

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

NATURE MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS.

Neither Darwinism nor any other theory in science or philosophy can give more than a secondary explanation of phenomena. Some deeper power or cause has to be postulated. The mysterious power we term life, which alone renders possible the production from a few of the chemical elements of such diverse fabrics as bone and skin, horn and hair, muscle and nerve, and brain cells; which, from identical soil, water and air, manufactures all the infinitely varied products of the vegetable kingdom—the thousand delicious fruits for our use and enjoyment, the endless woods and fibers, gums, and resins, to serve the purposes of our ever-developing arts and manufactures, will surely never be explained—as many suppose they will be—in terms of mere matter and motion.

But beyond even these marvels is the yet greater marvel of that ever-present organizing and guiding power which generation after generation builds up anew that most wonderful conseries of organs, the birds' covering of feathers. Not only is a feather a miracle of complex structure, in every minutest part adapted for most important and even vital ends, but it is so constructed that no two feathers on any bird are absolutely identical, varying in contour, in curvature, in rigidity, in size, by almost imperceptible gradations, so that each fulfills its special purpose. And beyond this, in the great majority of cases, these feathers are adorned with colors which are infinitely varied, and which we can so often perceive to be of use to the individual, the sex, or the species, that we conclude it to do so.

We must always remember that, where we observe or experiment with tens or hundreds of individuals, nature carries on her work with millions and thousands of millions. She acts simultaneously on all living things, plants as well as animals, that occupy the same area, and always in a way as to preserve every advantageous variation, however slight, which is destined to continue the race, and to become, step by step, modified into new species, in strict adaptation to the new conditions which are slowly being evolved.

ELECTRICITY VERSUS STEAM.

The electrification of steam railroads is steadily becoming a nearer possibility, although the inventors have yet much to accomplish before the motor generally displaces the engine. The opening wedge comes in the form of electrification of terminals in the largest cities, where conditions of heavy passenger traffic prevail and where the greatest objection is made to the smoke nuisance. Progress along these lines has been made in New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, and other large cities are likely to follow in the next few years.

LIGHT IN DARKNESS.

The darkness still hath light, dear, for thine eyes. Are beautiful as morning! Let me be their debtor, as the light falls over me. Not lonely and not lost beneath Love's skies! I that did sometime deem myself most wise. Dwell but in darkness, till all radiantly those dear, twin lights bade Life look up and see. Let me be a part of a sweet surprise! Lo, I am nothing—all I have and claim. All grace of singing—if such grace be mine—All perfect thoughts that lead me to the light. All striving for the wreath around a name. Are thine—in all their full fruition thine—Love's steadfast star, unutterably bright!—Atlanta Constitution.

THE BROOK AND THE MIST

"How rough you are," said the Mist plaintively, "and how terribly restless. What pleasure do you find in tearing along as you do, tearing and fretting against your banks and foaming over the rocks in so senseless and impetuous manner? Have you not learned that you cannot possibly move them; that you are making a perpetual roar for nothing? Can't you try to run along quietly and get into some pool and rest yourself? You may not be aware of it, but you are a great nuisance, with your everlasting babbling and foolish hurry."

The Brook laughed good-naturedly. "My dear Mist," it said, "you are like a good many silly people I have known and observed in my wanderings. You think that because you are content to linger lazily among the forests and drift slowly over these peaceful valleys where ever the wind drifts you that I ought to adopt your ways and do likewise; that because you are content to be satisfied to go sluggishly along as you advise and locate permanently in some small lake in the heart of the mountains."

"You will find it much more peaceful," the Mist retorted, humbly, as it settled down softly over a thick bed of daisies bordering a brook I have known and observed in my wanderings. You think that because you are content to linger lazily among the forests and drift slowly over these peaceful valleys where ever the wind drifts you that I ought to adopt your ways and do likewise; that because you are content to be satisfied to go sluggishly along as you advise and locate permanently in some small lake in the heart of the mountains."

