

The Oregon Statesman

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SOME RELIGIOUS MISTAKES

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Some years ago the great religious iconoclast of the last century went about the country delivering a lecture entitled, "The Mistakes of Moses." He did not claim to know much about Moses; nobody does. But he pointed out in an entertaining and somewhat irreverent manner many inconsistencies and conflicts in the different parts of the Scriptures, and especially in the Old Testament, which inconsistencies and conflicts are patent enough if the Bible is always to be taken literally—just as it reads. The first mistake the great iconoclast made is that the Bible is to be taken just as it reads. He had not learned that it is a spiritual book and like all things spiritual must be spiritually discerned and interpreted.

His second mistake was in supposing that in this age it makes any great difference to the world or to religion how many mistakes Moses may have made. These mistakes can not change the existence and reality of God, nor the fact that He is our Father, the author of our beings, and as such has given each of us something of His own life. These mistakes can not affect the development of this divine life in us nor prevent the coming of the spirit of Christ into our hearts. Nothing but our own mistakes, indolence and indifference can do that. And so if Moses did make many and grievous mistakes that need not disturb us very much, if at all. If in the ages past anyone else, thought to be a prophet by holy or sacred, made mistakes, we need not despair. The Father is as mindful of His children today as He was in Moses' day; His spirit is just as pervasive, penetrating and powerful as it ever has been in the history of the world; and if we put ourselves into harmony with His life by thinking pure thoughts, living clean lives and striving to know His truth and do His will, we may be just as conscious of His presence, may hear His words of admonition and command, and be as certain of His life and truth as Moses was or as any one has ever been. This is the most vital religious truth in the world.

The greatest mistake that the religious world has made and is still making is that of living altogether too much in the past. The road to eternity lies ahead not behind; the gates of heaven swing forward, not backward; the sun of righteousness that will arise and reveal to you the kingdom of heaven within yourself will shine upon your face only when it is turned forward, not backward. Looking always back to Calvary is not the way to spiritual strength and glory. At the risk of seeming to many to be blasphemous and un-Christian it must be stated that the world of this day is not to be saved by the Christ that so many think of as crucified on Calvary, but by the present, living, eternal Christ that can only be born, that is to arise, in the hearts and lives of today. So many Christians think of their Christ as in Jerusalem nearly two thousand years ago; they regret that they had not lived and been with Him there and then. They love to think of the place upon the earth where He first breathed the breath of life, where He walked, where He spoke the word of God, where He did His miracles, where He was crucified, of the sepulcher where He was buried and from which He arose. Instead of wasting time and strength dreaming about these physical things and wishing that you might have walked with Him in Galilee, better be sure that you are walking with Him here; better be preparing His manger in your own purified and humbled heart; better be certain that you are not crucifying Him and thrusting the spear into His side by your own brutality, selfishness and sin; better be looking for His resurrection in your own life.

The disciples and apostles did not spend much time hanging around the sepulcher from which the spirit had departed. They were not long in getting active in the upper chamber, which typifies the higher part of their own natures. Here by prayer and supplication they prepared themselves for the coming of the Holy Spirit of God which filled them with the same spiritual life that animated their Master and that enabled them to do His works and manifest His spirit. The modern follower of Christ will make no mistake in following this example of the early disciples.

The past, though it may have been glorious, is dead. Even if this past have lessons for us, religion, in order to be of value to men, must be now alive and pulsating, full of bursting, spiritual life. The present Christ, the Christ in us, alone can save us. Paul must have understood this, for he says: "But if the spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His spirit that dwelleth in you."

Are not many of our good, conscientious preachers and evangelists making a mistake in so emphasizing the literal, physical blood of Christ as necessary to salvation? Is it not about time that the world got away from the old pagan idea that some innocent blood must be shed before there can be any remission of sin, before God can forgive? Think of what a being of brutality and impotence such an idea makes of God! Somebody or something must be killed before God can save His children. Think of it!

