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EVOLUTION SUBJECT OF RADIO ADDRESS

BY ZOOLOGY PROFESSOR

Declares It Established Scientific Fact, But Says Fundamental Humanist's Balance Wheel

Don't make fun of the fundamentalist, for he is a conservator and helps to maintain the balance-wheel of humanity; at the same time, the fundamentalist is "static" while the modernist is an explorer and refuses to stand still. You are reading some of the words utilized recently in a radio talk by Prof. Conrad E. Tharaldsen, professor of zoology at Northwestern University, who frankly discussed evolution with a large audience.

Discusses Evolution
"Evolution is an established scientific fact," said Prof. Tharaldsen. "The conflict between science and religion is an old one and reappears sporadically. It is a conflict now between fundamentalist and modernist and each in his way is right in his own sphere. The fundamentalist has the tactical advantage of defining his position and sticking to certain beliefs. Therefore, he may be called a conservator. The modernist reaches out for new truths. He is an explorer but both these advocates are useful. Fundamentalists unreasonably fear that science is undermining their cherished religion while scientists cannot see where there is any conflict between true religion and evolution. There may be a conflict between the dilettantes or humbugs in both ranks but it's my opinion that the ablest theologians believe in evolution and that most scientists are religious."

World Rapidly Changing
Prof. Tharaldsen said the world is rapidly changing, making progress, and it is the duty of scientists to keep abreast of the advancing host.

"Religion, too, must advance," he added, "or it will be hopelessly left behind. To attempt to make religion static can only damage religion, not science."

As to man's origin, the professor humorously asked if it should be "mud or monkeys?"

Then he added: "Man is of lowly origin whichever route you select. Science, however, demonstrates quite clearly that man in his travel down the evolutionary ladder went far below the monkey and reached, at least, a peevish student refer to a chum who hasn't lived up to a campus agreement as a 'mean little snake,' you may know it's a roast because there's something actually true behind it. Or when a college dude is referred to as 'snaky,' it may be well to pause and think over his remote ancestry."

Common Origin
"Yes, man has a common ancestry with the monkey but man is not descended from the monkey, although both had the same pre-historic parents. Each ran for thousands of years along his own branch of life and these two branches are now widely separated. Yet, about 2,000,000 years ago the two branches probably met and were as one limb. The evolutionary scale, then, runs along in about this order—Man, on the one hand; the monkey, on the other; the ancestry of both had a common parentage aeons ago in the missing-link, referred to by scientists as the primitive primate, and back of the primitive man-monkey a species of extinct mammal and 'way, way back of the extinct mammal, the reptile."
"This can be circumstantially proved by science and yet some of us who can demonstrate it are religious and are probably as devoted to religion as a force for human uplift as are our good friends on the other side of the fence."

SOVIET TRIBUTE TO NEAR EAST RELIEF

Bolshevist Official at Convention in Tiflis Says Great Work Is Done

The "splendid work" of the Near East Relief in caring for orphan children in Russian Armenia, received enthusiastic acclaim this week at the recent meeting of the Soviet congress at Tiflis. Doctor Orachavelli, head of the caucasus confederation, gave the congress a formal and detailed report on this American relief work, which he has personally visited several times.

"The Near East Relief," he said, "has cared for 30,000 children in Armenia, and is still caring for 27,000 of which about 11,000 are in the orphanages at Alexandropol. The organization does not mix in politics and deserves our full approval and co-operation for its single-minded humanitarian work."

General economic conditions have improved somewhat in Armenia during the past year, according to this speaker. Agricultural reports show that the area farmed is now nearly up to the pre-war acreage, but unfortunately recent severe weather has caused heavy crop damage which will mean great hardships to the rural population and will set back agricultural reconstruction several years.

What, me monkeyin' with the cross word puzzles? Don't you ever believe it—a feller gits enuf cross words that he don't havter puzzle none over.

MUSEUM AIDING IN INSECT PEST WORK

Collections of Specimens Are Used by Entomologists In Experiments

An interesting illustration of the function of the National Museum as a clearing house for economic entomological activity occurred recently when a series of insect specimens was received from the government entomologist of the Federated Malay states. These specimens were of a tachinid fly parasite on a moth which is very injurious to coconut trees. The sender wrote that he had been unsuccessful in securing identification of these parasites. From the very extensive reference collection of specimens maintained in the museum under the direction of the bureau of entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture, the species was identified and arrangements were made for the immediate publication of the description.

It happened that a few days afterwards a member of the Canadian entomological staff, who had been commissioned to spend two years in Fiji investigating a moth injurious to the coconut, passed through Washington. His attention was drawn to the parasite of this moth, which appears to be very abundant and beneficial in the Federated Malay states. He will endeavor immediately to introduce the same parasite into Fiji.

The maintenance of an adequate reference collection of insect specimens is absolutely essential to the work of the bureau of entomology, and in recognition of this fact Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the bureau, has for a long time been honorary curator of the entomological division of the museum. The collection is maintained by members of the bureau staff who are specialists with regard to particular insects, and who constitute an emergency staff which can be sent out over the country when serious infestations of an unusual character occur. Foreign entomologists frequently visit this collection for the purpose of identifying specimens or extending their knowledge of rare species.

It is one of the greatest collections of the world. To undertake a successful fight against an insect pest, it is obviously necessary to know with absolute accuracy what it is, and through this fact to know more easily what are the habits of the group to which it belongs, and what, if anything has been written about it. This more than justifies the extremely close relationship that exists between the Department of Agriculture and the museum, and, further, the employment by the department of a corps of highly expert "taxonomists," as men who do such work are called.

TRANSPORTING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

Practical Questions Raised by This System Discussed by Specialist

Transporting pupils to and from school at public expense has raised some common-sense questions that need to be answered, in the opinion of James F. Abel, assistant specialist in rural education of the Department of the Interior, bureau of education, expressed in an article in School Life. All the states and the District of Columbia are transporting some school children. Pupil transportation has been the subject of a generous amount of legislation, and back of it lies the fundamental principle that the state must provide means for an education to every resident child, either by causing a school to be placed within his reach or by transporting him to one.

Where does the responsibility of the parent cease and that of the public begin? The question is asked about most school activities. The answer as to public transportation is generally expressed in terms of distance from home to school, and the range under present laws is one-half to 4 miles. Such transportation is not a new item in the expense of education. It is handled in a different and better way and its cost carefully recorded. Twenty-two states reported that 446,226 children were transported in 1921-22, at an expenditure of \$14,536,368, or an average of \$32.55 per pupil for the year. The cost ranges from \$9.36 in Georgia to \$73.15 per high-school pupil in some sections of Maryland. Costs differ with conditions, but for safe, comfortable transportation of any considerable number of pupils a state will probably need to expend from \$30 to \$40 for each child per year.

RELIEF WORKER IS VICTIM OF CAUSE

American Who Spent 3 Years in Near East Dies; Honors Posthumous

The distinguished service medal of the Near East Relief has been awarded posthumously to William A. Yoder of Allentown, Pa., for "service in the cause of humanity in Turkey and Armenia." He spent three years in relief work in the Near East, mainly in Tiflis and Alexandropol, Russian Armenia. He won a considerable reputation as a financial expert and was later attached to the American Embassies in Constantinople and Prague. His hardships in overseas work led to the development of tuberculosis, which compelled his return to America a few months ago. He died last month at his home in Pennsylvania.

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