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Thursday, April 9, 1914

## AN ALARMING SITUATION

There is some alarm apparent in one or two of the British newspapers lest General Louis Botha, Premier of South Africa, take the bit between his teeth and bolt with it. It is said that some Australians and many British have left the country since the nine labor leaders were deported. That is quite likely, but it is no sign that Premier Botha is about to jettison his imperial cargo. It is merely a sign that he is making good his boast that there would not be another strike in South Africa for ten years. Premier Botha is a farseeing man, He is also trustworthy, as the British found out during the South African war. Forsight and trustworthiness are good things to have, but they are more valuable when allied with intuition. Premier Botha knows that the past is pastand that there is no chance of establishing in South Africa an independent white man's country. In the first place, the old Dutch element is becoming exercised by the spirit of modern civilization. In the second, the natives have never forgiven and never will forgive the Dutch in South Africa. The British saved Oom Paul Kruger once from that danger, and it is their presence in South Africa which enables the white man to live there at all.

Those who know South Africa, or for the matter of that, any part of Africa, know well that it is almost impossible for it to be a white man's country. That the white men can live and prosper there has nothing to do with it. But the white man in South Africa will always remain the "boss" or go. The moment he engages in occupations in which the black man can compete with him he loses caste with the black man and begins to undermine the whole social fabric by which he exists. The mines have brought enormous wealth to the country, but they have also brought about problems which otherwise would not exist. The white man can always work machinery and thus manufacture, but the black man must always work the ground and be the servant of the farmers. One day the black man will perhaps become educated and able to compete in the higher pursuits in exactly the same way as the Indians have been doing in India. Inevitably in that day will come the demand for enfranchisement. If that were given the black would swamp the white.

Even emigration of white people into South Africa can not alter facts. These emigrants do not intend to labor in a country where all manual labor is done by colored men. They engage as clerks, superintendents, drillers. in all classes of trade and labor which might be called skilled. But the rest is left to the native population. In Natal the natural result happened. East Indians from being indentured servants tilling the fields and doing the labor. became in time tradesmen and undersold their white competitors. In that province to-day there are less than 100,000 whites, and 150,000 East Indians and nearly 1,000,000 natives. In the whole Dominion the ratio of colored to white is almost four to one. The increase in the former is growing greater and at a faster rate than the latter. In a country of this nature where one quarter of the white population gather in a dozen cities, it is fairly obvious that there is but the faintest chance of establishing a white man's country as the term is meant for instance in Canada or Australia. The white population is superimposed upon a black and the later is only held in check by realizing that the white men are united and ready to use force. Times have changed very considerably in the last ten years and any government in South Africa that thinks it can cut the painter of Empire and drift aimlessly on the restless seas of a separate nationality is likely to plunge into a very dangerous and black abyss.

# JOHN LOCKE AND HIS BOOK.

Two hundred and twenty four years ago today there was given to the world one of the most remarkable books ever written, a book that at once began to make men think, and that has kept them thinking ever since-John Locke's "Essay Concerning Understanding" for which the author was paid the munificent sum of thirty pounds; the same price, by the way, that Kant afterward received for the epochmaking "Critique of the Pure Reason."

It is to the "Essay Concerning Human Understanding" that we must look for the headquarters of modern philosophy as opposed to the scholasticism of the Middle Ages. It was Locke

who furnished the germs of the teachings of the great philosophers who, a century later, followed him in England, France and Ger-

Locke took the ground that originally the mind is like a sheet of white paper, and that whatever is written upon it comes, directly or indirectly, from the sensible objects about it, or to the States which those objects produce. There are, so Locke maintained no such thing as "Innate Ideas." All ideas, from the lowest to the highest, are born of experience.

"It is evident," so he declared, "that the mind knows not things immediately, but by the intervention of the ideas it has of them." By this Locke means that our knowledge is relative, not absolute. In a word, we have the ideas, but we do not know, and cannot know

that the ideas represent reality. The effect of Locke's book upon philosophy was as great as that of Copernicus was upon astronomy, or that of Darwin upon biology. It furnished an absolutely new viewpoint; and demanded an absolutely new conclusion, and today every branch of human thought is domin. ated by the Great Englishman's conclusions as laid down in the "Essay on Human Understanding."

