

The Public Letter Box

TO CORRESPONDENTS—Letters intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The Herald gives the widest latitude to correspondents, but assumes no responsibility for their views. Letters must not exceed 300 words.

COMMON SENSE WILL KILL FALSE BELIEFS AND CULTS

LONG BEACH, April 11.—[Editor Herald:] My townsmen, Dr. Bissell, in a recent letter mentions three ways of interpreting Biblical meanings. I suggest a fourth, which, used, will clear many a mystery and which addresses itself to human reason with more force than either of those he quotes. I mean the common sense way or method. The only danger to Dr. Bissell in using it would be that mentioned in "Hudibras." When a certain gun "aimed at duck or plover recoiled and kicked the owner over."

The common sense way is the only one that is safe. It never fails to bring forth the truth, whether that of an author's intention or of the original truth itself. Puck's sententious remark, "What fools these mortals be," never was more fully verified than in the way men follow like sheep after a bellwether, the lead of some strong, ambitious, "masterful" (as Barrie calls them) man or woman, who has started a "cult," an "ism," a "belief," a new way of looking at things. Truly, the whole history of our poor, thoughtless race is spotted with these deluding myths, with nothing in them or under them but audacious assertion and thoughtless credence, some of them big enough and greedy enough to swallow a world, some with a short life and feeble following. Every one of us looks upon ignorance and unbelief. They are losing their grip upon mankind is true. (Their best bower holds yet in woman kind, and will for some time fact will uproot an army of faiths. A few centuries ago we had no facts. Or rather the small modicum of real truth that was within human reach was all gathered into priestly hands and kept safely away from the people. It was a dangerous thing to let the crowd know anything. But a fearful and most momentous change has come over the world of men. Wherever the footsteps of knowledge are planted there the shackles of "faith" fall. Emancipation of mind is the legend written all over the sky of modern time.

And yet, like children, we hate to give up our much loved gods, our own paganism and show, the fanfare of organ pipes and the measured tread of processions. Today we meet in solemn crowds to keep the anniversary of an event that is as purely fabled as is the tale of All Baba or Rip Van Winkle, a tradition that is honored by time, but is simply made grotesque in our keeping by its association with rabbits and boiled eggs. SENEZ.

DENIES CAPITALIZATION OF SOCIALISM WILL MAKE EVIL

ORANGE, April 9.—[Editor Herald:] Your editorial entitled "Socialism Capitalized" contains news that is rather startling, if true. I refer to the statement that Robert Hunter has devoted his fortune to the cause of which he is so good an advocate. I cannot agree in your idea that we, as Socialists, must find in what you call "the capitalization of Socialism" much reason for gloomy reflection. Why should we? Of the many ways in which the cause of Socialism has been advanced the most promising would seem to be a co-operative effort financed by men who not only believe in it, but are ready to show their faith by their deeds.

If Mr. Hunter has really taken such an advanced position we rejoice with him in his opportunity to do much good for his own country and for humanity throughout the world. Not knowing the extent of the fortune owned by the late Mr. Hunter, we capitalized his section of the Socialist party, we cannot form an estimate of what may be done with it; but at least we congratulate him on his decision to use it in the attempt to abolish poverty, rather than to scatter it in charity, which, while sometimes necessary as a present relief, perpetuates the evil conditions which call it forth.

You point out the fact that most Socialists have to eat capitalistic bread and that they are just as willing as others to take the reward of the service they render. Of course they must do that or starve. But it is one thing to do one's duty, it is another to look forward to a better situation, and a different thing to be a willing slave with no hope of escape. Socialists must make the best of present opportunities, even while planning their freedom. There is much more to say, but I have reached the limit of space. L. W.

WOULD INTERPRET BIBLE BY SCIENCE OF CORRESPONDENCE

LOS ANGELES, April 11.—[Editor Herald:] Shelton Bissell rejects the allegorical interpretation of the Bible and recommends the historic-scientific method. I take it that means that we are asked to believe in the historical literal narrative, subjecting it to scientific test.

Can it be proved as a scientific fact by that method that the Israelites marched dry shod through the Red sea with the waters piled up on either side (Ex. 14:22) or that the walls of Jericho were blown flat by the sound of trumpets? (Jos. 6). Take something of the gospels. How can 5000 people be fed by a few loaves and fishes? These things are physical impossibilities, nevertheless they are true when spiritually perceived and understood according to the laws of spiritual correspondence with natural laws.

