

## "Pessimism Greatly Overdone"

"There are Features in the Situation," Says the "Economist," "Which Entitle England to Take a Rationally Optimistic View of the Future"

We are glad to quote a note of real good cheer this week. The "Economist," noted for its sobriety of expression, gives good reasons for a healthy industrial outlook. It is an early spring tonic.

"There can be little doubt that British trade has experienced an appreciable setback, whose effects are to be found not only in additions to the numbers unemployed, short time in many branches of manufacture and depleted order-books, but in less obvious, though equally significant, symptoms of depression such as declining cable tariffs and a striking fall in the volume of general advertising matter carried by the daily Press," says the Economist.

"The trade cycle, in fact, has clearly taken a downward turn; but the most casual observer of the situation could not fail to be impressed by the depth of the psychological depression into which the country seems already to have fallen, without much regard either to the causes of the material reaction or its probable duration.

**The Popular Scapegoat**

In business circles the popular scapegoat is the forthcoming Budget, apprehensions of increased taxation are cited as a prime factor in retarding trade and stifling enterprise. More generally, doubts with regard to the effects of the Coal Mines Bill and uncertainty as to the alignment of the Government's whole future policy are held responsible for the absence of the requisite confidence in our industrial progress.

"In addition, there is the calculated pessimism of interests bent on justifying claims to protection by tariff; and the dismal chorus is swelled by a large chain of newspapers whose noble proprietors demand that England should discern in her imminent bankruptcy and downfall the necessity for swallowing their particular panacea. Discounting, however, all forebodings which are not disinterested in motive, the impression remains that the country as a whole is set in a frame of mind almost, one might say, deliberately 'benish' of our prospects.

"Emphasis is laid on every unfavorable factor in our position—the growth of competing industries in hitherto non-industrialized countries overseas, and our handicaps in the shape of much antiquated plant, dear cost of living and high 'sheltered' wages—while not only in the extent of our recovery since the war belittled, but the possibilities of renewed expansion, based on a forward policy of constructive rationalization, are to be viewed in a spirit of spathy and discouragement. It is as though England, having long ago lost faith in Samuel Smiles, had ceased, as a result of the present set-back, to believe in herself.

"This being so, it is pertinent to consider carefully whether the present lack of confidence has any warrant. Let us state at once that in our view pessimism is being quite unjustifiably overdone. We have no desire to minimize the gravity of the unemployment problem; and the trade reaction, coming not as the aftermath of a boom in this country, but as the sequel to nine years of hardy-won and very moderate recovery, is a serious disappointment to hopes already long deferred. At the same time, there are features in the situation, as we see it, which entitle this country—on one condition—to take a rationally optimistic view of the future. . . .

"The central fact is that last autumn a surplus of supply over recent average demand reached simultaneously over a wide range of foodstuffs and raw materials a point at which lower prices were inevitable. The fall of prices, curtailing the purchasing power of producers of such important commodities as wheat, sugar, coffee, rubber, wool and tin—is to name only a few of the 'distressed products'—was bound to have a rapid effect on the volume of international trade; and

though the dis-equilibrium between demand and supply is a passing phase (prolonged rather than mitigated by artificially withholding stocks from sale), its indirect repercussions on highly industrialized areas have been already serious. Our misfortunes, as witness the rapid increase of unemployment in the United States, Germany and other manufacturing countries, are by no means unique.

**Facts That Should Cheer**

"Far, indeed, from its being the case that our competitive power deteriorated during the past twelve months, the weight of evidence favors the conclusion that British industry, after losing ground relatively to its competitors between 1923 and 1925, last year progressed to an extent greater than that achieved by most countries.

"England's imperative need to-day may be summed up in three words—courage, vision and determination. We have endeavored to direct attention to such elements of comfort and assurance in the situation as we can discern. In so doing we have had in mind that rational optimism does depend, as we have said, on one condition—England's ability to throw off the malaise of economic defeatism whose symptoms are disquietingly visible. It is a distemper which takes various forms.

