

She was sitting on the davenport at one end of the living room, looking very bewildered.

When I asked her if she wanted something to eat before going to bed, she thanked me and said that she "re-e-ally" had better take the midnight train. As she was leaving, she gave me a limp handshake as she begrudgingly said, "My dear, you were **re-e-ally** very composed."

I finally crawled into bed, but before I dropped off to sleep, I crossed my eyes and stuck out my tongue at Aunt Eva. The poor dear! She never knew that I wasn't really composed, that I was simply numb from moving two tons of furniture that morning.



Science and Humanity

Donna Jackman

Science was originated thousands of years ago in primitive man's bitter fight for existence. If all the details could be gathered up, all the gaps filled in, the trail of science would be found leading back to half-human creatures who in terror and confusion were seeking to be men. Those details are lost, those gaps can never be filled, and all memory of the origin of fire, of clay modeling, of the bow and arrow, has vanished forever. The story of science then is without a beginning and without an end, but it is forever unfolding. Nations rise and fall, dynasties rule and pass away, religions wax and wane; but science, building upon failure, inhumanity, and aspirations, moves steadily forward. Its rate of advance is uneven, but for twenty-five centuries it has not come to a dead stop. Science had its start with the origin of man, and although it seems to have been quite simple to begin with, it has become more complex as has our civilization. Man now lives in a scientific age in which progress is so rapid that no one can keep abreast of the various fields of science. Science is not, as some misinformed persons seem to believe, only for those with what is known as a scientific mind. Naturally, everyone cannot go into the laboratory and come out with some astounding discovery, but he can obtain a general knowledge of the subject, which in this day seems to be required in order to be considered educated at all. It is most important for one to have some knowledge of the laws and principles of the basic sciences if he is to know and understand anything about the world in

which he lives. It is good to have a foundation upon which to build, and it is a great satisfaction to have a knowledge of one's environment. It is equally important to learn how men are succeeding in their efforts to control and improve their environment. In order to be merely a good citizen in a world that is now on the threshold of the atomic age, man must learn to live and act more intelligently and with greater understanding and satisfaction in an increasingly complex civilization. Successful and satisfying modern living demands well-informed, well-adjusted, intellectually keen citizens.

Scientists are often not very well understood by other people. To some they seem to be cold, unemotional geniuses, who, above all other things, want to achieve some great goal, caring little about other phases of life. There has been at times a tendency on the part of some people to blame the scientist because modern warfare has become so terrible. Actually, however, it is not the fault of the scientist that mankind makes the use it does of his inventions. Unfortunately, every scientific invention, whether it be an airplane, a radio, or the means for releasing atomic energy, can be used to destroy mankind as well as to help it. If science brought only its practical applications, it might indeed prove to be the eventual undoing of mankind. But science brings also a spirit, its own guiding spirit, and in this there is hope for mankind. To the scientist the practical applications have always been secondary. This does not mean that science is contemptuous of its practical uses. The opposite is true. It does mean that the true scientist is motivated by a higher aim than that of making life easier. He wishes also to enoble and to enrich life. The spirit of science is the spirit of courage. The scientist is not bound by ancient tradition. He rejoices in each new discovery. The spirit of science is the spirit of tolerance. The scientist knows that there is no monopoly upon truth. He sees the advance of science as a great cooperative venture carried on by men of good will and courage from all nations and all peoples. He realizes how little mankind knows and how much is yet to be learned, and the realization makes him tolerant. The scientist is humane, for he is concerned about the future of mankind. At the start of the research on the atomic bomb, many scientists hoped that it would turn out that no such thing as the atomic bomb would be possible. Though conscious of the smallness of his knowledge, the scientist is also conscious of the greatness of the power which so little knowledge has given him. He faces the future with courage.