Our friend Channing Severance would call them lies, and so would I if I had no spiritual means of understanding them. The ancients practiced this science of correspondence which was lost, rediscovered and explained by Emanuel Swedenborg whose books might be obtained in any library. Thus both the Old and New Testaments were written in two senses, that the ignorant might be benefited by mere belief, while the initiated might be urged on to greater spirituality.

The Bible lives today not by means of its literal meaning but by its internal and spiritual sense. The existence of the Jewish race today is evidence of the power of that book. The life and power of Christianity is its crowning glory. If it were merely a political history of peoples it would have been buried with the tablets of Nineveh and Babylon and be forgotten. C. F.

ASSERTS POLICE ON RAIDS SHOULD ARREST MEN ALSO

LOS ANGELES, April 17.—[Editor Herald:] In an evening paper I read about the raiding of a disorderly house by our city police. "When the police entered this morning they found several men present, but did not place them under arrest. Why? Who was justice administered to both alike?" Unless the men, too, are arrested when found in such places, will there be any lessening of that evil? A man having respect for wife, sister and mother cannot be found in such places. The next time the police should arrest the "whole bunch." TRUTH.

SOCIETIES TRY TO PREVENT TRAFFIC IN WHITE SLAVES

LOS ANGELES, April 16.—[Editor Herald:] The suggestion of E. B. Smith that this city needs a civic society to further the work of suppressing vice is good. Would it not seem that the scope of such a society should be along the lines of the national vigilance committee which looks first of all to the prevention of the nefarious white slave traffic? The cities and the nations of the world are alike aroused on this subject. Every nation of Europe except Turkey has such a society now at work. In the United States the national vigilance committee has headquarters at New York, with Dr. O. E. Janney as chairman. The Illinois branch has its center in Chicago and the names of Mrs. Raymond Robbins, Mrs. Charles Henrotin, Prof. Albion W. Small and Judge Julian W. Mack among its chief promoters.

The work of the committees is to investigate and secure facts, to spread reliable information with a view to arousing public sentiment on this subject. The abuses unearthed by the investigations so far are enormous; there was no feature of the negro slavery, even the most revolting, but what is far outdone, both in cruelty and degradation, by this modern slavery.

THINKS SABBATH IS DAY FOR RECREATIVE WORSHIP

GARVANZA, April 15.—Your correspondence for greater freedom and recreation on the Sabbath is well founded, and when we realize, as we surely shall sometime, that religion is man's best and most profitable friend, and that substantial worship of God is to be practiced every hour out of the twenty-four, during the six days, we shall find that Sunday will become the day for recreative worship of God. And as man is a threefold being, he will find that his spiritual nature will crave formal worship in prayer and praise, that his intellectual nature will find that form of recreation should come first in the day, and the latter part can be devoted to the recreation of his social and physical nature. He alone can decide for himself what is the most truly recreative for him. I believe that to be the highest use we can make of the Sabbath when the substantial worship of God in the home and in all our work and business has been faithfully done during the six days of the week. CLAUSSIE B. MANN.

GIVES HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THEORY OF EVOLUTION

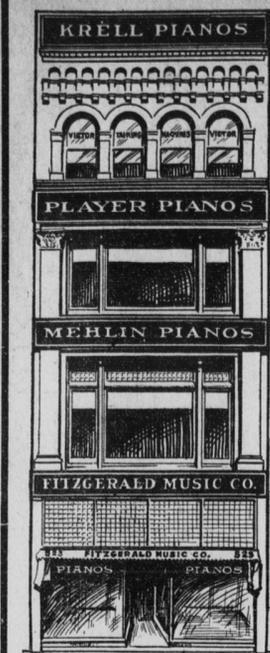
LOS ANGELES, April 15.—[Editor Herald:] George W. Carey, in his letter of April 12, says: "Evolution contends that life was evolved from something but that the origin of that something is his character." I do not so understand the doctrine of evolution as laid down by the great Darwin or his followers. The word "evolution" is derived from two words in the Latin tongue—"ex," out, and "volv," to roll. Webster accurately translates it into English as to open itself. Now, it is true that life evolves or opens itself, but this it always does in forms. Hence the evolution of life is its manifestation in the growth of living forms as traced through all the generations descended from the first which appeared on this planet.

Life itself being universal is therefore without beginning and without end, but the forms of life have beginnings and endings. These opposite points of limitations are not only seeming but true, as we see demonstrated daily. Mr. Carey is correct when he says: "Each phase of manifested life is but a differentiation of universal energy," but his inference that the individualized life is immortal is incorrect, for at death the life and consciousness of the individual again mingle with the universal from which they were differentiated. ASBURY CECIL.

