

A Great Inventor's Vision of the Future

BY THOMAS A. EDISON

The next era will mark the most wonderful advances in science and invention that the world has ever known...

First.—Within the next twenty or thirty years—and it will start within the next two or three—concrete architecture will take enormous strides forward...

A HUMANE MAN.

Became Involved in an Argument With the Primitive.

When Percy MacKaye, author of "Mater," recently produced for the first time by Henry Miller at the Van Ness Theatre...

During the course of their explorations Laflie became separated from his companions. While making his way through the tangle of brush and brambles he heard the dramatic creaking of a motor...

With the true western spirit and in accordance with the word as written in Genesis, Laflie believes in slaying all sons of sin.

Laflie remonstrated. MacKaye was firm, adding: "We never kill the little brown snakes in New Hampshire."

He continued, saying that if the land became his property he wanted it peopled as God had designed. The snakes and grizzlies and Indians were to be in their primal state.

MacKaye's discussion of the humanists' creed was rudely interrupted. With a final warning the snake sprang, striking at MacKaye, who barely escaped the poisonous fangs.

Laflie killed the snake before it had time to recoil. MacKaye to redden his argument.—San Francisco Chronicle.

WHISTLING.

And What It is Understood to Signify. Whistling is understood everywhere to signify coolness, confidence, carelessness. These may be virtues in their proper place, but that place is not the society of one's fellow creatures.

A boy reprimanded, a servant dismissed, goes away whistling—if he dares. He wishes to express contempt, and he succeeds at least in enraging his master generally.

Boswell tells a little story of whistling. Illustrating the independent significance. Johnson and he were dining with the Duke of Argyll, who asked a gentleman present to fetch some curiosity from another room.

The exact position of this gentleman toward his host is undisclosed. However, Boswell says: "He could not refuse; but to avoid any appearance of servility he whistled as he went out of the room."

Boswell grasped with ease the objection, which is unintelligible to some persons. "The gentleman desired to show his independence." That is always the motive of whistling, when it has any.

You very often see a young barbarian in this country survey his fellow passengers and then fall to whistling liberally. But cultured persons here, and quite common folk abroad, are trained to regard politeness toward strangers as a duty.—Fall Mail Magazine.

THE VALUABLE ALLIGATOR.

Why He Should Be Raised for His Very Useful Skin.

The man of science has been studying the alligator and has discovered that every part is of some value. A half-grown specimen is worth far more in money than the largest steer that will ever separate into articles of commerce, even in a Chicago abattoir.

Take the teeth, for instance. They are of such fine ivory that they can be made into watch charms and other jewelry, for they have a much lighter lustre and are as rich in color as the best teeth that ever came out of an African elephant's head.

They are worth from two to three dollars a pound, according to the quality. Some of the hide is worth more than the rest. It is a more attractive material than any other.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY.

Even the Top of the Pink Little Head Is Sensitive to It.

One thing which we must learn to appreciate and respect in the baby is his attitude toward light. This is widely different from ours, writes Dr. Woods Hutchinson in the Housekeeper.

Light is one of the most stimulating and attractive things in the world to us, and the brighter the better. But to a poor blinking tot of a baby it is a dazzling and irritating as it is grateful to us.

His chief objection to the new world in which he finds himself, if he could put it in words, would be: "It's a beautiful light." He is born a cave-man in more senses than one.

While the rooms which he occupies should get plenty of sunshine, this should never be allowed to shine directly into his eyes or fall upon his face.

He has neither pigment in his tender skin nor hair on the top of his pink little head to protect him against the light rays. It is little short of cruelty to animals to lay an unfortunate baby on his back in a troughlike perambulator, or baby buggy, so deep and well padded that he cannot even squirm; to load him down with clothing and wraps or even actually strap him down so that he can lift neither hand nor foot, and then to wheel him about for hours with his little face turned up to the full glare of the light, and even the direct rays of the sun.

Here is where the foundation of many a case of headache, of irritable nerves, of fretfulness—with its accompanying indignation and sleeplessness—is laid. Look at the faces of these poor little human cocoons and you will see, three times out of five, that while they are bravely trying to make the best of it and to accept it good humoredly their tiny countenances are wrinkled into one universal frown of perplexity and protest.

By all means get the baby into the open air, day and night, but see to it that his eyes are protected from the direct glare either by hood or sunshade or by turning his back to it.

SHORT METER SERMONS.

The Stamp of Civilization.

