

# Way of Life

## BRUCE BARTON

### DIFFICULTIES

My little tailor came to the office to measure me for a new suit of clothes.

He looked tired. It had not been such a good winter. The American people are either away up or away down in their thinking and their spending. While the stock market was boiling they bought lots of clothes. But they stopped very suddenly, so the little tailor said.

I wondered what a tailor thinks about. It must be monotonous life, going around and measuring men, sewing up suits and trying them on, and fixing them over, and listening to a good deal of grumbling.

"Do you find life worth living?" I asked him.

His face brightened. "It keeps me interested."

"But what are your pleasures?" I persisted. "What gives you a thrill?"

"Well, for one thing I get quite a lot of excitement in overcoming difficulties."

He went on to tell me about his difficulties, and as he talked I felt a reverence for that little tailor and a certain amount of shame for myself. How much less he has than I have. But no complaining, no self-

pity, no temptation to surrender. He is playing a game in which difficulties are his opponents, and every day, in his modest fashion, he wins some victory.

When I was in Chicago a couple of years ago they told me about the late T. F. Merseles who left the presidency of Montgomery Ward and Company to become the president of Johns Manville. Why did he do it? He had all the money he could possibly use. Why should a man of sixty give up something which was going smoothly to tackle a new situation?

"Money had nothing to do with it," one of his former associates told me. "He called us in one day and said: 'Boys, I think I have this job licked. So I'll just say good-bye. I'm going where there are some problems.'"

Many a man makes himself unhappy, I think, because he regards his difficulties as some special affliction for which Fate has singled him out.

Difficulties are as much a part of the program of life as the pleasures. You're certain to have them. The only question is, how will you regard them? As afflictions?

Or as a part of the game-like Merseles and the little tailor?

thinks of us as devoted to the skyscraper ideal, not alone in buildings but in everything else.

As a matter of fact, the American ideal standard of life seems to me to be something which Mr. Chesterton has entirely overlooked. If he had said that we, as a people, are striving toward an ideal social order in which everybody shall be independent economically and socially and all get the most possible enjoyment out of life, each in his own way, he would have come nearer the mark. But that is not the ideal we advertise.

### SOCIALISM

Timorous critics of social progress view every extension of governmental authority over property rights and privileges as a step toward Socialism. In a sense they are right. Of the three forms of government, first defined by Aristotle, the ancient Greek philosopher, the first, monarchy, or government by one man, exists today only theoretically in a few countries, in practice only in Italy among the larger nations. Aristotle's second form, aristocracy, or government by a selected few, is still, in effect, the government of most of the world's peoples.

In every part of the world, however, the movement toward Aristotle's ideal third form, the Commonwealth (of which he regarded Democracy as a degraded form) is going on with more or less rapidity. The British government today is frankly Socialistic: so is that of

Germany. In America we reject the name but accept the substance more and more liberally every year.

The greatest danger in Socialism lies in having it imposed upon or achieved by a people before they are ready for it. Its successful operation presupposes qualities in human nature which the great majority still do not possess. If everybody were intelligent, industrious and inherently just in all his relations with others no government at all would be needed. As we are constituted, we seem to be working out an aristocracy in America which comes closer to our national concepts and needs than any form of government yet devised anywhere else.

### COMMUNISM

Few persons today realize that the first form of government adopted by the Pilgrim Fathers in Plymouth Colony was precisely what today we call Communism. Everything was held in common, land, houses, food, property of all kinds. But even under the most primitive conditions, the experiment did not work, though it was tried for several years.

"This communistic," writes William Bradford, the first governor of Plymouth, "was found to breed much confusion and discontent.... The young men that were most able and fit for labour did repine that they should spend their time and strength to work for other men's wives.... And for men's wives to be commanded to do service for other men, as dressing their meats, washing their cloths, &c., they deemed it a kind of slavery.... Let none object this is mens corruption.... I answer, seeing all men have this corruption in them, God in his wisdom saw another course fitter for them."

The spelling is Governor Bradford's; the philosophy is ingrained in the American tradition. Until Communism was abandoned the Plymouth Colony languished; as soon as each man began to enjoy all the benefits of his own labor the foundation was laid for the American ideal which found expression 150 years later in our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution.