The blood of man is his life; by reason of its circulation he lives. So the blood of Christ is typical of His life, of the spiritual power that was in Him. It is this that is shed for many, in which there is saving power. It is this which is the hope of the world. This life, this spirit, when it is come in our flesh, in your life and mine, will be our Saviour. When we possess it, when we live in it and walk in it, we shall be of His Kingdom and never before.

Next week, the days will begin to grow longer.

Christmas shoppers kept the clerks of Salem on the jump yesterday. Did Salem ever see a busier Saturday? There are a

couple of busier ones just ahead, however.

Shiploads of player pianos are going to Africa. More tough work for the missionaries.

There are 49 female lawyers in Los Angeles. Portia has quite a following.

If we got through the next four weeks without snow and freezing weather, this will be recorded as one of the mildest of winters for

the Salem district. We seldom have much snow or severe freezing weather after the 15th of January.

The last English soldier has left France and gone home. A lot of water has gone over the wheel of the world since they first landed there in 1914.

The war for peace has just entered its fourth year and it is going strong.

After all, the peace parleys have agendaed more than we really thought they would when they set in.—Exchange. They are agreeably surprising millions of people throughout the wide world.

THE PILGRIM PAGE OF HISTORY

The celebration of the tercentenary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth has, aside from its pageantry, a serious message to the people of today. It turns the mind to those early times when men thought it worth while to brave any hardship, to endure any fate, rather than to deny the God of their belief.

In the history of these stern and rigid people are many pages that do not redound to their credit. The quality of mercy did not temper their justice. But they were strong in one thing: They had the courage of their convictions. They believed in a God to be feared more than a God to be loved. They believed that all wrong-doing merited punishment and they had the hardihood to carry out the decrees of justice as they saw it.

They were honest; they were courageous, they were just; but they were not, when all is said and done, a lovable people. They have passed and their descendants are growing fewer as the years go by. It is not alone the Mayflower descendants who are rearing the future citizens. It is also those of many races who have come across the seas on a mission much like that which animated the Pilgrim Fathers. The desire to attain a greater liberty, a larger freedom.

The Puritans were the trail-blazers. They did their work. To be descended from them in blood is something to cherish. To be one with them in ideals is within the reach of all.—Lynn Item.

AT THE "ZERO HOUR"

A famous financier recently observed that 5:03 o'clock in the afternoon for most persons is the most important part of the whole day.

"The ninth hour, and not the eleventh," he said, "is the hour of destiny. At three minutes after 5 your day's work is done. You are about to use or squander four or five precious hours of your own time. All day you have been working for somebody else. Shortly after 5 o'clock you are called upon to make an important decision for yourself.

"At 5:03 o'clock three out of every ten persons are hurrying to the telephone to make a 'date' for the evening. Probably four are getting listlessly into their wraps for the journey home to a wasted evening.

"The remaining three—well, look out for them. Some of them are working overtime on their jobs. For the company? Well, perhaps, but primarily for themselves and their future. Others are planning a busy evening at some night school.

"Check up on yourself at three minutes after 5."—New York Sun.

A BAPTIST CONFERENCE

Columbus Baptists have great faith in the final outcome of the limitation of armaments conference now in session in Washington.

"It positively cannot fail," a Baptist friend pointed out to the Observer the other day, and upon inquiry as to his ultra-optimism received this little reminder:

"Secretary of State Hughes, who is chairman of the conference, is a Baptist; President Harding is a Baptist; the Rev. Mr. Abernathy, who opened the conference with an invocation, is a Baptist minister; Premier Lloyd George, who will later be in attendance, is a Baptist; Secretary of Labor Davis, who is attending in an advisory capacity, and the representative from Australia, are both Baptists."—Columbus Dispatch.

YEARS AND THE NEWS

The founder of the state health department in New York at the age of 98, says that reading newspapers keeps people young. He has been reading six of 'em a day for a great many years and claims to know. At that rate an exchange editor might have white

whiskers and still be only seven years old. But the thought is worth keeping, anyhow. Women who would spare themselves from the ravages of the years should read The Statesman for a few hours every day.

