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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

Fixing the Blame

In "British History in the Nineteenth Century," G. M. Trevelyan, starting out with a hasty review of the eighteenth century personalities and events, comments on reactions in England to the French revolution.

Trevelyan says, "The French revolution... caused among the well-to-do over here a horrible recoil from a considerable freedom of thought in religion and politics, to a hard and narrow timidity of a class alarmed for its privileges and possessions. There was a concurrent change in manners [from license or gaiety to hypocrisy or to virtue]."

"Family prayers spread from the middle to the upper class. 'It was a wonder to the lower orders, wrote the Annual Register for 1798, 'throughout all parts of England, to see the avenues to the churches filled with carriages. This novel appearance prompted the simple country people to inquire what was the matter?'"

You will note that there were two sorts of reaction, the economic and the religious.

The first brought about suppression of personal liberties, as expressed in speeches, meetings, writings. The second—of course an anti-Jacobin movement—paved the way for the evangelical surge of the times, respectable and influential people like William Wilberforce "getting religion" and becoming dissenters and pietists.

Finally it was this movement, coupled with the active support of the Quakers, that put over the anti-slavery campaign, slave trading at that time being the chief factor in England's contact with Africa.

Incidentally, Trevelyan points out what a profoundly important event it was that, on the eve of the industrial era, the slave trade should have been done away with. He suggests an appalling picture of what the situation might have been had British labor, in the days of the machine age, been forced to compete with a free African slave market.

It has, of course, not been unthought of that the otherwise unaccountable present indifference in this country to civil liberties is a repercussion of the Russian revolution. The witch-burning anti-labor crowd has advertised adequately that idea by the language used publicly in referring to labor agitators and other economic reformers.

It might likewise be worth while to consider whether the Ku-Klux Klan and other manifestations of religious intolerance are similarly a reaction to the Russian debacle.

If there is anything in this notion, we have come out at the little end of the horn. The French revolution, in England, produced an evangelical movement, which in turn forced an anti-slavery bill through the house of commons. That perhaps made it possible for England to survive the new century of industrial development.

But, if the Russian revolution had anything to do with American religious phenomena, then we must blame it for the eighteenth amendment, the Volstead act and the synthetic substitutes for good liquors that now flood the country.

Broun and the Preachers

Heywood Broun undertakes to prove that newspaper men are a more intelligent lot and more effective for righteousness than preachers. This makes pleasant reading for newspaper men, even though they discount the opinion of Broun as a newspaper man himself. Pleasant reading it is, but not so convincing.

He says "neither the League, the World court, nor the Kellogg pact has been much aided by the church." As a matter of fact, all three of those movements have been consistently and, within the limitations of their possibilities, effectively supported by the churches. Ask any politician.

Only a handful of ministers stood out against the war, says Broun, but can he name a handful of editors who printed only the truth during the war?

Compared to the standpat atmosphere of the churches, the conservatism of the press is red radicalism, Broun would have you believe. Maybe so, but we can recall many a fight for civic causes or in behalf of oppressed labor made by preachers while the press remained silent and inactive.

Speaking for the press as a whole, we'd like to deserve Broun's kind words. But it just happens that he doesn't persuade us that he's altogether right.

America's Shame

America is still the only civilized country in which men lynch their fellows. Mississippi heads the dishonor roll. On New Year's eve a Mississippi mob burned to death Charles Shepard, Negro. It was the fourth mob crime of the year in that state, compared with six lynchings during 1928 in all other states combined. In only three of the ten cases was rape charged.

There can be no possible justification for lynching in a country of law. The south is justly proud of the bravery and fidelity of its law officers who prevented twenty-one lynching attempts last year. Unfortunately, certain Mississippi officials do not share that sense of duty.

The murder of Shepard was especially despicable. This Negro, guilty of killing a man and accused of assaulting a girl, voluntarily surrendered to an unarmed woman on the promise that he should be taken to jail. His legal conviction and punishment was a certainty. The woman tried desperately to keep her promise. But the mob loved blood more than justice.

Not So Simple

Nine men, most of whom have only a casual acquaintance with the problems of railroad transportation, are being called upon this week to determine whether the interstate commerce commission is to be junked as an effective railroad rate regulating agency. The famous O'Fallon case is before the supreme court.