"There are those whose mistrust in our industrial future, coupled with desire to cheat the tax collector, is being expressed in a quiet 'flight from the pound'; some evince their disbelief in our capacity by proposing that we should secure a tiny 'sheltered' home market at the cost of throwing up the sponge in the foreign trade essential to our present population's standard of life; others—and in their ranks one may fairly include the majority of the Privy Council, of the bankers and industrialists, and of the trade union leaders throughout the country—are defeatists in the sense that the courage is lacking to push forward, even at a risk, bold and enterprising plans.

**"Safety First"—Despair**

"In our present situation, 'safety first' is a counsel of despair; there is no salvation in caution which 'looks' until senescent legs can no longer 'leap' at all. Traditionalism is a heavy brake on the progress of every effort to modernize and reconstruct our industrial and commercial organization. But the greater the severity of the present trade recession, the greater becomes the need for enterprise in carrying reconstruction through, however painful the process of rationalization may be in its immediate and direct results on interests affected. And the heavier the prospective burden of direct taxation, the less reason have those possessed of wealth, either in capital or brains, to draw back from the risks of the arena.

"Defeatism in the form of manual workers' 'ca' canny is not the worst danger to our future national achievement. Those who profess that their 'enterprise' is deadened because reward is so heavily malaked by the few would do well to bear in mind that taxation becomes a burden greater or less onerous to a nation in proportion as the national productivity diminishes or expands. There is little need to point the moral for the individual, whether he considers the national interest or his own."



Old Stager: "I hear you have the part representing young Giddyboy open in your new play. I hope I'm not too late for the place?"

Manager: "Sorry, but you look about forty years too late."

## Sunday School Lesson

April 27. Lesson IV—Giving Up All For the Kingdom, Matthew 19: 16-26. Golden Text—Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.—Matthew 6: 20.

**ANALYSIS**

I. THE RICH YOUNG RULER, vs. 16-22.

II. RICHES AND THE KINGDOM, vs. 23-26.

**INTRODUCTION**—Here we come to a subject which occupies an important place in the teaching of Jesus. He frequently discussed the nature of wealth—its use and abuse. The lesson contains an actual example of the way in which the love of money keeps back a man from reaching the true goal of life.

I. THE RICH YOUNG RULER, vs. 16-22.

V. 16. It is from Luke that we learn that this young man was a ruler, which probably meant, a ruler of the synagogue. This class was chosen from the men of leisure and wealth, and their services were given freely. All the gospels lay stress upon his wealth.

V. 17. The question here is probably, "Why askest thou me what is good," but in Mark the form is, "Why callest thou me good." We are not to suppose that Jesus is intending to confess any personal faults, or to say that he has failed. He is not disclaiming goodness on his part; but he is conscious of the fact that this youth's views of goodness are very conventional and deficient, and he desires to correct this fault. The first condition of attaining to goodness is the faithful observance of the commandments.

V. 18. When the man asks as to the kind of commandments, Jesus selects four, which he sets forth as examples of his meaning.

V. 20. Evidently his youth had lived a good life, had kept the proprieties. Like Paul he had sought after righteousness. Mark adds a fine touch when he says, "and Jesus beholding him loved him." Mark 10: 21.

V. 21. Jesus recognizes that there is a weakness in his character which can be corrected only by a severe method. This young man was deeply attached to the comfort and honor which wealth brings. These worldly connections were taking up much of his thought, and Jesus sees that he is only as far as a complete break from these outward bonds that he can enter upon the real purposes of the kingdom. Accordingly Jesus bids him sell all that he has, and give to the poor.

Three things are to be noted in this condition laid down by Jesus. (1) This advice is meant for this individual case, and is not to be applied as a general rule for all followers. It would be impossible for this ruler to follow Jesus in his roaming mission if he were involved in business interests which made his presence in certain places needful. His mind would be divided and he could not seek the kingdom first.

