

The Silvertown Journal

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This paper stands for freedom of thought, freedom of the press, freedom of speech, equality of opportunity and the religion of righteousness. It is radically opposed to every form of superstition and tyranny, or licensing or permitting any form of evil.

THE IDEAL SHOWS THE TRUE MAN

By the ideal that a man loves, and by his persistency in cleaving to it, and working for it, shall you know what he really is. This idea, whatever it be, seen and embraced, and melting into a man, constitutes his true and essential nature, and reveals itself in all he thinks and does. They tell us, and truly, that it is not the educated and refined only who have their ideal,—that every man, even the most illiterate, has an ideal; whether he knows it or not; that is, every man has something which forms the ruling thought, the main desire of his life. The beggar in his rags is not without his ideal, though that probably does not go beyond plenty to eat and drink, and a comfortable house to live in.

OPTIMISTS WORK — PESSIMISTS ARE AFRAID

By the way some people are pointing out the evils of our time you would think that they are the most pessimistic people in the world, but this is far from the truth. The people who have no hope and are pessimistic from the ground up are the fellows who are doing nothing to make the world better, and are always found on the side of the conservatives who are afraid to say anything that would change conditions. We believe that we are living in the most progressive period of the world's history and this makes us optimistic; but it also makes us want to hurry up the good things which we see in the future when the evils of our time are blotted out. Therefore we are hunting down every old thing that looks like a serpent, so we can "fix him plenty." We find that there is work to keep us busy and we are at it, for while we do not for a moment forget that the world is growing better and that there is already very much of the good, the beautiful and the true.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

No one can love his enemies unless he understands the nature of wrong doing commonly called sin. To the end that we may really reach up to this high state of perfection let us look at what sin is for a minute.

There are two factors which make every form of organic life, including man, just what it is at a given time. These two things are the inherited traits of the individual and his environment. Now when a person places himself in the attitude of an enemy or when we consider him as such, these two factors in him and in us are absolutely the whole cause of our enmity and he and we are not to blame. If this is true, and we hold that it is self-evident, then our enemy is no more to blame in the sense that conditions, prenatal and postnatal, have made him as he is, than we are, and how can we blame him then? We should not blame or condemn or punish vindictively. We should use love and reason and gentle force to bring ourselves and our enemies into harmony on the broad basis of justice and right. Let us first love our enemies. Let us reason together in a spirit of fairness. Let us apply the law when necessary, but always with the idea of testing the questions in controversy with the hope of gaining the victory only when we are in the right. This lesson may be a hard one for us to master, but nevertheless it is necessary before we can fully enter into our inheritance of the great brotherhood.

MAKE A PLEASANT CLIMATE AROUND YOU

I received a letter a few days ago in which a mother said something about a daughter that I wish all mothers could say of daughters. In speaking of her brightness and sweetness she said, "She makes a climate for me." I had so often felt the truth of this—but had given it another name—but I like the word climate. I had so often been impressed with the atmosphere people carry with them, and I am satisfied we can carry a June atmosphere instead of a March atmosphere if we only will.

INDUSTRIAL REVIEW OF THE STATE

Information About Factories and Enterprises That Employ Labor and Matters Affecting the Development of Oregon.

Salem, Ore., Sept. 28. — The La Grande \$60,000 Elks Lodge will be erected by the Palmer-Ellison Co. of Portland. It will have Otis elevators and finished in Seattle terra cotta.

The new Pendleton hotel costing \$130,000 has been opened to the public.

The \$75,000 rock crushing of the Cascade Construction Co. at Marion has begun operation with a payroll of 100 men at \$6,000 per month. It is expected to distribute 600,000 yards of crushed rock on the S. P. Co. tracks in Oregon.

Cyanide jumping from 19 to 75 cents a pound on account of the war is hampering the mining industry in Baker County.

The new Portland post office will have two floors devoted to mail work, and seven floors of offices for the army of federal officials and commissioners at Portland.

Proposed plans for the improvement of the old St. Johns road out of Portland calls for an expenditure of \$170,000.

Albany is calling for bids for a new \$50,000 high school.

Portland bankers recently returned from the bankers conference at Washington, D. C., state eastern factories are running night and day to fill orders brought about by the European War.

European War has demoralized the fruit industry and freak labor laws are crippling the canneries at home.

The Heppner Milling Co. distributes annually \$10,000 in wages.

Pilot Rock has great need of more dwellings.

McCully and Rumble of Joseph have just completed a concrete office building.

Gresham will soon have a new cannery.

Bids being received for the reconstruction of the headworks at the intake on the East Fork of Hood River and construction of Main canal for an approximate distance of six miles.

Work on the Sutherlin Coos Bay and Eastern Railroad is being pushed rapidly.

Joe Knowles got what he went after—publicity, the greatest Oregon product.