The direct issue involved is the method to be used in fixing the valuation of the railroads for rate-making purposes.

Because prices have risen greatly since much of the railroad equipment of the United States was acquired, the manager of the railroads want the valuation based upon a hypothetical calculation of what it would cost to reproduce the equipment today.

The interstate commerce commission, on the contrary, wants the valuation based more nearly on original cost.

If the supreme court favors the railroads' contention, millions will be added to their valuation. The result, according to the commission, will be that the rail-

roads, to earn a "fair return" on this valuation, will be authorized to collect rates higher than the traffic will bear, and effective control of rates will be impossible. If valuation at reproduction cost were clearly essential to just treatment of railroad owners, the supreme court might proceed to do simple justice, regardless of our laboriously developed system of railroad regulation.

The issue of railroad valuation, however, presents no such simple problem of justice.

While valuation at reproduction cost was favorable to one group of railroad owners because of the rise of prices in recent years, it would become disastrous to them if prices should suffer a serious decline.

Also, valuation of reproduction cost would benefit principally a relatively small group of owners of railroad stock, and would be of only slight benefit to a much larger group of railroad bondholders who are paid a fixed rate of interest, regardless of what happens to prices generally.

A Chance to Redeem

The senate now has a chance to redeem its failure of last month. Thanks to an effective revolt led by Senators Norris and King before holiday adjournment, prolonged delay in consideration of the Kellogg anti-war treaty can be prevented. The treaty will come up today.

More than the necessary two-thirds of the senate have declared in favor of prompt and unqualified ratification. Senator Borah and his committee associates officially charged with responsibility of getting favorable action should have no difficulty in keeping the treaty on the floor daily until it is disposed of.

Considering the brevity and clarity of the text, and the months of official and unofficial discussion, one week should be sufficient for the small opposition to present its case and permit a vote.

The time element is important. A moral gesture, such as this treaty, loses much of its force through delay. Other signatories are withholding ratification until the United States, author of the treaty, has acted.

But with the best intent in the world, the senate may be unable to ratify if it allows the treaty to get caught in the customary legislative jam at the close of this short session. Hence the imperative need for immediate action.

American citizens are more united on this issue than on any other public question in our time.

To the limit of their powers, the American executive and people have joined with fifty-nine other nations in "renouncing war as an instrument of national policy." Why should the senate delay?

Mrs. Frank Vanderlip says there really is no New York "society," because there's no leader to decide who's in society and who isn't. Now that's going to spoil our whole year.

The annual fire loss of the United States is something like \$550,000,000. This will be materially decreased of course when the vogue for cigaret lighters becomes more general.

A scientist has returned from Central America with the tale of a tree in Guatemala that gives milk. That's nothing. Farmers have been getting it out of wells for years.

A Kansas newspaper makes a top headline on Page 1 of "Pretty Woman Acquitted by Jury." Oh, well, they have to have something to fill up the papers these days.

The headline, "Car Hits Congressman and Runs," is just a bit puzzling. And still runs?

Speaking in post-Christmas reflection, it certainly is amazing the number of nice things you can trade incense burners for.

Broadway is full of actors out of work. Another chance for congress to pass some more splendid relief legislation.

David Dietz on Science

Defense Against Dangers

No. 250

THE BONES comprise the framework of the human body. The flesh of the body is composed of the muscle tissues. There is a tendency to think of muscle as something separate from flesh. This is a mistake. The muscles are the flesh. It is the muscles which give the contour to the arms and legs and the rest of the body.

The skin provides the outer covering of the body. In physiology, any organization which serves a definite purpose is known as an organ. Thus, the term organ includes the eye or the ear, or the hand or the foot, or the heart or the lung, and so on.

On this basis, the skin is an organ. It is the largest organ of the body.

The skin serves an important purpose. It separates the human body from the rest of the universe.

Logan Clendenen writes: "It is that outer rampart which separates from the universe, the rest of the sack which contains that juice or essence which is me, or which is you, a most defensive against insects, poisons, germs, and surgeons through which they must break before they can storm the citadel."

The skin has been called "the mirror of the human system," for it reflects, in many cases, the state of health and the emotional state of the person.

