

Dr. Frank Crane Says

Yesterday's Good Today's Evil

Advancement is not a giant stride it is a flight of stairs.

The way we make progress is not by bumps, but by steps; not by going from evil to good, but by going from evil to lesser evil.

So the evil of today may be the discarded god of yesterday.

Slavery is an evil not countenanced in any civilized land. Yet at one time it was good. It was a distinct moral advance over the old practice of murdering in cold blood all captives taken in warfare.

Prize fighting is looked upon as an evil now and almost a crime. Yet the states have laws aimed to prevent it. But a century ago prize fighting was a distinct advance over the brutality of the sports of former times. Even such a fight as one in 1825 when two men fought for 75 rounds with naked fists and the loser had to be put to bed with 50 leeches on him was a step up from the spectacles such as throwing ferocious dogs into a lions' cage and watching them tear each other to pieces which had delighted the people at a previous date.

Some of the superstitions which were connected with religion in the past are now evils and repel men of greater intelligence instead of frightening them in good conduct.

They are an evil now, but at one

time for more primitive people whom they kept from doing wrong they were a good.

Duelling today is a crime. At one time it was a good because it was an advance over past customs. It gave both parties a fair chance instead of being a cowardly assassination. It substituted honor for ambuscade and as at the time was a step ahead.

Today we have laws against beating wives. Wife beaters are jailed and dealt with summarily. Yet a century ago in England wife beating was considered the right of a husband. A man might beat his wife within an inch of her life and go unpunished so long as she didn't die. But if she died he was treated as a murderer.

That condition of affairs is hard to understand today. But it was an advance over the past when in ancient Turkey, the husband had the power of life and death over the inmates of his harem.

It is as true that the good of today may be the evil of tomorrow as it is that the evil of today was the good of the past.

The test of the times is not whether there are evils or not, but whether these evils are less or greater than the ones in the past, whether they are a step up or down.

In Confidence

Readers desiring a personal reply can address Miss Flo, in care of this newspaper

Shall She Marry Without Love?

Dear Miss Flo:

I have been engaged to a very fine man for two years. Now, I find that I do not love him. My problem is whether I should go through with the marriage or break the engagement. There is about a fifty fifty possibility that I would be happy with him, as we have a great deal in common, and he has all the essential qualities which go to make a good husband. He is well-to-do, cultured, and of excellent family, and from a material point of view, the marriage would be a most satisfactory one. As it would really hurt him terribly if I were to break our engagement now—and I don't want to make him unhappy—I have almost decided to go through with it.

In the past romantic impulse and matrimony were dissociated. In the Old World romance was kept apart from marriage because of its seeming incompatibility with any prudent consideration of family interests. But in America, "falling in love" is the natural, expressed and above everything else, the proper prelude to marriage. Naturally, then, romantic love tends to consider the person, not the type and personal traits, as beauty, charm, individuality, rather than family wealth and social standing. According, love overcomes, or seeks to overcome, all the barriers of wealth, class and culture, and there is no doubt that romantic love has, from an early period, been accepted as the sole basis for marriage by practically all classes in this country.

There is no doubt that a large number of marriages are entered into to with the other that it is far from an ideal mating. Some such marriages are very happy ones—others are miserably unhappy.

But whether or not such a marriage would bring happiness and contentment to you is a question of too vital importance to be settled by anyone but yourself. It is dependent upon too many different factors.

But of one thing you may be sure—marriage lasts too long to be assumed in a spirit of pity. You can carry on a courtship with one not wholly adequate to your spiritual, physical and mental needs, but being

for life to a man for whom you feel only pity is an entirely different thing. The yoke around the neck is a yoke that makes the going difficult. You are very likely to reach the point where you pity yourself far more than you ever pitied your husband when you thought he was going to leave you.

The truly happy marriage includes a mingling of romance at least, but companionship, after all, is the pivot upon which it swings. It isn't passion—nor is it the virtues of economy and sobriety which enable two persons of different sexes to live together in harmony—it is comradeship and a mutuality of interest.

A husband and wife live most happily together when they have the good old game of companionship to fall back on in those many, many hours when they sit alongside each other, facing each other, spending years and years with each other. How companionable these hours are is the test of the game.

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1. What Englishman married Pocahontas?
2. Are there any states in the Union in which women are not permitted to vote? (2) Are the residents of Washington, D. C., permitted to vote?
3. In what year was the Erie Canal completed?
4. What state was named for Louis XIV?
5. What river is known as "Father of Waters"?
6. Of what is the "Blue Bird" symbolic?
7. What is an apiary?
8. What city is known as the "Mound City? Why?"
9. Whom did Jack Dempsey defeat on July 2, 1921? Where?
10. Where is the Virginia Military Institute?

- TEST 'O TEN ANSWERS**
1. First White Child born in the New England Colonies.
 2. One; South Carolina.
 3. Philadelphia.
 4. Edgar Allen Poe. "Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary."
 5. Thomas R. Marshall.
 6. Michael Arlen.
 7. The Charleston.
 8. A policeman.
 9. Bedloe's Island, New York harbor.
 10. Irene Vernon Castle.

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