And the man was as remarkable as his book. In an age of great excitement and deep prejudice he set the sample of thinking calmly and clearly. When philosophy was little better than the arid discussion of scholastic inanities he wrote in a way to interest statesmen and men of the world. At a time when the chains of dogma were tightly drawn, and the penalty for attempting to loosen them were much more stringent than it is now possible for us to conceive, he raised questions which stirred the very depths of human thought, and did it in a spirit so candid, so tolerant, and so unselfishly that he seemed to be writing not for his own party or own time, but for all time and for all mankind.

The old gray hen has thirteen chicks, and round the yard she claws and picks, and toils the whole day long; I lean upon the garden fence, and watch that hen of little sense, whose intellect is wrong. She is the most important hen that ever in the haunts of men a waste of effort made; she thinks if she should cease her toil the v. hole blamed universe would spoil, its institutions fade. Yet vain and triffing is her task, she might as profitably bask and loaf throughout the year; one incubator from the store would bring forth better chicks and more than fifty hens could rear. She ought to rest her scratching legs, get down to tacks and lay some eggs, which bring the valued bucks; but, in her vain perverted way, she says, "I'm derned if I will lay," and hands out foolish clucks. And many men are just the same: they play some idle, trifling game, and think they're sawing wood; they hate the work that's in demand, the jobs that count they cannot stand, and all their toil's no good.

-Walt. Mason

+++ When Hon. George P. Graham concluded his great speech on the report on the Transcontinental Railway, there was not enough left of that inordinately partisan document to call for decent burial. Every phase of it had been dissected, in a masterly manner, and it was proved to be a tissue of misrepresentations. It was founded neither upon good railroading principles, nor upon sound public policy. It was the work of two men who had been selected for a particular purpose by the Government, namely to provide campaign ammunition against the Liberal Party, and to make an attack upon a great national enterprise. They were so employed and were paid at a rate out of all proportion to the services rendered. Both of them were apparently well qualified for the job. One was a rabid Tory partisan; the other was an employee of a Company which had every reason to discredit and destroy the effectiveness of a competing line. They did their job to the complete satisfaction of their employers, but in their zeal to serve their masters they prepared a report, which Mr. Graham proved so wilfully partisan and misleading, that it stands before the country and the world, as a result of Mr. Graham's smashing attack on the report, has been thrown on the defensive and to-day it has to resort to the expedient of putting up hair-splitting lawyers to make wild and exaggerated calculations as to the cost of the National Transcontinental Railway.

After a week of dramatic events, Home Rule is once more started on its constitutional course, and the speech of Sir Edward Grey. who led the Government in the absence of Mr. Asquith, indicates that it is again to be "full steam ahead." The Government has made every concession consistent with the principle of the Bill, and as the Foreign Secretary stated, it is not prepared to go any further. Under the concessions proferred by Mr. Asquith, Ulster has the opportunity of voting itself out of the provisions of the Home Rule Act for six years, and before the expiration of that term, in the ordinary course of events, two general elections

will be held, so that the will of the people will have been expressed before Ulster, - if it should vote against inclusion, -shall come under operation of the Home Rule Bill, and under the jurisdiction of the Irish Parliament at Dublin. Sir Edward Grey also made it plain that the will of Parliament must prevail, and that if any attempt is made to thwart the authority of the state, the army will be called upon to maintain law and order. This straightforward statement from the Government should serve as a warning to the "Die-Hards," that they will not be allowed to trifle with law and order.

The man who perfected the cold storage system did a great thing for humanity. By its use perishable foodstuff can be preserved for quite a long time, and thus can be carried along from the season of plenty to the time when without this system they would be scarce or not procurable at all. Properly used it would have been of immense benefit to mankind, but it was but a short time until the vampires who fatten on human flesh and blood discovered that it opened a way to levy an unholy toll on all perishable foodstuffs. They went into the markets when prices were low and the eggs, butter, or whatever product was plentiful, and bought up the supply, only refraining from buying it all because the prices would be advanced too much by this course.

Then thumb-screws were put on when the product became scarce, and the cold storage thugs and pirates held up the consumer. This still is going on, and to the extent that these sameland pirates are even burning and destroying foodstuffs to keep the prices up. The use of the cold storage system is all right, its abuse all wrong. The gangs in charge of it who are destroying foodstuffs needed by the world, and this in order to enhance their profits, are as cold-blooded and as heartless as the worst buccaneer that ever infested the Spanish main. They would take the last drop of milk from the bottle of a starving baby, would take its life in order to add to their bank accounts.

The remedy is simply another step towards "Socialism." It will result in the government being compelled to take charge of the whole business, and providing the means by which foodstuffs can be conserved in the interests of the whole people instead of the social harpies who get their work in on our feasts.

