

# A CENTURY OF GROWTH

What the Next Hundred Years May Bring Forth.

## A GLIMPSE OF GLORIOUS VISTAS.

Dr. Talmage Foresees a Rosy Future. Powderly's Philosphic Prediction—W. R. Grace on Commercial Development. Future of the Drama—A Bright Woman's Forecast.

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When you thrust me with about twenty sharp interrogation points about what will be the condition of the world a hundred years from now, I must first say that there is a possibility that the world by that time may be a heap of ashes or knocked to flinders. All geologists agree in saying that the world is already on fire inside. All that Chicago saw of her big fire some twenty years ago was not a spark compared with the conflagration now raging in the bulk of this and ship of a world. And then the earthquakes—witness Charleston and San Francisco and Java. And then the comets shooting recklessly about, and the big chunks from other worlds falling in Kansas and Iowa or picked up by the British museum on the other side of the sea.

The fact is that our world needs to take on a policy in some astronomical fire insurance or accident insurance company. From the way the world goes on it is certain something is the matter with it. The volcanoes are merely the regurgitation caused by internal cramps. I am not apprehensive about the world, and I sleep well nights, and I do not want to frighten nervous people, but considering what is going on down in the depths of the earth and what is flying all about us I am surprised the world has not long ago gone out of business. But suppose it lasts—and I hope it will, for it is a grand old world and worth saving—what, then, will be its condition in 1993?

In medicine? Well, cancer and consumption will be as easily cured as influenza or a "run round."

Theology? Far more religion than now. The technicalities nothing. The spirit of religion dominant. Minister's war hatchet buried beside the pulpit's anvil.

Condition of capital and labor? At peace by the prevalence of the golden rule, which enjoins us to do to others as we would have them do to us.

Treatment of criminals? Prisons will have ventilation and sunlight and bathroom and libraries and Christian influences which will be reformatory instead of punitive.

Educational methods? The tuffing machine which we call the school system, which is making the rising generation a race of invalids, will be substituted by something more reasonable. No more school girls with spectacles at fourteen, their eyes having been extinguished by overstudy, with overworked brains and more tears in their drying dream trying to recite something in higher mathematics.

What American now living will be the most honored in 1993? By that time longevity will be so improved that 150 years will be no unusual age to reach.

So I answer you in a question as to what American now living will be most honored in 1993 by saying that American now sleeps in the cradle on the banks of the Hudson, or the Alabama, or the Oregon, or the Ohio, a rattle in hand, gum swollen with a new tooth, and will soon undertake a course of measles and mumps. But he will pull through and advance until I see him in 1993 presiding at a banquet, and as he rises to speak I hear him say: "Gentlemen, I was born in the latter part of the Nineteenth century, and here we are in the latter part of the Twentieth, and the world has been improving all the time, and I now offer the toast for the evening. Charge your glasses with apollinaris water and lemonade and drink deep to this sentiment."

"The newspaper press. May its influence in the Twenty-first century be as happy and prosperous as in the Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries?"  
T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

## W. R. Grace Foresees Wonderful Commercial Developments.

I look for very great changes, all of them in the direction of business prosperity in American commercial development in the next century. I expect to see a great merchant marine, although I am one of those who believe that this cannot be procured by us until there are changes in our navigation laws. The substitution of iron and steel for wood and steam for sail power, which has been going on with great rapidity in the past twenty years, accounts, I think, for the decadence in American shipping partly, and if Congress shall so legislate that Americans can compete with foreign shipowners there is likely to be a revival of American shipping interest and shipbuilding and the development of a race of American sailors like those of former times, who were as fine sailors as trod the decks, and who were at the same time really distinguished from all other seamen by their business ability.

The development of the great west, and especially of the south and southwest, will, I think, be as prodigious in the early part of the coming century as has been that of the states of the Ohio valley under the influence of railway construction. I am inclined to think that the American farmer must either find new wheat lands by a well considered and elaborate general system of irrigation or special methods of cultivation, or else the American people will be compelled in the next century to import instead of export wheat. On the other hand, the active men of the Twentieth century are going to see a magnificent development of corn and other cereals in the fertile lands of the great southwest, and American genius is going to show Europe how nutritious and desirable American corn is for food purposes when it is properly cooked. For that reason we shall probably find that our exports of corn will more than make up for the falling off in the exports of wheat.