Prineville needs more modern houses.

The Willamette Pacific expects to have rails to tidewater before the rainy season sets in.

The Sutherlin Railroad has been granted a franchise on Sutherlin streets.

The Pacific Coast Condensed Milk Co. will immediately proceed to enlarge its Hillsboro plant to meet the demands of the constantly increasing offerings of milk. The new building will be of concrete, 140x140, and when completed will give the local plant a capacity of 200,000 pounds a day.

During the harvest season to save crops farmers must work 12 to 14 hours. What will an 8-hour law do to the farming industry?

The Standard Oil Co. is preparing to erect supply tanks at Lebanon, making this point the distributing center for that part of the country.

Portland will soon erect another 24 class room school at a cost of \$160,000.

The Marion county court house is to have a new heating plant installed by T. M. Barr of Salem.

A great many people have gone South to escape the March winds; their own climate is not conducive to health—they are afraid they will get la grippe if they do not get away into another one. Now, carry this into the region of thought, for the source of agreeableness or disagreeableness is in the thought life we lead. It is in thought that the climate is made. Think pleasantly and you will act pleasantly, and this is so tremendously vital, or it affects not only your own character but also the characters of those who are around you. Take, for instance, a scolding woman—a mother who always sees the faults of the children and is always bringing their faults to the front, so that her children are always anticipating a scolding!

If you live long enough you will come to a time when a beautiful memory will be so much to you. I would not take anything for the memory of a little after-breakfast talk with my son who is dead. He said to me: "Mother, I don't think I have ever thanked you for my happy childhood. I remember it so well. You never seemed to think that I would do any but the right thing; you always trusted me. You never said, 'Now, don't do this,' nor 'Don't go there.'" You don't know how much the memory of that little talk is to me now. Sel.

REPLY TO MATERIALISTS

By Guy Fitch Phelps.

In the Silvertown Journal of September 18th there are materialistic articles from six different persons: Mr. Thompson, Victor C. Lake, Maud Wakefield, Olin Ross, Eliza Bliven and F. L. Roda. I will take them in order in replying. But I am forced to say that these three columns of matter come as near containing nothing as any I have ever read. Why does not Materialism stop snapping at preachers long enough to tell us what their grand scheme for the emancipation of the race is? I, for one, shall be glad to hear it. Can't you rise above preachers and sarcasm long enough to put down your dogmas and show your plans?

Let me say now that I am a Christian by profession, and I hope one by practice, but I believe in the complete liberty of the mind and press on all subjects. Materialists are constantly saying that Christians are set against reason. This is unreasonable as to be silly, with the maps of the world open to all eyes. No man or woman will make such a statement unless they address it to those too ignorant to deny it.

First comes James Thompson's article. He says: "If I can do nothing but destroy, to clear the ground, my efforts will not be in vain." That is a fine definition of Materialism. What can you expect of men and women who teach that the human being is an animal without a soul; that there is no God and of course no difference between right and wrong. Certainly they will tear down, they will destroy, and that is what they have been doing since the first one came to the front to tell the weary world that there is no hope and no remedy. For remember, my materialistic friends, you have nothing by which to heal the ache of the heart of the world. You have made tears but you never dry them; you have taken hope away, but you have never kindled it. What is this which Mr. Thompson wishes to destroy? We know well. He wants to take every bible out of the world, every hymn book, he would stop every religious song, tear down every church, destroy every Sunday school, quench prayer, remove the restraint of a belief in a personal God, destroy all faith based on fact (faith is always based on fact); in fact everything that had to do with man's spiritual nature he would "tear down," leaving man, of course, on the level of the brute creation, a thing of instinct and animal desires. But if you could do all this, Mr. Thompson, what would you put in the place of what you would take away? Have you anything to offer the race that would bring it more peace, comfort and moral strength? You say you want to remove the thistles: what will you plant where they grew? Come now, tell us what you would build when you get the ground cleared? Give us a blue print of the house you would erect. Don't you know, Mr. Thompson, that you could not imagine a desirable state without putting the principles of Christianity at the base of it? Do you claim that a belief in God has no restraining influence? Materialism will have a better hearing when it shows the world that it has something better to offer it than what Christ gave it in his teachings. Yes, infidelity is a tearer-down, but it never constructs. Like swine in a garden it tramples and smirches and ruins, but it plants no goodly seeds for a better growing. It will chip "I am the resurrection and the life" from our mother's tomb stones, but it has nothing to put in its place. Stop snarling at preachers long enough to tell us what you have that will build a better state, make better men and women, take more gloom from the grave, build better characters, make better children, create more honesty, make purer women, than real Christianity. If you have the thing that will do it, I pledge you that I will adopt it instantly when it is shown, but so long as you only "tear down" and leave the world in ruins you must expect those who have souls and loved ones they hope to meet again to give you a very critical hearing. Strange, isn't it, that those who claim to be the worshippers of "reason" will be unreasonable enough to believe they can make man happier and better by convincing him that he is only a beast of the field, a creature of instinct without a soul?