### DO-X

By completing without mishap the first two legs of its flight from Ger-

many to America the largest airplane yet built, the DO-X, has revived interest in the competition between planes and dirigibles. The DO-X has reached the Canary Islands, in the Atlantic Ocean, as I write. By the time this is printed it may have reached America, the first airplane to transport a "payload" across the ocean.

Builders of dirigibles are confident that they will establish regular freight and passenger routes between the continents in the course of a year or two. So are the builders of airplanes. Perhaps both will succeed, but it seems more likely that the transatlantic flights of fifty years from now, when nobody will go by boat except those who are compelled to travel cheaply, will be made by aircraft which will combine the safety of the dirigible with the speed of the airplane.

### IRRIGON

The 4H club work is now well organized for this year. The local leaders are Mrs. O. Coryell, interior decorating; Mrs. Fred Markham, cooking, div. II and III, and Mrs. W. C. Isom, handwork, with two individual projects in sewing, div. II and III. These clubs are comprised of eighteen girls between the ages of 10 and 18, who are taking a very active interest in the club work.

George Bleakman and W. L. McCaleb of Heppner were in this vicinity Tuesday looking over the roads. The regular meetings that have been carried on at the community church the past week with a large attendance every night, culminated in the baptism of several converts in the Columbia river Sunday afternoon. Both the morning and afternoon services were attended by large crowds, many coming from Stanfield, Umatilla, and Boardman. The services closed Sunday night, the evangelists going from here to Umatilla.

Mac McCoy and Ira Grabiel visited relatives at Imbler Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Markham were Sunday visitors at the Emmett McCoy home.

Mrs. Hallet of Goldendale, Wash., visited her daughter, Mrs. Jess Oliver, several days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Vern Jones entertained at four tables of five hundred Saturday night. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Bert Dexter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jene Dexter and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank

Leicht and family and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Isom. The hostess served a delicious lunch late in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Kendler visited relatives at Umatilla Saturday night.

The Irrigon and Alpine road meeting held at the Alpine schoolhouse Monday night was attended by quite a large delegation from here. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Vern Jones, Mr. and Mrs. F. Leicht, Hugh Grim, Geo. Hendricks and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Isom. Several prominent speakers were present from Portland and Pendleton and a social hour was spent at the close of the meeting.

FOR SALE—Purebred Plymouth Rock and R. I. Red hatching eggs, 50c per setting; also female canary birds \$1 each. Mrs. Eph Eskelson, Heppner. 47-4



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### TO STUDY SECTION.

University of Oregon, Eugene, Feb. 17.—Stamping him as one of the foremost authorities in the field of geology on the Pacific coast, Dr. Edwin T. Dodge, professor of geology at the University of Oregon, has been granted a commission by the American Association for the Advancement of Science by which he will be able to complete the geological studies of eastern Oregon and Washington, according to an announcement made here by Dr. E.

L. Packard, chairman of the research council of the university.

FOR RENT—420 acres summer grazing land. South Jones Prairie. Mrs. Henry Jones, 309 E. 16th St. N., Portland, Ore. 47-4

FOR SALE—10 cords creek wood, 16-inch. Inquire Ferguson Motor Co. or John Henderson, city. 46-8

For Sale—Two big horses, \$80. 5 young ewes that will lamb, \$25. Werner Rietmann, Ione. 47-8

## WHAT'S A WATT?

YOU know that a 60-watt lamp gives more light than a 15-watt one. Haven't you wondered how this term "Watt" is arrived at? It is nothing more or less than the measurement of electrical accomplishment—by multiplying volts and amperes. We will classify these terms by this analogy:

There's the familiar water system in your home, tank, pipes and faucets. We will assume the tank to be the power station, with water serving as electricity. The AMOUNT of water flowing through the pipes, regulated by the size, would be electrically measured in amperes; the pressure with which it flows is known electrically as the voltage, measured in volts; the result you achieve at the faucet in the water you use represents the number of watts you use when you snap the switch electrically. The KILOWATT HOUR is 1,000 watts used for one hour—the least expensive of your daily necessities.



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Mac Marr, has a won't flavor thru its flavor.  
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CHEESE  
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Economy, the best cheap coffee today.  
3 LBS.  
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ALMONDS Soft shell; note the price. 2 lbs. **39c**

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Stone's genuine Cane and Maple. It's just delicious!  
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Plant now and have early onions.  
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