

The Way of Life

by BRUCE BARTON

Have You Seen a Miracle?

Here is an important distinction that many people overlook. God made the world; but He does not make your world.

He provides the raw materials, and out of them every man selects what he wants and builds an individual world for himself.

The fool looks over the wealth of material provided, and selects a few plates of ham and eggs, a few pairs of trousers, a few dollar bills—and is satisfied.

The wise man builds his world out of wonderful sunsets, and thrilling experiences, and the song of the stars, and romances and miracles.

Nothing wonderful ever happens in the life of the fool.

An electric light is simply an electric light; a telephone is only a telephone—nothing unusual at all.

But the wise man never ceases to wonder how a tiny speck of seed, apparently dead and buried, can produce a beautiful yellow flower. He never lifts a telephone receiver or switches on an electric light without a certain feeling of awe.

And think what a miracle it is, this harnessing of electricity to the service of man!

Who, unless his sense of awe had grown blunt through constant familiarity, would believe it?

The sun, the center of our universe, goes down behind the western horizon. I touch a button, and

presto! I have called it back—the room is flooded anew with light.

The thunder that men once called the voice of God rolls out its mighty waves of sound, and the sound carrier only a few score miles. But I—puny speck upon the face of the earth—I lift a little instrument; and, behold, my whisper is heard a thousand miles away.

Do we want heat? We press a button; and lo, heat, invisible, silent, all pervasive, flows into our homes over a copper wire.

Do we need power? We have but to press another switch, and giants come to us over the same slender roadway. Clothed in invisible garments, they cleanse our homes, wash our clothes, crank our automobiles—do everything that once taxed the strength of men and hurried women into unlovely old age.

Don't let your life become a prosaic affair; don't let familiarity with the marvels about you breed thoughtlessness and contempt.

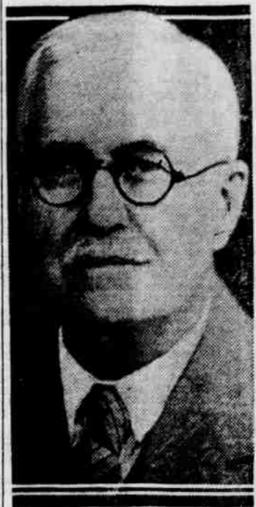
If you had stood with Moses on the shore of the Red Sea, and had seen it divide to let the Children of Israel pass over, you would have had no difficulty in recognizing that as a miracle.

But every night when the sun goes down, a man stands in a powerhouse in your city and throws a switch, and instantly the city and the country for miles around are flooded with sunshine.

And you say to yourself casually: "Oh, I see the lights are on."

Discovery of new uses for products and improvement of products is sought. In the same way new uses should be sought for farm products. Improvement in selling forces must be perfected. Farm products are rarely as well sold as factory products. A greater use of farm products must be stimulated among the farmers themselves. In the last 20 years the per capita use of wheat has been greatly reduced. Butter surpluses are represented by the large amount of substitutes used in this country. Substitutes are made from coconuts knocked from trees by monkeys. People of this country just to save a few cents buy the substitutes. The dairyman is really competing with monkeys. The grain farmer should patronize the dairy farmer. If he does this the dairyman will have more money to buy grain from him, so it is a case of the grain farmer putting more money in his own pocket.

Says Sargon Brought Back His Health



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Stabilization Sought.
Continuing his talk, Mr. McKelvie explained the features of the recently organized grain stabilization corporation. In this the cooperatives only can hold memberships. Profits to the producers are returned through the locals. The purpose of this corporation is to maintain price levels according to natural laws. This corporation expects to be substantially helpful but its operations are not to be carried on every day of the year.

The aim of the agricultural marketing act is to place marketing in the hands of the farmer and to put him on his own feet. If this does not result it will not have succeeded in fulfilling the objective set. It is a case of evolution versus revolution, and the farmer alone will suffer if revolution in marketing occurs.

Came to Present Facts.
In concluding, Mr. McKelvie said, "I came here to get your viewpoints and to outline the plan of the board which was created to help you. I came not to urge that you join the movement, but to present you the facts. What results the board attains is directly dependent on the farmer. It is the aim of the board to build something for all time for agriculture and to give the farmer secure control of his own business." E. M. Ehrhardt, president of the Federal Land bank and ex-officio

and a director of the board of directors of this section's regional cooperative, the Pacific Northwest Grain Growers, said that the agricultural marketing act may not be all that may be desired, but that it was the best law ever signed by the president of the United States. Invested in the Federal Farm board is more power than has even been extended any previous board. Mr. Ritner stated that he believed the farmers should join in the movement with whole-hearted support, and then if this farm relief measure failed, the farmer would have

some opportunity to have other relief measures legislated for him. However, he said that he believed the cooperative marketing plan would be successful if a majority of the farmers support it.

representative of the Federal Farm board, was a guest at the meeting and spoke at the banquet held by the Arlington Lions club. John Withycombe, president of the Eastern Oregon Wheat league, presided at the meeting.



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McKELVIE SPEAKS ON MARKET PLANS

(Continued from Page One)

for disposition. It will be the largest grain cooperative in the world and its branches will reach into every consuming or producing county that buys American grain or grows grain in competition to it. The national cooperative will deal with the regional, in this section the regional being the Pacific Northwest Grain Growers. The regional will deal with the local cooperative and the grower with the local.

Wide Choice Given.

The farmer is allowed a wide individual preference in the disposal of his grain. He can deliver it for immediate sale, to be held on grain receipts, or placed in a pool. The farmer is not taking any chance by signing a contract with a local. Arrangements are made in the contracts for cancellation. Any method now used to successfully market grain can be embodied in the new cooperative organization.

If the cooperatives are to be successful they must receive a large volume of grain, and this requires that the farmers give the organizations undivided support. Formerly cooperatives were in competition with each other, and for that reason were not so successful. Other competition has been faced at points of delivery and in like fashion all along the line. The new organization will sell its grain through one agency. Every sale will be for the benefit of the grower.

Loan Provided For.

The marketing act states the rate of interest to be charged on loans. The money will pass down the line, national to regional, regional to local, and local to producer. The rate of interest to be charged on these loans is expected to be low. The money loaned is received from all taxpayers. The loans are not a subsidy for agriculture. Credit is to be given the farmer with the aim to get him out of debt rather than in debt. The regional will never make a loan to the local cooperative

if that organization is in poor condition. Plenty of money, consistent with good business practice will be loaned. In making the loans every precaution will be taken so that the money will eventually be repaid.

Next let us consider the prevention and control of surpluses. Most of the surplus has been resultant from high prices the year before, but that is not so true here as it is in places where a variety of crops may be planted. It has not been the farmers' fault that surpluses occurred, for the farmers acted according to the best information they had. The government will provide information before planting. It is believed that this will reduce the acreage planted, but of course it is not a certainty. If after this information is given by the government to the farmers, and the farmers do overplant, then no farm board can be of help in reducing surpluses. No aid can get around the question of supply and demand.

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