Iowa Science Teachers Journal

Volume 16 | Number 2

Article 6

1979

Perpetual Motion

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Recommended Citation

(1979) "Perpetual Motion," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 16: No. 2, Article 6. Available at: https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol16/iss2/6

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Reference

The Scientific American articles collected in Cosmology + 1, ed. O. Gingerich (Freeman, San Francisco, 1977), provides a good start for further reading.

Perpetual Motion

Fig. 1 shows a device that performs almost like a perpetual motion machine. To make the device, fill can A full of water and leave can B empty. Place in stoppers and tubes as illustrated making sure the system is airtight. Note that the tubes going to and from the funnel go deep into the cans and that the air tubes do not. To start the machine, pour a beaker of water into the funnel in can B and position the cans so that can A is about 2.5 cm higher than can B. What causes the machine to run? What causes it to stop?

Science Newsletter (March 1978), North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.



Iowa Autumns

Driest Month (State Average): 0.02" - Oct. 1952

Highest Barometric Pressure: 31.09" — Sioux City — Dec. 29, 1917

From Iowa's Weather by Paul Waite.