(2) This abandonment of wealth was a stage in the following of Jesus. He was to get a new occupation. Here was something better than that which he was called to give up. The new life would be the true riches. Jesus never asked a person to give up anything except for a greater good.

(3) This story illustrates the cost of perfection. Jesus says that if the youth wishes to be perfect then he must make the necessary sacrifice. No moral or spiritual gain is possible without effort and self-denial.

V. 22. The departure with sorrow presents us with one who saw, the rightest, and had not the moral courage to accept it. He wished to serve God, but he also loved the world, and one cannot serve both God and Mammon.

II. RICHES AND THE KINGDOM, vs. 23-26.

V. 23. These incidents naturally follow upon what has just happened. Jesus "draws from this actual case the conclusion that it is difficult for a rich man to accept the kingdom."

V. 24. He uses a familiar saying which was meant to give point to his remark. The eastern mind loves such extremes in language. The purpose of Jesus is to insist upon the impossibility of loving wealth, and of being also an earnest member of the kingdom.

V. 25. The disciples are astonished, because they had been accustomed to suppose that rich men were the happiest, and most favored of God. This was, and for many still is, the common estimate of good fortune. It is therefore, natural that they should ask, "Who, then, can be saved? If it is so difficult for the rich man to be saved. What chance is there for the poor?" In considering the teaching of Jesus on wealth we may observe that there is no subject to which he returned more frequently, and if we could have the principles of the gospels applied to

our modern life, how changed everything would be! (1) Jesus does not say that wealth is an end in itself, nor does he lay down any rule of compulsory poverty as was done by the monastic orders. (2) Neither does he teach that riches is a good in itself. Life does not consist in the abundance of the things that we possess. Wealth cannot save us in our time of great necessity, neither is it the needful condition of all happiness.

(3) Everything depends on the way in which men use the wealth they possess. Here we may notice the two parables of the Unrighteous Steward and Dives and Lazarus. Wealth is a trust, a talent which we are to employ for noble ends.

(4) The dangers of wealth are very many. There is a deceitfulness about which which it is hard to escape. It is apt to take the first place in the thoughts of those who desire to be rich. It thus monopolizes the place that God should have. The love of money warps our moral judgment, makes people selfish, avaricious and unscrupulous. It creates a false hunger for more, and hardens the heart, making those who seek money to be come mean and hard. It dries up the streams of pity and love. Mere money-seeking makes men dull and empty.

## What New York Is Wearing

BY ANNEBELLE WORTHINGTON

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**Serious**

When sunny spring so softly smiles I feel inclined to shirk. I seem to be impelled to play And loaf about the place all day Then die of overwork.

## Greatest Fight of Science

"The Day of Hope for the Victim of Cancer is Just About to Dawn," Says Our Contributor, Who Describes the Wonderful Work Done by Our Men of Science in Forging a Weapon to Fight this Dread Disease.

Nearly twenty years ago a doctor, who died recently, told me that he believed that at last a real weapon against cancer had been discovered. "Radium," he said, "kills cancer."

He was compelled to add, however, that it was so difficult to use radium, even when it was possible to obtain any of this most precious substance, that the outlook, though hopeful, was not bright.

**Patience Wins**

That note of caution was more than justified. Twenty years ago, radium, in spite of the fact that it did kill cancer, was nearly, if not quite, useless in the treatment of this terrible disease. Indeed, the oftener it was used the deeper grew the disappointment. This strange and fearfully potent element showed itself capable of inflicting grave injuries and, in some cases, even of making worse the disease it was designed to cure.

But human patience is as great as human courage. The workers with radium, in spite of their disappointment, could not forget that the substance did kill cancer. For long and diligent years they strove to perfect the only weapon, except the knife, which doctors have ever possessed against that disease.