THE GERMAN PROGRAM

Germany is said to be urging a consortium of Great Britain, France, Germany and the United States for the economic exploitation and development of Russia. Each nation should furnish such goods and materials as it produced, and the problems of finance and exchange should be handled in bulk. Germany should have her share credited upon the allied bills against her for reparations. This idea of capitalizing Russia's needs in order to extend Germany's economic program is not new; but that Germany should be anxious to share with her former foes is the new feature. Possibly a realization that without this co-operation the plan is impossible is responsible for the suggestion. Incidentally, Germany proposes a moratorium on her obligations to the allies until the consortium is established. The question is, can a consortium and moratorium be driven as a matched team?

COPY-BOOK MAXIMS

A prominent man in the auto world is advocating another copy-book maxim to be used in the schools. "Playing in the streets is dangerous." He feels sure that if the children were compelled to write this in their copy-books there would be a marked decrease in accidents to children. Nevertheless, any person of middle age can remember many worthy maxims that were written in the copy-books at school which, had they been taken to heart, would have saved some of us older folks a good deal of later trouble.

One can remember them perfectly, all the way from the early bird to the stitch in time, the silk purse and the sow's ear, the more haste and the less speed, the lock before you leap, and all the rest of them.

But somehow they always remained abstract maxims not necessarily intended for personal application.

However, it is pleasant to know that some one still retains his faith in copy-book maxims and evidently an ardent belief that the modern child is more receptively impressionable than the one of previous eras.

With former Emperor Charles and Queen Zita landed at Funchal, their future home, we may expect the neighbors to organize a "shower" in their behalf.



The Real Test

The real test of your underwear comes after the first washing.

R. A. Underwear is CUT not SHRUNK to size. So R. A. fits you as long as it lasts and it lasts for two or three seasons if properly washed.

The finest of cotton, the perfect seams, the reinforcement at points where the strain comes, the generous fullness at the hips and bust—all this means wear and comfort.

Made for women and children in medium and heavy weight unions or separate garments.

Ask Your Dealer

J. C. ROULETTE & SONS HAGERSTOWN, MD. Manufacturers of R.A. Underwear

Because the society and club pages go to press unusually early Saturday, it is necessary that reports of social affairs and club notices be in the Statesman office Friday evening or early Saturday. No reports will be received in future later than 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon unless by special arrangement in the case of meetings held Saturday afternoon. The society-editor is in the office from 1 until 4 o'clock and from 7 until 10 every day.

CLUBS AND WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

According to officers of the group. A special meeting to elect officers will be held next Thursday at the home of Mrs. Walter J. Kirk.

The Modern Writers met with Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Clifford this week and enjoyed an interesting program. Among those contributing to the program were Mrs. W. F. Parzo, who read an article which appeared recently in the American Cookery magazine, for which she is a regular contributor. Miss Grace Smith, Miss Audrey Bunch, Mrs. J. M. Clifford and Mr. Clifford gave interesting contributions.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Byron Brunk, who will entertain with Mrs. Gertrude Robinson Ross.

The Birds Christmas carol will be given at the state tuberculosis sanatorium Christmas eve by the Sibilo corps of the Girl Reserves. This corps is from the Washington junior high school and is under the leadership of Miss Eva L. Scott, former girls work secretary of the Y. W. C. A.

Gertrude Robinson Ross of Salem has a poem in the December issue of the Catholic World Monthly. The poem which is for the Christmas season is entitled "Nativity."

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 10.—The Woman's club at its meeting Thursday, appointed a committee to investigate and determine what may be done to stop the destruction of trees in the automobile park by poisonous sulphur fumes from the local mills.

It was pointed out that Tacoma and Butte, found a remedy for a similar evil, and that Oregon City must find a remedy in order to preserve the scenic beauty of this section.

The first sale of Christmas seals held in the state by the Oregon Tuberculosis association in 1915 netted \$4,826.69; last year \$8,000 was realized and this year the goal is \$45,000. These and other interesting and significant facts pertaining to the growth and development of the association were brought out by the executive secretary, Mrs. Sadie Orr-Dunbar in an address given Wednesday before the Oregon Social Workers association.

