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THE WONDER AND LIMITS OF KNOWLEDGE

The Statesman of a few days ago told of a Salem boy who took a few pieces of old wire and some other articles of junk and made a contraption with which he can listen to the words and the music that are in the air; putting his parental home in tune with the wide world—

And who can say we may not in time catch the harmonies of the ages, from the time eons before Job was told of the period "when the morning stars sang together" while the hanging of the planets in their spheres was in progress?—

For who can say that the "voices" whispered into the ears of imagination of Joan of Arc are not still in the currents of space; or the words of Abraham or Moses; of the lowly Nazarene, of Shakespeare or Washington or Lincoln or Grant or Roosevelt or Harding?

We are living, we are moving In a grand and awful time; In an age on ages telling To be living is sublime.

Our own grandmothers, some of them, never saw a match; never saw an oil lamp; never saw a sewing machine. Our own fathers, some of them, never saw an electric light. None of us saw an electric street car up to 35 years ago.

Scientists tell us that in a few years Salem mills will be fireless and smokeless (the cinder nuisance will then be forgotten), and that Salem streets will be wireless and noiseless; that every house will carry its antennae, and all power and heat will come out of the air; that the calorific of the coal will be changed to electricity at the mouth of the mine, and that the work of the world will be performed by the power of the streams fed from the mists from the sea, and from the ocean currents, and from the heat caught from the rays of the sun—

And now they are making streets and roads from rubber. The supply is exhaustless; it is from a possible annual crop bled from trees that will grow in any tropical clime. It is found to make the longest wearing street, and that its use distributes the impact of heavy traffic and makes the foundations enduring; and that it is clean and almost noiseless—and the engineers say that in time it will be the cheapest of all materials for the surface covering of streets; cheapest in the first place and in the long run.

We live in a wonder age; an age of a multitude of wonders. We long since passed by the age of steam, the age of steel, the age of the printing press with the wide dissemination of universal knowledge, and many others, and are passing many more. The age of kings is about passed; the age of the common man is here. But "why should the spirit of mortal be proud?"

The verdict of the greatest living inventor are enough to make us humble. Read the following from a recent statement of Thomas A. Edison:

"We don't know one millionth part of one percent about anything. We don't know what water is. We don't know what light is. We don't know what gravitation is. We don't know what enables us to keep on our feet to stand up. We don't know what electricity is. We don't know what heat is. We don't know anything about magnetism. We have a lot of hypotheses, but that is all. We are just emerging from the chimpanzee state mentally."

Hand that to the professor; to all the cock-sure high brows who have explanations for all the things of the universe; on the earth and in the waters below and the air above.

GOOD BRAKES

In this season of the year when the pavement is practically always wet, the question of brakes on automobiles is of high importance. To meet this some of the cities are having regular tests made. Of course, owners of automobiles should do this but they do not always do it.

The purpose of such tests is to prevent accidents. The driver of an automobile who neglects the brakes and yet merges in the congested traffic of city streets is just as dangerous as a speed maniac. Even though a child, with reckless abandon, rushes into the street within a few feet from the front of an approaching automobile, an accident under these circumstances could frequently be prevented by prompt action on the part of the driver in bringing his machine to a stop. However, if the brake lining is worn and the brakes do not hold properly, the car can not be stopped quickly enough. The fact that a pedestrian might be careless does not excuse an automobile driver who also is careless or reckless.

It is highly dangerous to the driver to go about with defective brakes. They may not only result in his car running into another vehicle or injuring some one, but they may cause an injury to himself. Self-preservation, if nothing else, should cause every owner of a motor car to inspect his brakes often and keep them in good condition.

MEMORIAM

It would ordinarily seem that the unstinted flood of publicity following the death of President Harding would cause to be said about everything that could be said about this great statesman, but we learned the man after his death. Governor Pierce tells a

very pretty story. He said that last summer he was riding in an automobile with President Harding through the streets of Portland and there was great cheering on both sides of the street. President Harding turned to Governor Pierce and said, "Governor Pierce, do not let this turn your head. This cheering is not for you or for me, it is for the offices we hold. Let us consecrate ourselves to this public in such a way that the people will not cheer the offices less after we leave, because we have occupied them." This is the best Harding story we have heard, because it is a good definition of the heart of a good man.

