

This Week



By Arthur Brisbane

SCIENCE AND RELIGION. GASOLINE AND RUBBER. CANCER NOT CONTAGIOUS. VANISHING BOB.

The Rev. Dr. Shailer Mathews, Dean of the Divinity School in Chicago University, says philosophy is of no use in religion, because we cannot analyze our religion, "the greatest moments are felt, you cannot define them in words. There is not a philosophical term in the language or the intellectual process by which we seek to grasp the meaning of religion."

Philosophy has nothing to do with religion, and religion has nothing to do with philosophy. Philosophy deals with problems that can be solved, or may be solved, by proof, argument, thought. Religion deals with questions entirely beyond our reach, that can be answered only by faith.

Two kinds of good news for automobile owners:

First, you are told that if and when the natural supply of gasoline gives out, synthetic gasoline will be made to take its place.

Second, scientists have discovered a system of bud grafting on rubber trees which should increase the yield of a tree 400 per cent.

It is predicted that the cost of rubber delivered in this country will drop from twenty-five cents to less than ten cents a pound.

Scientists say they can make synthetic rubber as well as synthetic gasoline, but that probably will be postponed, like artificial gasoline making, until natural supplies diminish.

A French scientist proves by careful observation that cancer is NOT contagious. To do away with the false, persistent suspicion is a great blessing. Married couples, living together, one the victim of cancer, do not contract the disease from each other, and cannot contract it. That is proved by reliable statistics.

Paris dressers, realizing that long hair is "coming in," are buying stocks of "transformations," long hair arrangements for women to wear while waiting for bobbed hair to grow.

Short hair is common sense, of course, and, in time, long hair will be as obsolete as a veil over the face.

Long after men had cut their hair primitive women let their hair grow long, because, matted with grease, it was a good thing in cold weather.

Long hair seems "feminine" to men. Women do what men want, and the long hair comes back. It will go away again.

At San Toy, mining town in Ohio, Ray Wiggins, annoyed, bit off the ear of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Amanda Taylor.

A mob around the courtroom wanted the man lashed, and the Mayor of San Toy told Wiggins he would quash the charge of "maiming and disfiguring" if he would take the lashing.

Wiggins said "Yes." His back was stripped, he was lashed twenty-one times and everybody apparently was happy, including the mother-in-law. What is the difference between a man that bites off his mother-in-law's ear and a mob that insists on a public lashing?

There is some mild government supervision of the radio. Do the supervisors consider it necessary or desirable that the details, bloody, or otherwise, of prize fights, should be sent into homes and listened to by twenty millions of Americans, including children? Would you describe that as making an intellectual, "Christian" and elevated use of a great scientific discovery?

We must have the prize ring, the bloody fights, of course, for those that can afford to pay \$125 a ring-side seat, just as we must have "speak-easies" for those that can pay \$25 a bottle for champagne. But why carry the prize fighting into so many homes?

Don't prize fight promoters realize that radio broadcasting will stop their prize fighting eventually? Clergymen here and there will be aroused as they listen to the interesting fight news coming in over the radio and then there will be trouble. Many clergymen, fortunately, are interested in things more important to human salvation than Darwin's monkey theory—which, by the way, was never taught by Darwin.

Even though Americans spend more than a million dollars a year on sports, some of them are not good ones.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has obtained from the Orphan's Court for Kent County letters Testamentary on the personal estate of Milbourn A. Toulson, late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against said deceased's estate are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers therefor, to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of January, 1928, otherwise they may be excluded from all benefit of said deceased's personal estate.

All persons indebted to this estate must settle at once.

Given under my hand this 26th day of July, 1927.

SARAH I. TOULSON, Executrix.

Business The Enterprise Weather

SUMMER BUSINESS LULL HAS HELPED

BABSON PARK, MASS. (Special.) High wages and technical improvements, along with abundant financial resources, have increased our national producing capacity to new high levels—levels which exceed the immediate consuming capacity of the country.

Despite the excessive producing capacity which exists today, it is believed that good wages and relatively low prices will continue to be the stimulating forces behind increased sales volumes this Fall in nearly all lines of trade.

One also hears that the moderate lull which has occurred in general trade during the past summer is one of the best assurances that improvement is in store for the balance of the year; and also a clear indication that the spurt in general business that occurred this Spring was not artificially stimulated by the presence of excess gold in this country.

