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#### GENERAL SCIENCE—ECONOMICS

### Place of Science

● "As a dictator with a scientific past, I should pay a great deal of attention to the place of Science in my State. I would not, I hope, make the mistake of thinking that science is or even can be a panacea by itself. . . .

"At the moment, science is for the most part either an intellectual luxury or the paid servant of capitalist industry or the nationalist state."—Julian Huxley in *IF I WERE DICTATOR* (*Harpers*).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

#### PHYSICS

### No Homeplace

● "What are they getting at, these hired men of Science?

"Today they build and tomorrow they tear down and there is no end to their extravagances.

"These superfeature cinema cosmoses without a beginning, a middle or an end. These rococo astral Great White Ways. These glittering galaxies, watch-shaped but with no pointing hands to tell a standard celestial time. These contracting, expanding, exploding, collapsing universes, now a million times older, now a thousand times younger than this errant planet particle, the earth.

"Out come the builders. In go the wreckers. One follows modestly behind. All one wants is a few unregarded scraps with which to build a rude shelter of one's own. It is hard not to have a homeplace."—Anonymous Writer in *THE DESCENT OF THE ATOM* (*Lothrop, Lee and Shepard*).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

#### GENERAL SCIENCE

### Incentives

● "In the trivial intercourse of daily life there are two subjects of conversation commoner than all others, weather and health. In the history of the growth of human knowledge also these two subjects have been from the beginning the principal incentives to enquiry."—J. B. Leathes in *SCIENCE FOR A NEW WORLD* edited by J. G. Crowther (*Harpers*).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

#### ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGY

### Animal Teachers

● "Man's ancestors parted company with the ancestors of the chimpanzees and gorillas millions of years ago. How we came to devise language and mathematics and be psychologists while the great apes became our prey or pets, the

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apes certainly cannot be expected to tell us. However, about fundamental problems in original tendencies and learning, they and the mammals in general have much to tell us; and the student of these aspects of human nature will profit greatly from knowledge of animal psychology."—Edward L. Thorndike in *COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY* edited by F. A. Moss (*Prentice-Hall*).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

#### PHILOSOPHY

### Indispensable

● "Science is a kind of knowledge which gives descriptions and laws reached by observation and experiment. It is not the only kind of knowledge, it is not the only pathway towards truth—but it is indispensable. It works with the Lowest Common Denominators, that is to say, with the simplest factors that are known in a given field. . . . For the present these lie on the scientific horizon; but they do not explain themselves; they have to be taken as given; they have their basis in the Supreme Reality."—Sir J. Arthur Thomson in *THE GREAT DESIGN*, edited by Frances Mason (*Macmillan*).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

#### MEDICINE

### Health

● "To maintain heart health in the perilous forties, one should observe ordinary frugality in physical expenditures; one should cultivate tranquillity in the presence of mental storms and meet with dignity and poise all bombardments of the emotions."—S. Calvin Smith in *THAT HEART OF YOURS* (*Lippincott*).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

#### PHYSICS—COSMOLOGY

### Uninfected Judgment

● "It is desirable to emphasize the special necessity in the field of cosmology of avoiding the evils of artists or wish-fulfilling thinking. In the first place, the problems of cosmology are necessarily extensive and intricate and must be attacked in the light of very meagre information. Hence, we must be careful not to substitute the com-

# HORS SAY:

portable certainties of some simple mathematical model in place of the great complexities of the actual universe. In the second place, it is evident that the past history of the universe and the future fate of man are involved in the issue of our studies. Hence we must be specially careful to keep our judgments uninfected by the demands of theology and unswerved by human hopes and fears."—R. C. Tolman in *RELATIVITY THERMODYNAMICS AND COSMOLOGY* (Oxford).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

### Challenge

● "Today we again have a situation like that in Europe three hundred or four hundred years ago. In some ways I believe it is far more significant. We have millions of people with good bodies and minds who can't get jobs. They are just as good people as those who left Europe for America three hundred years ago. They are looking for another new world.

"Physically there is none. No more free land worth having is to be had for the taking. But we can work over what we have of the earth's surface, and what we have of human potentialities for achieving true civilization, stability and peace. We can have our new world, if we have it in us and if we are willing to pay the price."—Henry A. Wallace in *NEW FRONTIERS* (Reynal & Hitchcock).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

## PSYCHOLOGY

### Training

● "In sharp contrast with the narrow effects of mere practice, were the broad and far-reaching effects of training. For these were manifested not only in the superior ability shown by the trainees in every operation for which they were subsequently measured, but also in their superior rate of progress, as practice continued. This latter, dynamic, aspect of the effects of training would seem to merit closer study than it has hitherto received."—J. W. Cox in *MANUAL SKILL* (Cambridge Univ. Press).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

## PSYCHOLOGY

### Human Progress

● "It would seem that more rapid progress, and perhaps progress of a better sort, might be made if we could actually improve the capacities of the individuals in successive generations, so that these individuals would respond to the environment in better ways than their ancestors could have done. Then, instead of starting in each generation at the same level in infancy, and training each to a higher level than the preceding generation attained, each generation would start at a higher level, and progress would be accelerated. Unfortunately, there seems to be no evidence that aside from the effects of training during his lifetime, any individual has greater capacities mental or physical, than had his most remote ancestors."—Knight Dunlap in *CIVILIZED LIFE* (Williams & Wilkins).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

## ANTHROPOLOGY

### Immortality

● "It is therefore a mistake to suppose that the hope of immortality after death was first revealed to mankind by the founders of the great historical religions, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam; to all appearance, it was cherished by men all over the world thousands of years before Buddha, Jesus Christ and Mohammed were born."—Sir James George Frazer in *THE FEAR OF THE DEAD IN PRIMITIVE RELIGION* (Macmillan and Co., Ltd.).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

## ASTRONOMY

### Important Planet

● "Geology, as a science of the earth, is usually considered far removed from astronomy, which delves into the universe of stars. One may, however, regard geology as but a highly specialized field of astronomy, for after all it really has to do with the formation, configuration, and behavior of what is to us humans the most important of all the planets, this planet earth." Harlan T. Stetson in *EARTH, RADIO AND THE STARS* (McGraw-Hill).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

## SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

### Fear

● "The most destructive mob emotion in the economic world is fear. Fear is based upon ignorance."—Daniel Starch in *FAITH, FEAR, AND FORTUNES* (Richard R. Smith).

*Science News Letter, October 20, 1934*

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