But I think that one of the greatest commercial developments is going to be, so far as the United States is concerned, in the relations between this country and those of the South American continent. The Andes mountains are already surrounded by a railroad which is going to open up that magnificent plateau, or montana, which stretches to the eastward from the Andes. As fine a cotton country as is in the world is there, and with the opening of this railroad a particularly fine grade of cotton will be developed. There are millions of acres suitable for tobacco culture, and higher up there is a wheat belt of virgin soil almost as large as is the great wheat belt of the United States. Besides, there are the great silver mines of the Cerro de Pasco, known even from the time of the Incas, which history has so many romances about, and by

record for taxation have produced since the conquest over \$400,000,000.

Now man are living who will see this enormous country brought under development. It will bring the South American countries into closer relation with the United States. There of course will be competition, but competition of this sort ought not to be unhealthy, and I presume that in the next century there may be built a railway reaching so far that it may be possible to enter a palace car in New York city and to ride in it to Lima, Santiago, Rio Janeiro or Buenos Ayres. Now railroad development will do for South America what it has done for the United States, and the activity of our commerce will bring the United States into very close alliance with the southern continent and cause a development of commercial relations the consequence of which cannot be realized today. The Twentieth century is going to be a great era for South America, and that continent cannot flourish without benefiting the United States.

I am one of those who believe that the commercial and manufacturing development of this country during the Twentieth century will be such that the genius of the American people will make it perfectly possible for this country to compete successfully with all the great manufacturing centers of Europe and with the great classes of goods that are now being marketed by England, France and Germany, not only in South America but in all the great centers of commerce throughout the world.  
W. R. GRACE.

## Mr. Powderly's Prediction.

Three millions celebrated in 1793, 63,000,000 in 1893, and 300,000,000 will in 1993 celebrate the landing of Columbus. They will be educated and refined, for the arts and sciences will be taught in the public schools. Not only will the mind of the pupil be trained, but the hand as well, and each child will be instructed in the manual arts; they will be instructed in the functions of every part of the human system; "man, know thyself" will have a meaning in 1993. The economic and social questions of the day will also be taught in the schools; there will be no uneducated persons to act as drags on the car of progress.

The form of government will be simpler; the initiative and referendum will prevail, and lawmakers will not be the autocrats they now are, for they will truly register the will of the people; they will not dictate to them as at present. The commonwealth will be organized on industrial lines, labor organizations will have disappeared, and there will be no longer a necessity for their existence. An ideal democracy will stand upon the foundations we of 1893 are erecting.

Railroads, water courses, telegraphs, telephones, pneumatic tubes and all other methods of transporting passengers, freight and intelligence will be owned and operated by the government. The earnings of these agencies will swell the public treasury. Homes will flourish, for they will no longer be taxed. Instead of devoting so much time and money to the erecting of great public structures, as at present, the erection and adornment of the home will receive first consideration.

Each home will be regarded as a contribution to the wealth and beauty of the nation; the earnings of public concerns will defray the cost of maintaining streets, sewers, waterworks and light and heat giving organizations. Cremation will take the place of the present system of burying the dead; the living will be healthier, for the earth will not be poisoned through interment of infection. The contents of sewers will not flow into river and stream to send deadly vapors through the air, but will be utilized for the most fertile yielding earth.

The progress of the lower grades of animal life has been skillfully guided and hastened until we may now assert that cattle and fowl are approaching perfection. In 1993 the same attention will be bestowed on the human race, and instead of rushing blindly forward, increasing and multiplying until humanity is swarming in numbers and intelligently advance to higher altitudes. There will be no very rich or very poor, for long before 1993 dawns upon the world the industrialists will have learned that the raising of large families is but another way to create slaves to perform the drudgery of the wealthy, and the family will be restricted to the capacity of the parents to maintain and educate.

Under such conditions prisons and poorhouses will decline, and divorce will not be considered necessary. The system which makes criminals of men and women and at the same time makes millionaires of others will have disappeared. As a consequence the confinement and punishment of criminals will occupy but little of the thought or time of the men of 1993.

T. V. POWDERLY.

## From an Editor of The Twentieth Century.

I find that I am unable to prophesy. The future is a fancyland palace whose portals I cannot enter. Moving toward it from the Here I am charmed with its brilliant facade. What sculptured splendors—porticoes, pillars, statues, windows! What is within? But as I advance the airy structure recedes. I cannot push beyond its threshold; its doors never open; on their other side are silence and mystery. I know not what is there.

