University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin February 7, 1933

Free Advice.

To Dr. Breasted, eminent Egyptologist of the University of Chicago, whose recent departure for the Levant was publicized by the release of some translations of moral sayings of Egyptians antedating Moses by some millenia, and who drew from this the conclusion that reason, not revelation, was responsible for all moral thought:

Stick to your excavations and translations, and leave philosophy to the philosophers, theology to the theologians, and exegesis to the exegetes. Whoever told you that revelation supplants reason? Supplements is the word we use. Cain knew it was a sin to kill Abel, even though the Fifth Commandment was not promulgated until eons later.

To Dr. Max Schoen, head of the psychology department of Carnegie Institute of Technology, who told an audience at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Pittsburgh that "it is science that is bringing about a heaven on earth for the child in place of the hell of original sin, infant damnation, birth in sin and shame, utter depravity and other abominations of theological doctrine;" and that "it is the laborer in the vineyard of science who therefore manifests the true spirit of religion, by bringing about through science, through knowledge, a condition on the earth that will be a true reflexion of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man":

Tell us quickly, please, Professor, where to find this heaven on earth that will free us from this Scotch theology you condemn. Is science going to end the depression? Or is rye coming back with beer? Or is birth control going to free us from infant damnation? Or is Al Capone going to free us from utter depravity? Tell us, O Prophet, tell us more of this heaven on earth where reign the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, or buy off the reporters the next time you open your mouth in public.

To Dr. Buchman, who gathered his Buchmanites in Chicago recently to show the citizens of the Sucker State how much relief can be gained from the public confession of sin - "public" meaning, we gather from reports, tete-a-tete exchanges between Buchmanites:

Take a page from the experience of Mary Baker Eddy, who gave relief to people in a mood to make their wills. Ask any brakeman what class of people revel in "true confessions." Your movement will never be a financial success until its appeal goes beyond the field of women, black and white, who want dirty stories but can't afford pornographic novels, and jaded roues who have to be satisfied with vicarious sin.

To the Scuth Bend Tribune, which closed a report on local Buchmanism with this rare bit: "The movement is sometimes erroneously referred to as an outgrowth of the Oxford group. It is not exactly that, although the Oxford movement which preceded it and is now extinct, was quite similar in thought and theory":

Use quotes the next time you make such an egregious blunder. The Oxford Movement is about as extinct as the Democratic party in Indiana. Its centenary, which the Anglo-Catholics are using next July to glorify Keble, will emphasize the fact that some 1200 Anglican clergymen have followed Newman, Manning, and Faber into the Catholic Church during those hundred years. And it is not quite similar in thought and theory: the confession of sins these Oxenians now make is private, and is followed by absolution given by a successor of the Apostles whom Christ empowered to forgive or retain sins.

For the Bengal Mission: \$5.00 (2); \$3.00; \$2.00; \$1.00 (2); .50. The next collection will be a week from Sunday. Save your pennies. We want more small donations.