

Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin • County Historian



Column A

1. Consumption
2. buttery or butt'ry
3. kas
4. peel
5. blow boy
6. swill
7. drummer
8. running board
9. huckster
10. chiffonier
11. lollapalooza
12. central
13. titivated
14. pathmaster
15. fag
16. cuspidor
17. copse
18. biggity
19. buttonhook
20. chilblains
21. gimcrack
22. Hobnob
23. antimacassar
24. clinker
25. clothespress
26. prattle

Column B

- A. high narrow chest of drawers
- B. long-handled shovel used in a brick baking oven
- C. something real outstanding
- D. doily for upholstered furniture
- E. telephone operator
- F. cigarette
- G. cheap showy object
- H. tuberculosis
- I. traveling salesman
- J. street peddler, one that hawks
- K. armoire, or wardrobe as in furniture
- L. closet for garments
- M. ashes fused together in a coal furnace
- N. step on the side of an older car
- O. to drink sociably
- P. childish chatter
- Q. slop or garbage for feeding pigs
- R. all spruced up
- S. youngster who years ago pumped air in bellows for a pipe organ
- T. pantry
- U. forerunner of the town highway superintendent
- V. spittoon
- W. swollen feet or hands, due to cold
- X. conceited
- Y. small tool for buttoning shoes
- Z. a grove of trees

Answers

1-H, 2-T, 3-K, 4-B, 5-S, 6-Q, 7-I, 8-N, 9-J, 10-A, 11-C, 12-E, 13-R, 14-U, 15-F, 16-V, 17-Z, 18-X, 19-Y, 20-W, 21-G, 22-O, 23-D, 24-M, 25-L, 26-P

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ABANDONED TERMINOLOGY

We live in a world of constant change of which nothing escapes, not even our language. There are many words which past generations used that have not become obsolete or their meaning different. If someone nowadays were to use the word "drummer" you'd naturally think of a person who plays a drum. However, the word "drummer", to a person one hundred years ago, could have meant something entirely different. Every generation has its own terminology. Fifty years ago everything was "copacetic". Nowadays it's "totally awesome!"

Although this article has been arranged as a matching game for sheer pleasure it may help expand your vocabulary. Older people will surely recognize many of the terms such as "running board". But it is dubious to say how many adolescents would be familiar with a "running board", which shows how quickly things really do change. Even if you are familiar with these words, I'll bet it's been a long time since you've heard some of them.

Column A contains the words which would have at some time in the past, been commonly used. Column B contains the meanings which can be matched up to the proper word. To check your knowledge, the answers are given at the bottom.