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Science Also Fails

SCIENCE HAS FAILED to deliver so far many things the public expects.

We can't control weather, grow hair again on a baldpate, live to be 150, or make the energy in atoms do our work. We can't prevent cancer or the common cold.

Science, the 20th-century magician, has pulled off many miracles, and talked of many others. To some, it seems that science has broken its promises. But science never promises anything. It seeks facts and methods. Scientists have talked of possibilities, and done a lot of exploring. Over-enthusiastic listeners may go off the deep end.

Take rain-making. Scientists pulled rain and snow from clouds by seeding them with dry ice and other pellets. They took a first step toward controlling weather and said so. Just that. Lots of homespun experiments flew up into the clouds to become rain witch doctors. Uusually they missed.

When the first atom bomb exploded, many people thought the day of atomic energy was just around the corner. Energy would be so cheap everyone could have everything he wanted, for maybe an hour's work a day.

Some officials said atomic energy might be put to peacetime use within 15 years. Four years later that guess still stands, give or take a few years. The problems are huge, with some new unforeseen ones.

Scientists long talked about getting gold from the sea. Well, they actually have. There's some 8,500,000 tons of it in the oceans. Getting it out is simply too expensive. But we are mining magnesium and bromine from the sea, at a profit.

On clothes we've come a long way. But not everything can be made lint-free or wrinkle resistant.

The riddles of cancer, the common cold, polio, haven't been solved. Often what looks like key clues are found. That's all to date.

A Russian scientist said he thought people should have a normal life span of 150 years. That wasn't a promise, either. Our length of life is rising steadily. North American peoples now live 20 years longer on the average than they did in 1900. Practical men think it will be raised to 100 years or more in the future. But not overnight, by a magic pill, as far as we can see.

CANADIANS SHOULD LEARN

THE Prince Rupert Public Library has on display a group of books and pamphlets on international affairs. The library, together with the Canadian Institute of International Affairs offers this feature as part of its work in stimulating interest in current problems and in presenting to citizens some of the worthwhile reading that is available.

Included in the display are Behind the Headlines pamphlets published by the Canadian Institute of International Affairs. This pamphlet series deals in simple and concise form with such important topics as "Communism, Its Strength and Its Future;" "The State and Human Rights;" "Soviet PPolicy Abroad." It is hoped that such pamphlets will lead Canadian citizens to a greater interest in such problems and to a greater use of their library as a source of facts and ideas.

Today Canada is playing an increasingly important role in world affairs but in order that her international leadership be sound, it is necessary that the citizens of Canada become more familiar with international problems. Only in this way can that thoughtful public opinion be developed which is necessary to support and inform the actions of our political leaders in Ottawa and in the capitals of the world.

BEAUTY in the HOME

Give that picture of Johnny or Mary added distinction with a FRAME. If you want to add a touch of life to a wall, select one of our FRAMED PICTURES or if you like to do your own framing just choose a PICTURE.

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CRACK TRAIN DERAILED—A broken rail is believed responsible for the derailing of the C.P.R.'s crack Dominion three miles east of Banff, on January 18. One person was seriously injured and more than a dozen others suffered minor injuries. This aerial photo shows the cars strewn along the main line after leaving the rails near a sharp curve. (CP Photo)

Paardeberg 49 Years Ago

Anniversary Yesterday of Turning Point In Boer War

Among the many pictures of historic interest at the Canadian Legion is one entitled "The Dawn of Majuba." It represents the closing scenes at Paardeberg the morning of February 27, 1900, when Boer forces, under General Piet Cronje, surrendered. On the same date, many years before British troops had found it necessary to lay down their arms before the greater strength of several commandoes. This was at a place called Majuba Hill.

And so, the score was evened. Yesterday was the forty-ninth anniversary—almost half a century—of what was the turning point of the South African War which broke out in October 1899, and ended in May, 1902. It meant the equipment and maintenance of a large army, operating over an area the size of France and Spain combined, from a base 6,000 miles away. Ten thousand horses were needed every month.

The opening stages along the Tugela River in Natal were little better than a series of reverses. Two generals, one a Scottish officer, were shot dead. The officer commanding, Sir Redvers Buller, was relieved of his command and Lord Roberts, with Kitchener as chief of staff, took over.

The word "Boer" in the Dutch language, means farmer, or peasant. Three points of importance were under siege—Kimberley, Ladysmith and Mafeking.

Before Kimberley (where Cecil Rhodes himself happened to be) Cronje's army totalled approximately five thousand. He abandoned further siege and started for Pretoria as Roberts, who had revised the whole plan of campaign, moved from Cape Colony northward.

Headed off, Cronje's further flight was blocked. He was caught in a bend of the Modder River, between Kimberley and Bloemfontein and settled down to fight it out. There was time to dig long lines of trenches in the soft, fertile soil and in other ways increase defence. February 18 there was the first engagement, among the casualties being an officer of the first Canadian contingent. He was killed.

