

The Evening Herald

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1929

The Uses Of Science

PROFESSOR HARRY ELMER BARNES of Smith College, addressing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, declares that man, instead of being the lord of all creation, is only a "temporary chemical episode" on an insignificant planet which he described as a "celestial juvenile and cosmic dwarf."

This, says Professor Barnes, is clearly proved by modern science, and because of it we must furnish ourselves with an entirely new conception of God.

This sounds a trifle depressing to those of us who still cling to the old-fashioned notions about souls, immortality and so on. However, it is only fair to point out that science hasn't proved anywhere near as much as Professor Barnes seems to think it has. What he is giving us is not the hard-and-fast conclusions of modern science, but his own opinions.

Every so often some man of learning surveys the facts and theories which science has produced, draws his own conclusions, and announces these conclusions to the world as facts. There is an intolerance and a dogmatism to it as unpleasant as the intolerance and dogmatism of the medieval theology which the scientists scabbor.

For instance: Professor Barnes has evolved in his mind a new conception of man; therefore he demands a new conception of God. Who needs it? Surely not those of us who fail to see eye to eye with him on his new conception of man. And if he is correct, why should any "temporary chemical episode" need any conception of God at all?

His little speech is valuable, however. It illustrates aptly the double-edge nature of that keen, glistening tool called science. For science, while it is making us rich and free, and is preparing us for the larger life to an extent that would not have been dreamed possible a few decades ago, is also quite capable of cutting out of life some of its highest values, and leaving us far worse off than we were before.

If, just at the moment when it is releasing us from countless old shackles and launching us on a new golden age, science should convince us that we are mere accidents of cosmic chemistry, devoid of souls and doomed to an eternal death after a few brief years of activity—then we should not be beginning a golden age, but an age of great darkness.

Luckily, however, science isn't doing anything of the kind. It is presenting us with a tremendous variety of new facts, and to date no one has come forward big enough and far-sighted enough to harmonize and interpret them for us properly. Eventually the poet of the new day will arise, just as it has always happened before. Meanwhile, it might be well to bear in mind that there is vast difference between the established conclusions of science and the ideas of individual professors.

Short Words

ENGLISH is rapidly discarding its long words and becoming a language of monosyllables, according to Prof. Otto Jespersen of Denmark.

British savants, following the national custom of blaming every new development on America, say that it's our fault. Maybe it is; if so, we ought to be proud of it.

Short words make language a flexible, easily mastered instrument. Consider some of the jaw-wrenchers that other languages contain. In Finland, for instance, a roofpaper tar company has to advertise itself as a "huopaparperiterivakattotervatelasosokyehtio." In Danish the old-age pension law is "varemaerkendregistrens kontrolkalerne." "Highness," in Russian, is "vysokoprevoshoditelstvo." The abstinence movement in Poland is "wstrzemięzliwość."

If we are tending more and more to one-syllable words, we may be very glad of it.

We are good people; and though all should become crooked and depraved, we'll pause at intervals and gain self-respect by giving three cheers for virtue.

Correct this sentence: "He likes to argue," said the gossip, "but he depends on logic alone and never intimates that his opponent is an idiot."

Uncle Sam needs large cruisers that can range far without coaling. You see, most of Wall Street's loans are made to lands far away.

If Big Business should control all contributory industry, why don't the bootleggers branch out as morticians.

Modern youth wouldn't be wild, either, if he could get a thrill by racing a buggy horse up and down Main street.

Another good intelligence test is the choice between a \$30 white-collar job and a \$75 overall job.

MAYOR T. B. WATTERS READS ANNUAL REPORT BEFORE CITY COUNCIL

Review of the activities of the city during the past year and recommendations for the ensuing year were contained in the annual report of Mayor T. B. Watters, submitted to the city council last night.

The report follows:
To the Common Council of the City of Klamath Falls:
Gentlemen: I herewith submit to your honorable body a report of the activities of this administration during the past year, and recommendations for the coming year.

We have more than doubled the amount of our paved streets during the past two years. Naturally, this increase in paving has increased the duties of our street department in about the same proportion.

Very early in the year it was evident that we had not budgeted enough money for this department and that we would have to exercise the utmost care or there would be a deficit in the street fund at the end of the year. With this in mind, the street commissioner was instructed to get down his force and economize in every way possible, but other demands that were made on the department, such as repairing the bridge across the government canal and the repairing of old pavement (which, I think, would have been poor economy not to have repaired, has caused a deficit in our street fund for the past year. This deficit will be taken care of in the special levy that was levied last year, which levy will also place an additional amount in the street fund for the coming year. However, there will not be enough money in this fund to take care of the demands that will be made on the department, and we will have to watch the expenditures more than ever, for there must not be a deficit in this fund at the end of the year.