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inhibitive losses by making junk out of millions of dollars' worth of steam locomotives. This, however, is misleading and far from true, for during the several years necessarily consumed in changing over, say, 1,000 miles of trunk line, the future would be taken into consideration.

As fast as the steam locomotives on one division were released they would be transferred to other divisions to take the place of workhorses there, and at last there would be branch lines of their own and smaller roads which would absorb a great part of what motive power remained at the finish. There would be some direct lines, and some indirect, such as placing on branch lines heavier locomotives, faster, more business required; but the loss from this item would be only a fraction of the whole.

There would be other millions of dollars, now invested in locomotive repair shops, thrown out of use, but this would bring its own compensation, for the electric locomotive goes to the shop only two or three times a year, where the steam locomotive must be overhauled constantly. Moreover, the cost of repairs to the electric machine is insignificant compared to the cost of maintenance of the steam locomotive. The elimination of smoke, cinders and sparks will contribute to the comfort and luxury of long-distance travel quite as much as did the air brake when it displaced the hand brake.—Popular Mechanics.

EYE MAN'S ONLY ETHEREAL SENSE ORGAN.

The essential force in nature is the "vis-tergo." So when we have found the traces of it in its infinite continuity, we will run up against the word "reason." Why the whole of a rod should follow when one end is pulled is a matter requiring explanation, and the only explanation that can be given involves, in some form or other, a continuous medium connecting the separated particles or atoms of matter. I will quote from Clerk Maxwell: "The vast interplanetary and interstellar regions will no longer be regarded as waste places in the universe which the Creator has not seen fit to fill with the symbols of the manifold order of His kingdom. We shall find them to be already full of this wonderful medium, so full that no human power can remove it from the smallest portion of space, or produce the slightest flaw in its infinite continuity. It extends unbroken from star to star, and when a molecule of hydrogen vibrates in the Dogstar the medium receives the impulses, and after carrying them in its immense bosom for several years delivers them in due course, regular order, and full tale into the spectroscopist."

The eye is an ethereal sense organ, the only one we possess, the only mode by which the ether is enabled to appeal to us, and that the detection of it in this medium, the perception of the direction in which they go, and some inference as to the quality of the object which has emitted them cover all that we mean by "sight" and "seeing."

SOME MARRIED MEDITATIONS.

By Clarence L. Cullen.

Many a man imagines that his wife admires him for his financial frugality, when, as a matter of truth, she despises him for a tightwad.

No matter how quiet and sedate you are about it, your wife is firmly imbued with the idea that you can't take a bath without splashing around like a cow. So splash, splash, and have the fun!

The cunning little conniv' cutesy who looks up coyly into the married man's face and purrs: "I wonder why it is that all the real nice men are married?" doesn't get by with it nearly so often as she supposes.

During the courtship: "No, Gawds, dear. Please don't order anything to eat for me. I so rarely get hungry, you know." After the honeymoon: "Well, it's a wonder you wouldn't take me somewhere to eat—I'm positively famished!"

Don't put anything in the way of his seeing his affinity constantly, and he'll surely tire of her, quoth the dead-wise dowager. But it doesn't always work out that way. Octavia tried that system with Marc Antony, and Affinity Cleopatra won in a walk.

Extract from "The Diary of an Outraged Wife": "This morning, by the mail which arrives at breakfast time, came a number of dressmakers' and milliners' bills, and he didn't swear or rant a bit over them. Oh, relentless skies, how long am I to endure this cankering indifference!"

America's Cocoa Consumption.

The imports of crude cocoa into the United States in the calendar year 1908 amounted to 97,419,700 pounds, valued at \$12,999,836. The imports the year previous were 91,217,700 pounds, less, but the total value was \$2,155,745 greater. In other words the market value of the cocoa imports dropped from 17 1/2 cents per pound in 1907 to 13 1/2 cents in 1908. The United States is the largest consumer of cocoa, the world output of which is about 340,000,000 pounds. The leading countries supplying the American markets are the British West Indies, which sent 27,945,871 pounds in 1908, while 17,026,116 pounds came from elsewhere in the West Indies and Bermuda; Brazil furnished 15,301,524 pounds, while 18,773,986 pounds came from elsewhere in South America. Crude cocoa ranks as twenty-fifth in importance of merchandise into the United States.

