

Hutton + Young

Modern Frontiers

J. E. Stomberg

The most common grievance of our generation is that of the lack of frontiers. Our forefathers had unknown lands to develop, unknown oceans to cross, and unknown lands to civilize. Our complaint is that everything worth doing has already been done. With few exceptions, the whole world has been explored and settled and more or less civilized; our oceans have been charted; our industries have been highly developed. Where do we go now?

Yes, our geographical frontiers have all but vanished. Alaska, South America, Africa, India, and China still offer a little to the adventurous. There are, however, other types of frontiers just as exciting and just as mystery-shrouded as those our forebears faced. These may be called our cultural frontiers.

Perhaps the most important of these boundaries is in the field of education. Although this country is generally considered to be a leader in the fight against illiteracy, we still have much to do. Our school system, though developed beyond many others, is in need of much improvement. Many of our people do not have sufficient facilities to encourage their educational desires. New and interesting methods of instruction should be developed to keep pace with our highly industrialized civilization. A growing tendency to ignore the finer arts must be repressed. A new method to encourage the study of poetry, drama, and painting must be brought forth before our culture becomes entirely specialized and mechanized.

World peace through better government and diplomacy is a field open for exploration. Our present-day world, tormented by distrust and torn by political and economic differences, cries for better forms of government and statesmanship. Indeed, unless a new growth of friendship, trust, and harmony soon appears, the world may once more be encompassed in another inferno of hatred and destruction.

Religion offers yet another challenge. No one denies the value of religious beliefs to the individual. Greater accord is needed not only in our own country but all over the world. A great step forward in world peace would be achieved if we could all learn to be truly tolerant. The post-war wave of religious feeling has given us a start in the right direction. With the proper cultivation of this movement and with proper leadership, true tolerance between nations, as well as between individuals, may be more than just the dream of the idealist. It could become a reality.

Certainly we have frontiers to be faced; certainly we have need of pioneers. These frontiers are different from those we usually connect with the word and require different types of pioneers. There are urgent demands for forward thinking people, and many glorious opportunities lie ahead for those who are capable of answering these demands.

Nuts and Raisins

Eleanor Felts

"A commerce that whitens every sea in quest of nuts and raisins, and makes slaves of its sailors for this purpose!"—Thoreau, "Life Without Principle"

Whenever we think of commerce, we think of romance, for the word commerce connotes adventure. Since the wane of feudalism, commerce has become more and more lucrative. Ships ply the seven seas, churning the green water to froth. The odor of spices, strong and acrid, and the scent of perfumes, rare and delicate, emanate from precious cargoes. Shimmering silks and lustrous satins cross the seas to adorn beautiful or wealthy ladies. Rare and exotic foods are rushed from distant ports to titillate the palate.

But what of the human cargo? It still exists. It is man's exploitation of man. Unfortunately, it isn't entirely the shame of the past. The United Nations is faced with this problem in the year 1949, and doubts its ultimate solution because of the avidity of the very people who demand the products of commerce.

The sailors seek adventure, but they find themselves slaves of tyrannical masters whose pecuniary gains are to them far more important than a mere man's soul. The masters, in turn, serve a society whose insatiable and sensuous demands are the sills of commerce.

Undoubtedly, commerce is auriferous, but what has it done for mankind? Can one stand before his Creator with a "handful of nuts and raisins" to show for his life's labors?