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AN INDEPENDENT PAPER.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Graduates and Their Ideals

It is quite the custom of the press to have a little good natured fun at the expense of each year's crop of graduates. And frequently it is thought to be necessary to impress the young men and women who are leaving school days behind that they do not know it all, and that the school of experience is the hardest one of all to pass through and from which to receive a satisfactory diploma.

With sympathy rather than sarcasm should these graduates be received into the world of affairs. Usually they come there with high ideals, but it is only the unthinking who laugh at them on that account. Let it be hoped that every one of them will enter the real battle of life possessed of good standards that will last them a long while and be of good service in the formation of their real characters as fully developed men and women.

Some of their high ideals may appear very unpractical, and it is likely that they will be compelled to modify them in the course of years, but they and the old world are both better that these recruits enter the battle possessed of intentions of fighting honorably and welded to uplifting ideas. Some people may smile at the enthusiasm with which they enter the fray and the desires they express to right the wrongs and reform the abuses that have crept into every day life, but these are noble aspirations, and although they may meet with varying success in their efforts, some good is bound to come out of the attempt, and if they are not entirely successful their failure is the result of the unfortunate conditions that exist, and which cannot be altered in a day.

There is no sensible person who believes that the world is as good as it might be, although admitting that it is getting better all the time, so that those who, just starting out in life, are filled with a desire to make things better should be encouraged rather than lightly treated on account of their worthy ambition.

He who has never had any high ideals is a poorer individual than the one who, having had them, has had them somewhat shattered.

Good Crop Prospects

This being a time of critical development in many important crops the forecasters are busy. They are studying the government reports as well as the advices sent them from correspondents. The crop prophets never agree. Some of them, however, come near to the actual production. The stock brokers are as deeply interested as most people in the crops which are so closely connected with the general prosperity of the country as well as with railroad earnings. Henry Clews, of New York, favors us with his estimate, based upon the ample advices on hand in New York, which is the focus of all such information.

The winter wheat crop, Mr. Clews says, is practically assured, and the last government report indicates a total wheat crop of 713,000,000 bushels, which is 20,000,000 bushels larger than the previous harvest. It would create no surprise, however, if there was more or less deterioration of the crop during the next six weeks, so that a bumper crop is out of the question. The largest yield on record was 748,000,000 bushels, in 1901. This year we are promised a moderate wheat crop at profitable prices, so the farmers thus have nothing of which to complain in this respect.

The corn crop is backward; plant-

ing does not yet seem to be complete. There is, however, an abundance of time to make up for these deficiencies. The corn crop is the most important crop in the country, and especially for the West; hence, in that region, much will depend upon its progress.

At present our foreign indebtedness is decidedly heavy, and considering the present activity in trade and the low condition of our bank reserves, it is probable that we shall have to depend still longer upon the foreign markets for banking facilities. We may not, Mr. Clews says, be in a position to export any considerable amount of gold in settlement of our obligations, therefore liberal exports of produce will be the most desirable form of settlement. Unfortunately, our exports of meats and canned goods, which are large in the aggregate, have been temporarily checked by the packing scandals. This impediment, however, ought to prove only temporary, because the agitation will result in greatly improved methods, which in time should re-establish the reputation of American meats on a higher plane than ever before in the estimation of European consumers.

The probabilities are that if the city council would grant the Willamette Valley Co.'s franchise for a street railway, the electric road now being constructed from Portland south would not stop at Salem, but would be extended as quickly as possible to Eugene. An enterprise like that would mean more development for the valley in five years than has taken place in the past quarter of a century, and it would assure the building of a good-sized city here. Real estate values in both city and country would soar and the business volume would increase incalculably to the benefit of every merchant. Heretofore we have always stood ready to hang up bonuses for new and competing railway lines, but now when they are simply asking the privilege of coming in, we refuse to receive them, and virtually say to those who are promoting them that we are satisfied with conditions as they are. Is this the sentiment of the people, or is it merely the voice of the monopolistic corporations that have throttled progress in Western Oregon for years, speaking through their subsidized agents who temporarily are able to defeat the will of a large majority of our citizens?

Now they have S. A. D. Puter back in Portland they are not so anxious to pass sentence on him for his forgery of school land deeds. The good reason seems to be that the men he swindled with the fraudulent paper are not so anxious to see him in the penitentiary now they have him safe. Of course they would be willing to see him go free if they could get their money, even part of it back. Revenge that strikes our own pocket is not sweet with any of us.