The purchasing value or power of the 1913 dollar in the hands of the present day shopper is around 72 cents, and has steadily increased from nearer 70 cents some months ago.

CANADIAN PURCHASING POWER INCREASES

Because of the increased business between the United States, and Canada, it is essential rather than merely interesting to note the purchasing power of Canadians this year.

There is about 5 per cent better employment in that country at this writing than there was last year during the same time. Both Quebec and Ontario should have at least as good a buying power this Fall as they had during the same time in 1926.

Alberta should prove an excellent market for a wide variety of products this year. It that province there will probably be seen one of the largest harvests on record.

INVESTMENT RETURN CONTINUES DOWNWARD

Low interest rates bear eloquent witness to the present fact of ease in banking credit and to a plentiful supply of capital seeking profitable employment.

The creditor position of the United States among nations, the large sums due annually from foreign debtors, and the continued accumulation of new savings at home contribute to the same end.

It is possible that within the next ten years, perhaps within five or six years, the increasing supply of capital, combined with further decline in the level of world prices, will bring the return on investment capital in this country down to the levels of 1902 in Britain, when British Consols yielded less than 3 per cent.

CHAIN STORES REPRESENT ECONOMIC TREND

If anyone has any doubt as to the importance of even a cent or two in price difference these days in the United States, he need only turn his attention to the chain stores. Here we

find a history of progress even so far this year that has been quite remarkable.

Producers lose it. Manufacturers have spent large sums in fighting the chain stores, but chain stores represent an economic trend. They get goods to the consumer at a lower cost. Now many of those manufacturers are glad to sell to chain stores.

ACTIVITY AROUND DETROIT

Around Detroit one can see more activity. The Ford situation has had much to do with it. For some months the industrial sales situation in Detroit has been more or less uncertain. At this writing, the current level of automobile production for the United States, as a whole, is still somewhat higher than in Detroit.

Will the Ford situation as anticipated, change things? Business men feel that the gradual resumption of Ford production this Fall should result in relatively more substantial increases in Detroit than in other automobile centers.

NEW MODELS EXPANDING SALE

In two lines of business, the automobile and the radio, new models are expanding sales. In the case of automobiles, increasing competition is expected to further cut down profit margins and companies which did poorly in the first half of the year will probably not be able to make up lost ground now. Technical improvements in radio apparatus, and the new trade agreements as regards wave lengths, royalties, etc., bid fair to stimulate a sales volume that is likely to be the greatest ever reported.

DAIRY PRODUCTS' PRICES UNUSUALLY STEADY

BABSON PARK, MASS. (Special.) Last week in this column of farming and finance, there was shown the price trend of poultry products over the past few years. Attention was drawn to the fact that there had been a steady rise in such period shreds until about 1924, when prices from 1922 up to a peak in 1925. Then prices fell away again sharply, especially so far during the current year.

Today it is equally fitting to note that the price trend of dairy products has been decidedly more steady over the same period of time, namely from 1922 through the present year to date.

In the case of dairy products, the best prices were seen in 1923 rather than in 1925, while so far in 1927 prices have not been far under that figure.

Dairying has increased very successfully, and is now probably far better organized from the point of marketing than in the case of poultry products. For that matter, successfully marketing apparently obtains an almost exclusive hold over the word "prosperity" so far as the farmer goes these days, regardless of the particular farm products sold.

In that way, it is being brought home more vividly than ever that farming is a business like any other business. You can not merely be content to produce the product. You must sell it right.

NEARLY ALL PRICES INCLINE UPWARD

The movement of the leading price indices over the past month appears to indicate that the general commodity price level is turning upward.

Price increases thus far have been almost entirely in the field of agricultural products. Industrial products, with new exceptions, have remained stationary, or declined slightly.

Corn is a good example. The present price is high enough to discount the present condition and if frost holds off there will be a decline from the present level. If early frosts come the price of corn is likely to shoot up further.

In a general way, it is true that the degree of agricultural prosperity can be fairly measured by the price of farm products in relation to that of industrial products.

COSTLIER LIVING IN CITIES SUGGESTED

Increased farm purchasing power means heavier sales of industrial products and, most probably, increased imports. This should check temporarily at least, further decline in industrial prices. It must, however, mean a higher cost of living for the urban population.

From the long-run viewpoint, the belief seems to be growing that agriculture has turned the corner in relation to urban industry. 1926 saw a net decrease in farm population of 649,000, greatest since 1920.