Training St. Bernard Dogs.

The training of the rescue dogs of the Hospice of St. Bernard, on the Alps, is really very simple. During the summer months, when the monks are not so busy, some of the assistants at the monastery take the young dogs out into the valleys or hollows, where there is always snow. One man will lead the dog down the snow and bury himself in it, and then the dog is sent to look after him. The animal is taught to bark when he has found him, and also to rouse the man up if he is asleep. When the man wakes up and stands on his feet the dog leads him to the hospice, running along in front to show him the way.

A Boy's Idea of Parasite.

Not long ago a class of boys in an elementary school had an essay set, the subject being "Clergymen."

This is what one youngster wrote: "There are 3 kinds of clergymen, Bishops, rectors and curats. The bishops are blazoned about, the rectors are blazoned about, the curats have to do it. A curat is a thin married man, but when he is a rector he gets fuller and can preach longer sermons and becomes a good man."—London Stars.

All in a Name.

Madge—What kind of a trunk are you going to buy?
Marjorie—I've looked all through the catalogue, but I just can't make up my mind. They have the same lovely names you see printed on the Pullman cars.—Judge.



Waste in Manure.

Filling manure in the open insures a big waste. The Cornell Experiment Station piled two tons of fresh horse manure in an exposed place. In five months it had lost 60 per cent of its nitrogen, 47 per cent of its phosphoric acid and 78 per cent of its potash. Here was an average loss of 61 per cent in plant food more than the weight loss. In other words, the rotted, concentrated manure, ton for ton, was worth less than the fresh manure.

Blackberry Culture.

Don't neglect to cut out all of last year's bearing canes, if you have not done so already. Don't forget to burn those old canes; they are a menace to the coming crop, as they are likely to contain diseases and insects. Don't overlook the fact that the suckers must be cut away from each hill, leaving only four or five strong ones to each hill for next year's crop. Don't act as though you had a grudge against all these berries; but give them good soil, proper cultivation, reasonable care and attention, and they will pay you in many ways. Don't plow too deeply, during the growing season especially, or you will destroy the small roots feeding near the surface. Don't forget that these cane fruits are not octogenarians; new plantations must be made every few years.—Exchange.

Stomach Worm Disease.

Medicinal treatment is not necessary in stomach worm disease, and farmers must depend on changing pasture to eradicate this pest. Pastures which cannot be cultivated are freed by burning and abandonment for eighteen months if washing of material from infested land is prevented. On premises where calves are lost in such large numbers each year and where all the pastures are undoubtedly infested, it would be advisable to build a small pasture on high ground that has been under cultivation and inoculated by stock for one or two seasons and through which no small streams flow. Calves when weaned are then placed on this free pasture and kept there until they are old enough to withstand attacks of the parasites, about one year or eighteen months.—South Carolina Experiment Station Bulletin.

Spraying to Kill Weeds.

Our object in the Experiment Station has been experimenting with sprays for the destruction of weeds in farm crops, with a power sprayer which is capable of delivering a fine mist at from 80 to 100 pounds pressure at the nozzle, and finds that spraying may be cheaply and effectively done. A sprayer or a spraying machine which will deliver the liquid at such a low pressure that it forms in drops on the leaves will not meet the requirements, as the drops will roll off the leaves. The best mixture for spraying purposes of this nature was found to be made by dissolving 100 pounds of iron sulphate (copperas) in fifty-two gallons of water. Stir with a hoe until dissolved and then strain into the spraying machine through several thicknesses of cheesecloth. In other words, make a 20 per cent solution and use it in the form of a fine spray for the destruction of such weeds as Canada thistle, stink weed, wild mustard, wild radish, marsh elder, dandelions, cocklebur, etc. This would probably be too expensive for a large acreage, but would do for lawns and gardens.

