

This Week



By Arthur Brisbane
IMPONDERABLE ETHER.
HEROES ARE GENTLE.
A SICK WHALE.
BE JUST TO ELIJAH.

Sir Oliver Lodge says the ether is the most important reality of the physical universe. Life and mind are associated with matter only indirectly through the ether, says he, and the ether is primarily man's habitation, not pseudo "sub-matter" of earth houses, automobiles and money that we call the real world.

Matter reduced to atoms in only electric particles revolving at frightful speed around an electric centre. The real thing is ether.

Science tells us the ether is like a great stream of water, flowing on forever, and matter like a fisherman's net spread across the stream through which the ether flows, that ether is essential to the cosmic scheme, that Newton's law of gravitation should not work without it, and that ether is the only solid reality in the realm of ideas. But for the average man it is hard to conceive of ether as a reality. It seems as unreal as the fourth dimension.

Our minds are adjusted to the work we have to do, which isn't big or very important.

Thomas A. Edison was three days in New York's Botanical Gardens library, searching for some new rubber plant. He may find it, but it will probably be chemistry, not botany that will supply the new rubber. Elasticity, plus wearing quality, are needed. Human intelligence will produce something better than rubber, just as it produced something better than wood, in the bronze and iron ages.

Be careful if you meet tarantulas. Mactans. It's ordinary name is the "black widow" and it's the deadliest spider on earth, possessing a bite causing death within twenty-four hours.

This tiny black spider has recently caused more than a dozen deaths on the Pacific Coast. On general principles, keep spiders and flies out of the house. Let them carry on their ancient war in the open.

Real courage is always gentle. Homer's "Mildest Manners and Gentlest Heart" are part of a fearless nature. Of all photographs taken of our Atlantic flyers, the finest shows Commander Byrd standing beside a wounded French soldier, helpless in a wheel chair. The expression on Byrd's face, pitying and tender, is that of a real hero. Happy the mother and father of such a son.

Commander Byrd, always in search of interesting occupation, plans a flight to the South Pole, and before the new year he will be flying through the coldest region on earth. He is determined to be the first man to fly over both poles.

In centuries to come, what we call our North and South Poles will again be warm, and some other spots on the earth will be the poles. Oil wells that Standard Oil has located inside the Arctic region will supply nearby gas stations—if men still use power as primitive as gasoline in that future day.

Gas by then will probably be completely out of date, as whale oil is now, for lighting. But do not be frightened into selling good oil stocks.

If told that the sickness of a sperm whale in the Atlantic Ocean could set up an ancient sailor man in a comfortable chicken business, you might say "impossible." But it happened.

When whales don't feel well, lumps of a substance called "Ambergris," valuable to perfume manufacturers, form inside of them. Jeremiah Pratt, seventy-four years old, lookout on a schooner, saw gulls hovering over a big lump of Ambergris, worth \$12,500. With that money, Sailor Pratt will retire to a chicken ranch and thousands of women will go around perfumed by the Ambergris.

Uldine Utley, fifteen-year-old girl revivalist, who says Billy Sunday is greater than Mussolini because Sunday conquered the devil, is in New York City saving souls. She saved forty last Sunday, and declares they will show gratitude when they meet her in heaven.

Miss Utley, who brings everything close to her hearers, says: "Lindbergh was not the first to make a non-stop flight—the Lord did it, before him, by flying from Heaven to earth and then from earth to heaven." It's an excellent thought, but not fair to Elijah, who, in a "chariot of fire and horses of fire" went up "by a whirlwind into heaven." See second Kings, chapter two, verse eleven. That happened 900 years before the birth of Christ.

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Things Will Take a Turn

By DR. FRANK CRANE

"I would rather be dead than a failure," said Belle Anderson, a thirty-year-old post graduate student at the University of California Hospital the other day.

So she mixed herself a death potion which her own knowledge as a chemist had taught her to make and committed suicide out on a lonely roadside where her body was found an hour later by a lone teamster. Another one of those "rashly impudent."

Why hurry? Why not see what time will do? Time solves more problems than all our wit.

Most of us who have reached riper years can look back over our lives and see that the best things that ever happened to us were the frustrations of our desires oftentimes.

We wanted something badly. We went for it and strove for it, but another got the coveted prize. Then the world all went dark and we were ready to give up.

But something else came along after awhile and further experience and wisdom showed us that it would have been very bad for us to have succeeded in getting the thing we wanted.

When we get to Heaven, if we ever do, I think that in looking back over our earthly career we will value our kicks more than our kisses.

We will be able to truly say that, "with our stripes we were healed."

Because things do not come your way do not lose heart. Wait. Something better is probably just around the corner.

It is this attitude of constant hope that keeps the soul lighted up.

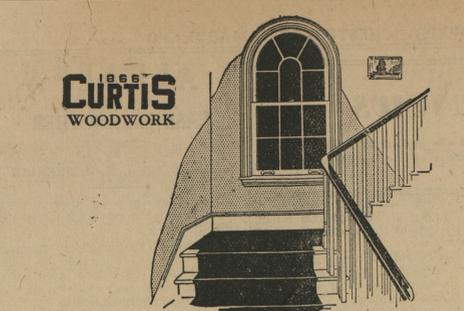
It does not do to act rashly. No one can tell what tomorrow may bring forth.

Tomorrow is the great adventure. About all that keeps life worth living is the element of adventure in it.

When you have committed suicide you have taken the step which precludes all further adventure and you have extinguished the lamp of the soul and the light of life.

What may happen in the next world we do not know, but we know that in this world something is bound to happen tomorrow. Why not stay alive and see it? If you are feeling pretty bad, perhaps it may comfort you to think that whatever happens it cannot be worse than what has already happened, therefore it will probably be better.

Keep trudging along and surely some opportunity will come to you to get away from the hated routine.



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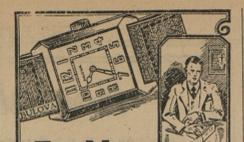
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