Recent experiments have shown a direct connection between the skin and internal organs so that drugs injected in the skin have effects upon the internal organs of the body.

A cross section of the skin, as seen with a high-powered microscope, is shown in the accompanying diagram.

The skin is made up of cells known as epithelial cells. In the skin are many small hollow cells with openings into the surface of the skin. These are the gland cells, such as the sebaceous glands.

The upper layer of the skin is known as the epidermis. Beneath this is the layer known as the derma.

The derma is supplied with blood vessels.

The nerves which cause the sensation of touch have many fine endings in the skin. These are attached by millions of nerves to the nervous system and finally to the brain.

The skin is a marvelous structure, reacting to heat and cold and light.

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TRACY

SAYS:

"The Greatest Danger of Science Lies in the Fact That Too Many of Its Disciples Think of Themselves as Revivalists."

THE great scientific gathering now in session at New York sounds like a revival meeting. Professor Harry Elmer Barnes of Smith college, started the performance when he declared that we must revise our notions of God.

Sunday, found a thousand pulpits ringing with denunciation. Cardinal Hayes characterized the suggestion as an outrage.

Tuesday night, Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the Association for the Advancement of Science, took occasion to rebuke Professor Barnes as having introduced a "metaphysical, philosophical and religious subject."

"It was an unwarranted intrusion," said Dr. Osborn. "He took advantage of this great platform of the American association to give expression to his own opinions in a subject which totally was unrelated to the subjects under discussion."

Wednesday morning, discovered Professor Barnes retorting that his thesis, having been read before the History of Science Society and the Academy of Medicine, was beyond the jurisdiction of Dr. Osborn.

"The program was devoted to the relationship between science and the one hand," said Professor Barnes, "and philosophy, psychology and religion on the other, and hence my paper was highly appropriate."

Maybe so, but laymen will find it hard to escape the impression that Professor Barnes' idea of the proper relationship is to have science, or more accurately, the particular school to which he belongs, run religion.

The indicated corollary is an enlarged dose of anti-evolution laws.

Right of Thinking

LIKE every other human being, Professor Harry Elmer Barnes has the right to believe what he pleases. If he is dissatisfied with the Christian God, his is the privilege not only to think it, but to say it.

What merits Professor Barnes' mature consideration is the fact that other people enjoy a similar degree of liberty. If he can be a missionary, so can they, and the final outcome depends on who can gain the largest number of converts.

If I were a fundamentalist, and wanted to push the movement, write its ideas on every statue book of this country, I would pay such men as Professor Barnes good salaries and allow them liberal expense accounts.

Whether a conflict between science and religion is necessary, it can be made, and scientists can contribute just as much in making it as pulpits. Most people do not think that such a conflict is necessary. Most people are content to let science produce creature comforts, while religion provides spiritual comforts. Most people believe that the interest of all concerned would be best served if scholars and preachers would let each other alone.

If driven to it, however, most people will line up and fight, just as they always have when their emotions and prejudices are stirred, and the chances are that they will vote their tradition, rather than their judgment.

If that is what Professor Barnes and his like want, theirs is the opportunity.

Agnostic to Science

PERSONALLY, I think of science as beneficial because of its exactness, as a medium by which we proceed from the known to the unknown, as entertaining theories for purposes of deduction and experiment and as quite beyond the rule of prejudice.

What a man believes never has appealed to me as scientific, except as belief may inspire him to pioneer, explore and discover.

Certainly, it is not scientific to make mere belief the basis for campaigning against anything.

I put such men as Professor Barnes in the Billy Sunday class. Whether they realize it, they are evangelists. Their very efforts to change religious conceptions are bound to be religious to the extent that they depend on what has no more substantial basis than conviction and bias. They believe, nothing more. They presume, they suppose, they guess, they imagine, but they do not know.

I am much more of an agnostic with respect to science than I am with respect to religion. If a scientist expects me to believe anything, he must prove it. If he is unable to do so, I do not regard him as a scientist.

To my mind, the strength of science lies in its emphasis on facts. It must dream, of course, to discover them, and experiment to make them useful, but it cannot afford to go beyond them in telling people what to do. When it does, it ceases to be the genuine article.

Search for Truth

IF of science, especially from the standpoint of public respect, lies in the fact that too many of its disciples think of themselves as revivalists. They are infatuated with the idea of converting some one before they have completed their experiments.