TELLS HOW TO INVESTIGATE CLAIMS OF SPIRITUALISTS

LOS ANGELES, April 15.—[Editor Herald:] I want to thank you, Mr. Editor, for publishing the exposures of Spiritualism by Bishop Garrison. You are doing a good work, even if Jane J. June thinks otherwise. She says the scientific men constituting the Psychological Research Society, after years of investigation, were forced to admit the genuineness of the Spiritualists' claims, and she mentions three names, the first of which she connected to the society. One was Prof. Richard Hodgson, who exposed more Spiritualist mediums, including Mme. Blavatsky, than any other half dozen men, and the second name she mentioned was Prof. James H. Hyslop, who states in his work, "Science and a Future Life," that there are not enough severely critical verifications to warrant any theory. Frank Podmore and F. W. H. Myers, two of the most able and active members of that society, render a verdict of not proved. (See Podmore's "Modern Spiritualism," and Myers' "Human Personality.")

Let me quote from the Spiritualist, Camille Flammarion. In his book, "Mysterious Psychic Forces," he says: "Prof. Charles Richet thinks that the Spiritualistic hypothesis is far from being demonstrated; that the observed facts relate to an entirely different order of causes, as yet very difficult to disentangle, and that in the present state of our knowledge no final conclusion can be agreed on." Dr. Maxwell concludes from his observations that the greater part of the phenomena, the reality of which cannot be doubted, are produced by a force existing in us, that this force is intelligent, and that the intelligence manifested comes from the experimenter. This would be a kind of collective consciousness. M. Marec's Magnetism does not adopt this "collective consciousness," and declares that it is certain that the being in the sciences, who asserts that he is a manifestation of "the subconsciousness of the medium," Frederick Myers says: "These supernatural phenomena are due not to the action of the spirits of deceased persons, as Wallace believes, but to the most part, to the action of an incarnate spirit, either that of the subject himself or of some agent or other." After devoting some 450 pages to an examination of this research, Flammarion says: "What I say is that the physical phenomena studied in these pages do not prove the existence of spirits and may probably be explained without them." Again he says: "One would cast it down as a principle that all professional mediums cheat." Prof. Crooks concludes that "the difference between the parties of Spiritualists and those of Spiritualism consists in this: We maintain that it is not yet proved; that there exists a directing agent other than the intellect.



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The above building is the new home of the Fitzgerald Music Co. Every square foot of the four floors and basement is used for its large wholesale and retail piano, music and talking machine business. Ten large parlors, each one large enough for a fair-size store, are devoted to grands, uprights, player pianos and player library. Nearly one entire floor is devoted to Victor talking machine parlors and large exhibition room for Victrolas and Victrolas. In the light and well equipped shop a grand or upright piano can be refinished and rebuilt to a high degree of perfection at a nominal cost. The building with its splendid appointments and central location is said to be nearly ideal.

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OPEN EVENINGS 523-BROADWAY-523

GENE OF THE MEDIUM, AND THAT PRESENCE AND ACTIONS OF THE SPIRITS OF THE DEAD ARE FELT IN THE PHENOMENA.

LOS ANGELES, April 11.—[Editor Herald:] In reply to the letter by "A Sinner Saved by Grace" I wish to thank our friend for calling attention to the Scripture concordance on the words hell, pit, devil, second death, fire, brimstone, etc. I assure all Herald readers that we find on examination of the Scriptures on these subjects that the word hell in the Old Testament is translated from the Hebrew word sheol, which occurs in all sixty-five times and in every instance it refers to pit, grave, state of the dead—a state in which there is no consciousness or pain or knowledge or device of any kind. Please note following texts: Amos 9:2; Psalms 139:8; Psalms 16:10; 6:5; 49:14, 15; 89:49, 115; 17; Ezekiel 32:27; Jonah 2:12; Genesis 37:35, 42:38; Job 14:13, 17:13; Ecclesiastes 9:10.

COMPLAINS OF THIRD STREET NOISY AND NOISOME TUNNEL

LOS ANGELES, April 16.—[Editor Herald:] Please listen and help us if you can. At 7 a. m. every workday two or three men begin to sweep vigorously the Third street tunnel, filling the place with dust more and more. Also at 7 a. m. the daily workers begin to travel through to their duties, hurrying along and the ill-smelling dust, and the second team to hear their swear words each day. At 9 a. m. the man sweepers with brooms on their shoulders may be met leaving the tunnel to sweep the roads leading to it. Why cannot the sweeping begin at 9 a. m. when the pedestrians are few in comparison to the morning rush, and by an ordinary mortal will be able to get past red tapism to an official. ELIZABETH.

