

LOSING DELIGHT IN BEAUTY

Writer Bemoans "Degradation of the Arts," Which He Asserts Is Going on Today

All the arts but one, says Layton Crippon in his book, "Clay and Fire," show degradation today, in many cases degradation so great that they have virtually ceased to exist. We have not only forgotten how to make beautiful things, but we have even acquired an instinctive dislike of beautiful things. They seem to have become offensive to us.

"There was recently one curious little instance to which I am tempted to refer, showing as it did, that in our present state of degradation beauty is not only ignored, but has actually become offensive, causing instinctive dislike. The St. Gaugens ten and five-dollar gold pieces are undoubtedly the noblest coins produced in any country in 200 years. Within a couple of months the American public had howled them out of circulation.

"The explanation was afterward made that the coins were disliked because the relief was inconveniently high, but the original outcry was against the design and only the design of these exquisite examples of die cutting. But America has no monopoly of this instinctive hatred of beauty. It was exemplified in the vandalism that was common all over Europe, the destruction of ancient and glorious buildings, usually without valid excuse."

ONE OF WAR'S GREAT DEEDS

Crossing of St. Quentin Canal by British Troops Conceded to Be Remarkable Exploit

Probably one of the most remarkable exploits of the war was the crossing of the St. Quentin canal by a brigade of South Stafford and North Stafford (British) troops in the course of the advance on Cambrai. The canal is a landmark in the country for miles around because of its dimensions, and just where the crossing was effected the waterway runs for some distance between very steep and high banks covered in some parts by dense low brushwood. That the crossing was made by such a large number of men and so expeditiously is a remarkable tribute to the determination of the men and to the forethought of their commanders. It is related that their commanding officer had sent down to a channel port and had had sent up to the line for the occasion all the life-boats of one of the well-known cross-channel steamers. It was this measure of precaution which was the means of enabling many men to cross before foot-bridges could be constructed and which was the main contributing factor in the success of the operation.

Tact Saved the Situation

The newly created English high commissioner in Siberia, Sir Charles Elliot, has served in official capacities in Russia, Turkey, Bulgaria, Serbia, Morocco and the United States. His task in Siberia is a delicate one, but tact is Sir Charles' strong point.

When vice chancellor of Sheffield university Sir Charles created amusement by a remark he made at a university dinner. "Of the changes of the past year," he said, "the one which strikes me most and pleases me most is that every day as I take my walk in the university corridors I see young ladies walking about in gowns." And there he stopped, but the roar of laughter caused him to continue: "In academic gowns, which look most picturesque."

Memory Course

J. Leonard Repligie, the government's official steel buyer, was an errand boy at fourteen and a millionaire at thirty-five.

"Work is the secret of success," said Mr. Repligie in a Y. M. C. A. address. "I don't take much stock in fads and efficiency courses and so on as success helps."

"A clerk said to me the other day: 'I expect to make a success of my life at last. I'm taking one of these memory courses. It's a magnificent thing.'"

"What's the name of the course?" said I.

"Darned if I can remember the name," said the clerk in a vexed voice.

Non-Combatant Tanks

Not all army tanks are destructive of human life. Those of the sanitary corps are dangerous only to germs. The necessity of eradicating these from the drinking water of the soldiers has been met by the organization of purification units or mobile water trains. These consist of a number of heavy motor trucks, each of which is a complete filtration plant in itself, including a laboratory for testing. They are equipped to both filter and chemically purify the water, which may be pumped up from a river bed or any convenient source. Attached to each train are a number of simple tank trucks used for storage or transportation of the purified water.

In Memory of French Heroes

It is believed that with this close of the war the entire line of trenches in France, extending from Alsace to the Belgian border, may be converted into a sort of national sacred forest as a permanent tribute to the memory of the French "Poilus," who died there defending their native soil. A proposition to this effect has been prepared by the general council of the department of the Meuse and will be submitted to not only France, but the entire world.

RIGHTS AS "FREE CITIZEN"

Russian Workman Who Believed He Owed a Part of the Street Car Track

While walking along the Nevsky Prospect in Petrograd one morning we saw a line of street cars that had evidently been blocked; in front of the foremost car was a crowd of people, says a writer in Russia. As we entered the crowd we saw a man standing on the track and arguing with the motorman. The motorman was pleading with him to get off the track so that he could proceed with his car, and the man was maintaining that Russia was a free country, that he had just as much right on the track as the car had, and that he did not intend to move until he was personally inclined to do so.

A number of soldiers looked on, but no one attempted to remove the man from the track, and neither the motorman nor the conductor attempted to move the car, but resorted solely to moral suasion. The argument that finally induced the man to move was to the effect that the motorman was a hard-working man and had to get to the car barn; the longer he was held there the longer it would take him to get through his work, and would not his brother workman please get off the track so that he could get the car to the barn? With that the "free citizen" politely bowed, folded his arms and moved off the track, the crowd dispersed and the cars went on their way.

