

enacted, he made one exception, and that was the woolen schedule. He declared that the duties in that schedule were excessive and indefensible.

"At the session just closed congress revised that schedule, reducing the duties on woolen cloths and blankets used by the masses of the American people, that were from 85 to 150 per cent, to approximately 50 per cent ad valorem.

"Yet President Taft vetoed the bill, alleging that the revision was not scientifically made. In my opinion, it does not require a scientist to determine whether or not a duty of 50 per cent is sufficient protection for an industry that is controlled by a combination and that has been successfully established in this country for a century.

"Mr. Taft by his veto has nullified every effort made by congress to reduce the duties on trust-controlled products, while the farmers' products, the production of which never can be controlled by trusts, have upon his demand been placed upon the free list. In other words, Mr. Taft stands for free trade for the farmer and excessive protection for the manufacturer, and I do not agree with that tariff policy.

"The president's language in vetoing the resolutions admitting Arizona and New Mexico into the union under the constitutions they had formed clearly indicates that he and I differ very widely in our views as to the American people as a whole. I do not believe that they constitute an irresponsible mob that can not be trusted with political power. Every argument he made against the recall of judges could be made, and has been made, with the same force against the election of judges; and it is demonstrated beyond any question that the elective judiciary of our country is superior to the federal judiciary, which is appointive.

"I think it would be a mighty good thing if a number of federal judges could be recalled. In a state where judges are elected for short terms, the recall is not important, but the action of such federal judges as Archbald in the wire trust cases demonstrates that a more direct responsibility of federal judges to the people is exceedingly desirable.

"I do not believe that the people of any state or district, or any considerable number of them, would recall a judge because he had been an honest, competent and fearless officer. Instead of recalling him, in my opinion, they would re-elect him. That is the way we do in Kansas. So I do not commend, but condemn, the position Mr. Taft took in the veto message on Arizona statehood.

"The New Mexico constitutional convention was controlled by the railroads and reactionary politicians, and its constitution was just what the interests wanted it. It was ultra reactionary. Yet Mr. Taft could find nothing to criticize in that document. The Arizona constitution placed power in the hands of the people, and it met the violent denunciation of the president.

"I am very much in favor of a presidential primary election, under the management of the republican state committee. I think every republican in Kansas ought to have an opportunity to express his choice for president. Personally, I am for La Follette. I consider him one of the greatest constructive statesmen of his time. But my personal preference is a matter of small consequence. What I desire most of all is that every voter shall have an opportunity to express his preference for president and vice president, and that the delegates who go to the convention shall be directed to carry out the wishes of the constituents who elect them."



# Whether Common or Not

By WILL M. MAUPIN.

### Squelched

I have studied all the "isms," all the cults and "ologies," From the Persian Zoroaster to Confucius, the Chinese. I've studied some of Buddah, of Mahomet I have read, And theosophy I've delved in till an ache came in my head. I have listened to the speakers, and I read the written page; I have tried to catch the reasons of philosopher and sage; But all my time seems wasted, for I really must infer That I won't get started rightly till I follow Mr. Kerr.

By a scientific thesis he's prepared to demonstrate— If you'll send along the money just to help to pay the freight— That the soul is non-existent, that at death we reach the end, That the world's profoundest thinker lives in Kansas, at Great Bend. He's discovered God is nothing, that eternal life is not; That the things we learned in childhood are a bunch of tommyrot. And so it seems I'll never in this old world make a stir Till I swallow the discov'ry of a scientist named Kerr.

But amidst my search and study there comes stealing over me Simple truths my mother taught me as I stood beside her knee. And I see her sweet face smiling as she raised her trusting eyes To behold the stately mansions built for her beyond the skies. I can see her walking bravely through the Shadow of the Vale With a trust in Him who led her and whose arm will never fail— So I guess I'll take my chances and just follow after her, And pass up the scientific and prolific Mr. Kerr.

### We Feel Rebuked

We have been very sharply rebuked. Not by any common or garden variety of man, but by a scientist. In fact, by the foremost scientist of the age. We are assured of this fact because he who administers the rebuke frankly admits that he is the greatest scientist of the age.

A week or two ago we mentioned a few Biblical incidents that appeared to us to contain the prime elements of real humor, thereby revealing the fact that we look upon the Bible as being the Book of Books. Whereupon Mr. W. H. Kerr, of Kansas, sends us a marked copy of his paper, "The Truth About God and Life," wherein we are classed as being mentally deficient, therefore unable to learn.

Quoting one incident we mentioned, Mr. Kerr, the foremost scientist in the world by his own admission, says of us: "He has simply reproduced the fable as taught him when a 'kid' by his idolatrous parents or Sunday school teachers just as a phonograph record would have done, and he seems to have no more ability to recognize its absurdity than the record would have."

