christianity."

> — Herbert Butterfield, The Origins of Modern Science, 1300-1800, 1948

really radical change

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"Then, between ... 1275 and 1325 ... Europe's first mechanical clock and canon ... marine charts, perspective painting ... and doubleentry bookkeeping ... decades unmatched in their radical changes in perception until the era of Einstein ... In the past seven centuries bookkeeping has done more to change the perceptions of more bright minds than any single innovation in philosophy or science."

—Alfred Crosby, The Measure of Reality, 1997

accounting for time

"Time is money"

Advice to a young Tradesman, written by an old One. To my Friend A. B.

As you have defired it of me, I write the following Hints, which have been of Service to me, and may, if observed, he so to you.

REMEMBER that TIME is Money. He that can earn Ten Shillings a Day by his Labour, and goes abroad, or fits idle one Half of that Day, tho' he fpends but Six-pence during his Diversion or Idleness, ought not to reckon that the only Expence; he has really spent, or rather thrown away Five Shillings besides.

INSTRUCTOR: INSTRUCTOR: Journe Man's Best Companion. CONTAINING, Spelling, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetick,

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accounting

in an eafier Way than any yet published ; and how to qualify any Perfon for Bufinels, without the Help of a Master. Instructions to write Variety of Hands, with Copies both in Profe and Verfe. How to write Letters on Bufinels or Friendship. Forms of Indentures, Bonds, Bills of ________ Receipts, Wills, Leafes, Releafes, & e.

Alfo Merchants Accompts, and a fhort and eafy Methed of Shop and Book-keeping ; with a Deficiption of the feveral American Colonies.

Together with the Carpenter's Plain and Exact Rule : Shewing how to masfirie Carpenters, Japanes, Satajars, Bricklapers, Planferens, Plankers, Mafins, Glafters, and Painters Work. How! undertake each Work, and at what Price ; the Rates of each Conmodity, and the common Wages of Joarneymen ; with Guater's Line, and Caggribal's Defeription of the Siding-Rale.

Likewife the PRACTICAL GAUGER made Eafy ; the Ar: of Disting, and how to ereft and fix any Dial ; with Inftructions for Dying, Colouring, and making Colours.

To which is added,

The POOR PLANTERS PHYSICIAN. With Influctions for Marking on Linnen ; how to Pickle and Preferency to make divers Serie of Wine ; and many excellent Plaiflers, and Medicines, necessary in all Families.

And also Prudent Advice to young Tradefmen and Dealers. The whole better adapted to thefe American Colonies, then 5500 any other. Book of the like Kind.

By GEORGE FISHER, Accomptant. The Ninth Edition Revifed and Corrected.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by B. FRIMELIN and D. HALL, at the New-Printing-Office, in Marker-Street, 1748.



"Hear it not, Duncan, for it is a knell That summons thee to Heaven or to Hell" —Macbeth

a western indulgence



Pope Clement V 1260-1314

time, money, and eternity

1309: An indulgence to pardon a year's worth of sin costs one penny

 Anima in the one of t

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— Hannah More Two Wealthy Farmers, 1830 [in Thompson] -Hof115-TSM 52



accounting



Sumerian tablets

record keeping

the code of Hammurabi

"if a man has given on deposit without elders or contract ...[if] they contest it, there shall be no claim"

--Hammurabi, Babylon c 1700 bce



Rome

adversaria, codex accepti et dispensi, liber rationum



"The inventor of Accounting ..."

1494: Luca Pacioli Summa de Arithmetica

more reliable history

1211: proto double entry, Florence "Arabic" numerals, via al-Khwarizmi

c 1340: double entry in Genoa

1366: The Merchant of Prato (Francesco di Marco Datini)



II-HofII5-TSM 54



Luca Pacioli c 1445- 1517

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		Alfo Merchants Accompts, and a fhort and eafy Me- thod of Shop and Book-keeping; with a Defcription of the feveral American Colonies.
		Together with the Carpenter's Plain and Exact Rule : Shew- ing how to measure Carpenters, Joyners, Sawyers, Bricklayers, Pla- flerers, Plumbers, Masons, Glassers, and Painters Work. How undertake each Work, and at what Price; the Rates of each Con- modity, and the common Wages of Journeymen; with Gunter's Line,- and Coggesbal's Defcription of the Sliding-Rule.
		Likewife the PRACTICAL GAUGER made Eafy; the Art' of Dialling, and how to creft and fix any Dial; with Inftructions for Dying, Colouring, and making Colours.
		The POOR PLANTERS PHYSICIAN.
		With Inftructions for Marking on Linnen; how to Pickle and Preferenc; to make divers Sorts of Wine; and many excellenc Plaisters, and Medicines, necessary in all Families. And also
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		The whole better adapted to these American Colonies, than A
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		The Ninth Edition Rewifed and Corrected.
		PHILADELPHIA: Printed by B. FRANKLIN and D. HALL, at the New-Printing-Office, in Market-Street, 1748,

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Bought of William Wilkins, of Norton- Falgate, 120 Yards of white Sarcenet, at 2s. 3d. per Yard, to pay in two Months 13 10	Together with the Carpenter's Plain and Exact Rule : Shew- ing how to measure Carpenters, Joyners, Sawyers, Bricklayers, Pla- flerers, Plumbers, Masons, Glassers, and Painters Work. How undertake each Work, and at what Price ; the Rates of each Con- modity, and the common Wages of Journeymen ; with Gunter's Line,- and Coggesbal's Description of the Sliding-Rule.
	Likewife the PRACTICAL GAUGER made Eafy; the Art' of Dialling, and how to creft and fix any Dial; with Inftructions for Dying, Colouring, and making Colours.
	The POOR PLANTERS PHYSICIAN.
	With Inftructions for Marking on Linnen; how to Pickle and Preferenc; to make divers Sorts of Wine; and many excellenc Plaiflers, and Medicines, necessary in all Families. And also
	Prudent Advice to young Trade men and Dealers.
	The whole better adapted to these American Colonies, than A
	By GEORGE FISHER, Accomptant.
	The Ninth Edition Rewised and Corrected.
	PHILADELPHIA: Printed by B. FRANKLIN and D. HALL, at the New-Printing-Office, in Market-Street, 1748,