Competing railroads nowadays strive for straight tracks and easy grades, no matter what the cost. For instance the Oregon Railway and Navigation Co. will spend some 2500,000 for the practical rebuilding of their track between Troutdale and Bonneville, along the Colum la river, a distance of but twenty-three miles. Curves nearly equal to those of four complete circles will be eliminated.

Mrs. Emma Watson's wages of sin from the Oregon land frauds are said to have been lost in the San Francisco fire—jewels and costly wardrobe. Anyway, even if she has the gongaw she has the good sense to sink her woman's vanity and not wear them now she is in custody at Portland. The simpler she may dress the more sympathy for her.

Ralph W. Hoyt, unsuccessful aspirant for state treasurer, will not cut weeds around his residence at Portland. Arrested, he will will contest the right of the city to compel a property owner to cut prohibited weeds about his premises.

Senator Gearin has gone to Great Britain for a summer tour. Having just taken a voyage up Salt river it is presumed that the traveling habit is growing on the senator.

If Roosevelt were to run for President again would the life insurance companies and trusts hasten as they did before to contribute to his campaign fund?

Humor and Philosophy

By DUNCAN M. SMITH

SELF CONCEIT.

The man who wins is very sure
That he is made of stuff
That always can the prize secure.
The other fellow's blurt
He says he knows that he can call—
Just hear his bragging notes.
And that's the way he spoils it all;
He shows he "feels his oats."

The mother with her happy child
Is sure a goodly sight;
She seems so gentle and so mild.
The little one so bright;
She catches down the sunny head
And on it fondly dotes.
And spoils him till it must be said
She makes him "feel his oats."

The man who paints a picture takes
A deal of patient pains;
His very ardent labor makes
Him wary, hands and brain;
He modest is and humble till
The world his talent notes.
And then of fame he knows the thrill;
It makes him "feel his oats."

And nowhere in this big green world
Can there be found a place
Where self conceit is not unfurled.
If given heart of grace
A tiny bit of foolish praise
Our self importance bloats;
Upon our vanity it plays
And makes us "feel our oats."

A Bad Mixup.

"Wife was so mad last night when I got home that she couldn't see straight."

"What did you do?"

"Well, as I couldn't walk straight nor say 'truly rural,' the result was indescribable."



Built to Win.

"Does the boy show much promise of success?"

"Well, he was courting a girl, and when the old man came down to throw him out he borrowed a dollar of him."

Peace and War.

Of in the piping days of peace
We sit and dream about
The deeds of daring we would do.
The forces we would rout—
When suddenly a war comes on,
And then our pipe goes out.

A Distinct Advantage.

"I hear that Mr. Eightpurse is going to be married. I wonder what caused them to advance the date."
"Excursion rates are beginning now, and he can't bear to miss an opportunity of saving money on the wedding trip."

Foiled!

"Did he beat the lion in his den, as he said he would?"
"He tried to, but the lion had heard of his coming and had got a slave."

Seeking Employment.

"Can you give me a job?"
"What can you do?"
"I am a master hand at inventing new names for fancy drinks."

The Fourth.

The popping of the cracker
Succeeds the other three—
The popping of the question,
That held the boards in June.

Open the Way.

"Have you seen Jehus since he inherited his money?"
"Yes, but he hasn't seen me."

A Sure Way.

"How did he break himself of the habit of drinking?"
"He broke himself at it."

PERT PARAGRAPHS.

A man never wants to live his life over again so much as when he thinks of the chances for doing the other fellow that he overlooked.

The woman who can't pass an ice cream soda stand without an extra effort wonders why it is that some men drink so.

Some men act as though they felt bad because there are only ten commandments for them to break.



The man with an industrious wife is mighty apt to make garden by proxy.

The old fashioned girl comes out strong in the story books, but the modern flirt does not fear her competition.

In this age of electricity we may well say that the man who has a copper mine has a gold mine.

Poets are born and not made, and sometimes you wonder why they were born.

The woman with nothing to wear is not necessarily the women in the ball-room with next to nothing on.

When a man asks the legislature to change his name it may be because he desires, above everything else, what he considers a good name.