IDEA OF SUPERNATURAL EVIL BEING IS ASSUMED

POMONA, April 16.—[Editor Herald:] In today's issue "Lineman" if we are to take him seriously, writes as if he believed in the supernatural Satan and that he has such prominence in certain religious circles. That there is a devil no one instructed in the truth of the Bible would question. That he is an intelligent, unsexed power, as one of your Letter Box contributors suggests, is altogether without foundation. The word devil does not occur in the Old Testament. The plural form is found in four places, in each case referring to the idols to which the heathen offered their sacrifices. The heart of man is always represented as the source of evil. See Numbers 15:39, 1 Samuel 16:28, Proverbs 28:26, Ecclesiastes 8:11, and many other places. If an intelligent, unsexed power, instead of human welfare existed, it is not strange that men were not warned to beware of him? To deny the existence of such a power seems, with some, as if it were denying a personal devil. Not by any means. Jesus said to his disciples: "Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?" (John 6:70). The personality of the devil in that case is evident, but there was nothing mysterious about him. In Revelation 2:10 Jesus warned the church at Smyrna that the devil would cast some of them into prison. This was undoubtedly a multitudinous devil, in the persons of political authorities, who persecuted the early Christians even to death. James says (3:11) "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." In accordance with this admonition Paul was

LEADER SHEA IN CHARGE OF TEAMSTERS' STRIKE

Policeman's Shots Frighten Away Disorderly Crowd Bent on Attacking Wagon Driver

NEW YORK, April 17.—Disorder occurred here today in connection with the strike which members of the International Association of Teamsters have instituted against certain trucking firms, the men demanding higher wages and recognition of their organization. An attack was made at Gouverneur slip on a wagon belonging to Jackson Bros., but the attacking party was frightened off by two revolver shots fired in the air by a policeman.

CENSUS APPROPRIATION IS A TEMPTING PLUM

Ten Million Dollars Will Take Care of Only First Two Years' Expenses

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The census appropriation providing \$10,000,000 for the expense incident to the first two years of the collection of data for the thirteenth census will be introduced Monday by Representative Tawney, chairman of the appropriations committee. The total estimate of the expense for obtaining the census will be \$14,000,000. The bill will also provide for several deficiency appropriations.

To Declare Company Bankrupt

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17.—Attorney Louis Brownstone, representing a number of minor creditors of the Calkins Newspaper syndicate, has filed in the United States court a petition asking that that corporation be declared bankrupt. The syndicate was cited to appear April 28 and show cause why the petition should not be granted.

Alleged Kidnaper Waives Hearing

MERCER, Pa., April 17.—Former Judge S. H. Miller today formally waived a hearing in the case of Mrs. James H. Boyle on a charge of being implicated in the abduction of Willie Whitt. The indictment of Boyle and his wife has been prepared and is ready for the action of the grand jury next week.

Negro Educator Dead

NORMAL, Ala., April 17.—W. H. Council, president of the Agricultural and Technical college of Negroes here and one of the foremost educators of his race, died here today.

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Are You Toothless?

It seems to be the aim of most dentists to overlook the wants of the unfortunate who are compelled to wear plates (because if all your teeth are out nothing else remains). Not so with me. I have an expert in my office who does nothing else, and has done nothing else in dentistry for the last ten years; is an absolute Plate Specialist. He can do more toward restoring your face to its original youthful appearance than can a dozen beauty doctors. For the good of your health, good looks and comfort, come and have a consultation and see for yourself. As the first-class tailor builds your suit to correct the defects of your form, JUST SO DOES THIS DOCTOR build your plate to restore your mouth to its proper shape. How often we see a 30-year-old face with a 60-year-old mouth. Better look the best you can. I do not make \$5 plates, so if that is what you are looking for, don't bother me—for just a trifle more I can make you a plate you will be proud of and one that will be a lasting credit to my office.

TEETH WITHOUT PLATE (Not possible if all your teeth are out.) If you have missing one tooth or more and do not care to wear a plate, I can replace all lost ones by this method. They look natural, feel natural and take the place of perfect natural teeth. This work is a little more expensive than plate work, but is worth the extra cost of all the consistent work in Dentistry. I have a dentist who does nothing but attend to this department, and by this method he can give you a perfect mouthful of teeth. Let us look over your mouth and give you an estimate of the cost before you go business elsewhere. A square deal is our motto. DR. HUMELBAUGH DENTIST. 303 1/2 S. SPRING, CORNER OF THIRD AND SPRING. HOURS—8 to 6 Daily; Sundays, 10 to 12.

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