SILLY TO HIDE ADMIRATION

Writer Makes Point When He Describes What He Asserts Is Linguistic Camouflage

The only criticism I would make of you is that your heart is so big it sometimes overrules your judgment." This is a remark that is often heard. What does it mean? As a rule it is not intended as a criticism at all, but rather as a compliment. Why not, then, have done with linguistic camouflage? Why hide our admiration for a friend under a doubtful phrase that might leave a sting? Since at heart we are all sentimental, and since we consider a good heart of more real value than the head, both to its possessor and to his friends, why not say so plainly? How delicate we are, after all! Or is it that most of us have been dishonest so long that even in our happiest conversations we unconsciously resort to diplomatic expressions?—Los Angeles Times.

War's Influence on Music

Have you noticed what a "speeding up" of music has come out of this war? There has been so much music in it. When the famous retreat from Mons was made, one set of soldiers was kept awake and moving one night by the music of a little toy and child's drum, which the commander of it brought in a kind of desperation in a shop shortly before. The music acted like a charm on the men, who began to move more quickly and more easily as soon as they heard it. A battalion marching without singing is unusual in this war, unless secrecy of movement is called for. "There's a Long, Long Trail" is a favorite song, but dear old "Tipperary" is not sung much now. Little French boys sing it well, though, and sing it a great deal. "Mother Machree" is sung still, because it has so much of the old home feeling in it. Whenever a wounded soldier in the hospital says he wants to hear a phonograph, it is taken to mean that he is getting better. And the very sick soldiers, when they hear sweet music played in their wards in hospitals, are soothed and calmed by it.—Exchange.

Apple Crop Is Larger

The United States commercial apple crop for 1918 will exceed the 1917 production by approximately 9 per cent, according to the November forecast by the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture. Production for this year is now estimated at 25,008,000 barrels, with 22,519,000 barrels in 1917. Attention is called to the fact that the barreled and bulk apple production is estimated at a 31 per cent increase over last year, while the 1918 boxed apple crop will fall short of last year's production by 22 per cent. However, the latter deficiency is more than offset by the increase in the Eastern states.

Poor Widow Gives Mite

They were only four socks, washed and pieced together by patient fingers and then fashioned into undergarments. Around the neck of each was a crocheted edge made from the string with which the socks had been sewed. A poorly dressed woman brought them into the department of refugee clothing of the Red Cross as her "widow's mite."

"It isn't much," she said, as she unfolded the bundle, "but it is all I had, and I hope it will be of use to some Belgian woman who may have less than I have."

Artificial Rubber

Artificial rubber has been made in an experimental way for many years, but it is now reported that it has become a practical success, and that the great dye and color works at Elberfeld, Germany, are erecting a large factory for the production of synthetic rubber on a large scale, principally intended to supply Germany with this product in future years, when great difficulties are anticipated in obtaining natural rubber, like other raw materials, from the tropics.

GOOD INVESTMENT IN SMILE

Inexpensive, and Nothing One Can Own Will Bring a Greater Return—Should Be a Promise

A pleasant smile is the most inexpensive investment on earth and it is the greatest one to bring a return. How I wish everyone could realize just what it means to smile. I think we all would smile oftener if we did. So many people have told me how hard it is for them to smile. Here is my recipe—here it is, very simple: When you are about to smile, think first that—in your smile you are to promise something. That is really what a smile is for. It is a promise, and you may make it any kind of a promise you like. Some people hardly move their lips at all in a smile, while others smile entirely with their lips and leave their eyes expressionless.

The best smile of all is the one that promises most. At your mirror you may practice smiling with great success. Just conjure up the person you want to smile at and fit the smile to the vision. It will surprise you to know how many different kinds of promises one happy smile may suggest. It is so like a happy party to have a person around who smiles on general principles and promises nothing at all but gladness for the very joy of living. Cheerfulness such as this is life's finest tonic.—Exchange.

Where Trees Are Milked

In British Guiana and the West Indies, particularly on the banks of the River Demerara, there grows a tree known to the natives as the "Hyahya," which yields from its bark and pith a juice slightly richer and thicker than cow's milk. The tree is about forty feet in height and eighteen inches in circumference when full grown, and the natives use its juice as we do milk, it being perfectly harmless and mixing well with water. The Cingalese, have a tree, they call "Kiriaghuma," which yields a fluid in all respects like milk, while in the forests of Para grows a tree called the "Mansendendron," which gives a milk-like juice. It can be kept for an indefinite time and shows no tendency to become sour. On the other hand, certain trees in the valleys of Aragua and in Canagua yield a similar fluid, which, when exposed to the air, begins to form a kind of cheese which very soon becomes sour. In the Canary islands there is a tree called "Tabaya Deice," of which the milk, thickened into a jelly, is considered a delicacy.