The trench-lined encampment (or laager) along the river shores could have been stormed but Lord Roberts, ever-anxious to preserve life, preferred to hold Cronje where he was.

Hunger, rather than battle, would settle the question. Holding him, however, had its risks. There was always the chance—if not expectation—of reinforcements. From February 18 to 27 struggle, siege and skirmish continued. Well beyond rifle shot, hung an observation balloon.

Pom-pom guns spoke daily and every evening, searchlights from Kimberley swung across the skies. Companies were posted on the heights of kopjes to watch for possible aid.

FINAL BATTLE

On the night of February 26 an advance to move close to the trenches was made. There were two lines. Troops carried rifles and small spades, and strode an arm's length apart. It was calm and starlight and past midnight.

Five minutes—perhaps less—elapsed when the front lit up with the repeated discharges of Mauser rifles. There was no shelter. All one could do was flatten out, dig enough protection to stick the head behind and keep on digging. Lying

Continued on Page 6)

A FRIEND

If you an ear to my lay will lend.
I will quote you my definition of a friend.
He must be a handy, unobstructive "fella"
Have much in common with our best umbrella
Right there and true when the clouds are busting
When trouble is brewing, he must be trusting.
Not much in evidence when fate is smiling,
Charitable, cheerful and seldom complaining,
Aware of our faults, yet feel friendship binding.
Quite often forgotten when the sun is shining,
His heart must be sterling with a golden lining.

—ANDREW WASEND,
Hays Cove Ave.

LETTERBOX

KINDERGARTEN

Editor, Daily News:

In your report of my remarks to the central council of the Parent - Teachers' Association last Monday evening there is an error which ought to be corrected. The reporter evidently confused my account of the origin of our kindergarten with its present organization. Since the fall of 1948 the kindergarten has been under the administration of our Sunday School. In the fall the teaching staff consisted of Mrs. George Ferguson and Miss Helen R. Hurd. Since January both the four and five-year-old classes have been under the direction of Miss Hurd. Miss Hurd is employed by the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church and comes to us with a rich background in children's work of this kind.

R. A. WILSON,
First United Church.

Daily News Classified Ads get Quick Results!

Prince Rupert Florists
300 3rd Ave. Box 516 Tel. 777
Flowers for All Occasions

F. M. Burns, inspector of customs, and J. Dee, his assistant, arrived in the city on the Camosun yesterday afternoon from Vancouver, being here on official duties.

Rexall DRUGS
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STORE HOURS—WEEK-DAYS, 9 A.M TO 9 P.M
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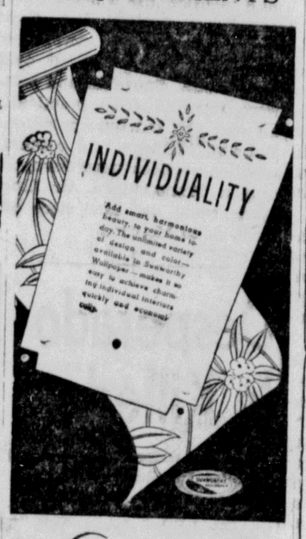

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year old son a
hotel, would it
to sign "Mrs.
son?"
A. No; she s
W. J. Smith, Ch
first line, then
"Master James
ditto mark und
the second line.
Q. What sho
being introduced
recalls having m
time?
A. Try to rec
is not possible,
that you do no
occasion.

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Tuesday, 1:30 p
Sunday, 10 p.
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PORT SIM
Sunday, 11
FOR SOUTH
CHARLOTTE
s.s. Coquitlam M
25, 10 p.m.
FOR NORTH
CHARLOTTE
s.s Coquitlam, M
10 p.m.
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Her life is in YOUR hands

A mother in hospital has just given birth to a baby boy. Only one thing can save her life—a blood transfusion. Fortunately, a supply of blood of the right type is made available by the Red Cross to save the lives of this mother and other mothers in childbirth—and to save the lives of accident victims.

But the Red Cross must have funds to support this *Free* Blood Transfusion Service, which is being extended as rapidly as possible to cover all Canada. It is YOUR Red Cross which is carrying on this splendid work. It is supported by you and thousands of other Canadians.

Right now, the life of a mother in hospital somewhere, is in your hands.

The Red Cross asks your help, too, in supplying aid to crippled veterans, in supporting Outpost Hospitals, in sending relief wherever diaster strikes, in giving life to suffering humanity everywhere.

Your continued support is urgently needed to carry on and extend this great work. Give willingly, generously! Give now!

Red Cross services also include: Treatment for Crippled Children, Nutrition Services, First Aid and Home Nursing Courses, Swimming and Water Safety, Women's Work Activities, etc.

When considering your donation, remember that this year the Canadian Red Cross needs 5 Million Dollars—40% more than the previous appeal.

THIS IS YOUR WORK — GIVE!

CANADIAN RED CROSS

Local Campaign Headquarters:
R. A. MORLEY
Bank of Commerce
Phone 16