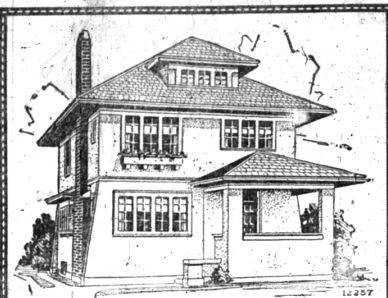


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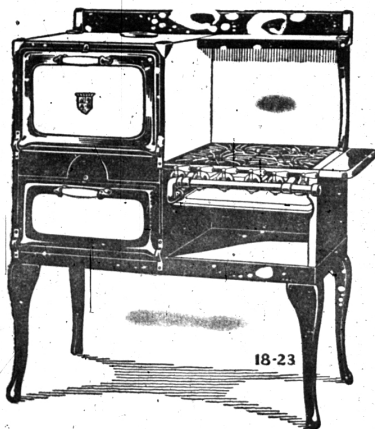
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The Other Chap Says Something—

RELIGIOUS IGNORANCE

Dean Herbert E. Hawkes of Columbia University is not saying anything novel when he asserts that the young people of today are ignorant of religion, or as he puts it, "have no idea of what it is all about." And while the dean's remark is too sweeping to be strictly accurate, since even now a good many millions of children in America are given religious instruction, it certainly is a fact that "with the falling away of home training" large numbers of the girls and boys and young men and women have relapsed into a condition of half-familiarity with everything pertaining to religion which lies beneath the outside layer of the surface, if we may be allowed such an expression. Consequently they possess neither background nor perspective.

This is nominally a Christian country and those who do not profess to be personally religious might reasonably be expected to have some ordinary information regarding the history and nature of the generally accepted systems. But the dense ignorance of the contents of even the New Testament which many a presumably well-educated person—many a college graduate—shows today under test, would have excited the ridicule of a schoolboy of fifty years ago. Of course it is beyond reason to expect such people to know anything about the Old Testament, that is anything of account, and as to comparative religion, they say the very mention of the really fascinating subject and dismiss the matter by saying disdainfully, "highway."

The number of people who are proud of a real or fancied lack of mental capacity, or who pretend to be proud of it, is astonishing. We wonder whether they are fighting the famous "inferiority complex." Dean Hawkes does promise in the fact that those young folks with whom he deals are interested to find out. As the dean meets college students chiefly, there is danger that he may be over sanguine in his outlook. If college students did not take at least an intellectual interest in religious matters the prospect for the future prevalence of religious knowledge would be dark indeed. And if among large masses of the population only college students are gaining any real knowledge of what religion is and what it means, the outlook is not very bright. Detroit Free Press.

SPECIAL SESSION LOOMS

Runners have been persistent of late that a special session of the legislature is likely to be called for some time in February. Sponsor of the special charter of the D. G. H. & M. Ry., now owned and operated by the Grand Trunk, and matters pertaining to the normal schools are things that will probably be set forth as demanding instant legislative attention. Many Michigan citizens, close to state affairs, believe that the calling of a special session to consider these matters will be just a cloak to cover plans to raise more revenues for the state, which will be incorporated in the call for a special session by the Governor. Many also believe that so far as the Administrative Board goes in usurping legislative functions, that the calling of a special session to consider the above questions would be in the nature of the board reversing its former attitude in order to prevent a way to bring the special session about. We do not believe that any situation extraordinary exists at the present time that would warrant a special session of the legislature, which would cost the taxpayers of the state at least \$20,000 and perhaps much more than that amount. We are of the opinion that the rebuilding of the administration building at the Central Normal at Mt. Pleasant, destroyed by fire a few weeks ago, the location of a new building authorized by the legislature, and the surrender of the Grand Trunk special charter can be satisfactorily taken care of until the regular session next year.

What the people of the state of Michigan want most, is an economical administration of state affairs, not more opportunities for the spending of state funds. They believe that it is time we began looking within our present income, and not be forever casting about for new ways in which to raise more money by taxation. At the present time the state is spending \$18,000,000 raised from the general property tax; \$24,000,000 in gasoline and weight tax from automobiles; \$6,200,000 in corporation tax, and other taxable items that provide \$5,000,000 for state use.

The state therefore, is raising in direct taxes upon the property of the state approximately \$58,000,000 per year. This is more than \$1400 for each man, woman and child in the state of Michigan for the purpose of running the state alone. This does not include any of the costs for education in any of its phases, nor does it take in the cost of county, township, and city government. Isn't it about time that we started exercising a little more economy in state affairs and gave the overburdened taxpayer a much needed rest?—Lonia County News.

THE LINK

Forty years ago in Atchison an ice-man named Mart Miller made an advertising contract with The Globe to the effect that they could charge him cents a line for anything they wanted to say about him. So in a year or so the name of Mart Miller the ice-man became the best known name in Atchison. At that time Walt Mason was working on The Globe. He turned loose on Mart Miller and wrote his now famous prose verse with Mart Miller as a perennial hero. At that time the writer herself was a reporter in Eldorado and Emporia and later a reporter who read all the exchanges and never failed to read what Walt Mason wrote in The Atchison Globe about Mart Miller.

These stars indicate that a quarter of a century passed. Walt Mason wrote to The Gazette for a job. The memory of the author of Mart Miller's Odyssey was fresh in his admirer's memory. So Walt came to Emporia, and the first thing the editor of The Gazette asked him to do was to write some more copy like Mart Miller verses. It was easy. Walt turned it off in carload lots. It caught the world. More than that, it caught the eye of George Adams of the Adams Syndicate. He bought it in carload lots and paid well for it. So millions of people are delighted every night with Walt Mason's rhymes, somewhat because Ed Howe

of The Atchison Globe—a fast talker—told Mart Miller, the ice-man, in signing an ad lib contract for pay locals mentioning his name. And yesterday, Mart Miller, the ice-man, delivered his last load and went to St. Peter for the old book. Upon such small hinges do large things turn.—William Allen White in Emporia (Kans.) Gazette.

HITCHING CONVENIENCES

(The following article came from one of our friends in the rural district.)

How many of the farmers will agree with us that there are not a sufficient number of proper hitching places provided in Nashville for the people who drive in with horse-drawn vehicles? The only proper and safe place to hitch a team at present is on the south side of Mr. Zemer's hardware store. The hitching park provided at the rear of the Feighner furniture store is a very poor place, as a whole—the wind comes through there like a hurricane. Also, it is located back away from Main street where you are unable to watch your horses or feel safe in putting articles in your rig. For the people who have shopping to be done at the south end of town, there are no hitching conveniences, only those by the two new oil stations. This is a very poor place for horses that are at all nervous. You are almost obliged to hitch your horse somewhere up town, providing you can find a place, and then walk back to the south end, or hitch at one of the other places and run your chance of having your horse there when you want to go home. Proper parking places are provided for automobiles—why can we not have properly arranged hitching places for those of us who drive to town with horses?

A Farmer,
Nashville (Mich.) News

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