Impress Left by Romans

The old Romans and still older Celts have left their traces thickly strewn in the place-names of the country through which the victorious allied armies advanced during the latter part of the war. Valenciennes was named after the Roman emperor, Valentinian, just as Orleans was named after Emperor Aurelian. The mark of the Celt is seen in the dun, or fortress, of the ever-famous Verdun, and, though now contracted out of existence, in the towering old city of Leon, the stronghold of the Merovingians. The River Meuse, perhaps the river most connected with war, has the most peaceful of names. Meuse being Celtic for the River of Meadows.

Barbara Frietchie and Young China

The fame of Whittier's poem, "Barbara Frietchie," has swept to China, where school children in Hongkong are interested in the native town of the heroine of the poem. The Chinese boys have read the poem and now desire information and a picture of the town. Reverend Mr. Bird of the Ellis Kadoorie school, Hongkong, has written to Mayor Lewis H. Fraley asking for a picture postal card of the town. The mayor has sent one of the centennial memorial books.—Baltimore News.

FIRST CLEAN UP THE MESS WITH THE OTHER PRESERVES

British Major's Attitude on the War Typical of Most of the Soldiers "Over There"

Generalship, I heard a chief of staff at the front once say, is three-quarters a knowledge of the mood, the condition and the character of your men. For a week I traveled the British front with a grizzled major of a Highland regiment, who had been in the game since 1914. We lunched one day with a mingled group of field and intelligence officers, a Belgian on liaison work, and a visiting French captain. The talk, which was chiefly upon specialties beyond the range of war, made one fact evident—the world of civilian life was more interesting than ever before to these men. They were passionately desirous to get back, to "clean up the mess" there, to go on with their broken careers.

"How do you stay so keen on your job here," I asked the major, afterward, "when you are more weary of war than they are at home?"

He flushed a little, British fashion. "Have to clean up this mess, first," he answered.

A week later one of the most lovable boys I have ever known (he was killed a week later) stood by his Neuport on the American front, talking to me before a fight.

"I don't think much of the danger," he said, "though I don't forget it. It's all part of the game."—Harper's Magazine.

GERMANY WITHOUT A FRIEND

Nation Stands Alone in the World, Seemingly With No One to Mourn for Her

One cannot help wondering what could have been the emotions of the German agents in Spain when they read the dispatch sent by King Alfonso to President Poincare. Those agents have worked hard through all these years of the war and spent money lavishly to make and keep Spain the friend of Germany. They can claim with some show of truth to have kept her neutral, but now, in the day of Germany's humiliation, she gets no sympathy from the Spanish king. Instead, he telegraphs to the French president enthusiastic congratulations on the victory of the allies, and calls the result achieved the reaching of "the end of this glorious epic of the French army and nation, which have shown us all," he adds, "what bravery and patriotism mean."

Alfonso says "us all," and no Spaniard protests, so they must join not only in the king's felicitation of Germany's enemy but also in the implied denial that Germany has shown anybody what bravery and patriotism mean.

Another failure, therefore, must be scored against German diplomacy and propaganda. Is it the hundredth or the thousandth?—New York Times.

America's Tin Industry

While the United States has attained a commanding position in the tin plate export trade, it by no means equals that which England had before the war. Data show that while our exports of tin plate have grown from 57,500 tons in 1913 to more than 233,000 tons in 1917, they even now are less than 50 per cent of England's before the war, and only 35 per cent more than that country's present exports.

Will this country ever have a tin industry of its own? asks the Philadelphia Inquirer. The American tin-melting industry is still in the childhood stage. Ore supplies in Bolivia, in South America, are believed to be large, but Bolivian producers are finding conditions here unsatisfactory for doing business. Only the future can tell whether any relief is possible from this source.



"Helen is certainly well preserved."
"Yes, and laid up on the shelf."

Notice of Appointment

Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned, Mamie Nelson, has been duly appointed as Executrix of the estate and last will and testament of Hans Nelson, deceased, by the County Court of Yamhill County, Oregon, and she has duly qualified as such Executrix.

Therefore, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to present the same duly verified to the undersigned Executrix at her residence near Dundee, in Yamhill County, Oregon, within 4 months from the first publication of this notice, said date being the 23rd day of January, 1919.

Dated this 20th day of January, A. D. 1919.

Mamie Nelson,
Executrix of the estate and Last Will and Testament of Hans Nelson, Deceased.

Frank W. Fenton,
Attorney for said estate.

Date of First Publication January 23, 1919.

Date of Last Publication February 20, 1919.

Notice of Final Settlement

In the county court of the state of Oregon, for the county of Yamhill.

A. West, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that Lena V. Groth, Administratrix of the estate of Fred A. West, Deceased, has filed in the above named court her final account of her Administration of said estate, and said court has appointed Saturday, the first day of February, A. D. 1919, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day, as the time, and the county court room in the court house, in the city of McMinnville, in Yamhill county, state of Oregon, as the place for the hearing of said account and the objections, if any, thereto.

Lena V. Groth,
Administratrix of the Estate of Fred A. West, Deceased.

Date of first publication January 2, 1919.

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