Next comes a little squib by Lake of Chicago, in which he tells us that Sir Oliver Lodge and Alfred Wallace have disgraced themselves by believing in spiritual things, that is, the things which go with the future life. He claims that Mr. Lodge has accepted the teachings of Madam Paladina. Here we see the dishonesty of infidels. This statement is not true. Sir Oliver Lodge bases his belief on sounder principles than those advanced by a fake woman. I am convinced that materialists are not looking for proof that they are wrong, and they would fight desperately if anything were found to prove that point to them. Honesty would compel the infidel

world—who make so much of science—to give due credit to the views of such men as Lodge and Wallace. Then he says that "the fact that three scientists defend spiritualism by no means satisfies the materialistic world." Well, to begin with, the world is not materialistic. There is only a handful of infidels compared to the millions who believe in a personal God. But how many scientists would it take to convince infidels? I will mention a few scientists who have stood upon the Bible as a foundation, claiming that it agreed with geology and archaeology. Dawson, Dana, Hugh Miller, Baron Humboldt, Baron Cuvier, Dr. Kartz, McDonald, Lewis, Sillman, Pierre, Guyot, Schaff, Lange, Jameson, McCosch, Baumgarten, Turner, Rosen, Muller, Kalisch, Muhphy, Hodge, Hagenbach, Calwer, Keil, Davidson, and hundreds of others. Materialism shows its lowliness of brows when it claims to have the scientific world with it. I challenge materialists to bring a half dozen scientific men of first repute who undertook to account for reason and conscience independent of a personal God. Let any materialist who reads this come on with his proof.

Next comes a short article from Maud Wakefield. This name is rather familiar to me. Some years ago I challenged this woman to debate, but because of certain physical conditions on her part the meeting did not take place. Perhaps we may touch blades after all. She devotes her article to a tirade against God for not stopping the war in Europe. Why do not Materialists apply their reason to such things, seeing that reason is their boast? This article proves that Materialists are bluffers, and that they believe, with the rest of us, in a personal God. No one can really believe in his own being without believing in antecedent being—God. If there is no God why do Materialists spend their time talking about one? Let Materialists explain the war from their standpoint, it is their chance to solve one big thing without God. God says in the Bible that "Whoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." That law applies to nations as well as individuals. God says, "thou shalt not steal," but men steal and get into prison. God says, "thou shalt not kill," but men go to war and kill. Christ said, "A new commandment give I unto you, that ye love one another." If men would do that there would be no war. But they won't, so what is the sense in blaming God? There is a command in the Bible which says, "be sober;" but men go and become drunkards. There is another which says, "be pure," but men practice vice, and die in lazareros. Men are free agents, and God permits them to sow and reap. If he did not he would be hated by Materialists, and they would charge him with what they hurl at preachers, that they want to bind the people. This inconsistency in infidels proves their lack of sincerity. They hate preachers for trying to shackle the minds and wills of men, and then snarl at God because he don't. Oh, you infidels, you are a brilliant parade. But what strikes me as funny is that these folks who utterly disbelieve (?) in a God, forever write and snarl about things just like there was one. They want to know why God does not do this or that, or solve this or that condition, etc., etc. But infidels should solve them without reference to God. We are asked if this God can give back the body of the sinking boy (in the sea) to the arms of a loving mother. I am glad to answer that he can: "Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.... And when the Lord saw it.... he came and touched the bier.... and he that was dead sat up.... and he delivered him to his mother." (Luke 7, 12-15.) Take another case, that of Lazarus, recorded in the eleventh chapter of John. Also the statement found in Revelation, 20th chapter, last part: "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it." Certainly Mrs. Wakefield will reject this "dope." Well she would reject it also if a thousand witnesses testified that they had seen a man raised from the dead today. I have long since learned that infidels are married to their doubts, and they would even hate the one who could prove them wrong. Mrs. Wakefield says: "Don't go to the Bible to find an answer to the above questions; we are overstocked with Bible dope. Give us some flashlight from your own brain." But it is Bible "dope" that Mrs. Wakefield needs, and—dreads, as do all infidels. Do you notice that she asks that some one else shall give a "flashlight" from their brain? Why don't she give us the flash that will explain the problem? Poor, poverty-stricken infidelity—skin and bones—no more. (Continued in next number)

The Lebanon Lumber Co. will soon begin to ship logs to their mill at that town and the mill will be run to capacity.

Wm. Kyle and Sons Co., salmon cannery at Florence, has started operation and will distribute \$20,000 to the workers during the season.

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