The mark of civilization is the individual man, his rights and his responsibilities.—Rev. Cortland Myers, Baptist, Brooklyn.

Wailing Characters.

Authority has ruined as many characters as neglect; there is no development of any value without responsibility.—Rev. Frank Crane, Unitarian, Worcester.

Honest Doubters.

Thomas was an honest doubter; therefore the Master was anxious to help him. Honest doubters are treated in like manner to-day.—Rev. Orville A. Petty, Congregationalist, Andros, Ill.

A Lesson to the End.

The church is not the last word in Christianity. The church is a means to the end. It is its work so well that after awhile it will be unnecessary. In the holy city John saw there was no temple.—Rev. James I. Vance, Reformed, Newark.

Soundest Power.

No matter how insignificant you may be, you can exert some beneficent power over the tide and flow of human passions, and diffuse a calm and blessed light on those that fall within your environment.—Cardinal James Gibbons, Roman Catholic, Baltimore.

Was an Man's Inhumanity.

We must fight the inhumanity of man to man, fight it in the faith that some day it will cease to be, and to invoke in our battle the dear and sublime humanity of Jesus Christ, and through Him the loving humanity of God.—Rev. George A. Gordon, Congregationalist, Boston.

Divorce.

Divorce tears up the roots and pulls away the foundations of the family and family life. Differ as we may about the ground on which divorce is allowed, there is a consensus of opinion in all churches that divorce is a menace to society and threatens ruin to the home.—Bishop William C. Doane, Protestant Episcopal, Albany.

The New Testament.

It is an easy thing to take into one's hand the New Testament, and turn its pages; but do you estimate the New Testament aright? It is a colossal sublime. It is the power of human language. It is the critic of our thoughts. And it is all this because it enshrines the Christ. It exists to perpetuate the Master.—Rev. David Gregg, Presbyterian, Allegheny.

Origin of "Fall Mail."

"Fall Mail" (pronounced pell mell) comes from pelle maille, an ancient game supposed to have been played on the present site of Fall Mall by Norman monks, by whom it was introduced into England.

The observant Pepps in his famous dairy makes mention of it thus: "April 2, 1901. Into St. James' park, where I saw the Duke of York playing at Pelemote, the first time that ever I saw the sport."

Lucinda's Point of View.

"When I engaged you, Lucinda," said the mistress to her colored cook, "you said you had no male friends. Now almost every time I come into the kitchen I find a man there."

"Lor' sakes," laughed Lucinda, "he ain't no male fren' o' mine."

"Then who is he?" demanded the lady.

"He am just ma husband," was the reply.—Youth's Companion.

How British Trains Run.

Home life in England lacks the intimacy and the charming sentimentality of German family life. The sons of England have to leave home early in life to go out into the wide world and fight for themselves. They become independent, responsible, men much earlier than our boys do.—Rebber Taggart.

Why a Man Has Not Money on a Sure Thing Because He Was Afraid to Take It.

AMUSEMENTS

AT THE CHICAGO THEATRE.

AUDITORIUM THEATRE, CHICAGO.

(Milward Adams, Manager.)

Chicago theatergoers are to be favored by the production of the elaborate comedy with music, "The Newlyweds and Their Baby," built from George McManus' well known cartoons by Aaron Hoffman and Paul West, which opens with a matinee Sunday, Jan. 17th, at the Auditorium Theater.

The plot has to do with the kidnapping of the baby "Napoleon Newlywed," by one Prof. Nichols, proprietor of the famous baby incubators at Moonlight Park, in order to stimulate business.

It seems that his former baby "protégé," one Major Knott Much, a midwife, has decamped from the incubator place, taking with him a week's receipts and a trained bear. The Professor, hearing of the remarkable resemblance of the Newlywed baby to Major Knott Much, conceives the kidnapping idea, and during the many funny complications that arise Mrs. Newlywed herself is the innocent means of accomplishing the kidnapping.

At the end of the first act Major Knott Much, masquerading as the Newlywed Baby, has his things in such a tangle that he knows how he is to be stung. Every one realizes that this is not the Newlywed Baby, and all set off to recover the original "Napoleon Newlywed." The plot, fabricated on as compact lines as one could desire for a musical play, bubbles out of the maze of real funny things and ends away again like a small fountain turned off or on at a child's whim.

CHICAGO OPERA HOUSE.

