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DEATH OR LIFE: For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. —Romans 8:13.

Business and Idealism

It is popular among people convinced that they have mounted to a high plane of idealism to deprecate devotion to business as something unworthy of human beings sincerely concerned for the well-being of their fellows. Possibly practical business men might give more attention to spiritual interest without loss on the material side. Probably they are more bound up in practical idealism than they are commonly credited with being. One may be working toward establishment of an ideal condition without advertising the fact; he may be so working without being conscious that his practical endeavors, selfishly undertaken, tend to promote the ideal state. To condemn him, then, and put obstacles in the way of his success may be tantamount to frustrating one's own laudable aspirations and interfering with the well-being of society.

Although millions appear to be unaware of the fact, everyone is dependent for the supplying of his material wants and for the gratification of many of his desires upon a common business prosperity. The more profitable business there is the better off all are, notwithstanding wails of complaint that few "hog" the rewards. It is a curious fact that one of the most successful business men in the country, one whose personal profits exceed the income of any other man who ever lived, seems not to excite the envy or malice of the "workers" whose hatred of others' success is unflagging. One motto of this man sums up the sound principle of business on which all practical idealism is founded. It is written, "expansion of enterprise affording greater opportunities for profitable employment." He expands his enterprises prodigiously and constantly and increases his profits enormously. His employees are singularly favored in the amount of wages allotted to them.

The point is that the results to himself of his operations are simply those which inevitably flow from successful business. If a more ideal state ever is achieved by mankind it will come through co-operation in promotion of business rather than through antagonisms of labor and capital that are now so widely distressing.

Rewards of Courtesy

A San Francisco man who died recently made bequests to about 200 persons who in one way or another had been courteous and considerate in their relations with him. The list embraced men and women in all walks of life. Doubtless many of the recipients were totally unaware that they had done anything deserving of notice, much less of pecuniary reward. The donor seems to have noted more carefully those who through natural kindness smoothed his pathway and expressed his appreciation in a substantial way through his will.

Were one to be guided solely by hope of a like reward in shaping one's actions along courteous lines probably there would be disappointment. Such an investment would not turn out profitably. But if one is polite to others simply because it is the right thing, there would be ample reward even though one is not remembered in another's will. Consideration for others makes life more pleasant all around. Each is but one among many and all possess the same rights. At best there are enough asperities in life. One who sets out to resent every imagined slight will not be happy and will make other unhappy.

One who accepts one's fellow men at face value until the opposite is proved will find the world a pretty fair place in which to live. Courtesy begets courtesy.

The Eternal Human

That human nature changes little with the passage of time may be a trite observation, but it takes on new interest with the discoveries of Luxor, in the land of the pyramids.

From the records found in unearthing ancient tombs it appears that the humans of 4,000 years ago responded in much the same way as moderns to the worries of everyday life that bore striking resemblance to those of the present. The domestic servant problem seems to have been almost as baffling in that far-off day as it now is. And domestic relations in that ancient era were apparently subject to complication very like those that sometimes arise in families of this generation.

The civilization to which the mummies belonged is itself a mummy, but according to the record, many of their worries and vexations have survived them.

Wife Beaters

A Paris judge has held that a husband has a right to strike his wife. And an old English statute permitted him to inflict corporal punishment with a stick, provided it was not bigger than the thick of his thumb. But these legal rights have been repealed long ago by civilization, and they are now exercised at risk of public censure and neighborhood wrath in any and every enlightened community. The husband who strikes his wife in these days is regarded by the public as a brute, and since woman has become the expert gun-handler that recent homicide reports indicate, as an exceedingly foolish one.

One should not expect too much in a country where a prize fight draws a bigger crowd than the president.

FORUM

Editor Observer—Dear Sir: Would you kindly grant a little space in your paper to state how deeply interested I feel in the remarks of Mr. Pierce at a public gathering in the Presbyterian church on the 13th. Mr. Pierce sees only two points open to men in these days, "Individualism or Communism," and Mr. Pierce concludes that Communism is not likely to ever be successful. Individualism is the wise course to follow.

It is quite true that much proof exists for truth of this contention; if we turn our attention to the animal kingdom—nature shows us that Mr. Pierce is right. No matter whether we look to earth, air or water, there is a manifestation of individualism. In the waters—the big fish eat the smaller ones. In the air—the same rule prevails; the strong birds devour the weak individualism. On the earth, it is the law of the jungle—the strongest survive; the lion feeds on the lamb, as if it was his individual right. Individualism, again. If the lion lives, what matters it to the lion, who dies.

