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Bible Thought For Today

CURSE OR BLESSING, Which?
—He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him; but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.—Proverbs 11:26.

'Why Not Try Christianity'

The Nation and Athenaeum of London, in a remarkable article published recently, declares that elevated man "has everything he wants to make him happy—love, play, energy, the sciences and the arts, a substantial earth and a sublime religion," and yet is rushing to ruin. And how is the catastrophe to be avoided?

"Here we are, English, Irish, French, Germans, Russians and Americans, shipwrecked together and liable to perish. The doctrine of self-subsistence will have none of us; for what happens to Vienna tomorrow may happen to Paris or London the week or year later. The more military or the more primitive stocks might, indeed, survive a general crash of civilization. But man does not always want to be living the centuries over again. The trouble is that imminent peril of society remains unexplored and almost unimagined by it. While man fears what is really not fearful at all—the loss of comfort or the spread of the doctrine of equality—he does not dread the most horrible thing that could happen to him, namely, the loss of all sense or unity of the human race."

Wherefore the writer proposes a remarkable remedy: "Why not try Christianity?" He insists that "the mere day-by-day observance of the central Christian precept, which is the Golden Rule, would suffice to stop war, famine, plague and most social diseases, and to raise the whole western world to an unimaginable condition of happiness, bounty and wealth." Yet man, in his great time of trial, "disregards the monitor within."

Impractical? Not so, the writer insists. Christianity as a religious mystery may be impossible for men to agree upon, but as a doctrine of life there is nothing simpler.

"We have only to translate it into the practice of doing to others as we would that they should do to us, forgiving the injuries that they have done us. And we have only to translate these doctrines of common sense into politics, and let them appear as disarmament, the revision of the treaty, the withdrawal of the occupations, the relief of famine, the opening of Russia, the pooling of credits, the forgiveness of debts, the union of the warring states, and the establishment and endowment of the League of Nations, and in the twelvemonth or so Europe will have grown out of all knowledge of her bitter and disfigured self."

Moreover, so practical a newspaper as the Rocky Mountain News, commenting approvingly upon the view, suggests that it is "pretty good doctrine for the Genoa conference."

Can you beat it? The very idea of a Christian civilization seriously trying to apply Christianity to international affairs!

Conference With a Crook

There are people who want to see the United States keep out of the Genoa conference on the grounds that "it would be recognition of the Soviet government of Russia to take part in the same conference will it."

To join a group of honest citizens who are talking turkey to an outlaw, telling him that it is wish to reform and do business with them they'll be glad of it, but they will stand no more nonsense from him, and if he wants to deal with them it has got to be done in a square and businesslike manner, quite different from taking the same outlaw under one's wing and introducing him in one's home or at one's club.

Taking part in the Genoa conference has nothing to do with politics, recognition of an objectionable government is merely joining a group of business men to talk business for the common good of all.

Roger Babson says, "I realize that it is impossible with one idealistic stroke to wipe out the weaknesses of civilization." It's hand-saw of Roger to admit that. Some folks don't.

IN THE OLD HOME TOWN



Park Protection

A park protection committee composed of an untold number of citizens is being organized in Brooklyn, N. Y., to prevent havoc wrought by growling vandals or thoughtless children. The object is to awaken as large a body of citizens as possible to the fact that enjoyment of the parks does not preclude the careful preservation of their beauties. The movement has been under way but a short time, and already destruction of park property is decreasing.

Much of such destructive action is unintentional, especially in the winter months. There is a general sort of impression that any cutting up of lawns or breaking down of shrubbery will be invisible when summer growth begins, and so automobiles are parked in unwarranted places, paths, grooved out by tramping feet over lawns and through hedges, and a hundred other depredations committed, some of which summer does hide, but much of which must be remedied at public expense if it can be remedied at all. Unfortunately summer, which brings Nature's healing, too often starts fresh scars, wrought by human hands and feet.

Formation of citizens' committees such as that in Brooklyn is an effective way to approach the subject. Signs and lines may accomplish a little in individual instances, but public spirit is a cumulative thing which, when once roused, can reduce any evil.

THE OFFICE CAT



BRIEF.
Oh, her name was Irene, and she wore crepe-de-chine; You could see more Irene than you could crepe-de-chine.

A fool and his money are soon parted.

It is even more trouble to try to raise one child these days than it used to be to raise six, so it is no wonder race suicide is so popular.

BEING FAIR.

Los Angeles Times: That "the child is father to the man" is shown by Mikey, who in childhood was a famous Irish colossus.

One day in school the teacher said: "Mikey, give me a definition of salt."

"Shure," Mikey responded, "it's the stuff that makes potatoes taste bad when you boil 'em and don't put any in."

Visitor—How much milk does the old cow give?

Farmhand—About eight quarts a day, mum.

Visitor—And how much of that do you sell?

Farmhand—About twelve, mum!

A message: Any part of the world in which you do not happen to dwell

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENCE.
K. C. P., La Grande, Ore.—Yes, K. C., when taking a bath, it is always best to test the temperature of the water before sitting down in it. It saves much cooling at the time, as well as making it easier to sit down the following week.

COURTSHIP DAYS.

"Does the young man seem thrifty?"
"Well, he doesn't believe in waiting any," replied Paw Hopgood.

A good complexion may catch a man, but it takes a good disposition to hold him and a little good cooking will help some.

A girl with straight up and down ones in those flopped over notched-shoulders a suit of bean pole to the dah can effect.

PRECIPITIOUS.

An amateur mountain climber, relating his experience in the Rockies said: "Goin' up you can mighty nigh stand up straight and bite the ground; goin' down a man wants hobnails or the seat of his trousers."

THE FOLLOWING WAS FOUND

near the door of the sheriff's office today:
When the frost is on the pumpkin and the fodder's in the shock, We can see a tripping dumplin' With a clock upon her—stocking.

The highest form of gratitude has just been exhibited by a New Yorker. When he died, it was found that he had left \$100,000 to a woman who had refused to marry him.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON PASSES ON

(Continued from Page One.)

aged when he died was to have covered 30,000 miles of uncharted sections of the south Atlantic, the Pacific and the Antarctic seas.

On board the Quest, a little 200-ton ship, Sir Ernest sailed from England last September on what was to have been a two-year voyage.

The expedition had not only its quest, oceanographic research, but the exploration of a petrified forest and the location of a "lost" island—Tuzanki, the adjacent waters of which had not been sailed for more than 60 years. In addition, soundings were to have been taken of the ocean plateau surrounding Gough's island in an effort to determine the truth regarding a supposed under-water continental connection between Africa and America.

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