**Sorting Out the Rays**

The first step from darkness to light was taken when it was discovered that of the three separate and distinct rays which radium gives forth only one is of any use to medicine. These rays bear the Greek names Alpha, Beta, and Gamma. The Alpha Ray is of no account; it is neither beneficial nor harmful. But the Beta Ray is in quite a different class. It can inflict grave injury, and it may help rather than hinder the cancer.

It is the Gamma Ray, and the Gamma Ray alone, which cures.

Was it possible to obtain pure Gamma Rays—that is to say, Gamma Rays entirely separated from the harmful Beta Rays? After long and anxious work the desired end was achieved. It was discovered that if radium is enclosed in a shell of platinum the Beta Rays are completely shut off. They cannot pass through the platinum.

This was the first step in the direction of hope. At last doctors could work with a ray which killed cancer, unhampered by other rays which might cause it to grow more quickly.

**"Bomb" That Blesses**

To-day all the radium in use for the cure of cancer is enclosed in platinum shells. Nothing but the Gamma Rays is employed.

The result of this really great discovery was soon apparent. Hopelessness gave place to a sense of achievement, and within a very few years it was possible to say that radium had taken its place as a real and powerful weapon against cancer.

To-day we can go further than that. The latest available figures show that, in certain parts of the body, radium is to be preferred to the knife as a treatment of cancer and that, when treatment by radium is begun early, the rate of recovery may be as high as forty per cent.

By "recovery," it must be explained, is meant that the patient has remained free of the disease for five years. Experience has shown that those who remain free indefinitely.

Cancer of the tongue is a good example of a type of cancer which is especially well suited to radium treatment. Operations in this organ are apt to be very severe and not very successful. Radium causes the cancer to disappear with great rapidity, and this without operation and without mutilation. The tongue becomes normal again.

If the case is treated at an early stage the chance of recovery is very good indeed.

Only a doctor who has seen the results of surgery in cases of this kind

can form any idea of the blessing which the new treatment confers. It is beyond description.

And we are only at the very beginning. Until this present year radium treatment consisted in surrounding the tumour with a large number of platinum shells each containing radium. These shells were shaped like needles, and could be thrust into the body of the tumour if need be. The trouble was that it was not always possible to bring every part of the tumour under the influence of the rays.

Some small part might escape the rays and go on growing.

**Buying More Radium**

In the present year a new method has been introduced. It is known as "the bomb" and consists in using a large quantity of radium in a big platinum shell which is kept some distance away from the patient. The Gamma Rays pass through the skin into the patient's body and so reach every part of the tumour at the same time, after the fashion of the beam of a search-light.

Treating by the bomb entails no cutting operation, and since the Gamma Rays of radium is invisible the patient is unaware that he is being treated at all. It is possible by this means to reach such organs as the stomach, which could not be reached by the older means.

There is, unhappily, only one bomb, a small one at that, at work at the present time in this country—for our national stock of radium is very small. Consequently radium treatment is not, as yet, generally available.

But a change will soon take place. A sum of money exceeding £250,000 is now at the disposal of the National Radium Trustees for the purchase of radium, and it has been calculated that this sum should be enough to meet all requirements.

**In Use Day and Night**

The radium, when bought, will be kept in use day and night, so that not a moment of its precious activity will be lost.

Treatment lasts only a few hours, after which the cancer gradually disappears. Patients treated by the bomb frequently go to sleep while receiving their dose of rays.

The radium itself is almost everlasting. It gives forth its wonderful healing ray day and night without any loss of strength. Indeed, it has been calculated that more than a thousand years hence it will still be almost as strong and potent as it is at this present moment.

So the new weapon will far outlast the generation which has forged it. Once it has been obtained progress will be swift, for every year since the war has seen great improvements in the ways of using it. The day of hope for the victim of cancer is just about to dawn.



For boudoir, for beach and even for tea To be up-to-date, betrousered she'll be.

**A Cross Counter**

Sing a song of highballs; A stomach full of rye; Four and twenty keyholes Dance before his eye. When the door is opened His wife begins to chide, "Well, isn't this a pretty time To let a fellow in?"