Today I was reading the prophecies of Babeuf. He was a French revolutionary, a coworker of Robespierre and Condorcet. In 1792, possessed of fundamental sociologic truths, and inspired by the political progress of the times, he dreamed of the abolition of rank, of poverty, of social injustice. He saw clearly the relation of land to labor and the manifold benefits of co-operation. He expected all the world soon to see what he did. So he described a dreamer's 1892, but we beheld the 1892 of fact.

Yet let us listen to today's visionaries and dreamers. They are pleasing fellows. There's imaginative John Wanamaker. He foresees a one cent letter for all the postal union; a free mail delivery in every country district; a short hour day for post-office employees; a cheap national telegraph and telephone service.

The poet of a pure democracy, Dana, predicts legislation by all the citizens in every political body corporate. He fancies that all the electors in the United States may vote directly—yes or nay—on the tariff, on silver coinage, on a national banking system, on restriction of immigration. From New England and Swiss experiences he infers real democracy the best policy, even for the whole Union.

Another bold theorist is C. P. Huntington. He assures us of wondrous millions to be saved in railroad consolidation. What, then, if all our trunk railroads were under a single management?

President McLeod, of Reading, is out with a financial suggestion. The consumer of coal, he says, will be benefited if the great coal operator, Mr. McLeod's railroad, performs the complete work of producing coal, from digging it to delivering it in the consumer's cellar. The plan abolishes retail agents, reduces the working force otherwise and permits of one general superintendency.

Those audacious revolutionists, Armour and Rockefeller, have actually evinced

glimmerings of practicality! From central headquarters they control vast organized systems of meat and flour distribution. Shall our people ever again go back to petty local methods? Never! These businesses are now adjusted to a national scale.

Many enthusiasts are at work in lesser circles of social reform. DeVoe, for twenty years superintendent of New York's markets, wrote a book to show that a public market in each ward would reduce the price of country produce to the household-er by 20 per cent. or so. The department store proprietors are forever entertaining wilder schemes to be applied in cheapening shop goods. The unconservative street railroad system, with its cables and trolleys, has brought the average cost of the passenger's ride (to the syndicate) down to two cents.

Ah, if the great public would take to dreaming with these dreamers, planning for itself as they do for themselves, and taking up with their ways of doing business, how rich and happy would be in 1993!  
J. W. SULLIVAN.

## Manager Palmer on the American Drama.

[From Our New York Correspondent.]

Mr. A. M. Palmer, who is generally esteemed the ablest of the men identified with the drama and is also a man of great cultivation and most artistic sense in speaking of the future of the drama in this country, said:

I presume that the Americans will create a drama as artistic, as perfect and of as great an influence as that which has characterized the national drama of France. The indications all point that way. Hitherto we have had almost no distinctively American drama. We have had artists, some of whom are quite as impressive and talented as some of those who have made the fame of the French stage. I do not need to mention them; every one knows who they are.

We have learned already how to mount a play, how to give it all those accessories which combine to furnish the perfect representation, and yet, after all, we have been compelled to depend, if not entirely upon the greater dramatists of Europe, at least upon the methods and the suggestions indicated by the work of those who are esteemed the greater dramatists.

Until recently I may say that we have had no distinctively American play. Some of the American dramatists have written plays which have been great successes and are models of dramatic workmanship, and yet, after all, these plays have been written and constructed in imitation of the best European examples. By an American play I mean, of course, a play perfectly constructed, whose dialogue while natural is yet suitable for the stage, but whose motive is essentially American. An American play should depict American life; it should breathe the atmosphere of the United States, or at least that section of the United States which it paints.

Human nature is undoubtedly the same in all countries and in all ages, but the manifestations or developments of it have the flavor of locality, and it is the art of the playwright while setting forth human nature to set it forth so that while its truth is recognized its environment is suggested faithfully. That is what the coming American playwright must do and, I believe, will do. American life furnishes every material for the perfect drama, the exquisite pure comedy or the more amusing and yet not necessarily less faithful low comedy. Recently we have had one or two plays of this kind. The tendency of today unquestionably is for amusement, and that broad amusement which evokes hearty laughter.

It is quite likely that in the next century the demand may be for higher ideals than this, and when the demand comes I have no doubt that the American playwright will be found who will meet it. In the Twentieth century the American drama ought to rank with those of the golden days of the drama of the Old World.