When Harding was elected president we looked upon him as a politician, a man of mediocre ability, who would take his principles from the party. He grew constantly in public esteem, but it was not until after his death that the public got the true facts of the man which showed him ardently devoted to the public service and desirous of serving all the people. The death of President Harding revealed his splendid manhood to the American people.

THE PENSION

The number of pensioners decreased the last year 7,260, but because of increasing some rates the pension roll went up more than nine million dollars. There were 539,376 pensions on June 30 of this year. Of this number 168,623 were civil war veterans, and 264,580 were civil war widows; 62,923 were Spanish war veterans, and 12,967 Spanish war widows. It has been a long time since the Mexican war, yet sixty-nine survivors are still on the pension roll, and forty widows. The government does not begrudge the pension money, but it does begrudge the passing of those drawing the pension.

TWENTY YEARS OF AIR-PLANES

It was at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, that Wilbur Wright, now deceased, and Orville Wright, his brother, flew the first successful heavier-than-air machine. It was on Dec. 17, 1903.

The anniversary will be an event in which every progressive American will be keenly interested. It marks a milestone in the development of one of the world's most potent industries.

The advancement of civilization is measured by the progress of transportation. These two decades have revolutionized man's effort in promoting commerce and travel.

The World war demonstrated that the airplane is an absolute necessity for national defense, as well as a most effective messenger of peace.

By conquering the air, all nations soon will have been brought into a single neighborhood with a common economic interest. The world owes to the Wright Brothers an everlasting debt of gratitude.

In commemorating the birth of the airplane, a fitting tribute will be paid to its inventors, a mark of honor to which they are so justly entitled, but to which the people of their own country have done nothing in a material way. At least one foreign country has erected a magnificent monument honoring them.

FAVORING THE PEOPLE

At election time everybody admits that the people rule and all the politicians are trying to court the favor of the people, but after election is over, these same people are mighty apt to have a lapse of memory that lasts for two years. The people demand certain things to which they are entitled and they do not get them always. This is why there is so much general unrest. The politicians play man against man, issue against issue and state against state, with the result that there is stagnation where there ought to be progress.

Occasionally the people wake up, but the siren song of the politician lulls them to sleep again. If the people could just stay awake, they could take care of their own interests, but the moment they shut their eyes things begin to happen.

A GOOD PLAN

It was with a good deal of interest that we read of the chartering of a commission for labor distribution. It seems to us that this is one of the greatest needs of today. Labor suffers by being flooded in one place and insufficient in the other. If the commission functions well it will distribute labor so the entire state can have it when needed and laborers will have employment. By the way, that is precisely what the best minds are trying to do with production. We do not have an over production in the Willamette valley, we have an underdistribution.

A BIG FIGHT

For the last several months Oregon City has been stirred to its depths, that is if a city has depths, and to its heights, if a city has heights above the height of its buildings, over the fight to vacate the stub end of Third street. The Enterprise has carried a number of pages of advertising telling the public just what the situation is. An outsider would think there were a million involved. There does not seem to be any real principle at stake. It is a great pity that men fuss over such insignificant things. Town feuds are mighty disagreeable and always unfortunate.

HARD TO UNDERSTAND

The Oregon Statesman confesses that it does not understand why there is so many cuts in the salaries of county agents and why in so many instances so little credit is given for the services of these officials. The theory of it is so fine that it must be some fault in the agents in getting along with the public. Certainly a county agent as an advisor is worth several times his cost and we are anxious to know just why it is that they fail to make a hit with the very people they serve.

MERGING RAILROADS

Secretary Hoover's report dwells at length upon what President Coolidge touches upon but incidentally. It is the regional consolidation of railroads. We have never understood why so many shippers oppose this. It is certainly in the line of economy and enables the railroads to give better service. The interstate commerce commission should be relied upon to see that the rates are fair. The rates being fair, the convenience of the shipper is no inconceivable item.

BLUE LAWS

There has been a great deal of complaint about blue laws. But it has remained for Los Angeles to enact the most drastic one so far enacted, and its enforcement has been violently opposed. Some of the most liberal citizens down there are declaring that it is the bluest blue law ever enacted. The law is that men driving automobiles must not shoot a rabbit while the car is moving.