Advice to a young Tradefman, written by an old One. To my Friend A. B. As you have defired it of me, I write the following Hints, which have been of Service to me, and may, if obferved, he fo to you. EMEMBER that TIME is Money. He that can earn Ten Shillings a Day by hie Labour, and goes abroad, or fits idle one Half of that Day, tho' he fpends but Six-pence during his Diversion or Idleness, ought not to reckon that the only Expence; he has really spent, or rather thrown away Five Shillings besides.

accounting

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Beware of thinking all your own that you poffers, and of living accordingly. 'Tis a Miftake that many People who have Credit fall into. To prevent this, keep an exact Account for fome Time of both your Expences and your Incomes. If you take the Pains at first to mention Particulars, it will have this good Effect : you will difcover how woulerfully fmall trifling Expences mount up to large Sums, and will difcern what might have been, and may for the future be faved, without occasioning any great Inconvenience.



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accounting

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"spelling reading writing arithmetic ... how to qualify any person for business ... write letters ... Merchants Accompts ... the several American Colonies"

"The next Qualification to fit a Man for Business, after Arithmetick, is the Art of Book-Keeping or Merchants Accompts, after the Italian Manner, by Way of Double Entry."

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Journal

Leidger



real determinism?



How the merchants of Venice shaped the modern world and how their invention could make or break the planet

JANE GLEESON-WHITE



Max Weber (1864-1920) 'Protestant ethic'

rational capitalist accounting 'desacralization' (cp Darnton)

Werner Sombart (1863-1941)

"abstraction of profit [leads to] economic calculation ... systemic organization ... depersonalization."



real determinism?



Max Weber (1864-1920) 'Protestant ethic'

rational capitalist accounting 'desacralization' (cp Darnton)

Werner Sombart (1863-1941)

"abstraction of profit [leads to] economic calculation ... systemic organization ... depersonalization." "'Merchant's time' which Jacques Le Goff ... opposed to the time of the medieval church." -Thompson

accounting shift

"The Palace of the Bourse [stock exchange] ... The architecture of a building should be adapted to its function. As for the function ... it fills that to perfection: it is a stock exchange in France just as it would have been a temple in Greece ... on days of high religious solemnity, the theory of stockbrokers and jobbers can be majestically expounded"

—Victor Hugo, Notre Dame de Paris, 1831

" "ceci tuera cela"





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5/23/06	WITHD	Good Earth Groceries Groceries	۲	4456 PURCHASE	÷	27.36 P Open Split	Deposit	1,669.04	
5/23/06	EFT	Sun State Credit Cards				250.00		1,419.04	
		(Sun State)							
5/24/06 120	1209	Water Company				32.15		1,386.89	
		Utilities:Water							
5/27/06	EFT	Phone Company				47.62		1,339.27	Ă
		Utilities:Telephone							Ŧ

the books & the bottom line



II-HofII5-TSM 61



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Free Accounting Software



5/23/06	WITHD	Good Earth Groceries Groceries	4456 PURCHASE	÷	27.36 Doen Solt	Deposit	1,669.04	
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		Utilities:Telephone						F

the books & the bottom line



"The Symptoms of a Bankrupt Nation are easily discerned" accounting

balancing acts



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David Hume 1711-1776

personal and public debt

"Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery."

—Charles Dickens, David Copperfield

"apprehension of the wrong balance of trade, appears of such a nature, that it discovers itself wherever one is out of humour with the ministry, or is in low spirits." —David Hume, "Of the Balance of Trade," 1752 "The Symptoms of

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FAQ: Reinhart, Rogoff, and the Excel Error That Changed History

By Peter Coy 🏏 | April 18, 2013





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Photograph by Gregor Schuster

Harvard University economists Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff have acknowledged making a spreadsheet calculation mistake in a 2010 research paper, "Growth in a Time of Debt" (PDF), which has been widely cited to justify budgetcutting. But the authors stand by their conclusion that higher government debt is



Greece Still Has A Vast Problem It Doesn't Have A Primary Budget Surplus

Greece readies reform plans to first + Comment Now + Follow Comments sign of leftist unrest apprehension

BY ANGELIKI KOUTANTOU AND KAROLINA TAGARIS ATHENS Mon Feb 23, 2015 1:43pm EST

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Things were finally looking up for Greeceafter 6 years of recession, and now it'sfalling apart againThe Observ

A Greek 'Deal' Does Not Solve Eurozone's Woes

The Observer view on Greece, bailouts and the euro

Without the single currency and bailouts, Greek, Irish and Portuguese banking systems would have collapsed. Anti-Europeans should acknowledge this



in sum

coordination demands standards, and setting standards is hard

it's often easier to go to war

- standards war
- or real war

coming up: Communications "revolution"



coming up

26 Feb: Reference Books and the Organization of Knowledge

Required Readings McArthur, Tom. 1986. "Reference and Revolution" & "Thematic Lexicography," chapters 13 & amp 14 in Worlds of Reference. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Source: Course reader.

Additional Reading Nunberg, Geoffrey. 2013. "Noted." *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Jan. 7. *Source:* CHE [hyperlink (Links to an external site.)