Vegetable and Animal Life Related

By
CAMILLE SAINT-SAENS.
French Composer
and Scientist

LET us examine the limbs of the vertebrates. Two are pointing in one direction, two in another, just as in the vegetable with the branches and the roots. ALL FOUR PRESENT THE SAME STRUCTURE. In the animal to one joint is attached one bone, which ends in a second joint with two bones. The advantage of this articulation is extremely problematical. It does not appear to RESPOND TO ANY NEED.

At the end of the third joint the subdivisions multiply. There are five fingers on the upper and lower pairs. The hand, with the ape and man, has become an instrument so marvelous that it is most difficult for us to believe that it was not specially organized for the functions which it actually fulfills. There could be no possible hesitation if the paw were a degeneration of the hand, or if, at first simple, it gradually became more complex in order to attain the perfect form. But it was not thus. The hand exists not only among the superior animals and the latest comers in the chronology of beings, but it is met in the ANCIENT ANIMALS, WHERE IT IS INEXPLICABLE. We find it in remote epochs in the powerful arms of the ichthyosauria and the grand marine turtles. Of what use could have been these fingers, with numerous PHALANGES CLOSED IN A SHELL which held them immovable and moving all in one piece?

All these observations lead us to suppose that we are in the presence of organs formed not by necessity, but by virtue of a GENERAL LAW OF RAMIFICATION, only in the vegetables attaining its complete development, a law which we find as far back as in the crystallizations of the minerals.

Consider next the upper portion of the animal and vegetable axis, which in both cases bears the name of head. With the plant the head bears the principal, sometimes the only, efflorescence; with the vertebrates the brain. Here are most unlike functions, but the difference will seem less large if we reflect that in both instances this place is occupied by the organ that is the MOST IMPORTANT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE SPECIES. Indeed, for the plant, immovable and defenseless, fertilization is the principal factor of this conservation. With the animal, when the development of the nervous system has evolved intelligence and conscious will, everything changes. The future belongs no longer to the most prolific race, BUT TO THE MOST INTELLIGENT. Of this the empire exercised by man is a proof without answer.

Among many animals the tail can be suppressed without it appearing to result in any damage to the individual, as if it involved no more than a simple ornament. But how can we determine to see only an ornament in an organ which, among the vertebrates, is COMPLETELY DEVELOPED IN THE EMBRYO, while the limbs are not yet outlined? That is inadmissible.

Everything is explained, it seems to me, if we admit that the TAIL OF THE ANIMAL IS NOTHING ELSE THAN THE TAP-ROOT OF THE VEGETABLE, become useless because the creature has found and adopted another mode of alimentation than that whereof the root is the organ.

The preceding considerations lead to these inevitable conclusions: First.—The plant and the animal, starting from the same point, EVOLVED ACCORDING TO THE SAME LAWS and differ only in a simple divergence in evolution.

Second.—THE PROTOTYPE OF EVOLUTION IS VEGETABLE EVOLUTION. Examined from this viewpoint many mysteries are cleared. We are no longer astonished at the phenomena of animal appearances observed in the vegetables, spores, movements of the sensitives, etc.; of the vegetable forms affected by certain polyps, the zoophytes and certain insects.

HERE IS THE THRESHOLD OF ALL THAT IS CONNECTED WITH THE TRANSFORMIST THEORY.

A Poem for Today

THINGS THAT NEVER DIE

By Charles Dickens



"THE humanity of Dickens," says the Edinburgh Review, "is plain, practical and manly. It is quite untinged with sentimentality. There is no mawkish wailing for ideal distresses, no morbid exaggeration of the evils incident to our lot, no disposition to excite unremedial grievances to those which do not admit a remedy. Though he appeals much to our feelings, we can detect no instance in which he has employed the verbiage of spurious philanthropy. He is equally exempt from the meretricious cant of spurious philosophy."

THE pure, the bright, the beautiful,
That stirred our hearts in youth,
The impulses to wordsless prayer,
The dream of love and truth;
The longings after something lost,
The spirit's yearning cry,
The strivings after better hopes—
These things can never die.

If with a firm, unchanging faith,
Those hands have clasped, those lips
Have met—
These things shall never die.

The cruel and the bitter word,
That wounded as it fell;
The chilling want of sympathy
We feel, but never tell;
The hard repulse that chills the heart
Whose hopes were booming high,
In an unfeeling record kept—
These things shall never die.

Let nothing pass, for every hand
Must find some work to do,
Lose not a chance to waken love—
Be firm, and just, and true;
So shall a light that cannot fade
Beam on thee from on high,
And angel voices say to thee—
These things shall never die.

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