The Value of a Silo.

Silage costs from 75 cents to \$2 a ton, according to the farmer's facilities for growing a large yield of corn and for handling it at advantage. Some men claim they can grow corn and put it into the silo for 50 cents a ton, but supposing it costs the high price of \$2 a ton, it is still the cheapest feed that drymen can supply. It is not only a very valuable feed for the production of milk or for the increase in growth, but it is palatable—the animals like it. It is a laxative, and this alone is a valuable feature.

Profit in Dairying.

Few farmers or dairymen fully understand all the profits from dairying. Most of them know only the value of the milk, but the butter and cream sold on the cream or butter and it does not amount to a large per cent more than the cost of feed, they consider that they are losing money in the operation. This, however, is not a rational business way of looking at the matter.

Tuberculosis.

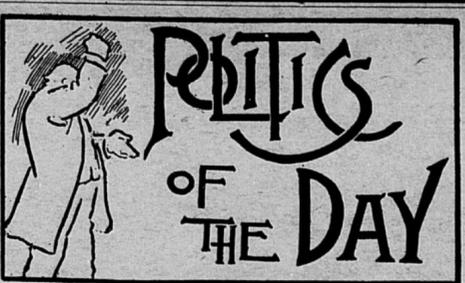
The authorities of New York have adopted the Wisconsin plan of the public slaughtering of tuberculosis cattle and calling in the farmers to see for themselves what the disease is and what it does.

Shows Tariff is Huge Tax.

That the total wages affected by the tariff amount to \$2,277,848,537 and that the values of the products involved in the consideration of tariff revision reach the sum of \$13,270,192,088 is the statement made by Senator Money in showing the vast importance of the question now being considered by the senate.

Living Poets of Catalpa.

It is a very common practice among the farmers of the Wabash Valley, where the Catalpa speciosa abounds in the "slashes" or bottom lands along the rivers, to set these trees along the roadside and along fence lines where they may serve as posts to support wire fences.



The British Income Tax.

The population of Great Britain and Ireland is 44,500,000. For the year ending March 31, 1909, the income tax contributed \$165,103,000 to public revenues. Incomes under \$800 are exempt, and the law exempts \$800 out of every income up to \$2,000; \$750 out of incomes between \$2,000 and \$2,500; \$600 out of those from \$2,500 to \$3,000; and \$350 out of incomes from \$3,000 to \$3,500. Expenditures for insurance, charities, hospitals, repairs to lands and houses, wear and tear of machinery and the like are subtracted from gross income to fix the taxable income.

New and Vital Terms.

We have come out of a time when war memories, and sectional prejudices, traditions and time-serving equality and subservience, made up the politics of men. In such a time the old Republican party of abolition, the old Democratic party of defense and defeat, could and all lesser members of the party roundly hold their prejudices for principles through successive campaigns. But we have come now to a time when issues vital and practical, touch-

TARIFF REVISION UPWARD.

The Englishman resident in England must pay taxes on his income from investments abroad. The Chicago firm that owns an English brewery must pay taxes on the income from its property in England. Roughly speaking, about 500,000 non-salaried, nonproducing individuals, 60,000 firms and 35,000 chartered companies are assessed, and almost another 24,000 incomes of \$10,000 a year or more. The total national combined



Income of all the United Kingdom is about \$10,000,000,000 a year.

Of this some \$4,500,000,000 is gross taxable income, but deductions for purposes mentioned above leave the net taxable income at about \$3,000,000,000. To produce \$105,000,000 the tax must average 3 1/2 per cent. The close inquiry into private affairs necessary to adjust this unwieldy tax with its multitudinous details in anything like a fair manner is manifest. Aside from the burden on salaried men, the necessity would render such a system extremely unpopular if ever introduced in America.

Why on earth the entire United States should pay 10 cents a pound more for tea simply for the bare-brained purpose of establishing a tea industry in South Carolina is beyond the power of common sense to understand.