They desire not only to play the part of prophets, but to surround themselves with a crowd of hypnotized followers, with nothing better to go on than a tincture of dreams.

In order to get the followers, they revert to the jungle practice of robbing the other fellow's hen roost.

Instead of searching for the truth, as their profession demands, and of letting results speak for themselves, they cast envious eyes at those leaders who have formed cults and creeds by preaching. Theirs is the right under the constitution and laws of this country, as well as the prevailing social order, but they cease to be scientists when they exercise it.

Speaking of That Extra Session of Congress



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Vitamin A Has Important Functions

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBURN, Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

FOLLOWING the discovery of the importance of vitamins for health, it became the custom to call them by alphabetic designations.

G.—Are twins hereditary?

A.—Nowadays we know that twinning is hereditary and that a man of a family that runs to twins is about five times as likely to have twin children as a man without twins in his immediate family connections. Furthermore, doctors now diagnose the presence of twins well in advance of their appearance.

such as A, B, C, etc., and by other terms of the University of Chicago points out in his address before the American Sociological Society, but we do not concur in the conclusion that all the changes are bad.

Thus vitamin A was called the anti-xerophthalmic vitamin, B the

anti-neuritic vitamin, C the anti-scurvy vitamin; the most important, vitamin D, is necessary in the diet in order to prevent the development of rickets.

Many students of the subject have insisted that the latter names would be preferable, because they are more expressive than those of alphabetic character.

Dr. H. C. Sherman, one of the leading authorities in the field, defends the alphabetic terms. He holds they represent better the fact that we do not begin to know all that the vitamins accomplish, and that the more descriptive designation may refer to only a single activity of any of these essential substances.

Vitamin A is concerned with many more things than merely prevention of the diseases of the eyes called "xerophthalmia." A lack of vitamin A results in a widespread weakening of the tissues of the body and in the lowering of its ability to resist infections.

Vitamin A seems to be essential to growth in the young and to normal nutrition and health at all ages. If vitamin A is absent from the diet, the skin, ears and sinuses seem to become more easily infected.

The presence or absence of this vitamin seems to have something to do with the development of kidney stones and of stones elsewhere in the body.

Our growing knowledge of this vitamin thus indicates its tremendous significance in the body and also the fact that the other vitamins as well may be concerned with many more factors than the main disturbance of the body which develops when they are absent from the diet.

Vitamin A is called the fat soluble vitamin. It is present in varying amounts in cod liver oil, in egg yolk, in many leafy plants, in good butter and in many other common constituents of the human diet.

PEOPLE ARE NOT NECESSARILY GOING TO THE DEVIL

DR. OGBURN points out that restaurants, waiters and bakeries are increasing three or four times as much as population, but we do not abandon hope for the freddie on this account.

We do believe there is a happy medium between the kitchen life imprisonment of the past and the excessive domestic buck-passing of the present.

Since bakeries, restaurants and waiters are to play a more important part in our lives, the situation calls for legislation.

Bakeries should be compelled to keep the flies off the doughnuts; restaurants should be forced to hand out less slippery knives and forks or furnish husking gloves, while waiters, by threat of long imprisonment, should be made to refrain from playing with their hair or unscrewing their warts while taking a customer's order.

as follows: Duck the first trick and when on the lead again finesse queen of diamonds. The remaining diamonds will in all probability be winners.

The Principle—When holding ace, queen and three small cards of a suit in dummy and two cards of that suit in closed hand, or vice versa, four tricks may be made at no-trump play by ducking the first trick.

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But now ye rejoice in your boastings; all such rejoicing is evil. —James 4:16.

THE honor is overpaid when he that did the act is commentator.—Shirley.

When a hole is worn in the toe of a stocking where does the material go?

A stocking is composed of small threads woven together into a warp and woof crossways. When a stocking is stretched over a foot, the material of which it is composed is under tension—it is stretched. Friction, with the shoe wears through one or more threads, and when these snap, the tension draws up the surrounding threads, just as a rubber band, which is stretched, returns to normal size when released. It is the drawing up of the threads which forms the hole.