REVOLT AND ESCAPE

A good many people revolt against consequences, but are unable to escape them, therefore the revolt does not get them much. In order to make a revolt successful you have to escape. A revolution may accomplish everything and yet the man who made it fails to escape the consequences. We have come to the conclusion that it is just as important to escape as it is to revolt.

SOMETHING NEW

The Oregon Statesman has encountered something new. The paper is seventy-one years old and for the first time it ran amuck a new secret society in an entirely new quarter. The Floral Society of this city is a secret organization. Hereafter it will have to go in the society columns as a sorority.

The progressives did organize congress, the progressives did perform a remarkable public service, the progressives did largely save the political situation next year. The Carvallis Gazette-Times to the contrary nevertheless.

It is a matter of a good deal of satisfaction that Lady Astor has been elected to parliament for the third time. She possesses high womanly qualities, a great strength and is in line with the moral uplift of the day.

Vancouver is planning to spend considerable money on its auto camp this year. Medford has a fine one south of us. When the season opens, Salem will be found equal to the best. This city is not going back on them.

France is continuing to defy the world and we have an idea that since the British election France will have a great deal more trouble than it has had before.

The British elections are such hoodlum affairs that they disgrace the country. In this country where we have more liberty we have more personal responsibility and our elections are orderly.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

That is a good idea—

The idea of uniform street tree planting.

Anything is good that will make Salem more beautiful.

Arthur L. Peck, professor of landscape gardening of the Oregon Agricultural college, will speak on this subject at the noon luncheon of the Salem Chamber of Commerce tomorrow. He was formerly engaged in landscape work for the Metropolitan park commission of Boston. He has a message worth a million to Salem.

Some one wants to know why it is that the opening between the Odd Fellows' cemetery and the City View cemetery has been closed up again. This inquirer says there may be a good reason, and if so he would like to hear it. One thing he does know, the thing exasperates a great many people.

A navy airman has gone 259 miles an hour. The cry, "last call in the diner," would have no terrors for him. He'd be there on time.

Edwin Markham, the poet, says that Henry Ford is another Lincoln. Possibly a poet cannot tell the difference between a Ford and a Lincoln, but any Salem garage man can.

More than 3500 plays and musical productions were copyrighted at Washington last year, but how many of them can now be remembered? It is not likely that one of them will survive the generation. That is as close as we come to Shakespeare in these times.

It will require \$250,000 to send the American contenders to the next Olympic games in Paris. There should be no trouble in raising the money in a country that contributes more than \$1,000,000 to a series of baseball games.

THE PARKING ORDINANCE

By E. G. Cries here and there a Salem Son, "The Parking Ordinance is a pun: O give two hours instead of one To (s)park, and (s)hop, and shine our shoes— In short, to do anything we choose; The one-hour stunt gives blue-black blues, For we'll be jailed if we refuse To pay for time we over-use. O City Council, change your views, Or we'll be driven to drink—home brews!"

FURTHER REFERENCE TO THE MODERNIST

(Copyrighted by the San Jose Mercury) TO most laymen the present controversy between what are known as Fundamentalists and Modernists means but little. Unless one has given the subject careful thought he does not realize what far-reaching and important results are likely to follow this agitation and how profoundly religious belief and attitude may be changed by it. In fact, the world is now passing through an epochal religious change such as has been experienced at different times in its history. This furnishes the reason for further reference to this subject in this column.

The repudiation of paganism that took place when Moses gave his laws to the Jews and these laws became the basis of the Jewish religious faith marked one of the great revolutions in religious belief. The religious teachings of Jesus amounted to a religious revolution of the most pronounced type. Jesus not only placed a new interpretation upon many of the laws of Moses and repudiated others, but he also announced new religious principles and rules for the government of human conduct that were startling in their nature.

It is important to realize that every religious revolution that has taken place within the time of authentic historical record is in effect a protest against the forms and what might be termed the physical aspect of religious belief and is an attempt to substitute for these a more refined, ethical and spiritual application of religious truth. For the relentless and cruel application of the stern doctrines of His time as typified in the rule of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" Jesus announced His principles of love, forgiveness and mercy set forth in such injunctions as "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you."

Jesus explained and spiritualized many of the doctrines of Moses and by precept and example brought forth the doctrine of overcoming evil with good and of good works accompanying spiritual faith. His life and works were an exposition of the effort and power of the active presence of the Divine Spirit in man. It was asserted of Him that He was but the first of many who should possess this spirit and power, and He promised that all who followed Him should possess the same spirit and do the same works.