But rising our eyes higher, we find among men instances of something far superior to the law of individualism. In Communism or socialism men have often displayed heroism and altruism of a God-like character—disdaining every selfish motive and surrendering even life itself for the good of others.

In our late war with Germany, our soldiers went into battle and faced death by the thousands to defend the right of others. That looks like a pretty good brand of communism. But there were others in our land who did not have to go into battle; they stayed at home and in most cases improved the choice opportunities offered by the war to do extra big business at an extra large profit. That looks to me as a pretty fair brand of individualism.

I am truly sorry that Mr. Pierce should have "unthinkingly" made the statement that Jesus Christ taught individualism. It is an excusable misrepresentation. His law given to Moses. His life on earth and his death all prove the contrary.

To love your neighbor as yourself; To give your cloak to the man who borrowed your coat; To pray for your enemies and to love your enemies. These were some of his instructions to his followers, and as a crowning act he laid down his life as a ransom for the human family.

His early followers did not know it, if he taught individualism, for the church under the direction of the twelve apostles, sold every man's possessions and surrendered it to a common fund for the benefit of all. There was one exception however; a certain man named Ananias sold his property and withheld part of the price. He believed in individualism. Of course, we all know what befell him.

But even admitting that individualism is the fashion in the world today. It does not follow that there remains no hope for anything better.

A time, when all will labor for the good of each and each for the good of all, is predicted and certainly will come.

Those who cannot see that the world is improving are probably more to be pitied than blamed. This world is quite a big place and few people have seen it all.

But the world is getting better, no question about it and the Creator of it is still looking after it; therefore, my Christian friends can cheer up and don't lose faith.

Respectfully,

L. GARRICK.

THE OFFICE CAT

TO THE OLD GUARD
There is nothing more distressing and there's nothing more depressing than to think of all you've seen and all you know;
When you're out with real live chickens.
There is nothing that so sickens As to "cackle" when you really want to "caw."

The real reason that a man swears at a dull razor is that the razor lost its temper first.

Says Sam: Allus argue with a mule face to face.

Mr. Edison says that one of the objections to college graduates is that they object to work. He ought to know that they go to college to learn how to escape work.

The wicked can console themselves with the thought that there are no reformers in hell.

THE REAL ZEST
"Shall I propose to the girl?"
"Has she given you any encouragement?"
"She likes to ride in my sport car."

That doesn't mean anything, son. What is her attitude toward spending an evening with you at home?

YOU FIDGETY THING, YOU!
Close walks in the breeze;
The wind blows about her knees;
But I am here to loudly shout,
It's got something to blow about.

Another objection we have to the derby hat is that it is coming back. It always does.

Her collection guests for their wedding?—But dear, we can't invite Mrs. Jones. Why, think of her party!

Hum—Yes, I know, dear, but think of her present.

Amos Tash says the women can do almost anything a man can do—except marry a nice girl.

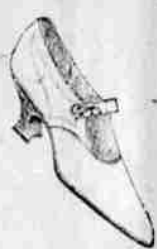
Wonder what makes rumors wild?

MAYBE HE IS
Why isn't a fireman a hero—sop-
porific?

Prompt Attention Given All Phone
And Mail Orders!

West & Co.
THE QUALITY STORE

Cantilever Oxfords—\$9.90
During Clearance Sale



Shoe Values Greater Than
Ever During Our

28th ANNUAL JAN. CLEARANCE SALE

Entire Stock of Men's, Women's and Children's
At Reduced Prices

ODD LOTS AND BROKEN SIZES
SACRIFICED FOR CLEARANCE

LADIES' KID AND
PATENT PUMPS

\$4.95

Values here range up to \$9.50, and nearly all of these are of the famous "Queen Quality" make. They are single strap styles with Junior Louis or Cuban heels and turn soles. They are styles that are new and are representative of many you will see for Spring. The sizes are broken in the different styles, but there are nearly all sizes in the lot, and AA to D widths. Choice while any remain at \$4.95 pair.

LOW-HEELED OXFORDS
AND PUMPS

\$2.95 pr.

Brown or black Oxfords and strap pumps with low broad rubber heels and best welt soles. Nearly all are of calf stock and are exceptionally good for street or for school wear. All were new this season; broken sizes but nearly all sizes in the lot. Values up to \$6.50. Choice while they remain at \$2.95 pair.