Fire Department
During the year this department answered 127 calls; there was \$1,915,739 insurance at risk and \$251,547.53 insurance paid, giving a loss per capita of \$17.25. While this loss per capita is somewhat higher than it was the year previous, it was caused by the Ewanna fire, but if we will remember the gallant and successful fight the department made to save the mill and factory during this fire, I think we will all agree that while the loss per capita is higher, our department has not lost any of its efficiency.

We have one of the best fire departments in the state and it is a well-known fact that we also have less fire equipment than any city of our size on the coast, and the time is not far away when we must add new equipment and a new sub-station, and I would recommend that the fire committee, with the assistance of the fire chief, make a study of the needs of this department and have a report ready to submit to the budget committee this coming fall.

Police Department
The efficiency of this department is fast overcoming the reputation that Klamath Falls used to have of being a wide-open town. While we have been criticized quite a little on our law enforcement program, it is being said that we are making the town so tight that it is hurting the business. I am convinced that this criticism is not justified and that because of this law enforcement we attract more than enough good substantial people to replace the ones of questionable character that we lose.

Health Office
While this department is comparatively new, it has proved to be a necessary part of our city government and one that cannot be dispensed with. Under the efficient administration of Lee Crain, Klamath Falls milk has had the highest test in the state practically all year, and the present year is the first one for a long time in which we have not had a serious epidemic.

Building Code
This, too, is a new department, having been installed about 18 months ago. For the past two months we have been trying to get along without a building inspector and I have been trying to take care of his duties, but I find that the demand for inspection of buildings has grown to such an extent that it is impossible for me to take care of it any longer and if we are going to enforce the building code, it is necessary to have an inspector on full-time duty.

Planning Inspector
During the past year O. D. Mathews has been forcing all people living adjacent to laterals to connect with the sewer, with the result that at the present time there are very few houses that are not connected with our sewer line. He has handled this department in such a manner that it has given the council no trouble, with the exception of the matter of collecting a fee from the people living outside of the city limits who are using the city sewer. This is caused by the fact that the council has failed to provide him with the proper authority and this is something that should be attended to as soon as possible. I think we will all agree that it is unjust for the people living within the city limits to tax themselves to build sewer lines that are used jointly by the people living outside the city, who pay nothing toward their construction or maintenance.

Engineering Department
There has been more paving laid this year than ever before in the history of Klamath Falls, and the way this program has been handled by Mr. Kelley has been a great satisfaction to all the members of the council. I am sure, because we have had very little trouble with the contractors or the property owners during the entire season. The work is all completed, the bonds have been sold and we have a clean slate on which to start the new year.

The new municipal sewer under Mr. Kelley's direction is progressing in a very satisfactory manner and he tells me that Mr. Shea, the contractor, is doing a first-class job. I have been out to watch the construction several times and while I do not

know a great deal about laying a sewer, my impression is that we are fortunate to have a contractor of Mr. Shea's ability to do this work. I would like to take this opportunity to invite every tax payer of Klamath Falls who is interested in how this sewer is being constructed, to inspect it at any time.

City Attorney
I sometimes wonder if we fully appreciate the valuable service that has been rendered the city by our city attorney, Mr. Schumpke, during the past two years. Out of about 30 transactions which he has prepared on our various improvement units, not one has been held up by legal technicalities, a record of which any attorney should be proud.

He should be commended for his handling of the recent damage suit against the city, which proved to be more serious than the council or myself realized. He has also handled the police court work in the same efficient manner and has always been ready to give us his opinion on any legal questions that came up, and we have never yet gotten into trouble by following his advice.

The Council
A year ago I suggested seven different projects that I thought should be completed during the year, namely: Sewers, street lighting, paving of Oregon avenue, isolation hospital, city zoning, improvements of the cemetery and the garbage franchise. Of the seven, four are completed. The sewer program was too large to complete in one year but it is well on the way, leaving two projects—street lighting and zoning—not only complete but apparently dead.

As to the street lighting, it was dropped for lack of a suitable way to finance it. The original plan, that of having the property owners benefited by the bill, was protested by the property owners and the matter was taken out of the hands of the council and put to a vote of the people as to whether or not it should be paid for by general taxation, and was defeated. I believe the council should leave the question of revising this project up to the property owners and the chamber of commerce.