Leaving these statements of some of the teachings of Jesus we come now to the present religious controversy.

It is fair to say that the Fundamentalists are right in their contention that the so-called Christian religion (and this is true both of the Protestant and Catholic faith) has been based upon the doctrine of the creation of man as contained in the Book of Genesis; upon the story of Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden; that Adam and Eve sinned thereby disobeying the command of God; that God sent His only son, divinely conceived and born of a virgin, into the world in the form of man that His blood might be shed and He be crucified that the wrath of God might be appeased and the sins of the world might be propitiated; that there is no salvation for man except through the blood of Jesus shed on Calvary; that only through the atonement of Jesus can God be reconciled to His children and this reconciliation can only be accomplished as each individual accepts this sacrifice of Jesus as atonement for his sins.

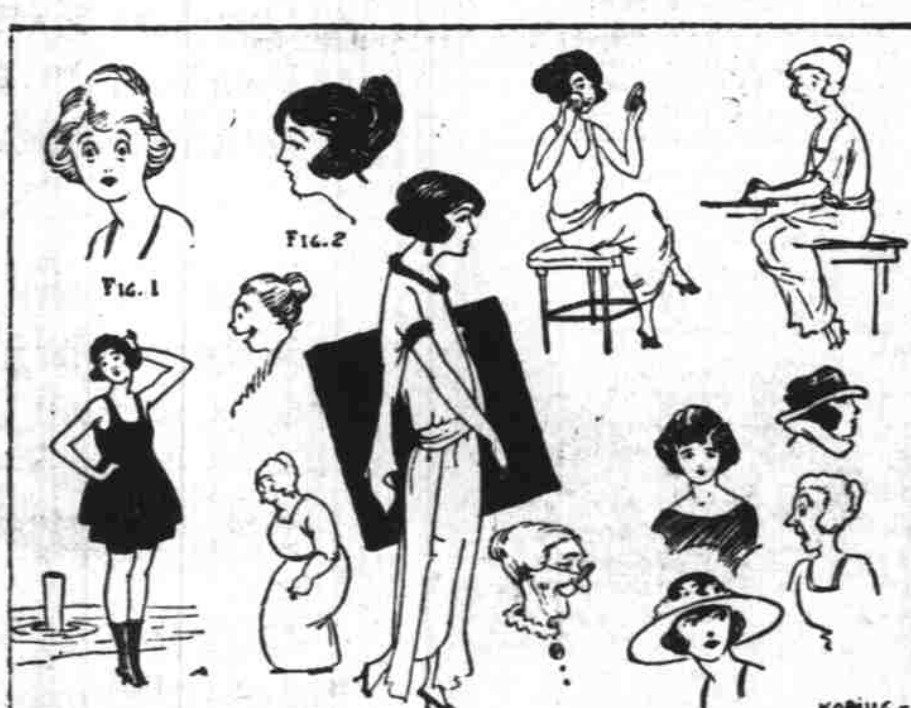
The Modernists admit that the church was based upon these doctrines enunciated many centuries ago, but assert that many of these doctrines are not the teaching of Jesus, but are an interpretation of His teachings colored by the religious belief that He repudiated; they contend that the church should eliminate these ancient doctrines that have been engrafted onto the teachings of Jesus, and that the church supposed to be founded on His life teachings and works should be made Christian in fact and not in name only. They assert that paganism and even many of the laws of Moses were superseded by the principles of religion and life enunciated by Jesus in the four Gospels and they wish the church to follow Jesus and His teaching and repudiate the doctrines that had preceded him, as He repudiated them. In short, they wish to see the Christian church promulgate the teachings of Christ and none other and to cast out and eliminate all the man-made dogmas and doctrines that have been engrafted upon these teachings. These Modernists in effect assert that they have no objection to anyone believing in and following the beliefs and doctrines that existed prior to the coming of Jesus if they find profit in doing so, but they object to this being called Christianity and the teachings of Jesus because they assert many of these do not harmonize with His teachings.