## THE MODEL CHURCH

Well wife, I've found the model church! I worshipped there to-day:

It made me think of good old times before my hairs were grey. The meetin' house was finer built than it was years

But then I found, when I went in, it wasn't built for

The sexton didn't seat me 'way back by the

He knew that I was old and deaf, as well as old and poor. He must have been a Christian, for he led me

boldly through The long aisle of that pleasant church to find a pleasant pew.

I wish you'd heard the singin -it had the old-time ring-

The preacher said with trumpet voice, "Let all the people sing," The tune was "Coronation," and the music up-

ward rolled Till I thought I heard the angels striking all their harps of gold.

My deafness seemed to melt away, my spirit caught on fire;

I joined my feeble, trembling voice with that melodious choir. And sang, as in my youthful days, "Let angels

prostrate fall. Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord

I tell you wife, It did me good to, sing that hymn once more.

I felt like some wrecked mariner who gets a glimpse of shore;

I almost want to lay aside this weather beaten form. And anchor in the blessed port forever from the

The preachin'! well, I can't just tell all that the preacher said; I know it wasn't written, I know it wasn't

read; He hadn't time to read, for the lightnin' of his

Went passing 'long from pew to pew, nor passed a sinner by.

The sermon wasn't flowery, 'twas simple Gospel truth. It fitted poor old men like me, it fitted hopeful

youth: 'Twas full of consolation for weary hearts that bleed, 'Twasfull of invitations to Christ-and not to

creed. The preacher made sin hideous in Gentiles and in

Jews; He shot the golden sentences straight at the finest And, though I can't see very well, I saw the fall-

That told me hell was some way off, and heaven very near.

How swift the golden moments fled within that

How brightly beamed the light of Heaven from every happy face! Again I longed for that sweet time when friend

shall meet with friend, Where congregations ne'er break up and Sabbaths have no end.

I hope to meet that minister, that congregation

In the dear home beyond the skies, that shines from heaven's blue, I doubt not I'll remember, beyond life's evening

The face of God's dear servant who preached His day, to Mary Magdalene, to the other Word to-day.

Dear Wife, the fight will soon be fought, the victory be won. The shining goal is just ahead, the race is nearly

O'er the river we are nearing, they are thronging to the shore

To shout our safe arrival where the weary weep no more.

### THE LOST PURSE

I remember the excitement and the terrible John xxi, 1, 14; Acts 1, 3; Gal. ii, 20; I alarm

That worried everybody when William broke his arm;

other day When they couldn't find the baby coz he'd

up an' walked away. But I'm sure there's no excitement that our house has ever shook

Like the times Ma can't remember where she and rise from the dead on the third put her pocketbook.

When the laundry man is standin' at the door leaned upon His bosom, that even he, an' wants his pay Ma hurries in to get it, an' the fun starts right must rise again from the dead (John

She hustles to the sideboard coz she knows

exactly where She can put her hand right on it, but, alas! it isn't there,

She tries the parlor table, and she goes upstairs to look. An' once more she can't remember where she put her pocketbook.

She tell us that she had it just a half an hour

An' now she can't find it though she's hunted high an' low.

She's searched the kitchen cupboard an' the bureau drawers upstairs, An its not behind the sofa or beneath the the Mount of Olives, the nations ceasing from war, Israel Ulling the earth

parlor chairs. She makes us kids get busy searching every

little nook And this time she she says she's certain that Christ and the glory that shall folshe's lost her pocketbook.

She calls Pa at the office, an' he laughs I guess

for then She always mumbles something about the heartlessness of men.

She calls to mind a peddler who came to the kitchen door. An' she's certain from his whiskers an' the read your Bible to pray, Lord, by Thy

shabby clothes he wore, An' his dirty shirt an' collar that he must have

been the crook, An' she's positive that feller came an' got her · pucketbook.

But at last she allus finds it in some queer and funny spot,

Where she'd put it in a kurry, an' had somehow clean forgot.

An' she heaves a sigh of gladness, an' she says "Well I declare. I would take an oath this minute that I never

put it there." An' were peacable an' quiet till next time Ma goes to look

An' finds she can't remember where she put her pocketbook.

In Detroit Free Press.