From its small beginning the work has spread throughout the state, public health nursing demonstrations have been made with success in 17 counties, in each of which public health associations now exist. A total of 20,000 Oregon children are enrolled in the modern health crusade, a campaign for inculcating habits of health and hygiene. Numerous general, tuberculosis and baby clinics have been held and case-finding surveys have been conducted. It is for the purpose of further extending the public health work that the present annual sale of seals is being held.

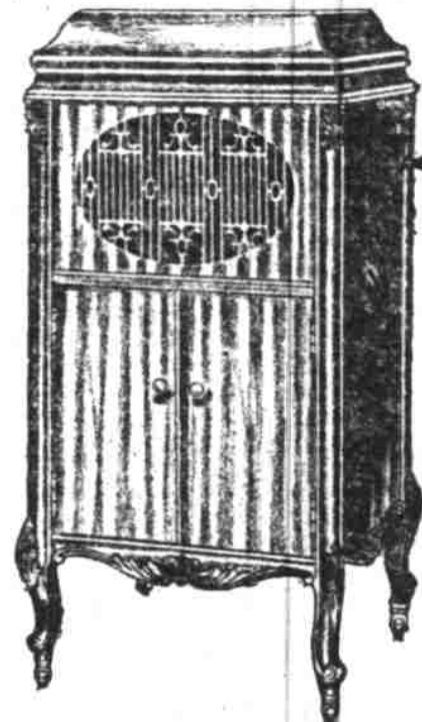
Annual sale of seals is being held. Mrs. George White will have charge of the sale of sea's at Miller's store the coming week and the P. E. O. Sisterhood will have charge of the Kafoury's while Mrs. Grover C. Bellinger will have charge at Ladd & Rush's bank. The Salem Woman's club has had full charge of the work in Salem and the sale will continue until Christmas.

A Christmas Thought

THE



brings to you the recorded music of the world with overwhelming advantages—different and better



Model 207 with 10 records, 20 selections

for

\$ 133.50

Terms to suit your convenience. Other models for less money, others for more. A large and varied supply of new and second hand machines.

Step in and Hear

Virginia Rea

The Brilliant Coloratura Soprano



Virginia Rea

who records exclusively for the Brunswick Records in her rendition of La Capinera (The Wren) then you will not fail to hear her in person when she appears with the Apollo club Tuesday and Wednesday nights of this week at the Grand Theatre.

Moore-Dunn Music Store

444 State Street and Masonic Building

Dazzlingly Beautiful Dresses Coats - Furs - Afternoon and Evening Gowns Sacrificed

In order to reduce our stock and make room for the new early spring styles which will arrive early in January we have decided to sacrifice our entire stock of these garments at prices lower than we have offered for many years.

Gowns

Our entrancing array of afternoon and evening gowns has been sorted into lots and priced as follows:

- Lot No. 1—Formerly \$75 to \$95, now \$67.50
- Lot No. 2—Formerly \$55 to \$75, now \$49.50
- Lot No. 3—Formerly \$45 to \$55, now \$39.50
- Lot No. 4—Formerly \$35 to \$45, now \$29.50
- Lot No. 5—Formerly \$30 to \$35, now \$22.50
- Lot No. 6—Special assorted lot, formerly priced as high as \$32.50, now \$18.50

Hats

Hats that formerly sold for from \$10.00 to \$18.50—100 in the lot, 50 new ones just added—a beautiful assortment—your choice now \$5.75 Fur Hats, Smart Mid-season Hats—and the new Slipper Satin Hats—all at greatly reduced prices, ranging from \$7.50 to \$15

Furs and Fur Coats (this includes our Zealand Fur Coats) 10% Off

THE FRENCH SHOP

M. BUFFE MORRISON

115 North High Street—Masonic Temple

FUTURE DATES

December 13 and 14—Tuesday and Wednesday—Apollo club concert with Virginia Rea, coloratura soprano. Dec. 14, Wednesday—Open forum commercial club. December 19, Monday—Special session of the Oregon State Board of Education. January 12—Municipal election.