Daily Thought

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By HEYWOOD BROWN

THE new year in New York has begun auspiciously enough for everybody but the actors and the managers. Gloom lies thick around the theater. It is, they say, the worst of all possible bad seasons, and perhaps the beginning of the end.

The speculators have been blamed and the talking pictures, while the fact that there are too many theaters has not wholly been neglected.

My own theory concerns still another factor. I think the drama in America is dying because of the blighting touch of intellectualism. Managers have been fooled into heeding the cries of those who say that they want to be able to think in the theater, in spite of certain evidence to the contrary.

I have no objection whatsoever to thinking. But why should anybody choose a playhouse as the place to do it? Within the last few years the man who went out for an evening's entertainment was as like as not to run into three acts of morbid psychology, a discussion of the atomic theory or some little thing concerning the nature of inherited disease.

Genius and Others

THERE is not so much gloom in the world that the man should care to spend any of his leisure in contemplation of serious subjects. But the drama lends itself imperfectly to debate.

The case of Shaw will be cited against me. The first answer to that is the undoubted fact that Shaw is a genius and may do what he pleases.

It is also worth remarking that even in the instance of Shaw his most appealing plays are those in which he tells a story and forgets for a moment the work of education. Moreover, the plays of Shaw are probably read even more than they are performed.

I'm all for people reading heavy books and long ones if they like them. My opinion merely rests upon the contention that the forms of the theater are ill-fitted for the exposition of complex and subtle subjects.

I would much rather see a good musical show than any of the more weighty offerings, unless it happened to be one of those extremely rare affairs called a great play. Curtain to the last.

Land of Make Believe

I THINK that only the musical comedy people are faithful to the time-tested practices of the theater. A stage should be a place where people play at make-believe. I like to see them in capes and armor, bearing swords.

There are seemingly insurmountable barriers to the complete realization of naturalism in the theater. When the program says "Act 1, Eddie Cohen's living-room in an east side tenement house shortly after midnight," we know that the fourth wall of that room will be down. No reasonable person expects, or even wants to see a precise replica of an east side tenement.

Once upon a time we used to allow the playwright many privileges. He could use asides and have his heroes and heroines think aloud. The story which he told did not have to be airtight throughout—if only it were interesting. In seeking to make their plays true to life the dramatists have sacrificed all the glamor which goes with gay unreality.

The musical comedy men alone are faithful to the play spirit. They require and expect the audience to use a certain amount of imagination. We all know very well that in real life the words "To know you is to love you," do not constitute a complete sentence.

It is not like the world outside to have a gentleman at a house party break into a barytone exclamation of "This painting's spurious; it will drive me furious." In no well-regulated Long Island home do twenty of the female guests enter the parlor at regular intervals to do a toe dance.

But, as yet, I have never seen any spectator at a musical show leap up from his seat to depart with the loud remonstrance, "Nothing like this ever happened in Great Neck." The musical play begins with the implied appeal, "Let's pretend." And so should every play.

Can't Be Wrong

MY belief that a musical show is, in general speaking, more entertainment than the so-called legitimate attraction is not a whim of my own.

This time I take my stand with the majority. In the middle of a barren season a number of the musical attractions are prospering about as usual.

"Show Boat" is the only place in town which has any chance ever to challenge the long run record of "Abie's Irish Rose." And if you see in any theatrical publication that something has grossed \$40,000 for a week, you may be sure that the attraction is not legitimate.

It may be a mere coincidence. But show business began to decline about the time that the little theater movement arose with its attendant flock of book and play clubs and study groups.

Once upon a time I used to sneer at the veterans who kept talking about the golden age of the theater. But now I have become convinced that there may be something in what they said.

Of course, some of the plays which were held up by these great actors of the past were rather silly exercises. The actors could wear swords and lace, and the hero was fully able to keep at bay at least 100 of the cardinal's swordsmen.

I want to see the drama get away from the dull green pastures of reality and back to the purple land.

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This Date in U. S. History

Jan. 3

1820—Congress passed bill to admit Maine as a state.

1861—Delaware legislature refused to join the confederacy.

1898—United States treasury recalled all \$100 silver certificates on account of counterfeits.

1912—President Taft announced his candidacy for renomination.

Common Bridge Errors AND HOW TO CORRECT THEM

—BY W. W. WENTWORTH