In short, the Modernists assert that their aim is to return to the teachings and life of Jesus as the basis of their religious practice and belief rather than to follow longer the doctrines and theories of those religionists who preceded Jesus, whose teachings He repudiated. If the contention is correct the Modernist movement would seem to be more in the nature of a renewal of the revolution inaugurated by Jesus than a rebellion against His teachings. If this is the significance of this movement every lover of the truth, every true follower of Jesus, every believer in the love and goodness of God, should give reverent and prayerful thought to this subject that he may be helped to understand God's will and go forward as God would have him go.

THE BOYS AND GIRLS STATESMAN

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HOW TO CARTOON



WOMEN

When you draw women try to make them pretty! You can't put big noses and wide mouths on them, which is permissible with cartoons of men. In Figure 1 you will notice that the same oval was employed that we used to draw men's faces. Figure 2 is a profile view of a pretty girl. Always draw a small nose and small lips. Two little dots will do for the nose. The eyes can be either large or small. In this connection I might say that it is best not to use too violent an action when drawing women. For instance, if you draw a man running you may go as far as you like, but in the case of a woman, have her take shorter steps and don't bend her arms at such acute angles. Remember, the ladies have a reputation for being dainty. Show them that way in your cartoons. Many of the comic strip cartoonists use pretty girls as characters. Study them carefully—notice their clothes, the way they do their hair, and other details. A special study of cartoons of children will be taken up next.

FUTURE DATES

December 11, Tuesday—Election of officers by Cherrians. December 12, Wednesday—Annual Re-tarian ladies' night. December 13, Thursday—Fourth Annual banquet of Company M, 102nd Infantry. December 13, Thursday—United Artists bazaar in Odd Fellows hall. December 14, Friday—Annual election of officers for the Chamber of Commerce. December 14, Friday—10 & 8 Ceremonial at Silverton. December 15, Saturday—Organization of reserve officers association, army. December 22, Thursday—Christmas day. December 23, Friday—Christmas day. January 2, Tuesday—New Year's day. January 8, Tuesday—Installation of officers, Capitol Post No. 9, American Legion. January 10, 11 and 12.—County judges and commissioners of Oregon to meet in Salem. January 12, Saturday—Masovian ceremonial at Albany. February 2, Saturday—Dedication of the Circuit Rider, in state house grounds.

Jones—How is your young cousin, the doctor, getting on with his practice? Smith—Very slowly. The whole family is trying to help him out, but, of course, we can't be sick all the time.—Boston Globe.

Cap'n Zyb

Just a couple more weeks left of old Mr. 1923. Have you thought what a busy sort of a gentleman this chap has been while he's lasted? More happened in one month of his existence than happened in the whole 99



years which Methuselah is reported to have lived in times gone by.

Now they send pictures by radio—several large newspapers do it regularly. Airplanes travel so fast and break the speed records so often that hardly any one knows what the real record is from day to day. Balloons so big that they compare favorably with the largest ocean liners in size, have been built and flown.

Movies have been taken at the rate of 5000 per second—so fast that they can show just how an electric light bulb looks when it bursts.

The amount of electricity contained in an electron has been measured. The electron is so small that it is no use for me to try and tell you how small it is—neither of us can understand its tininess.

Here is a list of some of the folks you ought to know about which are intimately connected with 1923. Place them and identify them if you can.

Mussolini, Firpo, Mary Roberts Rinehart, Charles Steinmetz, Andrew Mellon, Sibil Bauer, H. G. Wells, the Mayo Brothers and

—CAP'N ZYB.

Chambers & Chambers

Wish to congratulate old friends in the same line of trade on their prosperity and expansion in business.

The H. L. Stiff Furniture Co. have a business that—not only that firm but Salem can be proud of.

The Giese-Power Co. in making their bow to the buying public of this community, certainly deserve credit for their up-to-date store.

Our good friend Clarence Hamilton, with his many years of experience in this city, still stands right up to the front in fair and honorable dealing, and will hold his own with any of us.

Max O. Buren, a pioneer in Salem's Furniture trade, seems to be just as willing to paper your walls and furnish the paint for your house as he is to sell you a dresser or davenport, and he knows merchandise values in his line to a nicety.

As for us, we feel we are now one of the city's business institutions, and will continue on as we have started handling good, dependable merchandise—at fair profits—one price to all—and try to give you a dollars worth for every dollar spent with us.

There is room for us all in this growing city, and we are going to do our best to use the golden rule—at least enough to keep it from rusting for us.

Chambers & Chambers