Where farm property can be purchased at thoroughly deflated prices, as for example, at tax and foreclosure sales, it should now prove a satisfactory investment if the above belief is upheld.

PROBLEM OF INDUSTRIAL NOISE GROWS

There is an interesting problem facing industrial workers, as contrasted to most farm workers. It is the matter of the effects of noise on the human system of various kinds of noises met with in industrial employment. The current issue of the Labor Review of the Department of Labor aptly discusses the point.

Without going into the matter in detail, one cannot help but remark as to the little thought of advantage of the farm worker in being particularly free from such harmful noises and vibrations that so often result in defense and functional nervous disorders.

COOPERATIVE MARKETING CLEARLY HELPS

There have been fresh arguments, debates, doubts and queries coming along upon the feasibility of cooperative marketing. It is a matter vital to the interests of farming these days—and it ought to be clearly understood, at least in a general way.

COAL COAL

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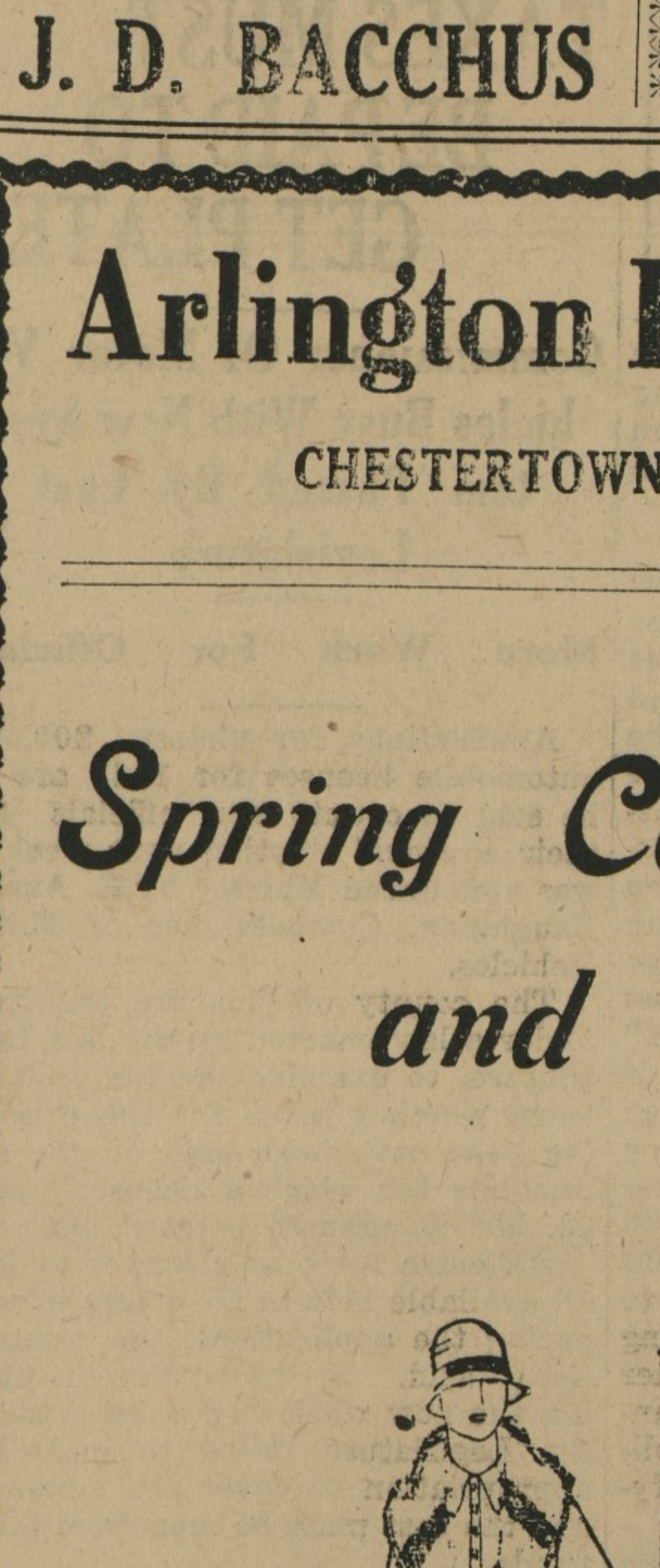
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