

**The Four Equations**

The heart of the generalized theory of gravitation is expressed in four equations, shown in the accompanying illustration.

$$G_{ij} + \Lambda g_{ij} = -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{ij}$$

The equations have the mathematical properties which seem to be required in order to describe the known effects, but they must be tested against observed physical facts before their validity can be absolutely established.

**The Four Equations**—This is the heart of Professor Albert Einstein's new "generalized" theory linking the mysteries of electromagnetism and gravitation in one formula. The originator of the theory of relativity himself points out the new formula must still be tested. Other scientists say that it may be the key to interrelating all known physical phenomena when it is thoroughly understood. (Acme Telephoto)

**U. S. Arms Start Moving To Europe One Month Late**

Washington, Dec. 29 (AP)—American officials now estimate that United States arms and military equipment will begin moving to western Europe about Feb. 1—about a month behind schedule. This delayed start means the administration will have only five months to use the \$1,000,000,000 congress appropriated to rearm the Atlantic pact countries.

Unless the money is spent or earmarked by June 30, when the fiscal year ends, it will go back to the United States treasury.

Officials expressed confidence, however, that the fund could be spent or allocated within the time limit. Most of the paper work already has been done, they said, and the way is clear for rapid-fire orders once arms aid agreements are signed with each country.

Much of the delay stems from the unexpectedly lengthy discussions with the British government over explicit terms. Each of the eight Atlantic pact countries that are to get American arms must sign separate agreements with the United States which specify how American equipment is to be used in

defense of the North Atlantic area.

Britain last week objected to the wording of the draft agreement suggested by the United States, nearly three weeks previously.

The British suggested some changes and officials said these have been more or less accepted in the informal talks of the past week.

State department officials are hoping to wind up the British talks quickly since the other seven Atlantic pact countries are holding up their signatures until the British are ready to sign.

Government officials told a reporter that the United States has assured the British that they will meet one of their requests—that it be stated clearly

in the agreement that economic recovery will have priority over the mutual aid aspects of the military program.

State department officials said they had never meant to imply otherwise and would be glad to satisfy the British on this point.

In addition, the state department has told Britain informally, it was learned, that it will omit any written ban against sending home-made military equipment outside the North Atlantic area.

**Parson Promoted in Highway Department**

A. F. Parson, who is now employed as district maintenance

superintendent with the state highway department in Pendleton, will be promoted this week to the position of assistant maintenance engineer in Salem as announced by R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer.

Parson is a graduate in civil engineering from Oregon State college and has worked continuously for the department since 1935 except for service as a lieutenant in the U.S. navy during the war. He has held various positions including bridge inspector and resident bridge engineer.

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**NO INTEREST IN SCANDALS**

**Charles Laughton Returns From Bible-Reading Tour**

By BOB THOMAS

Hollywood, Dec. 29 (AP)—Charles Laughton, home after revealing the Bible and other works of literature from Canada to Texas, bears this discovery:

"One striking thing about the audience I talked to is the fact that I encountered almost no questions about the personal Hollywood stars.

"When people did want some 'inside' information about Hollywood, they were usually students who wanted to know about the technical aspects of film acting or photography or some related subject."

Laughton wouldn't say whether this denoted a general apathy toward Hollywood in general or merely a trend away from scrutiny of the stars. At any rate, it should be food for thought for Hollywood correspondents, including this one.

The actor-reader was enthusiastic about his reception with U. S. audiences. He indicated there is a great thirst among Americans, especially younger ones, for hearing the good writings of the ages. It is a demand which was satisfied in older days by the Chautauqua circuit, but which has been neglected in modern times.

Laughton spent two hours reading the Bible, Shakespeare, Thomas Wolfe, James Thurber, Dickens and other works to his listeners. He performed this feat in 53 towns and traveled 5,000 miles by car. A recent U. S. citizen, he acquired a new respect for American geography.

"Before this trip," he said, "I knew little of the United States, aside from what I saw from a plane or train window, traveling between Hollywood and New York. The tour taught me a great deal about this country, particularly how much there is of it."

"I read before audiences composed of business men, school teachers, bobby-soxers and college students. They had these things in common: A natural affection for good literature, a profound enthusiasm for living theater and a great warmth that made me feel at home wherever I went."

Laughton had only one bad moment during the tour. That came when a drunk began heckling him in Chicago. The actor finally left the microphone and said to the audience: "This man is annoying me; if he is annoying you, why don't you throw him out?"

The audience took the hint and ousted the heckler. Laughton then opened his Bible and chose this selection from Proverbs: "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red... at last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

Otherwise, the tour ran smoothly. Crowds numbered as high as 5,000, the total for the Bloomington, Ind., date.

Most requested selection was the Gettysburg address, with which Laughton always closed his program.

The reading tours may become an annual habit for Laughton. I asked him if they are profitable.

"You might say," he replied in Blight-like tones, "that the pay compares very favorably to that in motion pictures."

The foregoing formula is for veterans under 39 years. Those over 39 use a different basis dependent on their age. The dividends received are tax exempt.

**Christian Endeavor Officers Are Named**

Woodburn—Members of the Christian Endeavor society of the Woodburn and Bethel Presbyterian churches were entertained at the home of Miss Arlene Schervem east of Woodburn in a party and business meeting with Miss Schervem as hostess.

New officers elected were Miss Schervem, president; Robert Baumann, vice president and Miss Eileen Rogers, secretary-treasurer. The president will appoint the pianist and chairmen of standing committees.

A feature of the evening was the refreshments served in the form of a Swedish smorgasbord. The rooms were beautifully holiday season.

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