## Ella Wheeler Wilcox Forecasts the Future.

In 1993 the government will have grown more simple, as true greatness tends always toward simplicity. Railroads and telegraphs will belong to the state, thus lessening the dangerous power of large monopolies and vast corporations. Otherwise "less than a century our boasted American freedom would cease to exist, since it is already menaced."

In temperance the world ere then will have realized the folly of trying to legislate upon appetites. It will realize the necessity of educating them, and that to educate them we must begin with parents. People who refuse to be taught on this and kindred subjects must be prevented from becoming parents. In this way only can drunkenness be lessened.

The same humane law will by that time extend to criminals—they will be prevented from propagating their kind. This will take the place of capital punishment, and after a few generations will do away with crime, because as true greatness tends always toward simplicity, the servants of 1993 will be found who will meet it. In the Twentieth century the American drama ought to rank with those of the golden days of the drama of the Old World.

The whole vast world will be irrigated and fertilized, furnishing food for all our population. Architecture will have reached a much higher state, but will not in 500 years attain to the perfection found in countries thousands of years old probably. Airships will facilitate travel, and the pneumatic tube will be the means of transporting goods.

America will produce the greatest authors who shall be living in 1993. In musical achievement it will still be behind other countries.

The occult sixth sense will be the predominant element in medicine and surgery. Mesmerism will take the place of anesthetics in surgery; teleopathy—the religion of high thinking and selfless living—will take the place of creeds and dogmas; clairvoyance or spiritual insight will be almost universal. Woman will be financially independent of man, and this will materially lessen crime. No longer obliged to rely on her husband's pockets for money, she will not give birth to kleptomaniacs or thieves. Men will learn the importance of proper prenatal conditions, and children will be reared with the same care now given to colts, calves and dogs.

The government will establish colleges for the training of servants, and architects will consider the comfort and health of domestics in constructing homes, instead of ignoring them, as at present. Better instructed, better paid, better cared for and more plentiful, the servants of the next century will be more useful, better content and more respectful and respected. If our men keep pace with our women in athletic development and in clean morals, the race will be larger and handsomer. Otherwise we shall produce splendid amazons and pygmy men.

Chicago will be our greatest city because she knows she is not and desires to be and has the energy and zeal to become so. Each of our other large cities thinks she is already the greatest and will make no pronounced effort to be greater. All permanent greatness means eternal endeavor.

If any man now living solves the great question of the true relation of capital and labor, to him will 1992 accord the honor of the greatest man. Next to him stands Edison.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

# AMERICA IN 1993?

Since Columbus discovered the New World there has not been in any country such rapid progress in wealth and material development as in the United States during the past forty years. There has also been notable evolution of ideas looking to social reforms. The thought of this wonderful growth, just as we are preparing to take its measure by the biggest exposition the world has ever seen, naturally leads to the query:

## What Will America Be in 1993?

That is the question that has been propounded to some of the most prominent men and women of the time, and their answers, prepared with thoughtful care, have been arranged for simultaneous publication in a few leading newspapers, in a series of weekly installments.

## A Many-Sided Discussion.

That there might be as wide diversity of treatment as possible, the following subdivisions of the main question were presented to the writers selected, with the suggestion that their replies be confined to such portions as they were, by reason of previous thought and research, best qualified to treat:

- What will be the political and social condition of the United States and of the world in 1993?
- Will the government grow simpler or more complex?
- Is it likely that the railroads and telegraphs will be owned or managed by the state?
- What changes may be anticipated in our monetary system?
- In temperance legislation?
- In the confinement or punishment of criminals?
- In divorce laws?
- Will the tendency toward the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few increase or diminish in the next century?
- What is the future of great corporations and vast business aggregations?
- Is the condition of the laboring classes likely to become more or less dependent?
- Will our soil and methods of agriculture improve, so as to provide food, without difficulty, for all our population in 1993?
- What changes will take place in law, medicine and theology?
- In American literature?
- In music and the drama?
- In educational methods?
- In dress?
- In the architecture, sanitary arrangements and transportation methods of great cities?
- In the political and social status of woman?
- What is the future of the "servant problem"?
- What improvements, inventions and discoveries do you look for in mechanics, the industrial arts, modes of travel, or anything else?
- Will the race be handsomer, healthier or happier than it is now?
- Where will be our greatest city?
- What American now living will be the most honored in 1993?