Now if that isn't enough to make us feel subdued, to make us feel properly humiliated before this great scientist, then are we indeed a hopeless case. The only thing I can do is to subscribe for this great scientist's paper and inculcate into the minds of my children the Great Kerr Discovery, to-wit: that there is no

God, no heaven, no soul, no eternal life, nothing except Kerr's Great Discovery, sent postpaid on receipt of 25 cents.

It has been a long time since we have felt so thoroughly squelched, so completely flabbergasted, so overwhelmingly subdued. To think that we have lived in this vale of tears for forty-eight years without ever having had the darkened recesses of our mind illuminated by the glorious light shed by the Great Kerr Discovery, a light obtainable at the paltry expense of a quarter of a dollar!

But having lived this long in a benighted state, and feeling fairly good about it all the time, we'll just keep on. Not that we are afraid to spend a quarter, for we think no more of 25 cents than we do of our right arm, but we've derived so much comfort, have found so much solace, have been strengthened for so many trials, by the words we have found in the Old Book, that we are impelled to just keep on relying upon it. We might not be mentally able to grasp the profundity of the "Discovery" of the world's foremost scientist, and if so we'd be wasting the quarter of a dollar.

It is often well to be informed of our mental limitations. It serves to get our feet back to earth again.

But, just the same, we might feel a bit more inclined to investigate the "Great Kerr's Discovery" if we were convinced that old Lindley Murray did not turn over in his grave when the "discovery" was worded.

### Inquiring to Know

"So it will benefit me if I sell my grain in a free trade market, will it?" asked Farmer Tallcorn.

"Of course it will, for it means that when you are short on wheat you can buy it cheaper from Canada, or when Canada is short on wheat you can sell yours over there for more money."

"Uh-huh! It means that when I buy I buy cheaper, and when I sell I sell for more?"

"Well, yes—that is to say, with reciprocity you—"

"Uh-huh! And by removing protection from my product I'm benefited, but removing the protection from the manufacturer's product would ruin him?"

"Not at all. The manufacturer must be compensated for the difference in wages at home and abroad, hence we must protect him to the—"

"Uh-huh! As in woollens, for instance, where the labor cost is \$14 in every \$100 worth of product and the tariff tax 90 per cent instead of 25 or 30 per cent, the probable difference between the wage he pays and the wage the foreign manufacturer pays."

"But, my dear sir, can you not see that—"

"Uh-huh! I see. As a farmer I am benefited by being compelled to sell in open and free trade markets, but as a manufacturer I would be ruined; and as a manufacturer I would profit by protection, but as a farmer I would be seriously handicapped. It is all very simple when you understand it."

### After the Shave

Gladys' father has worn a full beard many more years than Gladys has lived. The other day her father shaved smooth, and when he arrived home the little girl did not know

him. But when convinced that the strange looking man was really her father she rushed into the house and shouted:

"Mamma, mamma! Come down and see papa. He's come out from behind his whiskers!"

### The Real Why

"Yes, ma'm; sugar has gone up quite a bit," explained the grocer, as he tied up the ensmallled sack.

"What's the cause of the increase?" asked the housewife.

"It's a shortage in the foreign sugar supply. You see we—"

"No, I don't see!" snapped the housewife. "I remember now that the sugar trust was heavily fined for robbing the government, and it is making me help pay the fine."

### After Longfellow

Lives of statesmen oft remind us That 'tis well not to repeat Many actions left behind us, But accumulate "cold feet."

### What?

"I'd rather be poor and respectable than rich and hated," remarked Groucherly.

"Well, it's not your fault you are poor," replied Bimmerly.

### Brain Leaks

Beware of the man who smiles when he is angry.

The most serviceable knowledge is not acquired from books.

The first frost is a great reminder of a wasted summer wage.

The love that is purchased with money is not worth the price.

Experience is a dear school, but the matriculation fee is easy.

This is the season of the year when the grasshopper begins looking for the ant, and the young man for his uncle.

A lot of men have failed in their business because they paid too much attention to the business of other men.

### TO MY FRIENDS

My new volume of verses will be ready for distribution on October 1. I am going to be proud of its appearance—and leave judgment of its contents to you. At any rate, the contents afforded me a lot of pleasure when I wrote them, and I believe I have a right to think they have pleased a great many others.

Those who have so kindly signified a desire to become the possessor of a copy of "Kiddies Six" may now send along the dollar, and I'll send the book the first of the month. To be real frank about it, I've got to get a start because it takes money to buy postage stamps, and the printerman hints that he could use a few dollars.

Really it is going to be a pretty little volume. Egg-shell paper, cloth binding with gilt or white trimmings side and back, and a "foreword" by Richard L. Metcalfe. "Met" has said things about me that I can never hope to deserve, but I've gladly printed them at the beginning of the book.

Kindly address all communications to 240 North Thirty-third street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Believe me, kind friends, I am gratefully yours,

WILL M. MAUPIN.