The city zoning has been laid aside because of the great amount of work caused by the large paving and sewer program, but as our city grows it becomes more evident that zoning is very necessary to its proper development and I am going to put something first on my list of recommendations for this year.

Rock Macadam in Mills Addition
Now that East Main street is paved, I believe Mills Addition will become a real residential and business district and I would like to see the property owners petition the council to put in sidewalks, curbs and rock macadam on Division, Martin and Adams streets and on the intersecting streets between Sixth street and the Southern Pacific tracks. By putting these streets all in one unit, we should get a very good price on the work and I believe the property benefited will stand the improvement.

Sewers
Now that our trunk line is under construction and will provide an outlet for additional sewerage, local units should be constructed by the balance of Mills Addition, Riverside, California

avenue district and Hot Springs from Portland street to the city limits.

Street Busses
I believe the time has arrived when the council should advertise for bids granting a franchise for street busses.

New Charter
Although we will be handicapped somewhat by the lack of funds for this work, we should make some definite plans to provide the city with a new charter.

O. C. & E. Income Bonds
I am not able to make any report on the settlement of these bonds at the present time, but hope to be able to do so within the next few weeks.

Armory
The local National Guard is starting a movement to not an armory in Klamath Falls and I would recommend that the council go on record as favoring any suitable plan advanced by them.

Judge Garbagnati
Tonight you finish six years of faithful service to the city of Klamath Falls, and while we have not been able to agree with you at all times, we have always felt that you were honest in your opinions. You are to be commended on your police court work—it is a record of which you may well be proud. I am sure the council joins me in wishing you success in whatever line of endeavor you may choose to follow.

Mrs. Dixon:
You have had a big job for the amount of money you have received, but you have performed your duties faithfully and well, and I feel sure the council, as well as myself, appreciate your work.

While we welcome Mr. Richmond and Mr. Butler to our city family and we are sure that they will fill their offices with credit to themselves and their wards, it is with a feeling of the deepest regret that we say good-bye to Mr. Halverson and Mr. Pratt, and I hardly know how to express the appreciation of the council and myself for the valuable services you have rendered. Suffice it to say that you have always been willing to cooperate, have been honest in the positions you have taken and have never let personal feelings enter into any discussions. Your intelligence and sound business judgment have been a guiding hand in the administration of city affairs for the past two years that has been a big help to the rest of us, and I am sure that your work has been appreciated, not only by us, but by the entire city. Although you are going out of public life, I sincerely hope you will keep up your interest in city affairs through the chamber of commerce or the service clubs, or in any other way you may wish.

I wish to thank the balance of the council and the heads of the various departments for their earnest support and co-operation throughout the entire year.

T. B. WATTERS,
Mayor.

TWO ARE FINED
Calle Stevens, colored, was fined \$100 yesterday afternoon by Justice of the Peace W. B. Barnes following her plea of guilty in Justice court to the charge of possession of liquor. James Woodbury, colored, was fined \$20 on the same charge. Leniency in his case was advised by officers.

COUNTY COURT HEARS PLAN OF LOCAL ARMORY

Delegation Appears Before Public Officials Monday Afternoon

If the plan needed only the approval of the county court to be enacted, the proposed new Klamath Falls armory would be assured virtually today. To a delegation which urged some action on the matter, the court expressed itself in favor of the project.

However, after all amenities had been exchanged, the question stammered down to the cold, hard question of how, where and from whom is the money to be secured with which to undertake the project. This question remains unsolved but, nevertheless, the court appointed Captain Walter Abber to secure an estimate of cost and submit a tentative plan to the court.

The present plan for an armory is to remodel the American Legion Memorial building and construct an addition.

Advocates of the plan who spoke before the court included R. C. Greenbeck, W. C. MacRae, commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; Alfred D. Collier, commander of the Klamath post of the American Legion; D. E. Van Vleet, A. M. Collier, H. S. Moss, Ted Gillenwaters, Ed Vanuiter, and Captain J. H. Carnahan.

POLICE DOUBT GIRL'S STORY

EVERETT WASH, Jan. 8. (P)—Helen Helen Brown, 14, feared the hand that rocked the cradle of her infant years, last night she was trying to explain the details of a doubtful story of abduction she told today.

The high school girl was found lying by a roadside near the city limits following an absence from home. Police say she faked injuries which she said resulted from an abduction.

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SIDE GLANCES

By George Clark



"Maw always rubbed the chest with goose grease."

Mom'n Pop



Cupid Spears Chick



Nothing to Worry About



By Cowan



Freckles and His Friends



Nothing to Worry About



By Blosser

