

so numerous as are the assertions that this or that gland serves enormously important purposes in the physical economy, and that the much already accomplished with them is going to be multiplied as time goes on and knowledge increases.

Several of the gland products already have entered into the routine practice of medicine, and there is every indication that they are worthy of further study and research. There are quacks in that field, but there are also wise and careful men not a few.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

An Attack Gave It Importance.

WARD GREENE, evidently writing from personal knowledge, presents in the June issue of *The American Mercury* what he calls "A Note for the History of the Klan." It is the story of the starting of the Ku Klux Klan as this generation knows it, with the name of the old one but not much else.

It was a very small beginning by two men, SIMMONS and CLARK, who were regarded by their acquaintances in Atlanta with humorous and half-pitying tolerance, as engaged in a queer money-making scheme of next to no importance to anybody except themselves. According to Mr. GREENE, nobody in Atlanta took the new Ku Klux Klan with any seriousness or ascribed to it any merit until *The New York World* chose to attack it and in a series of carefully documented articles exposed the sordidness of its leaders and the ruthless exploitation to which their followers were subjected. Immediately the organization profited in a way that would have been impossible in any other part of the country. Nobody in Atlanta took the trouble to refute *The World's* charges, but there was a general feeling of resentment that Northerners should have presumed to meddle with a matter that belonged exclusively to the South.

The result was that *The World's* campaign was the making of the absurd and noxious Klan. It at once found defenders in men who only had laughed at it before, and Mr. GREENE's implication is that except for outside interference the Klan would have remained the weakling it was then and perished soon. He also says that LEO FRANK never would have been lynched had not his Northern friends "moved heaven and earth to save him"—that again it was Southern resentment of attempts by outsiders to tell the South what it should and should not do.

One wonders that a Southern writer should put forward a theory so little creditable to the intelligence of his section, but the theory has a certain plausibility. It would have more if the Klan had not spread through several States before *The World* attacked it, and if it had not gained, later, great power in many parts of the North, where the same feelings do not prevail.

Case of Another Meddling.

By whatever of accuracy there is in Mr. GREENE's explanation of the Ku Klux Klan's rise to power, and of the LEO FRANK lynching, by so much is there created a likelihood that it was a grave mistake, from Professor SCOPES's point of view, for CLARENCE DARROW and DUDLEY FIELD MALONE to offer their services as counsel in his approaching trial for teaching evolution in the Dayton High School.

Tennessee is not Georgia, to be sure, but it has a good deal of the general Southern confidence in its own ability to attend to its own affairs without help from the North, and of the ineradicable Southern belief that Northerners do not and can not understand Southern problems. It may be, therefore, that these eminent lawyers will hurt rather than help the professor's case.

Whether Mr. BRYAN counts as a Southerner or not we do not know. If the title is refused to him, he may balance the other two, as a meddler on the other side—create, that is, equal motives for acquittal and conviction of Professor SCOPES, and what will happen then?

Incidentally, why does Tennessee stop at biology in its maintenance of the Bible's authority on scientific questions? The astronomy textbooks used in the State's schools are contradicted by a far larger number of biblical texts than that supporting belief in the special creation of man, and there is a lot of very high and old authority for maintaining that the astronomers are not only wrong, but wicked and blasphemous, in contending that the earth goes around the sun, instead of the sun going around the earth, which anybody can see with his own eyes is what the sun really does. The ecclesiastical magnates of GALILEO's day energetically characterized him as a sinner who was as poor as a philosopher and physicist as he was as a theologian.

The geologies now used in Tennessee's schools, too, are quite as objectionable as the astronomies and the biologics, and in consistency the State should bar all science teaching of every kind. None of it is based on the *Book of Genesis*. Even Mr. BRYAN seems willing to grant all the animals to the evolutionists. That is just as heretical as is the inclusion of man in the common system.

His Case Is Good but Hopeless.

Having noted that our alphabet hasn't half enough characters to give a separate symbol to each separate sound in spoken language, which is what a perfect alphabet certainly would do, FRANK H. VIZETELLY solemnly proposes the addition of thirty-six new letters to the twenty-six we now have! He even has gone further and has drawn the forms of the new letters as he would have them! They include eight variants on our present "a," five on our "e," and so on.

This is an excellent idea, with a lot of good arguments in its favor. There is probably only one against it—people simply will not take the trouble that would be involved in substituting an ideal alphabet for our admittedly imperfect and insufficient collection of letters. Perfect alphabets have been made before, just as have perfect languages, but they all have been rejected, and in all probability they never will be accepted anywhere. Somehow they are out of harmony with fundamental human instincts, and with our inveterate tendency to put up with familiar ills until they become really intolerable.

The estimable spelling reformers have run up against that tendency. They have dented it a little, but it still stands firm, though they ask far less than does Mr. VIZETELLY. And then there is M. B. COTSWORTH, with his admirable year of thirteen months, each with twenty-eight days. He, too, is unanswerable in argument, and is confident of winning at last and even soon, but the rest of us have more than doubt.

Medicine's New Department.

There is a lot of talk about "glands" at the big medical convention in Atlantic City. Some of the speakers have only derision for the more sensational claims made for extracts from these mysterious organs, and none of them seems to believe that youth can be restored by their use.

The glands, however, are by no means