

MAN HAS 20,000,000 YEARS AHEAD OF HIM, SAYS LODGE

Sir Oliver Tells 3000 Persons at Academy That Destiny of Human Race Lies With Itself—Evil Is Great Question

Nearly 3000 persons who crowded the Academy of Music last night, eagerly grasping the fragmentary bits of science which Sir Oliver Lodge held out as the means of tracing the history of the human race to the present time, tried to pierce the mysterious future, as it concerns the individual and the race, away by the paradoxical British psycho-physicist.

Employing the gift of his oratory, the composition of his personality and an unmistakable sincerity that was almost child-like in its simplicity, the figure, whose opinions on spiritualism and the life beyond have taken America by the ears, moved his audience to repeated applause, as he unfolded his hopes and beliefs as to "The Destiny of Man," now reciting the coldest facts of science, again quoting the sheerest idealism of Emerson, Browning and other poets.

In so far as the future of the human race is concerned, he declared that the destiny of mankind here was placed in its own hands by the Creator. Whether or not the race would continue its progress and rise to levels of intelligence and being yet inconceivable, he said, depended solely on whether or not the power of will vested in humankind was exercised decisively for the right and progress, as against evil and retrogression.

"His consciousness of his own independence, the freedom of his will, the fact that he has power to choose between right and wrong. We do not share this power with the animals, at least with the wild animals, which have not come under the influence of man's character through domestication.

"A tiger, however cruel, is not wicked. A man who is cruel knows he is wicked. This power to determine right from wrong must have dawned on some early genius of the race, just as the sun's first rays fall first upon the highest mountain peaks.

"Dawn of Soul Came With Power
"Dawn of the soul of man came with the inception of the power to choose between good and evil. After that it was not a struggle for existence, but a struggle of human souls.

"Cultivate that power of will. I advise everybody to hold on to that power of will with doglike tenacity. Do not be misled by philosophers and their theories of predestination.

"As to the possibility of life on other planets, he said, there are so many million planets that the chances are a great number are inhabited by beings of intelligence equal or superior to man's.

"Life," he continued, "always seems ready to come into being wherever possible. Life springs up in the rubbish heap to beautify or hide the decaying work of man.

"Life Condenses as Dew
"Life condenses on a planet as dew on a cold tumbler. Where was the dew before it became visible? So life condenses on the planets, and then evaporates when it came. Sometimes this life takes the form of individuality, and character, but not necessarily so."

Sir Oliver said that we should not become restless and try to move in to some other planet. "This is the best of all possible worlds at present conceived," he declared.

Possibilities of the good in the race were demonstrated by the sublime heroism, displayed by countless men and women during the war, he pointed out.

20,000,000 Years to Millennium
Incidentally, he said that the human race would have at least 20,000,000 years yet to carry on its struggle toward the earthly millennium.

Sir Oliver is very optimistic about the mental, moral and physical status of humankind, say, in the year, A. D. 20,001,920, pointing to the progress made during the first 50,000 years of the race's history.

He pointed out that if such progress as has been made during 50,000 years can be continued for the 20,000,000 years yet remaining for the earth's habitation, no scientist nor human imagination can picture the plane of life which will have been attained.

"Some people do not like the idea that we, at least, as to our bodies, have ascended from an animal," he said. "If we had been angels and had come down to earth, we might feel depressed. But let us take heart and believe that we are on the up grade."

Some Races Degenerated
"Some races have degenerated, it is true. Life in the tropics is not conducive to progress. To lie under a banana tree and wait for the fruit to drop in your mouth will not make the man immortal. To struggle for existence is necessary to become immortal."

The man who is successfully combining the science of the ages with the rising spiritualistic wave compared the rise and fall of various empires to the rise and fall of waves upon a rock, but mankind generally progressed slowly and surely, just as the tide advanced.

"Although individual waves are throwing back the march of humanity," he declared, "the progress of the race as a whole is on the up grade."

"Surely the most fundamental feature in the development of man," he

and added that no man would ever rise to a plane too high for sacrifice. "Hearts of men have been opened by the war," he concluded. "The other side of the vale has been enriched by swarms of energetic youth. I look for a period of spiritual outpouring such as the world has never known. The human race has 20,000,000 years in front of it, the individual has eternity, and no man knows what we may be."

"Meanwhile, we have to struggle with evil. It is the fight of the gardener against bad weeds. Control of the destinies of this planet is being handed over more and more to man, as time moves on."

NAVY BILL UP NEXT WEEK

Mayor Moore Leads Fight Backing Work for Yard Here

The deficiency bill setting aside \$9,300,000 for naval repair expenses is expected to come up before the House of Representatives next Tuesday. Until then Mayor Moore and others interested in the bill, because work at the Philadelphia navy yard depends upon its passage, will work to secure a strong alignment to fight for the measure.