What is Prosperity?

Trade and financial writers are justly optimistic. The steel trust is operating its mills at about 75 per cent of capacity, railroads are preparing for extensions and improvements, the stock market is strong, bond sales are easy, manufacturers and wholesalers report good business, and prosperity once more smiles upon the land. A remarkable feature of the panic of 1907 was the high price maintained for necessities of life all through the period of depression, and the prosperity which we are assured is again at hand bids fair to raise the present high prices even higher.

Arrogant Mr. Aldrich.

Mr. Aldrich was as impertinent as he was arrogant in taunting his Republican opponents with wishing to form a new party. He assumes that anybody who will not accept his interpretation of the tariff policy of the party to which he professes to belong is disloyal. He chooses to forget that the men who hold to his interpretation were badly beaten at the last National Convention, and that the Senators who are opposing him are faithfully trying to carry out the specific pledges of the party made at that convention. By that system Mr. Taft, if he remains as true to the Republican pledges in action as he has so far in form, must be read out of his party.—New York Times.

Nothing to Him.

Johnny—The camel can go eight days without water.
Freddy—So could I if I ma would let me.—Harper's Bazar.

slve congresses have established a riotous scale of public expenditures. It may be, as a Washington statesman once remarked, that "this is a billion-dollar country." But it is also true that the financial burden of government does not fall equitably. Those who feel it most are the wage earners and producers.

The Contrary Senate.

No reasonable man doubts that if a great international court of arbitration were established, impartial and able and composed of the world's leading jurists under a solemn pledge to administer justice impartially, this country would be safer against war than any army or navy can render it. Every Senator knows it. The interests of the nation would be safe with such a court as the interests of the nation now are with the Supreme Court of the nation. Yet there are plain risks that even if President Taft negotiates treaties with the leading nations of the world, providing for the submission of all great international disputes to such a body, there will be a faction in the Federal Senate opposed to such a treaty and determined to defeat it.—Boston Advertiser.

President Taft's Decision.

Notes on the sugar and tobacco tariff schedules are evidence enough as to the power within Senator Aldrich's grasp as a manipulator. The Payne bill will emerge from the Senate exactly as Aldrich desires. He has the votes. Southern Democratic Senators he finds as reliable as his own high-tariff Republican following. Sectional selfishness is his mainstay. Aldrich—representing New England, all bosses, the Standard Oil trust, all lesser members of the trust family—will frame the tariff law to suit the interests he represents. He will ride roughshod over the low tariff Senators of both parties, just as Ran-



dal and Brice did when the Wilson bill was being emasculated in Cleveland's time.

The hopes of American consumers naturally turn to President Taft. They know what Aldrich means to give them. But will Taft consent? Taft will not risk his party's political future by vetoing a measure that has the stamp of approval from the Republican bosses.

But which is better, President Taft—the people's approval or the approval of the trusts and their henchmen in House and Senate? What is party solidarity, compared with national keeping, and real national prosperity? If President Taft keeps his pledge to the American people, he will do far more for the ultimate fortunes of the Republican party than by breaking it.

Wishes Mr. Bryan Well.

Regardless of any political differences, the World wishes Mr. Bryan well in his candidacy for United States Senator from Nebraska. We say this without modifying in any way our opposition to any of the principles that he has advocated, or our dissent from many of the principles that he upholds. Mr. Bryan would make a good Senator. He would try to represent the people, not the corporations, and he would bring qualities of a very high order to the upper house of Congress. He is an excellent debater, able, eloquent and resourceful and would render a far greater service to his party on the floor of the Senate than he ever can as a candidate for President.—New York Times.

We Are Spendthrifts.

The cost of running the United States government has reached the \$1,000,000,000 mark, apparently, to stay. Even President Taft, who dreads a bond issue, pleads in vain with department heads to cut down departmental estimates in the face of a deficit.

This deficit is about \$100,000,000 for the current year. It will be bigger before the financial tide turns. This great and prosperous country is actually living beyond its means. Success-

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