## Sanitary Science Just Cleanliness

Cooking, Washing Hands Are All Sanitary Measures

The science of sanitation is entirely a matter of keeping things clean. Because uncleanliness is about the main removable cause of deadly diseases throughout the world, sanitation assumes an importance which cannot be over-estimated.

When you cook dinner for your family, you are employing a method of sanitation. While it is true that heating foods first became a world custom because it makes them more palatable, just the same it is difficult to tell what would be the conditions in the world if disease germs were not destroyed by this means before the food is eaten.

When you wash your face—that is sanitation. When you sweep the floors—that is sanitation. When you wash your clothes—that is merely another method of sanitation.

The science extends from these slight but important forms of personal sanitation to great engineering undertakings which are in progress at all times—the purification of the water which we drink, the drainage of the areas in which we live and the disposal of the refuse, which would be so dangerous if it were allowed to collect.

Public drinking cups constitute a danger to the public health which is sometimes not appreciated by those who use them thoughtlessly. Diphtheria or tuberculosis, or any of the germ diseases are apt to come from applying to one's lips a cup which has just a few minutes before may have been applied to the lips of a complete stranger.

This applies as well to public towels, dirty dishes or cutlery in a restaurant, of which you may be doubtful, or razors in a barber shop, where the best methods are not employed.

Every day improvements are brought out such as the sanitary drinking fountain which bubbles and requires no cup, and the paper towels that are employed in most public centres, and advantage of these safe and sanitary methods should be taken by all.

In large centres the disposal of garbage, dust and dirt from the houses and ashes, is largely attended to by the public facilities available. Where these are not at hand, in the country for instance, the prompt disposal of these waste matters is just as important as in the city. The two best methods employed are burying and burning and one of these should be used with the greatest possible speed. As long as refuse is allowed to collect it is a source of danger to the health of everyone in the vicinity.

The sewage question has a great deal to do with the study of the water supply, because it is sometimes the sewage that contaminates the water and makes it unfit for human consumption.

As the rain comes down, it is pure enough but when it reaches the earth, washes over roofs, down the streets and over the lands, it picks up a great deal of foreign matter including many disease germs.

With milk, which ranks second to water as a possible carrier of disease, we also have a first-class method of purification. It is called pasteurization and consists of heating the milk to a temperature of 140 to 145 degrees Fahrenheit and keeping it at that temperature for twenty minutes to half an hour. This kills the germs, and does not affect the taste of the milk, nor the digestibility of it. The only thing that it does do, is to take away from the value of the milk which destroys one vitamin, which protects against the disease of scurvy. It is to make up for this lack, which is made necessary by the purification of the original product, that your doctor will tell you to give your baby tomato juice or orange juice, which are anti-scurbutic.

The food supply offers the third danger in the spread of disease. Protection from these diseases is offered by the inspection of animals in the abattoirs before they are slaughtered, clean methods in the preparation of foods, and arranging matters as much as possible so that no disease carriers can come into contact with the things we are going to eat. It is also true that some diseases can come from foods which have not been properly preserved, and it is a safe rule to avoid any foods of any kind that reveal indications of decomposition.

The good old-fashioned custom of "swatting the fly" is not as a rule, considered in the light of a sanitary measure, and yet that is just what it is, because the fly is one of our most deadly microbial foes. Eliminating this enemy lies in the proper disposal of manure, in the use of screens, fly papers and fly poisons in generous quantities. Sanitary conditions in every home and around every home should be made such that fly-breeding is impossible, as their existence in the home is a confession of carelessness.

Mosquitoes too, as well as being a decided inconvenience, are a definite danger. They can be best controlled by draining off the marshes, and removing all small accumulations of stagnant water.

Jones: "Did the storm damage your barn?" Robinson: "I don't know. I haven't found it yet."

## CUTT AND JEFF—By BUD FISHER