The Big Interests spent millions to elect the them, as they no doubt rehearsed all that He had told them. They found Borden Government. Their cry was "let well the disciples and others gathered to enough alone." We hardly need ask what gether, talking of His resurrection. the Big Interests think about the result. They and of how He had appeared to Sinot only wasted their good cash, in defeating story, and as they spake Jesus Himthe best government Canada ever had, but self stood in the midst of them and they are paying dearly for the change. Business is dull, hard times are gripping the country, He joined them in their walk, and He unemployment is rife, laborers are in distress. and great industrial plants all over the country are closed or are running at half time. The troubled, and He quieted them by the Big Interests have suffered severely from flagflapping, but the worst of it is that the great troubles than Himself and His word masses of the people are experiencing the hard- That our resurrection codies of flesh est times since the old days of trade stagnation and bones can be handled, and that in and business depression prior to 1896.

Lesson II.-Second Quarter, For April 12, 1914.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Luke xxiv, 13-35. Memory Verses, 31, 32-Golden Text, Rom. viii, 34-Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

This study might bear the title of the one for March 22, "Lessons by the Way," and it is also a good introduction to next week's Jesson on "The Cost of Discipleship," for nothing helps one to be a disciple like the power of His resurrection (Phil. iii, 10). There were five appearances of the risen Christ on that first resurrection women, to Peter, to these two men and in the evening to the ten (Thomas being absent). That which Jesus was and did during the forty days between His resurrection and ascension speaks to me of that which the saints will be and do in our resurrection bodies, for we shall be like Him.

As they talked of Him and of the things which had happened Jesus Himself drew near and went with them (verses 13-15). Many have been refreshed by the fact that He keeps a record of those who think upon Him (Mal. iii, 16). I like the words "Jesus Himself," "I myself," "Jesus shewed Himself," "He gave Himself," "Hisown self bare our sins" (verses 36, 39); Pet. ii, 24). No one can fill or satisfy the heart like "Himself," and we do not wonder that the psalmist said. "My meditation of Him shall be sweet; And how frantic Pa an' Ma got only jes' the I will be glad in the Lord" (Ps. civ, 34). The men asked if He was a stranger

because He did not seem to know the great events of the past few days, and they told Him all (verses 19-24), evidently with much sadness and disappointment. They talked as if they had never heard that He was to die day, though He had repeatedly told them that it would be even so (Luke ix, 22; xviii, 31-34). It is written conxx, 9). This should lead us to ask ourselves in all sincerity if we are really believing all that is written concerning His present ministry, His coming again and His kingdom, and our

share by grace in it all. He told them that their difficulty was that they did not believe all that the prophets had spoken and were therefore foolish men (verses 25, 26), and that evening He said to the eleven and those gathered with them, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms concerning Him (verses 33, 44).

Many of these still unfulfilled prophecies are today wholly neglected or spiritualized into mere nothings. Take for example Israel becoming a righteous nation. Jerusalem the throne of the Lord, His feet standing again upon with fruit, the whole earth filled with His glory (Isa. ii. 4; xi. 9; xxvii, 6).

The whole topic of all Scripture may be summed up in "the sufferings of low" (verse 26 and 1 l'et i, 11), of which He spoke to them as He walked, opening to them the Scriptures, and expounding to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself (verses 7, 32). I think we may be certain that He did not fail to expound Gen. iii, 15, 21, 24; xxii, 8; Ex. xii; Lev. xvi; Num. xix; Deut. xviii; Ps. xxii; Isa, liii; and who can tell how many more. Is it your custom when you Spirit, open to me this Scripture? He made as though He would have

gone further when they reached the end of their journey, for He does not intrude unless desired. It was not difficult to constrain Him to abide, for He is glad to enter every door that is opened to Him (verses 28, 29; Rev. iii, 20). As He sat at meat with them He took bread and blessed and broke and gave to them, and He was known of them in breaking of bread (verses 30, 31, 35). My own conviction is that they saw in His hands, as He broke the bread, the marks of the nails and thus recognized Him. even as the same evening He convinced the disciples that it was Himself by showing them His hands and feet (verse 39). As they knew Him He vanished out of their sight, so shall we do when we shall have obtained our resurrection bodies. They rose up the same hour and started back to Jerusalem with such a heartburn as they probably had not -Edgar. A. Guest known before. Compare the inward burning of Ps. xxxix, 3; Jer. xx, 9; Job xxxii, 18-20. The eight mile walk back to the city did not seem long to saith unto them, "Peace be unto you" (verse 36). The two men were sad as cared and spent several hours comforting them by the Scriptures. The disciples are terrified and affrighted and revelation of Himself. . Nothing more is needed in all our

them we can eat and drink, is clear from verses 39-43, and chapter xxii, 29.

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