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DEAN COLEMAN

BUILDERS

(By Kiwanian Dean Coleman of British Columbia University)
A Former President of Vancouver Kiwanis Club

In the dim forgotten ages, in the valley of the Nile,
The Pyramids were builded by the Pharaohs in their pride,
And, that each in single splendor might have his funeral pile,
Their slaves in thousands labored, and their slaves in thousands died.

When Athens grown to greatness through the valor of her sons,
Recalled the patron goddess she had built her hopes upon,
Unto Athene, fairest of all the shining ones,
She reared that shrine of beauty, the matchless Parthenon.

When, with the passing centuries, the Roman legions came
And welded half a world in one, and ruled it in their might,
They built the roads which to this day retain their ancient name,
Though Caesar and his legions have marched into the night.

In that great age of faith when Heaven seemed nearer earth than now, Men builded great cathedrals, and builded them with care, And in their dim and shadowed aisles we modern folk may bow, Beneath the soaring arches and the figured saints at prayer.

A monument, a temple, a road, a House of God,

How build we brethren to-day? In nobler form we trust

Than all the mighty builders who the paths of earth have trod,

Whose wondrous works must, soon or late, be mingled with the dust.

A monument of kindly deeds, a temple of good will,

A road of hope for youthful feet just entered on life's race.

A House of God built fair and broad upon the heavenly hill,

Where all mankind, in God's good time, may find the Father's face.