Walker Whitehead in Zangwill's great play on the annihilation of the races, is still holding its own in the race of popularity among the theatrical enterprises now current in the city of Chicago. Early this month it will celebrate its 100th performance.

There is no dilution in the crowds which nightly gather at the theater and cheer and applaud its stirring scenes and strong climaxes. When Israel Zangwill wrote "The Melting Pot" he prepared not only a belief in the cause of Judaism, versus prejudice and racial distinction, but established also a pulsing human sentiment, the warm red blood of which raves through the body of the drama to every extremity, making of it a living, real and enduring thing, for the play not only presents a problem, but champions a tremendous cause.

"The Melting Pot" has accumulated during its brief career in Chicago a sensational record of success. No time has been set for the withdrawal of "The Melting Pot" from the boards of the Chicago Opera House and seats are still selling three weeks in advance.

WHITNEY OPERA HOUSE.

COMEDIAN HARLAN'S COMEDY ACTS.

The troubles of Old Harlan, comedian of "A Broken Idol" company, with his property automobile on the stage of the Whitney Theater, Chicago, are not a circumstance to the tribulations of Old Harlan, private citizen, with his real auto.

From the first Mr. Harlan and his chauffeur had troubles with the motor. Finally the comedian got the car running so that he could leave his flat on the South Side at 10 a. m. and be reasonably sure of getting to the theater by 8 p. m. Then he invited his friends in the company to join him in a spin after the performances.

George Richards, who resides in a flat adjacent to Mr. Harlan's, ventured forth with him on New Year's night. But while the actors had been working the chauffeur had been celebrating, and as they sat in the back they noticed the machine cutting slices off the speed limit while endeavoring to occupy the entire width of Michigan boulevard. They reached home without mishap, however, and the driver was told he could take a week's holiday.

Mr. Harlan decided he would run the car himself, and then his troubles commenced. The evening last week that the temperature took such a sudden drop, he entered the car in front of the Whitney singing the refrain of "Big Night To-night," one of the song hits of the show, and howled merrily along the boulevard. Richards was already in the back seat when Harlan took the wheel, and had settled himself back for a nice, comfortable ride, when the engine emitted a croupy croun and ceased chugging.

He alighted, went to the front and cranked some. No results. He cranked some more. The sound of the voice of the engine was silent still. Then he felt of the atmosphere with his gloved hand, and decided that it was cold. He remarked to Richards that the gasoline must have frozen. The temperature continued to drop, so he said he was going to get some hot water to throw on the gasoline, when Richards suggested that he look in the tank and see how much gasoline it contained. The tank was empty.

MAJESTIC.

The first week's engagement of the Majestic Theater, Chicago, of Mabel Hite and Mike Donlin proved so successful that the management arranged to prolong their stay for another week, beginning Jan. 18th. Miss Hite has always been in high favor with the Chicago theater-going public, and everybody who has seen Mike Donlin on the baseball diamond was anxious to see how he would shine as an indoor entertainer, and in consequence the Majestic has been put to the capacity test daily. Their little offering is called "Stealing Home," and admits of various baseball pleasantries, several character songs by Miss Hite, and in conclusion a cleverly executed dance

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THE KING OF DIAMONDS HAS LICENSE TAKEN AWAY. Alleged Bogus Gem Man Ralls at Newspapers.

BERLINGTON, Ia., Nov. 14.—For some time past newspapers in Iowa cities have been reporting the operations of a man whom they called "The King of Diamonds." It appears that there was nothing criminal in his operations, which consisted in selling "phony" diamonds, but his methods of procedure were not exactly according to the regular operations of a man who places the same thing, such as such a representative of the house on the road and selling him a diamond, to be delivered at the store. He explains that the diamond is only an imitation, and offers to sell any else around the place the same thing. Thus he works up an interest and usually succeeds in selling some of his glassware. Mr. Jack of Diamonds dropped into City Auditor Norton's office one morning and secured a license to sell his wares. He had only been out a short time, however, until Chief of Police Hitts learned of him. Calling in the peddler, he believed him of his license and gave him back the money he had paid for it. As the man had committed no crime he was released. He was bitter against the newspapers for the ordinary observer if you want to wear a diamond diamond, the ordinary observer almost like unto a gem of the parent ray serene, a fitting substitute for the genuine; or if you want to make money, don't wait—ACT TO-DAY, as this advertisement may not appear, nor this unusual and extraordinary opportunity occur, again. Fill out the coupon below and send at once—first come, first served.

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