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(FORMERLY THE FOOL-KILLER)

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WHAT IS "NORMAL," ANY-HOW?

I find that a considerable number of the "stand-patters" are expecting the world to gradually get back into its old channels and run on just like it did before the war. "Get back normal," as they express it. And they think that nothing can be "normal" unless it is just like it was before. They seem to entirely lose sight of the fact that the world is continually changing, and that it never back-tracks itself. This has been true to some extent all through the ages, but it is even more true to-day.

For six thousand years we moved very slowly and it took us a long time to pass a given point. But having once got past it, we never went back to it. For almost the entire six thousand years the world travelled at an ox-cart gait. But now, please yer honor, it is travelling at electric speed. Whereas it used to take thousands of years to pass through one "normal" condition and enter another one, the same distance can now be covered in a very few years. The length of time we stay in any one place or condition of society is in exact inverse ratio to the speed at which we are travelling.

And having passed a thing, we never go back to it. The conditions that obtained before the war were "normal" then, but they will never be "normal" any more. We have used those things and left them behind, and we will never go back to them.

After the water has turned the mill, it never turns THAT mill any more. But the same water may go on and turn ANOTHER mill.

And so the old conservative and stand-pat folks who are expecting us to get back to pre-war conditions and stay there are in line for a mighty big surprise. They might just as reasonably ask the giant oak to crawl back into the acorn or the grown man to become a little boy again.

The "scare-word" of the plute press used to be "Socialism." Now it is "Bolshevism." It gets a little wusser all the time.

It is absolutely necessary for me to repeat from time to time a good many things that I say, in order to emphasize them. One light tap on the head won't kill a bear. It takes hard licks and often repeated. It is the same way with getting the truth into the noggin of the average person.

THE FORD PHILOSOPHY

And our friend Henry Ford has started a paper. Or rather, he has bought and overhauled one that was already started.

The Dearborn Independent, Dearborn, Mich., was just a local sheet, but Henry Ford touched it with his magic wand, and it suddenly became a national institution. The sleepy little post-office at Dearborn has had to wake up.

Of course Henry has a hired editor, and all that, but he has set aside one page as his very own, and on that page each week he prints his own ideas and opinions about things in general. And it is simply wonderful what a direct forceful way he has of going after things. You wouldn't think that a mechanical and business genius would be much of a writer, but you will have to make an exception in the case of Henry Ford.

From a purely human and material standpoint, the clearest thinker and the soundest reasoner in America to-day is nobody but Henry Ford.

Of course I don't suppose Henry takes any stock in the Bible prophecies. So far as I have noticed he has not mentioned that subject. Like so many others, he expects us to have a man-made Millennium some of these days right away. In which he will be disappointed, of course. But I can say this much for Henry—if it were possible for man's ideas and plans to bring the Millennium, Henry's ideas and plans would stand about the best chance of any.

And remember this: Ford is not an idle dreamer. He is not visionary and impractical. He has used his ideas in his own business and has made a wonderful success. He has proven that they will work when given a chance. The Ford Philosophy extended to the whole world is just what the world needs.

But the reason the Ford Philosophy cannot be applied to the whole world just yet is because of the inborn selfishness and meanness of human nature. Ford can apply his philosophy in his own business because he can control his own business, but he cannot apply it to the whole world unless he could control the whole world.

Some of these days pretty soon there will come a Ruler who can control the entire world and compel it to do as he says, and

then the Ford Philosophy, with many improvements, will be put into operation everywhere. That will be the Good Time we are looking for, and it isn't very far off.

HAS GOD GOT A "PLAN?"

The average religious person of these days has a very common habit of speaking of "God's eternal plan," or "God's divine plan," and yet when you sound these people right down to the bottom they don't actually believe that God has any "plan." They seem to think that the whole mighty universe is just drifting along hap-hazard so far as God is concerned, and that MAN does all the big planning and carrying out plans.

Now of course man THINKS he is doing it all, but IS HE? I think you will find, if you look into it carefully enough, that back of all man's big boasting there stands a DIVINE ORDER that causes even the wrath of man to honor it. Nations can rise into power, and as quickly fall into decay. Men can become great and sway the multitudes. But neither men nor nations can do any of these things without following out a program that God decided on before the world was. God has made his program big enough to give man all the room he needs for exercising his own free will in everything he does; but still that divine program hems him in like a fence and he can't get out. In the long run everything that man does must shape itself to fit the divine plan.

Yes, God has a plan and an order for everything. He has given us in the Bible a complete outline of the whole program from the beginning to end. The Bible is just full of numbers and dates and periods of time, all set down with almost mathematical certainty, when you once learn how to look for them. But the average person who claims to be familiar with the Bible is entirely ignorant of all those things. Ninety-nine preachers out of a hundred don't even know that such things are in the Bible. They don't even have any sort of comprehension of the wonderful "type" idea that runs like a silver cord through the Book, making it possible to figure out many things that have always been considered "hidden." Almost every act, circumstance or event in the Patriarchal and Jewish ages was a type of something to come later. You will notice that many things concerning the lives and doings of the Patriarchs are told in such minute detail that it seems almost as dry as reading a govern-

ment report. You almost go to sleep trying to read it. You wonder what in the world was the use of putting in all that stuff. But when you catch the idea that all those little details go to make up the "types" of something to follow in a later Age, then you wake up and go to taking interest in it. When you learn how to figure out the meaning of one type it gives you the key to several more, and you can go on that way till you get the whole divine plan worked out.

But if you expect to work it out and get any sense to it, you will first have to get away from the old creeds, for they don't fit it at all.

Expiration Notice.

If you see the words, "Your Subscription Has Expired," stamped in red ink over this notice, it just means this: if you have not lately sent in your renewal, then your time is out. But if you HAVE sent in your renewal, then pay no attention to the rubber stamp notice, as it refers only to your OLD subscription. The renewal that you have sent will bring the paper right on.

Please send in your renewal very promptly, if you have not already done so, and send along with it as many new ones as you can.

Once more let me remind you that the things you look ahead to are never like you think they are going to be. You can read a description of a place you have never seen, and you think you know just how it looks. But when you really see the place with your own eyes it will hardly resemble the mental picture you had formed of it. And that is just the way it will be with the future events that the Bible tells about. They will be so different from the common conception of them that they will scarcely be recognized when they come. The Last Trumpet, the Judgment Day, and all these things, will probably be nearly over before the people realize what is happening.

You can generally tell pretty well how much truth any religious doctrine has in it by watching to see what sort of people take up with it. If the big rich and prominent people and leaders of the land take it up and help spread it—you better let that alone. But if it's mostly the poor common folks that accept it—then it's all right. "But the poor heard Him gladly." And they do yet.