BOYS' SCHOOL SHOES
Sizes 9 to 11

\$1.85

Odd lots and broken sizes of several styles in boy's heavy button and lace shoes. Best heavy welt soles, and all calf stock. The sizes are limited, but plenty if you come early. These are on sale today in our Ladies Shoe Department. Sizes 9, 9½, 10, 10½ and 11. Choice while any remain, at \$1.85 pair.

Other Special Values for Men, Women and Children

At \$1.85, \$3.95, \$4.95 and \$5.85.

JANUARY, 2 TO JANUARY, 20

"The Best Buying Days of the Year"

Editorials From Over the Nation

WHERE THE DOLLAR IS NOT SUPREME

Omaha World-Herald: Rudolph Valentino cannot understand why Famous Players-Lasky corporation should have sought an injunction restraining him from acting for other film corporations. Valentino's salary at present is \$1,250 a week. But when Valentino signed a contract to accept that amount for exclusive services to Famous Players, he was "wholly unfamiliar with the salaries paid to moving picture stars and with business affairs," according to his attorney.

Counsel for the picture corporation pointed out that Valentino was probably enjoying a larger income than nine supreme court justices. "Yes, see," interrupted a justice, "but you need not rub that in." Under the contract, Valentino is to receive \$325,000 salary for three years' work. But this star of "Sheik" fame sees a chance for greater compensation if he can get the court to declare his contract with Famous Players null and void, and to give him his entire services to that corporation.

This "Sheik" may know how to appeal to the imagination as movie fans follow him across desert sands into oriental surroundings. He can make a spectacular flight with an American girl into the world of romance. He can command as much salary as nine justices of a great court in New York all together may get. He speaks from the screen to millions of people and molds opinion and ideals of young Americans. But he must listen to the decision of a court even though his salary is greater than that of the court. And the admirable thing about our courts is that they can command the services of men who do not measure their

compensation entirely by the salary that is in their pay checks. Especially in the case of the higher courts, the justices could earn many times the salary they receive if their efforts were spent in private practice.

Though it may be regretted that teachers, preachers, doctors and other high-minded professional men are not adequately paid for their services, it is a matter for congratulation that many who can command greater pay devote their energy in the service of their fellows at a low figure than the market price. In no position is there greater need for such men than in our courts of justice. For where the supreme thing is not the dollar, truth and justice are more likely to predominate.

KEPT GUESSING
Two young men bowed to a young lady. She gave them a little smile and passed on.

Said one—"That girl always gives you a peculiar look when you meet her. At least, so I think. Am I wrong?"

"No," said the other, "I think you are right."

"What is it all about?"
"I'll tell you. At a party five years ago I almost kissed her. I don't know whether she is laughing at me or not."

The man who wrote "Joy cometh in the morning" lived before the time of alarm clocks.

New Years Greeting

As we complete 36 years of successful banking in La Grande we desire to thank most sincerely our many patrons and the public who have assisted in making possible this record.

We also desire to wish the citizens of La Grande and Union County a most Happy and Prosperous New Year, and we trust that the year 1923 may be replete with happiness and success for them.

The Directors, Officers and Staff.

La Grande National Bank
SOUND—RELIABLE—PROGRESSIVE

JOINT RECITAL

Emil Eyer and Umberto Martucci

Tenor

Pianist and Accompanist

Emil Eyer

Possesses a pure tenor voice of beautiful quality and a wide range, and sings with expression and true interpretative power. Special mention may well be made of his diction in English, French, Italian and German, each word carrying its own signification.—New York Tribune.

Umberto Martucci

At the Piano, gives a rare exhibition of faultless technique, combined with that soulful interpretation of his art which ever characterizes the musicians of musically historic race. He has accompanied many of the noted singers, a few of which are Mme. Matzenauer, Hempel and Alex. Bonci, and everywhere his work has been most favorably received.—New York Herald.

AT STAR THEATRE

THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 11TH
AT EIGHT-THIRTY O'CLOCK



Quick
Relief
FOR COLDS
IN THE
CHEST

Johnson & Johnson Pleurisy Plaster will take that "tightness" away over night. It relieves the soreness, too. Just try it once—you'll use it always.

This Drug Store is
Quick to Serve You

Day and night, rain or shine, this store is ready to carry out your prescriptions, or attend to your first aid wants. It combines professional service with business. It can meet your requirements in a multitude of things. Please call on us.

RED CROSS DRUG STORE