The Mayor is leading the fight. He is assured of the backing of all the Pennsylvania congressmen in the battle for the passage of the measure, which is meeting with strong opposition from the representatives from the interior of the country.

Senator Penrose also is interested and is throwing his strength, through his many affiliations, toward the support of the measure. Congressmen Vard and Barrow are expected to speak in favor of the measure today.

MYSTERIOUS FIRE ALARMS

Three From New York Shipyard Unaccounted For

It would take a Sir Oliver Lodge to discover who or what rang the fire alarms three times last night at the plant of the New York Shipbuilding Co., at the upper end of Gloucester.

The first alarm was sent in at 9 o'clock and the Gloucester fire department made a quick run to "A" ship-

ways. There was no fire there. While searching for it another alarm came in, this time from the machine shop. There was no fire there either.

The firemen went home. At 10:30 o'clock another alarm was sounded, and one more fruitless run was made to the plant. Investigation showed none of the fire boxes had been opened. Officials of the plant are investigating today to find just how the alarms were sounded, and why.

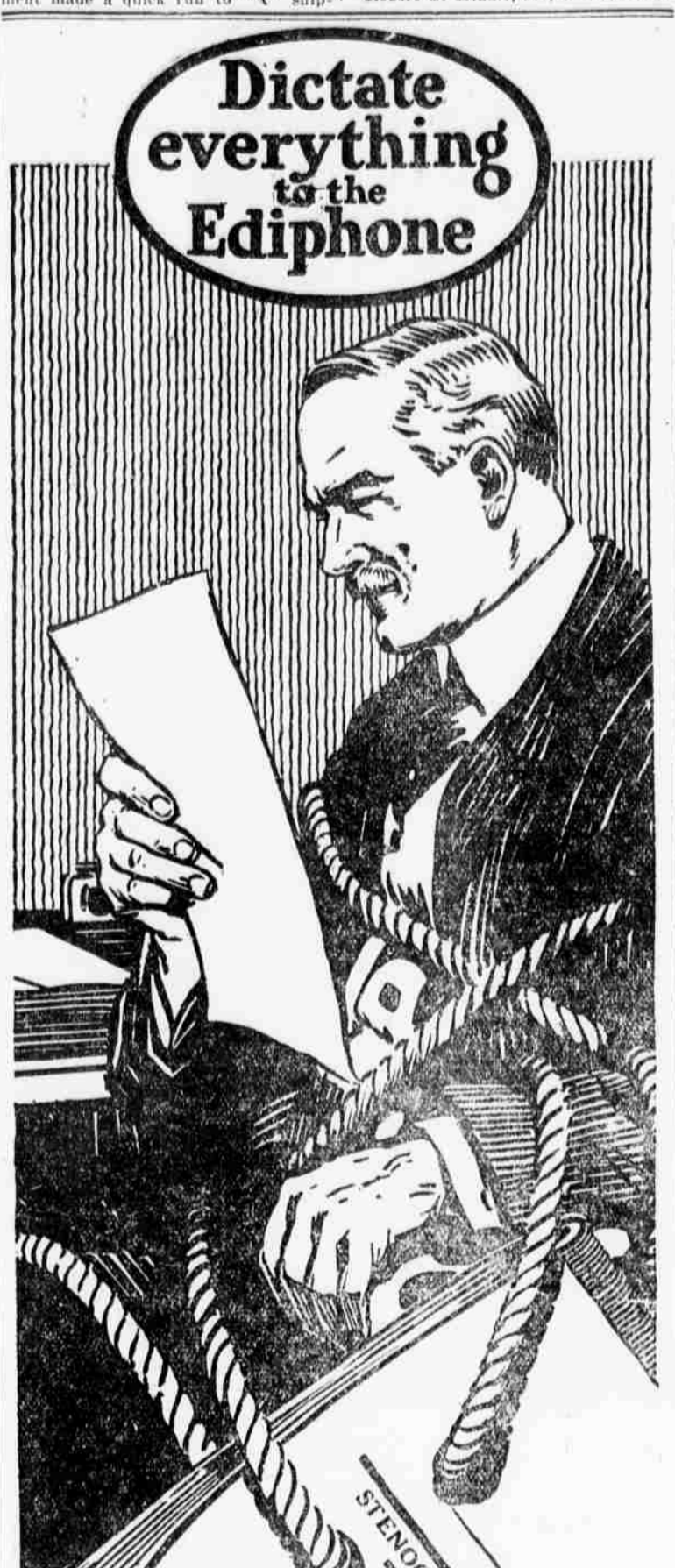
Robert T. Hindie, Jr., of 2006 Octa-

gon avenue, Yorkship Village, who had gone to the fire to aid the firemen, was held up on his way home, beaten and robbed of \$3.35 and two rings. His assailants escaped.

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