Voltaire's "THE NEW AGE"

"THE NEW AGE—a time when paradise is to be regained; when even the processes of death and mortification are to be set aside and man experience absolute and complete regeneration in a spiritual-material world not subject to natural law as conceived by finite mind."—VOLTAIRE.

Voltaire live about 200 years ago but he should be on the very front page today because, if this is the dawn of the new age, and everybody says it is—then his is "scoop material" for he wrote of the most beautiful and idealistic new age this writer has seen anywhere in print outside the Bible. He almost outdid the prophets of the Bible in comprehensive vision of a new age of the name.

To attempt to build any idealistic new age using as foundation material the rubble of the past, even democracy which excels all else since Israel has God for their King and Moses for law giver and judge, is to build but an expediency and something transcient instead of an enduring structure. With a record of 250 years of peace against 5750 years of war, the foundations of the past look rather crumbly and if nothing better is on the horizon, the term New Age is nothing more than a misnomer. If Christian nations are linked with nations that are openly and avowedly aetistic and with nations who are anti-Christian, such as the Mohammedan who glorify the sword and war, what can you expect in idealistic conditions and enduring peace from such alliances? "What concord hath Christ (Christians) with Belial or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel (unbeliever)?

This question when addressed to Christian nations who are attempting to bring about world peace by such methods and hopes, is unanswerable. Lincoln said, without contradiction, that a nation cannot endure half slave and half free so let's carry this logic down to date; neither can the world live at peace half slave and half free.

Universal peace can only come through the Millennial reign of Christ for He alone has the right to the title of Prince of Peace. Were it in the province of man to bring about so benign a state, Christ's title would become meaningless and the necessity of His Miiennial reign voided. Peace and righteousness are synonymous; you can no more have one without the other than you can gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles. Peace is one of the fruits of the Divine Spirit and can be had, only, as that Spirit lives and operates in the hearts of men.

Without absolute and complete regenration as Voltaire puts it, there can be no "Paradise regained" or Golden Age or Millenium, whichever name you prefer. As long as avarice, ambition, greed and covetousness reign in men's hearts there can be no peace or securty. We quote from our lines:

When ambition walks the ways of men—
Oh, saddest words of tongue and pen!
Beside him walks a sinster spectre,
Who wields an unrelenting scepter—
That " Will" to rule at any price,
For unbending wills are a device
To write life's story at a price
We bow our heads and sheathe our pen—
It is the blood of women, children and of men!

For man to imagine he can, through an organization of nations of every conceivable standard of morality and ideals (or lack of) bring about universal or lasting peace on this earth, is sheer folly.

What did our colossal assistance to aethistic, Communistic Russia amount to? We merely exchanged one cruel master and world conqueror for another, far more formidable as he brazenly takes hundreds of millions of men and their nations and ever reaches westward.

What's the use of "kidding" ourselves in the face of a record of 250 pitiably intersperced years of peace against 5750 years of war in 6000 years of recorded history? More later about this amazing man—Voltaire. —LeRoy Johnson.

Local News Items

Henry Kerr returned late las week from a business trip to Tacoma, Wash.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Barton gave a dinner in honor of their daughter, Vickie Lynn's first birthday last week. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Swearingen, grandparents and Mrs. Goldie Smith, great-grandmother.

Hampton Tells Of School Conditions

Before Rotary club, Tuesday, Lynn Hampton, superintendent of the local schools, told the Rotarians how closely Brookings came to losing her school support fund this year, and how the district must "hue to the line" to maintain its program, allowed to run for three years to meet the 65 requirements set forth by the state department of education.

The bonding of the district to build satisfies the requirements of the state for adequate space for the children, for the present at least.

The teacher-pupil ration must be followed closely, Mr. Hampton emphasized. Twenty-five students in each of the grades up to the fourth and 28 above that to the eighth, have been exceeded, and likely will be exceeded until a new building is provided. Since three years are granted the district to meet these requirements, it does give us some leeway for a couple more years.

The first requirements demanded of the district was the addition of lavoratory facilities, now being installed, and probably will be ready for school next Monday.

In the past a district had much to say about how it ran its own schools, what kind of play and athletic equipment it had. Now all this is prescribed, and we have no alternative but to comply.

We were forced to add another teacher to the high school faculty this year, but were allowed to add no new courses until adequate space could be arranged.

For the first year, the district must make alterations to the present high school buildings, and add five more rooms to the local grade school. In the second year, there will be two rooms added to the high school, completing a home economics room and science room. This program must be met in the next three years.

Already, and there has been less than half the registration, it looks like the school population will exceed the 324 registered last year, by considerable.

Local News Items

George Hassett, who has been employed at the Brookings Market grocery, has taken over the truck-driving job left vacant by Richard Crook, who entered college this week.

LOCAL NEWS

Rev. C. E. Dunham will be guest speaker, at both services Sunday. The theme for the morning will be "How Christ Enriches Our Lives," and for the evening service: "Some Things Every Christian Ought to Know," at Baptist Community church.

Mrs. Lillian Welham and her daughter, Frances, of Carnation, Wash., were house guests of Mrs. Goldie Smith last Thursday and Friday. Mrs. Welham is hostess at Carnation Farms. She resided formerly in Seattle. She had visited this area in 1945. She purchased two acres on the Harbor side of the river.

Mrs. Alan Woodriff was given a surprise birthday party at the Grange hall last Thursday evening by her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Woodriff. The time was spent in playing, with refreshments of cake and coffee served late in the evening. Mrs. Woodriff, who was quite ill recently, is extended the good wishes of her many friends.

Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Dunham were calling on friends in the Harbor area the first of the week—here during the absence of Rev. Nick Neufeld, they were warmly welcomed by friends they had made during their stay in this area.

Anyone wishing to register for the coming general election must do it before Oct. 2, the last day that Oregonians can register. In Harbor, one may register at the post office, and in Brookings at Moore's Variety store.

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