## Writers Who Will Answer It.

The answers to these queries, represented in all cases by signed articles or personal interviews by the reliable correspondents Walter Wellman and E. Jay Edwards (Holland), are of extraordinary interest and will prove most entertaining reading to all Americans. Among the well-known people whose views compose this notable syndicate are the following:

- Elizabeth Akers Allen, Poetess.
- Samuel Barton, New York Broker.
- Mrs. Annie Besant, Theosophist.
- M. C. D. Borden, Authority on Cotton Manufacture.
- Professor Charles H. Briggs, of Union Theological Seminary.
- S. G. Brock, Chief of Bureau of Statistics United States Treasury Department.
- Junius Henri Browne, Journalist.
- J. J. Carly, Electrical Expert.
- Edwin Checkley, Noted Writer on Athletics.
- Moneure D. Conway, Theologian.
- Shelby M. Cullom, United States Senator from Illinois.
- William Eleroy Curtis, Secretary Bureau of American Republics.
- Van Buren Denslow, New York Lawyer.
- Chauncey M. Depew, President New York Central Railroad.
- Judge A. Dittenhofer, Supreme Court of New York.
- Rev. Thomas Dixon, Jr., New York Preacher.
- Ignatius Donnelly, Author of "Cesar's Column."
- E. Jay Edwards ("Holland"), Correspondent.
- Kate Field, Journalist.
- Charles Foster, Secretary of the Treasury.
- Henry George, Author of "Progress and Poverty."
- W. R. Grace, ex-Mayor of New York City.
- Andrew H. Green, Expert on Municipal Development.
- Rev. David H. Greer, D. D., New York Preacher.
- John Habberton, Author of "Helen's Babies," etc.
- Elljah W. Halford, Private Secretary to President Harrison.
- Michael D. Harter, Congressman from Ohio.
- E. W. Howe, Author of "Story of a Country Town."
- John J. Ingalls, ex-United States Senator from Kansas.
- Thomas L. James, ex-Postmaster General.
- Rafael Joseffy, Pianist.
- George F. Kunz, Expert on Precious Stones.
- Mrs. Frank Leslie, Journalist and Philosopher.
- Charles B. Lewis ("M. Quad"), Journalist and Author.
- Richard Mansfield, Actor.
- A. C. Matthews, First Comptroller of the Treasury.
- John McGovern, Chicago Journalist.
- Joanquin Miller, Poet of the Sierras.
- Warner Miller, President Nicaragua Canal Company.
- Hon. W. H. H. Miller, Attorney General of the United States.
- Thomas J. Morgan, United States Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
- Right Rev. John P. Newman, Bishop of Methodist Episcopal Church.
- John W. Noble, Secretary of the Interior.
- E. W. Nye ("Bill Nye"), Humorist.
- Professor Felix L. Oswald, Writer on Popular Science.
- A. M. Palmer, New York Theatrical Manager.
- William A. Peffer, United States Senator from Kansas.
- Torence V. Powderly, Grand Master Workman Knights of Labor.
- John Clark Ridpath, the Eminent Historian.
- Jero M. Rusk Secretary of Agriculture.
- Commodore Abram Van Santvoort, Expert on Inland Navigation.
- John Wanamaker, Postmaster General.
- H. Walter Webb, Vice President New York Central Railroad—Railroad Expert.
- George Westinghouse, Inventor.
- A. C. Wheeler ("Nym Crinkle"), Critic.
- Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Poetess.
- Ernestus Wyman, Railroad President.
- Colonel Albert D. Shaw, ex-Consul at Manchester, England.
- J. W. Sullivan, Editor Twentieth Century.
- Professor David Swing, Chicago Preacher.
- John Swinton, Philosopher and Sociologist.
- Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, Brooklyn Divine.
- George Alfred Townsend ("Gath"), Correspondent.
- Daniel W. Voorhes, United States Senator from Indiana.

America in 1993 consists of a series of twelve installments, the first of which is published in the TRIBUNE today. On each Monday hereafter three columns of this entertaining and valuable series will appear in this paper until all of the above-named people have answered this important question. No one who is interested in the future growth and development of our great republic can afford to miss a single issue while this series is running. As it is but one of the many special features that will be added to the TRIBUNE during 1893 you should

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